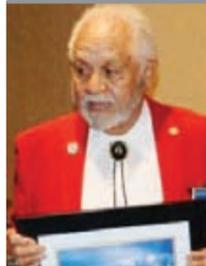


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ALEXANDRA HARRIS / FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

**MIAMI GARDENS:** Family member consoles Lavall Hall's mother, Christine Daniels at community meeting.

# Community convenes to discuss Miami Gardens' police shooting

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

Using their structured approach to engaging and empowering communities of color, the Dream Defenders brought together the family of Lavall Hall and members of the community to discuss his death and how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

The Saturday morning meeting attracted about 75 people who convened at Bethany Baptist church in Miami Gardens in response to the Feb. 15 shooting of Hall, 25. Hall's mother, Christine Daniels,

said that she called Miami Gardens police early that morning for help with taking her son to a mental health facility. Instead, her son, whom the family said was schizophrenic, was shot to death by an officer.

Creating a safe space for people to share their feelings and vent frustrations validates their experience and helps to galvanize community, critical aspects of systemic reform, according to Steve Pargett, communications director for Dream Defenders. Miami Gardens' officials and the police department were not invited, said Pargett, who explained that the

purpose of the meeting was not to hear from them but to allow the family and community to come together, share their feelings and plan their next steps.

The community gathering began with a welcome by the Dream Defenders and comments from the slain man's mother. As she leaned against a family member who held onto her, Christine Daniels began to cry as she spoke, barely above a whisper, about her loss.

She then joined one of several smaller break-out groups where different facilitators from Dream

PLEASE TURN TO **DEFENDERS/4A**

**NATION**

# Farrakhan pronounces a universal cry for justice

By **JARRELL DOUSE**  
Special to South Florida Times

As burgeoning movements around the nation demand justice in the wake of increased violence perpetrated in many



PHOTO COURTESY OF THEAPRIGITY.COM

**Louis Farrakhan** communities of color without recompense, Muslims, Pan-Africanists, Christians, Hebrew-Israelites and Socialists converged at Miami's own historical Lyric

PLEASE TURN TO **FARRAKHAN/3A**

**NATION**



PHOTO COURTESY OF AFOLABI SOTUNDE/REUTERS

**BRING BACK OUR GIRLS:** Campaigners participate in a lamentation parade, as more towns in Nigeria come under attack from Boko Haram.

# Boko Haram reveals plight of hundreds kidnapped

By **CHIKA ODUAH**  
Associated Press

**YOLA, Nigeria** — When Islamic extremists snatched more than 270 girls from the Chibok boarding school in Nigeria in the dead of night, protests broke out worldwide. The U.S. pledged to help find them, and the BringBackOurGirls hashtag was born.

Some 10 months later, most are still missing. The Boko Haram extremist group sees the mass kidnapping as a shining symbol of success, and has abducted hundreds of other girls, boys and women. The militants brag to their new captives about the surrender of the Chibok girls, their conversion to Islam and their marriage to fighters.

"They told me the Chibok girls have a new life where they learn to fight," says Abigail John, 15, who was held by Boko Haram for more than four weeks before escaping. "They said we should be like them and accept Islam."

The kidnappings reflect the growing ambition and brazenness of Boko Haram, which seeks to impose an Islamic state across Nigeria, Africa's most populous country. Some 10,000 people have died in the Islamic uprising over the past

year, compared to 2,000 in the previous four years, according to the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations.

"It's devastating," said Bukky Shonibare, an activist in Abuja, of the kidnappings. "It makes you wonder, what is being done?"

John was among three girls interviewed by The Associated Press who recently escaped from Boko Haram. While their stories could not be independently verified, they were strikingly similar, and all spoke of their captors' obsession with the Chibok girls.

The girls had no idea whether the militants were telling the truth or making up stories to taunt their victims. John says the fighters enjoyed relating how they had whipped and slapped the Chibok girls until they submitted.

When the Nigerian air force dropped a bomb on the house where John was confined, she tried to escape, she says. She wrestled with the fighters, but they broke her arm and hauled her off to another house.

At the end of last year, the Nigerian army liberated the town where she was held. She is now in Yola with her father, sister and six brothers, in a house overcrowded with refugees.

PLEASE TURN TO **BOKO/4A**

**MIAMI-DADE**

# Beloved teacher is the essence of art



ALEXANDRA HARRIS / FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

**ART EXPRESSION:** Eric Jenkins Art teacher at Miami Jackson Senior High School expresses the essence of art.

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

His seemingly ageless appearance and energetic personality have been mainstays at Miami Jackson Senior High School for decades. When the entrance to his beloved art class became a revolving door with three teachers passing through in less than two years, he was asked to cut his 2008 retirement short.

Eric Jenkins, 63, said he was literally "on the beach with my toes in the sand" when he got the call asking him to come back. He returned in 2010 but plans to make 2016 his final year so that he can get to some of the ideas "The Lord keeps giving me," he said.

The first art award he ever received (he was 6-years old) shares space on a bulletin board in his classroom with other honors and newspaper articles from over the years. His students' art is on display throughout the classroom, in a display case just outside the room and will be featured in their very own gallery in the near future when Jenkins' plans to convert the adjacent classroom are complete.

His love for the high school located on NW 36<sup>th</sup> street in Miami runs deep; pre-dating his employment there. As a 1965 Jackson high graduate, Jenkins' post collegiate plan was to return to his alma mater to teach art, however, because the principal thought he was too young and too handsome, he steered him to a middle school instead. "He thought the girls would get me into trouble," Jenkins conceded.

A chance encounter with a Jackson football coach at a local restaurant led to Jenkins being

hired as an assistant coach. His success as an assistant morphed into a head coaching stint for the junior varsity squad; a position he held for eight years simultaneously with his art teaching duties.

Because of his tendency to go above and beyond in everything he does, "I couldn't do both," he said; ultimately convincing the administration to allow him to relinquish his coaching position so he could focus on art exclusively.

The switch paid off because during his first year teaching art full time, the number of college scholarships awarded to Jackson's art students went from zero to four. And his students' work became known throughout the community.

"We've had exhibits on the steps of the courthouse downtown, at the University of Miami, Miami-Dade, the school board building, and FIU. We've done community service for churches and preschools. My kids have won billboard contests. We won five in a row. Kids' work was put up on billboards throughout Miami-Dade County," he shared. "We won the congressional art award seven times."

While his students' art is not currently on public display in the community, they continue to receive invitations to participate in off-campus exhibits. Just last week, some of the students' art was on display in a Black History Month exhibit at the Doral campus of Miami-Dade College.

Stephenie Collie, 18, is the president of the art club. Her fascination with art and her teacher showed as they discussed a sketch that he completed of his girlfriend's late father.

"Mr. Jenkins is an amazing teacher," she said. Admiration for Jenkins also comes from his

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# Nation

## Lives of blacks ignored

FARRAKHAN, FROM 1A

Theatre in Overtown to observe the "crowning event of Black History Month."

Held on Feb. 22, the event was the 85th annual Saviours' Day 2015 convention hosted by the Nation of Islam. The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan delivered a bold message that ridiculed reparations efforts and blasted former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani regarding his recent insults of President Obama.

Presented live via a webcast from Christ Universal Temple in Chicago, Farrakhan did not mince words when addressing Giuliani's criticism of the president.

"He didn't grow up like we grew up ... how did you grow up, Giuliani? A privileged cracker? A privileged devil? You grew up on the sweat and the blood of black men and women who made America before your fathers got here."

This year's theme was "The Intensifying Universal Cry for Justice."

The event, for some, is timely after the nationwide protests following the police killings of black men in Ferguson, Missouri and Staten Island, New York; as well as the recent decision by the Department of Justice not to file civil rights charges against George Zimmerman, who was acquitted of killing 17 year-old Trayvon Martin in 2012.

Ayinde Madzimoyo, a public school teacher from Atlanta said the protests represent black people waking up. "I believe that large numbers of black people and others are becoming aware of systemic inequity and state sanctioned disregard and even, enmity for black lives. I believe that this groundswell of awareness and resulting activism follows in a long and cyclic tradition of black people's resistance to oppression," he said.

The purpose of the protests must include changing lives, he added, not just voicing dissatisfaction with the system. "I'm hopeful these movements will lead to an improvement in the condition of our communities."

Patrick Muhammad, 7th Regional Student Minister of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam said, "We are witnessing a level of dissatisfaction throughout the world like we've never seen before." Muhammad said that change is inevitable because, "The Honorable Minister Farrakhan has recently said

that we've now reached 100 percent dissatisfaction. Therefore, 100 percent dissatisfaction brings about a universal change. That's the swell of resistance that we're witnessing on a world wide scale caused by injustice."

While Muhammad sees the power in the expanding protests, Madzimoyo expressed fear that they will "fizzle out fruitlessly as so many have in our history."

He said the spiritual and emotional wounds that black people suffer from are deeply rooted in oppression.

"These wounds make it difficult to forge and maintain the connectedness necessary to make a movement successful. I think that we as black people have a great deal of healing to do in order to sustain future resistance movements."

While today's protests borrow from the past efforts of the Civil Rights Movement, the strategies must differ, according to Muhammad.

"In the 60s, black people in particular knew their open enemy. Today, it's more complex because many black people, especially our black youths are ignorant of our plight of black slavery, suffering and injustice," he explained.

Nevertheless, he said that today's protesting youth appear willing to take on the system.

"There is a disconnection. Today, it's the fearless youths who are protesting, and they care less for the elders of the children of Israel who have a passive, fearful attitude towards this modern Pharaoh (government)," he added.

Ultimately, he shared, God will have the final say.

"The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad teaches that justice is a principle of fair dealing; and is the law that distinguishes between right and wrong. Justice is the weapon that God will use in the Day of Judgment."

As it relates to reparations, although the country owes blacks, Farrakhan said the efforts to recoup are futile. "I'm not going to sit around talking to you about reparations—that's just a feel good masturbation session," he said. "Our blood soaks the soil of America. We fought in the war of independence from Britain ...we picked cotton and you took it and sold it all over the world until you got rich and we got nothing and you're going to tell me that the God of justice is pleased with you?"



Henry D. Allen Jr., president of the Colorado Springs chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., left, showed James Simmons, a fellow member, the site of the bombing.

## Suspect in blast near NAACP office: Target was accountant

By SADIE GURMAN AND NICHOLAS RICCARDI  
Associated Press

DENVER — The man accused of setting off a small explosion last month that rattled nerves because of its proximity to a Colorado NAACP office says he was in a rage over his financial problems and was actually targeting his accountant's office, according to court documents filed Friday.

Thaddeus Murphy, 44, told federal agents he made the pipe bomb out of a shotgun shell and fireworks fuses, the records said.

He said he was angry because the accountant wouldn't return his phone calls or give him back his tax records. But while a sign for the accountant's business was still on the wall of the building, it has been closed for 20 years, according to the president of the Colorado Springs chapter of the NAACP. The NAACP, which has been at the site since 1985, and a barbershop are the only tenants in the building.

Henry D. Allen Jr., president of the local NAACP chapter, expressed skepticism about the accountant version Friday, but would not say whether he believed his organization was the target.

"He targeted somebody in this building and in my estimate it was not the tax people," Allen said. "Does anyone really think this guy is going to admit to this?"

Murphy has been charged with arson of a building and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

At a hearing Friday in Colorado Springs, U.S. Magistrate Judge Michael Hegarty ordered him held without bond pending another hearing next week. Murphy, wearing a white T-shirt, said

nothing. He will be appointed a federal public defender.

Jeff Dorschner, spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Denver, said investigators determined the bombing was not an act of terrorism. But, he added, "We're also continuing our investigation to determine whether that confession is true."

On Friday afternoon, Murphy's weathered pickup truck and trailer still sat outside the duplex where he lives on a winding street of modest apartment buildings in northern Colorado Springs. No one answered the door at his apartment.

Nobody was hurt in the Jan. 6 explosion adjacent to a wall of Mr. G's Hair Design Studios, a barber shop that also shares the building with the NAACP in a mostly residential neighborhood.

The crude device caused minor damage, failing to ignite a canister of gasoline set next to it. Even if the canister had ignited, the damage likely would have been minimal, the FBI said at the time.

Still, the explosion gained widespread attention due to its closeness to the nation's oldest civil rights organization, and the FBI investigated it as a possible hate crime.

National NAACP President and CEO Cornell William Brooks said his organization appreciates local and federal authorities' swift efforts in arresting and charging a suspect.

"We seek a continued investigation into the motive of the alleged suspect, and we look forward to the culmination of his criminal trial," he said in a statement. "We will remain vigilant as we continue fighting for civil and human rights in Colorado Springs and throughout the country."

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# Caribbean

## Appreciating the journey

By CALIBE THOMPSON

I'm going to make it a little more personal than usual this week. There are welcomed changes coming, teaching me that at this stage the farther we go, the more room we'll have to grow.

I have the extraordinary privilege of leading the team that will have delivered the first Caribbean cooking series and the first Jamaican-produced series to be broadcast nationally on the PBS networks. That becomes official on April 4, 2015, when PBS stations across the United States are scheduled to begin rotation of "Taste the Islands with Chef Irie."

As a woman, as a Jamaican, as an entrepreneur, that makes me extremely proud. It took us two years, tons of favors and lots of good will and prayers to get it done. It's become a great lesson in appreciating the journey as much as the destination.

When asked by the head of the Jamaica Tourist Board how we made it happen, the most honest answer I could give was that when the opportunity presented itself, we were ready. We were ready with a product we were proud to show. We were ready to shake hands with the right people when introduced. We understood that the opportunity was not one to be taken lightly. We were willing

to do whatever it took to deliver what was needed when it was needed regardless of convenience; Sundays and holidays were fair game. And our resolve to bring attention to Caribbean culture remained, and remains, unwavering.

With this project, we've moved from production to promotion to "what's next?" And for folks like us, what's next will always be bigger and shinier than what was. The folks who wanted to wait and see, now want to support our efforts because we've proven that we care about our community looking good. We care about building unique recognition for the Caribbean-American community, not as a "subset-of" or checkmark beside "other," but as a rich, vibrant, attention-worthy community with ever more to share.

So what's next? The wheels are turnin' and I'm just as curious as you may be to figure it out!

*Calibe Thompson is a personality, author and the Executive Producer of "Taste the Islands," premiering nationwide on PBS in April 2015. For your free preview of her 2015 collection of writings, Things I Probably Shouldn't Say, visit [www.calibe.net](http://www.calibe.net).*



DAVID I. MUIR / FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

## Chibok girls still missing but not sexually abused

BOKO, FROM 1A

She finally was able to get medical attention for her fractured right arm, which remains in a cast.

The kidnappings of the Chibok girls in April brought Boko Haram to the world's attention in a way the group could not have imagined. The hashtag @BringBackOurGirls was tweeted more than 480,000 times globally in early May, and U.S. first lady Michelle Obama held it up in a sign to television cameras. She said at the time, "In these girls, Barack and I see our own daughters...we can only imagine the anguish their parents are feeling right now."

Yet in 10 months, Boko Haram has increased the tempo and ferocity of its insurgency. In August, it began seizing and holding towns, and - copying the Islamic State group - declared it would recreate an ancient Islamic caliphate in the region. The fighting has since spilled across Nigeria's borders, and the African Union this month authorized a multinational force of 8,750 troops to try to stamp it out.

Dorcas Aiden, 20, was another of those caught in Boko Haram's siege. She had finished high school and was living at home when the war came to her village. Fighters took her to a house in the town of Gulak and held her captive for two weeks last September.

The more than 50 teenage girls crammed into the house were beaten if they refused to study Quranic verses or conduct daily Muslim prayers, she says. When the fighters got angry, they shot their guns in the air. Aiden finally gave in and denied her Christian faith to become Muslim, at least in name, she says.

One day, the fighters stormed into the room where she was kept locked up with a dozen other girls. They showed a video of the Chibok girls, dressed in hijabs, with only their faces visible through their veils. Aiden says she was so overwhelmed that she cried.

The fighters said the Chibok girls were all Muslims now, and some were training as fighters to fight women, which Boko Haram men are not supposed to do.

Aiden's captors boasted about how they had married off the Chibok girls, she says. One fighter said he would marry her. She balked.

"I said, 'No, I will not marry you,'" Aiden recounts. "So he pulled out a gun and beat my hand."

Aiden says the insurgents threatened to break the legs of any girl who tried to escape, but she and six others ran anyway. As she made

her way through abandoned farm fields, she noticed that Boko Haram had filled about 10 other houses with kidnapped girls and women.

Aiden, who is now in Yola with tens of thousands of other refugees, dreams of going to university, in defiance of the extremists' insistence that girls should be married, not educated. The nickname Boko Haram means "Western education is forbidden or sinful."

Another escapee, a shy 16-year-old captured in September, begs that her name not be published because she escaped only a few weeks ago and believes the fighters are actively searching for her. After the girl's village was attacked four times, she fled to a great-aunt. Then that village also was targeted, she says.

The fighters held her for four months. When she escaped, she walked through the bush and across the border into Cameroon to avoid areas under Boko Haram's control. She is now taking refuge in a Catholic church in Yola.

All the girls say they were not raped, despite the fears of some villagers. Instead, the fighters said they wanted the girls to remain virgins until they were married off.

"They said they are doing the work of God, so they will not touch us," the 16-year-old recounts.

As she tells her story, she fidgets and looks down at her hands, clasped in her lap. She recounts how one fighter, nicknamed "Tall Arab," was set on marrying her. She pleaded that she was too young, but was told, "Do you think you are better than those Chibok girls that we kidnapped?"

The man told her the Chibok girls were "enjoying their matrimonial homes," she remembers. He also said the Chibok girls had turned against their parents, and were "ready to slit their parents' throats" if they ever saw them again.

Some never will. Even if the girls are released, people in Chibok say at least 13 of their parents have died since they were seized, in Boko Haram violence or possibly stress-related illness.

While dozens of Chibok girls escaped on their own after their kidnapping, 219 are still missing. Nigeria's military initially feared any action could lead to the girls being killed. But villagers reported last week that air force jets have begun bombing the Sambisa Forest - the area where fighters told Aiden some girls still are held captive.

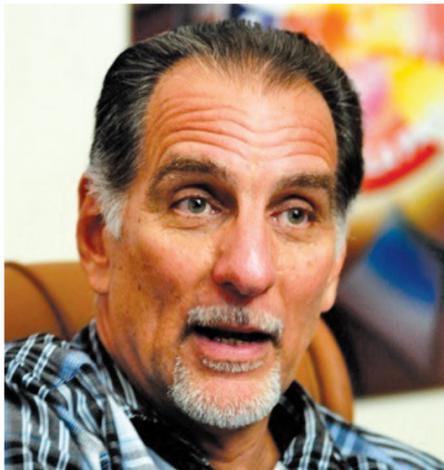


PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTHANDELERSIA.WORDPRESS

Rene Gonzalez, one of the Five Cuban anti-terrorist fighters

## Diverse experiences mark Indiana woman's trip to Cuba

By SUE LOUGHLIN  
Tribune-Star

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — Fernando Gonzalez had been vacationing at a beach, but he made a special trip to meet an American friend from Terre Haute, Cathy McGuire, while she was in Havana on an educational/cultural trip to Cuba recently.

McGuire had been on a tour Feb. 10 and was unaware he was waiting for her at her hotel. "He hugged me and hugged me," she said. "I told him I was glad to see him."

Meeting Gonzalez, one of the Cuban 5, was one of McGuire's primary goals in going to Cuba with 150 other Americans earlier this month on a trip organized by CODEPINK, a women-led grassroots organization that works to end U.S. wars and militarism.

The delegation met with high-level government officials and interacted with local people about cultural, economic, environmental and health issues. Those who were part of the U.S. delegation will use information gained "to explain to people why the U.S. trade embargo needs to be lifted" and travel restrictions eased, McGuire told the Tribune-Star (<http://bit.ly/1BFXCUE>).

She also visited with family members she used to assist in Terre Haute when Gonzalez was

imprisoned in the federal prison there. He and other members of the "Cuban 5," arrested in 1998, had been accused of espionage conspiracy against the U.S.

He was released early last year and returned to his homeland, as have the rest of the Cuban 5. "They are rock stars in Cuba," McGuire said; she brought a back poster of them she obtained in Cuba. Supporters of the Cuban 5 say they were political prisoners and had not been involved in spying on the United States.

While visiting the Caribbean island nation, McGuire had many diverse experiences. One day, she went to a high school for talented art students and a primary school. Later, she ate at a paladar, a restaurant in someone's home. She and others met with Mariela Castro, daughter of Cuban President Raul Castro; Mariela is director of the National Sex Education Center.

Also, McGuire met with two independent film makers, and they discussed censorship and the Internet. She spoke with Cubans about race relations and treatment of people who are gay.

The delegation also met with Ricardo Alarcón, a Cuban statesman who previously served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and president of the National Assembly of People's Power. He worked many years to secure the freedom of the Cuban 5.

Summing up her overall impressions of Cuba, she said, "It's a wonderful place. The people are great. Their values are good. What they need more than anything is for the United States to quit interfering in their business. ... They know their problems, but they are coming up with solutions."

They don't want to be like the U.S. "They want to live better and they could live better if it weren't for the embargo," which has been devastating to Cuba, McGuire said. They are limited in the types of food they have to eat, and they don't have access to modern medical equipment and supplies, which affects their health care. Such items as soap and toilet paper are in short supply.

"They eat but they don't eat well," she said. Housing and buildings are often in poor shape, and Cubans can't get materials they need, again because of the embargo.

But Cuba is changing, she said. Those over age 40 love Fidel and Raul Castro. While younger people respect the Castros, "They think it's time for some changes. They've had their day, now it's time for new ways of doing things," she said.

The economy of Cuba is dominated by state-run enterprises overseen by the Cuban government, although in recent years, the formation of cooperatives and self-employment has been encouraged.

The government does allow more privately-operated small businesses now; McGuire went to restaurants and a coffee shop run out of people's homes.

Raul Castro "is a lot more open to things than Fidel was," McGuire said.

## Defenders convene: Police not invited

DEFENDERS, FROM 1A

Defenders encouraged people to share their experiences with the police. The group leaders also solicited input for how to hold the Miami Gardens' police department accountable for Hall's death.

Audience members' experiences were written on Post-It notes and displayed on a timeline that included the deaths of several blacks from across the nation who died at the hands of the police. The diagram included the 1999 shooting death of 22-year old Amadou Diallo in New York, Ferguson Missouri teen Michael Brown, Eric Garner, the New York man choked to death by a police officer and Hall's Feb. 15th shooting death. The display also included statistics on the number of people "stopped and frisked" by the Miami Gardens police department (99,980 total stops that did not lead to arrests), from 2008 to 2013.

The department's former police chief, Matthew Boyd, resigned following the "stop and frisk" scandal, and was replaced by current chief, Stephen Johnson, who has vowed to embrace community policing.

Hall's cousin, Gerald Daniels, said that he's not optimistic about the police being held responsible. "We already know what the verdict is going to be," he added, "People don't even feel safe calling the police."

Howard Roan, 39, used to coach Hall when the man was a youngster playing Little League football. He said that he was unaware of Hall's mental problems. "He was kind of laid back," said Roan, who took issue with the police using deadly force to stop Hall.

"This man was waving a broomstick," he said. "If you don't see that a man with a broomstick is not a threat, that's a problem." Roan said that the city's decision to hire police officers from across the nation who are not familiar with Miami Gardens is a part of the problem.

The Miami Gardens resident said that officers once knocked on his door asking for directions



ALEXANDRA HARRIS / FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Gerald Daniels expresses himself in group discussion.

to a location that was nowhere near his house. "These officers have no clue," he added.

Police Chief Johnson told reporters last week that Hall charged at two of his officers and attacked them with a broomstick. Johnson also told reporters that the officers deployed their stun guns in vain and one officer fired his weapon five times. Two bullets hit Hall, killing him.

The incident that resulted in Hall's death was apparently captured on a dash cam in an officer's police car, however, the video has not been made public. Dream Defender Danny Agnew said "the focus is on getting the video released."

He also emphasized how important it is for the community to remain vigilant. "When we actually do stand up, it shakes them up. We have got to stick with it," he said.

Johnson told reporters that the video would be released to the public in the near future and that it will verify that the officers' actions were justified.

## Jenkins exhibits passion to teach art

JENKINS, FROM 1A

boss, Carlos Rios, Jackson's principal for three years. Rios said the school is "back to the days of old when [it] was a beacon of light for this community." After a rough period where it was ranked a 'D' or 'F' in the state's rating system for a number of years, he said the school has improved significantly and is now one of the highest performing schools in its district; earning two A's and two B's over the past four years.

He attributes the success to hard work, focused students and "great work from our very dedicated teachers here who stay long after the school day is over." Jenkins is one of those teachers who has been advised to leave by the school's custodians so they could turn off the lights before exiting the building in the evening.

"When I got here three years ago, I knew about two gentlemen, Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Bryant. Both had been at the school for 40 years. The love that his students and former students have for him, people always talk about Jenkins and the affect he had on them professionally and obviously during their time here," said Rios.

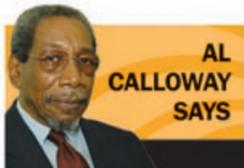
And while art programs all over this district have declined, "here at Jackson it's stronger than ever," thanks, he said, to teachers like Jenkins.



ALEXANDRA HARRIS / FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Jenkins' students practice their artistry.

# Opinion



## Find a way to foster black history

Unfortunately, integrationists who loved being called "Negro" and decried being Black and Afro or African American dominated the Civil Rights Movement. So a great opportunity was lost as blacks were being galvanized mainly through churches, especially in the south, to rally for desegregation. Leaders placed no value on black people knowing their history and what a long-term difference that knowledge could have made.

The Nation of Islam and Black Nationalist groups were the promoters of black history. Into the late 1960s the Black Panther Party took the thrust nationwide with a socialist political tinge. Energy outside of the Movement produced all sorts of pamphlets, magazines and booklets, that began popping up primarily on the east and west coasts that then crisscrossed the country.

Today, the black church could, ostensibly, become the primary educator of the black masses. Preachers have to dig into the literature and re-educate themselves because Bible Schools and Seminaries only teach Eurocentric history (his-story). There is great power in books by and about black people; power that

would make Pookey want to pull up his pants and girls to want to be queens; men to be real fathers and women to be carriers of the culture.

Black people have got to find a way to self-educate, to flip from fear and ignorance to confidence and knowledge. The apt adage "Know Thyself" is, indeed, instructive. Like everything else in nature, we cannot succeed except through struggle. Books are not meant to frighten. They are created to enlighten! No one has to be a scholar or even a high school graduate in order to learn our history and guide others to the information.

To be successful in this endeavor people will need a few books and only three other important things: A dictionary, dedication and time. In this space last week, I listed a few books about ancient African history (if you missed it send me an email). Below is a list of six key books about our African-American experience.

Get these six books!  
 1. *Black Reconstruction in America 1860-1880* by W. E. B. DuBois. "Of the Negro's [black people's] part in Reconstruction it is beyond question the most painstaking and thorough study ever made. ... An imposing contribution to a critical period

of American history." *The New York Times*

2. *The Mis-education of the Negro* by Carter G. Woodson. "The mere imparting of information is not education. Above all things, the effort must result in making a man think and do for himself just as the Jews have done in spite of universal persecution."

3. *Black Bourgeoisie* by E. Franklin Frazier. "In this controversial study, a leading sociologist sets forth his views of the frustrations and insecurities of middle-class American Negroes. He analyzes the behavior, values, and attitudes of a group which, in his opinion, has become isolated as a result of its rejection by the 'white world' and of its break with its own cultural traditions."

The next three books are by black psychiatrists

4. *The Wretched of the Earth* by Franz Fanon. "By a kind of perverted logic, it [colonialism/white supremacy] turns to the past of the oppressed people, and distorts, disfigures and destroys it. "Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, fulfill it, or betray it."

5. *Black Rage* by William H. Grier and Price M. Cobbs. "Two black psychiatrists tell it as it is - in the first book to reveal the

full dimensions of the inner conflicts and the desperation of the black man's life in America."

6. *The Isis Papers* by Frances Cress Welsing. "Instead of engaging in our past practices of complaining, moaning, crying, groaning, begging, clapping hands and singing "We shall Overcome" when confronted with these death-causing, life-stultifying problems posed by white supremacy, Black people in the U.S. must dissect and analyze those problems to their core. With this knowledge, Black people can take the necessary steps to eliminate the problem."

For those who want to keep on probing here are a few suggestions: *Souls of Black Folk* by W. E. B. DuBois; *Medical Apartheid* by Harriet A. Washington; *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander; *Black Power* by Richard Wright; *Prejudice and Your Child* by Kenneth B. Clark; and *The Choice* by Samuel F. Yette.

*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*



## Oh my God!

Oh my God!

I know. I know. Just making that utterance, I know that I have blasphemed against somebody's idea of God.

But which God?

The POTUS was severely criticized when he had the audacity to speak on this controversial subject earlier last month at the National Prayer Breakfast.

Embedded in his lengthy remarks were two paragraphs in which Barack Obama, the President of the United States of America, who, by title and position is, undeniably, the most powerful person in the world, dared to give his opinion on religious wars that have been documented throughout modern history; namely, the Catholic Crusades (against infidels), slavery (yes, that was a religious war against African persons), and the Jim Crow laws that continued the religious war against African-American citizens.

He mentioned Islam in the same breath; and therefore set off a maelstrom of debate about his personal religious preference.

At the risk of being 'crucified' in the court of public opinion, I too, will dare to talk about God and religion.

First, I admit that my human brain has not evolved to possibly comprehend the omnipotence of God.

I have only a little to offer, but here are a few of my thoughts on a subject that consumes the American public.

Here is what I conceive of as the highest power: no face; no race; no gender; no nationality; no preferred language, food, clothing, or dwelling place; and, no religion, too.

So what particulars of God are left?

It seems to me that the answer to that question is what all the wars are about. God is in the details.

Outcomes from the debates about the nature of God and the various 'sides' that God chooses are used to justify all the God driven wars.

And the wars have been interminable: between brothers and sisters; between/amongst tribes and nations; against whole countries, and humanity.

On the nature of God, I recently attended a memorial service for a woman who was described by one of her friends as "God dressed up as Pat Mc." I immediately recognized that as one truth about God.

Pat's favorite saying was "all we need is love". Admittedly, she was a huge Beatie's fan, but dig deep

enough, and I believe that it's the lack of love that drives so much of our human behavior toward war and violence; and much too often in the name of God.

I know that I have been guilty of making God more like me rather than trying to be more God-like. How often can you say the same of yourself?

I've also suffered from the temptation to seek God in various books (Bibles, Qurans, and Hebrew scriptures, et al.), which all tell similar stories about the struggle with our base human nature: pride, anger, greed, gluttony, lust, envy and sloth, you know the PAGGLES.

Often, our battle is just within ourselves; that personal 'jihad' against our base human nature; those PAGGLES. Thankfully, many organized religions have developed specific instructions for their members on how to manage, control and eliminate those personal defects.

Some have used the practice of yoga. Others pray and meditate. Still others walk around labyrinths.

Singing and shouting have helped too.

They all work.

Yet, time and again, and over the history of mankind, humans continue to wage war against others whose God is not their own.

Others?

They include all our neighbors (representatives of all the 'isms' we are trying to legislate out of our behavior in America). They are our fellow countrymen (those immigrants). They are the adjacent as well as 'foreign' countries, especially non-democratic regimes. They are the non-Christian countries.

So, how do you define God? Does God have a name? Does God have a body? Is there a dominant image of God in your mind? What happens if you exchange some of those images? What songs does God sing? Does God demand that you perform un-Godly acts? Can you kill in the name of God?

Ever?

And can I get into heaven if I don't worship God?

Who told you the answers to those questions? Did you ever seek to find your own answers? No?

Why not?

Imagine.

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



## Are adults the worst part of youth sports?

I cringed when I first heard the headline: Jackie Robinson West to be stripped of their Little League title. I spun my head around so that I could actually see the television screen and confirm that I was not hearing things.

I had been so proud to watch these young men from the South Side of Chicago defy socioeconomic statistics while confirming their own talents. Their athleticism had been showcased in the 2014 Little League World Series for the whole world to see, but it was their sportsmanship that caught my eye. The postgame smiles and genuine hugs that they shared with their opponents, showed a level of class in victory that some major league players should be encouraged to emulate. To hear that their on the field accomplishments would be nullified because of alleged off the field violations regarding residential boundaries was a stunning blow that tainted one of the best "feel good" stories of last year.

There is a lot of debate as to the parties responsible for allowing young men from outside the legal residential perimeters to play on the team named after the African-American baseball player who broke the major league color line. Was it the team's coaches or administrators; or was it the Little League Association officials who were supposed to vet and check the status of all players before allowing them to compete. Regardless of who was the guilty party, adults dropped the ball and children were penalized.

This happens far too many times in youth sports where the focus should always be the children. Youth baseball is not the only sport where adults steal the spotlight for questionable and sometimes unacceptable behavior. Every football season, YouTube and ESPN are rife with video of youth football games that deteriorate into brawls featuring adult coaches fighting with game officials or opposing coaches. Images of crying children holding

helmets or tugging on their adult mentors imploring them to stop fighting are a frightening testament to how often adults let their personal agendas and egos supersede the concepts of fair play and sportsmanship.

The incidents of adults tainting the youth sports experience also extends to parents. When a young athlete shows promise in their sport of choice, too often parents begin pushing the child to a point that winning is the only thing, and the performance of their child becomes more important than the performance of the team. They yell at coaches for more playing time, question play calls that don't include their young superstar, and belittle other young players who may not possess the skills and talents that their child may have. As adults, we should not only know better, we should do better.

Some of the best memories that I have are associated with the role that I played as a youth sports coach in baseball, basketball and football. Teaching kids the fundamentals of the game, consoling them when things did not go our way, inspiring them to play at their highest level while understanding that win or lose, you must always carry yourself with class and dignity. There was never any room to relive my High School glory days or drive a child so hard that they equated practice to punishment.

There is a competitive spirit in almost all of us. There are very few of us who enjoy losing and it would be a poor coach who does not encourage a winning attitude in their youth players. As adults, however, we have to set boundaries and never allow the will to win to become greater than the will to be a positive role model to the children that play the game.

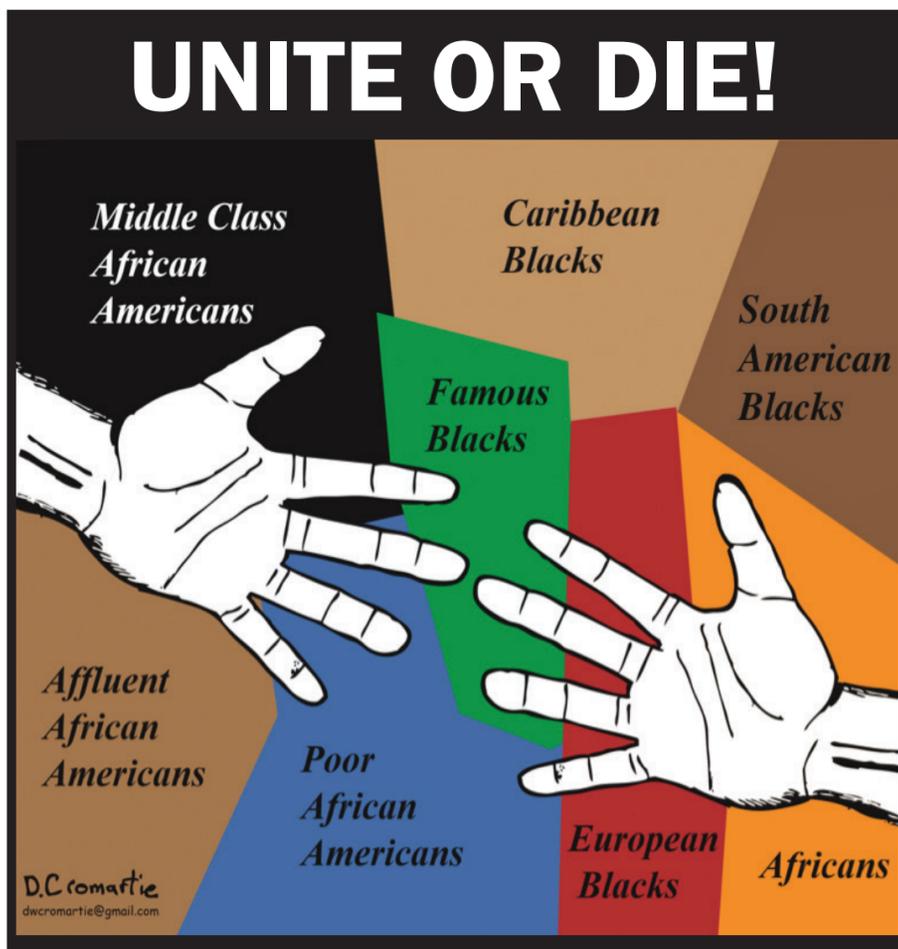
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# Health

## Future of Obamacare tested by 4 words

By MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court next week hears a challenge to President Barack Obama's health care overhaul that hinges on just four words in the massive law that seeks to dramatically reduce the ranks of the uninsured. The argument threatens subsidies that help make insurance affordable to consumers in about three dozen states.

The lawsuit focuses on the health insurance marketplaces, or exchanges, that have been set up to allow people to find coverage if they don't get insurance through their jobs or the government. The challengers argue that the health law provides subsidies only to people who get their insurance through an exchange "established by the state." But most states have not established their own marketplaces and instead rely on the federal healthcare.gov.

The administration says that consumers in all 50 states are eligible for subsidies and that Congress would not have passed a law that omits help for so much of the nation.

Q. Why is the eligibility for subsidies such an important part of the law?

A. Aware of failed efforts on the state level to reduce the number of uninsured, the architects of the health law included three related requirements: Insurers can't deny coverage because of "pre-existing" health conditions; almost everyone must be insured, in order to get enough healthy people into the system; and consumers who otherwise would spend too much of their paycheck on their premiums get financial help in the form of tax credits. That last piece, the subsidies, is designed to keep enough people in the pool of insured to avoid triggering a so-called death spiral of declining enrollment, a growing proportion of less healthy people and premium increases by insurers.

Q. Would Congress have distinguished between consumers based on whether they get insurance through the federal government or the states?

A. The opponents say Congress could have made such a distinction, and did. Congress wanted two things - nationwide subsidies and state-run insurance exchanges. So in the challengers' view, the availability of subsidies was conditioned on states setting up their own exchanges. They say the case is "extraordinarily straightforward" because the phrase "established by the state" cannot refer to exchanges established by the Health and Human Services Department, which oversees healthcare.gov. There is no other way to read the law, they argue. One piece of outside evidence in their favor is a talk in 2012 by former administration health care adviser Jonathan Gruber in which he said states risked losing billions of dollars if they did not create their own exchanges.

Q. That seems pretty convincing. Has the administration given up?

A. No. The administration says the law's own "text, structure, design and history" refute the other side's arguments. Attempting to divine the meaning of four words in isolation from the rest of massive law is foolhardy, the Justice Department says. Several portions of the law indicate that consumers can claim tax credits no matter where they live, and that a central purpose of the law was to make health care affordable to all Americans. No member of Congress indicated that subsidies would be limited, and several states argue in a separate brief to the court that they had no inkling they had to set up their own exchange for their residents to get tax credits. The administration also says it is nonsensical to think Congress would have set such a "self-defeating scheme." The only possible reading of the law allows subsidies nationwide, the administration says.

Q. What if the court concludes the language isn't as clear as each side says?

A. That should produce a win for the administration because Supreme Court precedent holds that federal agencies get the benefit of the doubt when the meaning of a law, or part of it, can't be definitively determined from the text. The administration would rather not win in that fashion, however, because it leaves open the prospect of a future administration changing its view. That's much harder to do when a law has been interpreted as having a clear meaning. Then, only Congress can make changes.



DAVID L. MUIR, FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

## When being yourself is deemed amazing

By PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM

Statistics reveal Facebook has 1.35 billion active users in the world per month. The world population is estimated to be 7.125 billion. That means roughly one in seven people in the world uses the social media juggernaut. Until very recently, I was proudly not among that number. The pressures of starting a new business prompted my becoming a citizen of what is estimated to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest country in the world by population. For me, Facebook assimilation was inevitable, but resistance was not futile.

Since being assimilated, I check my Facebook feed at least once a day. In doing so, I have noticed the exceedingly large number of post, pictures and videos which are about animals. The numbers are staggering. Besides the selfies of pets and the ubiquitous cat videos, there are many videos that have a heading of "This is INCREDIBLE" or "THIS IS SO CUTE" featuring animals doing something the poster thinks is unusual or exceptional, especially for a cat or a dog. That is not necessarily true. People seem to have the general idea that animals are monolithic in their behavior and intelligence. The truth is actually astounding.

The measuring of canine intelligence is biased on language development test. The average dog can learn about 165 different words, visual cues, and gestures. This means they have roughly the mental abilities of a 2-year-old child. Like human toddlers,

dogs also show some basic emotions, such as happiness, anger and disgust. More complex emotions, such as guilt, are beyond their capabilities as best we can determine. According to research, what we see and interpret as guilt in dogs, has actually been determined to be a manifestation of fear. As humans, we anthropomorphize the actions of animals. We interpret the emotions and behaviors in relation to our own, resulting in misinterpretation. In fact we are actually dealing with a 2 year old with the physical agility and strength of a dog. More recent research provides some surprising new insights as to how we have shaped dogs physiologically, similar to the way we have literally shaped them through breeding.

When animals are domesticated, especially a companion animal like dogs and cats, we are placing new demands upon them. Many of the demands are social in nature, such as understanding human communication, gestures, and words. Dogs being highly social, are more intensely subjected to these pressures than cats. Through coping with these pressures, it appears dogs are becoming progressively more intelligent over time while cats have remained at much the same level of mental ability they had when we first domesticated them. This means that not only are dogs smarter than cats, but the intelligence gap between the species is increasing over time. Sorry cat owners, you can't argue with science. While dogs thrive in our environs, cats have a very different social structure.

The cat's natural social structure is to live in large interrelated groups of females with males tending to roam and not being part of a group. The most commonly known example of this social grouping is the pride of lions we see so often on nature television shows. Cats by nature are more independent and have a limited need to co-operate with other cats and humans unless it serves its purpose. So in fact, we are forcing cats to live in an artificial social structure that neither fits nor contributes to their needs. We judge cats by our anthropomorphic standards, condemning and praising them for what we describe as being aloof, mysterious, and independent when they are just being cats.

In short, we find the social media postings depicting dogs, cats, and other animals astounding because we just don't have a good understanding of their true intelligence and behavior. They are truly miraculous creatures. It is sad we don't take more time to learn about the beings which share so much of our lives.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PLUS.GOOGLE.COM

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## Business

# Financial apps can help keep your spending under control

By ALEX VEIGA  
AP Business Writer

Joshua Levinson was about to splurge on some exercise equipment, but a personal finance app on his smartphone gave him a friendly reminder: He'd just recently dropped \$150 for Valentine's Day.

"When I looked at that, I was like 'OK, this has been an expensive week,'" said the 22-year-old



PHOTO COURTESY OF IDOWNLOADBLOG.COM

Best personal finance apps for iPhone, Mint

college student in Tallahassee, Florida.

That notification, flashed by the Mint Personal Finance app, prompted Levinson to hold off on the \$40 purchase. He credits the app, which he's been using for about a year and a half, with helping him become more aware of where his money goes. He estimates it saves him from \$50 to \$100 a month.

Keeping tabs on your spending is essential to getting your finances under control, but this can be a tedious process. As a result, many people don't do it. A smartphone or tablet can help you see where your dollars are going, as a first step toward making a change.

Apps for budgeting, expense tracking, paying down debt and other personal financial uses abound these days on Apple's App Store on iTunes or on Google's Play Store. Many bank accounts also now come with apps that let you see your balance, deposit checks by taking a photo and view your transactions.

You'll want to try out a few to find out which one is the best fit for your needs. Some require users to enter spending data themselves, while others can siphon those details automatically from your checking and credit card accounts, but require you to divulge information to access your accounts online.

What's important is to have something that you will stick with and that's generally simple.

### TRACKING ACCOUNTS & SPENDING

One of the most-downloaded personal-finance apps is Mint Personal Finance, from Intuit.

Mint requires little daily input from users. The app will automatically pull 90-days of transactions from bank accounts, credit cards, auto loans, and other accounts.

Credit card transactions often will have a category already assigned, based on the merchant. You can change that or add tags to help sort expenses. Users who like to pay for purchases in cash will have to enter those charges by hand, however.

To make it work, though, users have to provide Mint with their username and passwords to those accounts. If that makes you uneasy, Mint notes that it uses the same encryption and security measures as major banking institutions.

"We're also verified and monitored by third-party experts such as TRUSTe, VeriSign and other stalwarts of online security," said Holly Perez, a Mint spokeswoman. Despite a surge in high-profile cyberattacks on banks and retailers in the past year, Mint said it its app continues to see year-over-year growth in downloads. The app continues to add features, most recently rolling out an option to receive free credit scores that requires users to divulge their full name and Social Security number.

Mint is free, but you'll have to get used to seeing ads mixed in with the information you actually want.

Similar apps: Pocket Expense Personal Finance, Money Manager Expense & Budget

Just interested in tracking your spending without linking your checking and credit card accounts? Try Spendee and One Touch Expenser. Both make it easy to quickly enter an expense on the go, among other features.

### CRAFTING A BUDGET

Although Mint and similar apps have tools to track where your money goes, You Need A Budget (YNAB) puts more emphasis on crafting a budget and keeping tabs on how closely you're sticking with it.

YNAB uses a budgeting feature that mirrors the "envelope" system of money management, which involves assigning budget items like groceries or clothing an envelope with a set amount of money every month. If you overspend on groceries, for example, you can shift some of the funds in one of your other budget categories to cover the excess spending, keeping you within your overall budget limits.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FORWARD.COM

Bernard Cazeneuve

## France seeks social media aid

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The French interior minister said Friday he asked Google, Facebook and Twitter to work directly with French officials during investigations and to immediately remove terrorist propaganda when authorities alert them to it.

"We emphasized that when an investigation is underway we don't want to go through the usual government to government channels, which can take so long," said French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve after a meeting with representatives from the U.S. tech giants.

"It's important to have full cooperation and quick reaction" he added.

Cazeneuve's one-day visit to San Francisco and Silicon Valley comes weeks after terrorist attacks in Paris left 20 people dead, including three gunmen.

On Jan. 7, two gunmen killed 12 people and injured 11 more during an attack on the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo in Paris. A third gunman killed a policewoman Jan. 8 and then killed four more people a day later after taking hostages at a kosher supermarket in Paris. Police killed the three gunmen.

Twitter and Facebook spokespeople said they do everything they can to stop material that incites violence but didn't say whether they would heed the minister's request for direct cooperation with French authorities.

"We regularly host ministers and other governmental officials from across the world at Facebook, and were happy to welcome Mr. Cazeneuve today," a Facebook spokesperson said. "We work aggressively to ensure that we do not have terrorists or terror groups

using the site, and we also remove any content that praises or supports terrorism."

When asked whether Twitter would work closely with French investigators, a spokesperson said their website outlines the guidelines for law enforcement to request information.

"We review all reported content against our rules, which prohibit direct, specific threats of violence against others," the spokesperson wrote in an email.

An email to Google requesting comment was not immediately answered.

Cazeneuve said he called on the tech companies to join in the fight against terrorist propaganda disseminated on the internet and to block terrorists' ability to use websites and videos to recruit and indoctrinate new followers.

The pace of foreign fighters joining the Islamic State and other extremist groups has not slowed and at least 3,400 come from Western nations among 20,000 from around the world, U.S. intelligence officials say.

"I told them we can figure this out together, we can come up with counter-terrorism speech and block these sites that are enticing the most vulnerable members of our society to commit terrorist acts," he said.

France also is pushing to treat jihadi material on the Internet like child porn, a task that before the attacks in Paris was getting scant traction but now seems to have caught the attention of Europe's top security officials.

Cazeneuve said the meeting Friday is a first step in building a strong relationship between the tech companies and the French government. He said he invited them to go to Paris in April to continue the conversation.



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# Pinch hit king joins Marlins coaching staff

By MICHELLE HOLLINGER  
Special to South Florida Times

He was seven years old when he first picked up a bat at a youth sports club in Miami. More than four decades later, Lenny Harris hails as Major League Baseball's pinch hit king, with 212 under his belt. During his 18-year career, he played for eight different teams, twice with the Cincinnati Reds and was on the Marlins' 2003 World Series winning team. After ending his career with the Marlins in 2006, Harris recently rejoined the club, this time as the team's assistant hitting coach after working last season for the Marlins' Gulf Coast Rookie League affiliate.

Marlins' president of baseball operations, Michael Hill, told mlb.com, "During the game, that assistant can be in the cage, preparing our guys off the bench and being ready to pinch-hit for potentially game-deciding at-bats. Who better to be put in that role than the all-time pinch-hit leader, Lenny Harris?"

Harris spoke with The South Florida Times about the key to his longevity and his love for baseball.

The 1982 Miami Jackson graduate who batted left but threw right can use his rich baseball experience to motivate his players. He's played every position except catcher and even came off the bench to save the day, pitching a winning game when the Reds played against the San Francisco Giants in 1998.

"It was pretty much a blowout. My manager Jack McKeon, he was telling me, 'you wanted to pitch, you're going to get your opportunity' and I got nervous," Harris explained of the game in which he threw 13 pitches with nine strikes.

Before taking the mound, Harris said that he tried hard not to let his nerves get the best of him since the last time he'd pitched was at Miami Jackson.

"Next thing you know, I got three outs. I was so nervous and proud at the same time," recalled Harris. Following that win, he essentially "quit while he was ahead," because he never pitched another game for the rest of his career.

He'll be able to use that experience of pushing through fear to achieve success with the Marlins players. Harris said that his job with the players will be more mental than physical. "If the mind isn't right, you're not going to be right."

As a player, Harris said that winning was always his motto. Of the eight teams that he played for, he doesn't have a favorite, "I just wanted to play. That meant a lot to me."

Approaching baseball as his business helped him to maintain his focus and to last in the sport for as long as he did.

"I really couldn't do the night life. I was always about business. This was a way to support my family," Harris said. "I've been very blessed to not be on the disabled list, I really took care of myself."

While he never set out to break the record, and the opportunity to hit was not a given, a healthy dose of confidence helped him to become the league's pinch hit leader.

"Some days you don't know if you're going to get an at bat. I might pinch hit for a player who's struggling," he explained. Nevertheless, "I always felt like I could do something big when I came into the ball park. I kept doing it and doing it and I broke the record."

In addition to looking forward to his new coaching gig, the married Harris is a fan of his daughters, Ciara and Chanel. He said that Chanel, a student at University of Central Florida, "will be in Hollywood on some stage." And Ciara, who attends the University of Cincinnati, will be involved in veterinary medicine because "she loves animals."

He's grateful that so many people pushed him to succeed, including his first coach, Charlie Brown, who introduced the seven-year old Harris to football and baseball. Baseball stuck. "Baseball is my life. I love baseball," said Harris.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLEACHERREPORT.COM  
Lenny Harris, Pinch-Hitting Extraordinaire

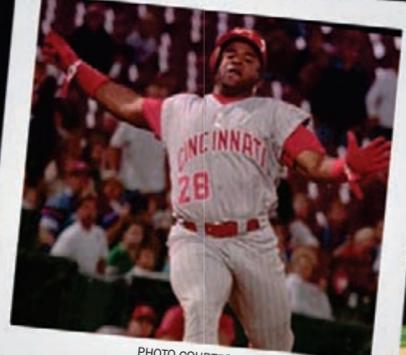


PHOTO COURTESY OF REDSENQUIRER.COM  
Lenny Harris, Cincinnati Reds, September 29, 1997

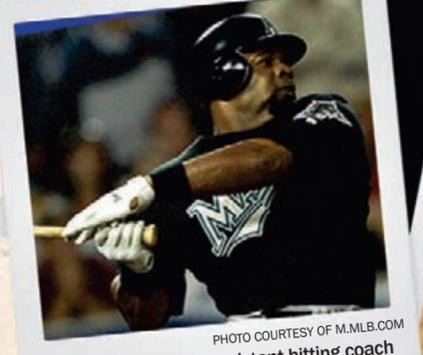


PHOTO COURTESY OF M.MLB.COM  
Marlins hire Harris as assistant hitting coach



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEMORABILIAFORYOU.COM  
Florida Marlins Lenny Harris Signed Photo

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Black Archives, bureau open visitor center at Lyric Theater

MIAMI — The Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau's Multicultural Tourism Team (GMCVB) and the Black Archives & Research Foundation of South Florida held a ribbon-cutting on Monday morning for the new Historic Overtown Visitor Center located inside The Lyric Theater.

The new visitor center will provide visitors and residents with a resource for information on the attractions and happenings in historic Overtown as well as other heritage and multicultural neighborhoods throughout greater Miami. Additionally, the center will offer a wide variety of brochures on attractions and points of interest, maps, calendars of events, tours and special offerings throughout the year. The Big Bus Hop-On Hop-Off Uptown loop tour will stop at the new center, which will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

### Sean Pittman elected to post with Orange Bowl Committee

MIAMI LAKES — Corporate attorney and governmental consultant Sean Pittman was recently elected as second vice chair of the Orange Bowl Committee at the organization's annual election.

Pittman has been a member of the Orange Bowl Committee since 2005 and has served on a number of subcommittees including football host, marketing, governmental relations and team outings. Most recently, he served as the chair for the organization's Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, charged with examining the future of the Orange Bowl Committee within the new College Football Playoff structure and providing recommendations to the OBC for one of South Florida's oldest and most anticipated annual events, the Capital One Orange Bowl.

### BCPS teachers awarded FPL grants for energy projects

BROWARD COUNTY — Six Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) educators were awarded grants from Florida Power & Light's Teacher Grant Program. The awards fund classroom energy and engineering projects such as solar-powered ovens, water-powered cars and wind generators, as part of a focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The grants range from \$500 to \$1,000 per project.

The recipients are Racquel Herring, Deerfield Park Elementary; Elyse Friedman Brunt, Floranada Elementary; Sheri Dominguez, Palmview Elementary; Nicole Williams Rouhac, Panther Run Elementary; Barbara J. Rapoza, New River Middle; and Magda Murphy Bozkurt, Western High.

### Hit-run car accidents on the rise in Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Florida law enforcement officials say hit and run crashes are increasing at an alarming rate. That's why they're launching a new campaign to let drivers know that leaving the scene of an accident can result in tougher penalties.

Florida had more than 80,000 hit and run crashes last year. Fatal hit and run crashes increased by 23 percent in Florida between 2013 and 2014 and nearly half of those victims were pedestrians, according to the Florida Highway Patrol. The agency hosted press conferences around the state last week to educate drivers on the consequences of leaving a crash.

Gov. Rick Scott signed a law last year that enhances the penalties for leaving the scene of a crash, making it a second-degree felony and requiring a mandatory minimum four-year sentence for a driver convicted of leaving the scene of a fatal crash. Drivers who leave an accident could also have their license revoked for three years under the Aaron Cohen Life Protection Act.

If the driver was under the influence during a fatal crash, the law increases the mandatory minimum sentence from two to four years in prison.

Compiled from staff, wire reports

## BROWARD

## Health officials focus on teen suicides

By BOB LAMENDOLA  
Special to South Florida Times

FORT LAUDERDALE — Officials who work in student health are taking action to address a small but troubling increase in teen suicides and attempted suicides.

One group of students identified as more likely to attempt suicide is black teen girls, although officials say the reasons are not clear. Students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender also have very high rates of suicide, because of stigma toward them.

In response to the trend, Broward County child advocates started a campaign to support children who are at risk of suicide. They provided every middle school and high school with posters and wallet-cards designed by a former student who attempted suicide. More steps are planned in coming months.

"We're trying to do something about a real problem in our community, and to raise awareness about it," said Dr. Paula Thaqi, director of the Florida Department of Health in Broward County (DOH-Broward).

The problem came to light in the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey given to middle and high school students. About 13 percent of students said they thought about suicide, up from 11 percent in 2007. Also, four percent said they were hurt in suicide attempts, up from two percent in 2007.

In Florida, 24 percent of black female students in middle school said they had seriously considered suicide, the highest rate. In Broward, their rate was even higher, at 32 percent.

Reasons for the trend are not clear,



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CAUSE FOR CONCERN: The Florida Department of Health in Broward County is launching a campaign to raise awareness of teen suicide.

said Charlene Grecsek, coordinator of the Network for Students with Emotional / Behavioral Disabilities at Broward County Public Schools.

Some school counseling officials believe that the economic downturn and increased pressure to succeed in school have increased the anxiety on students — even as early as middle school.

Because of the trend, the Broward County Comprehensive School Health Advisory Committee (led by DOH-Broward) made teen suicide prevention a priority.

A new subcommittee enlisted help from a Parkland suicide survivor, who

PLEASE TURN TO SUICIDE/2B

## MIAMI-DADE

## Murals provide facelift for Overtown park



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEREK COLE

PROJECT SUPPORTERS: Derek Jackson, left, Dee Gordon, Mike Hill, Saliha Nelson, Andre Dawson

Staff Report

MIAMI — Dorsey Park, which once hosted games by Negro League baseball players in their heyday, recently paid homage to that colorful era when civic and city leaders teamed for a presentation that combined the sport and art.

On Tuesday, Feb. 17, URGENT Inc., the Miami Marlins Ayudan and City of Miami Parks and Recreation hosted more than 100 guests at the Murals for Historic Dorsey Park dedication ceremony held in Overtown.

Attending the event were

PLEASE TURN TO DORSEY/2B

## SOUTH FLORIDA



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AVIATION DEPARTMENT

Director Emilio T. González, Lt. Col. Leo Gray, Lt. Col. Eldridge Williams, Judge Richard Rutledge



TRIBUTE: Florida Memorial University Choir sings in honor of the three Tuskegee Airmen.

## Miami airport honors three Tuskegee Airmen, famous aviators

Staff Report

MIAMI — The Miami-Dade Aviation Department honored local surviving members of the famed Tuskegee Airmen as part of a Black History Month celebration.

MDAD Director Emilio T. González joined the department's senior leadership in paying tribute to the three living legends — Lt.

Col. Leo Gray, Lt. Col. Eldridge Williams and Judge Richard Rutledge — during a recent luncheon at Miami International Airport. The three airmen received special certificates from MIA in recognition of their distinguished service and pioneering history in the field of aviation.

Gray, 90, lives in Coconut Creek, Williams, 97, in Richmond Heights,

and Rutledge, 92, in Plantation. The trio was honored earlier this month with special proclamations by the Miami-Dade County Public School System.

"These brave men represent the very greatest of the Greatest Generation," said González. "Like so many men and women of their era, they willingly stepped up and served America and its allies in a

time of dire need. But the Tuskegee Airmen stand apart because they overcame additional obstacles, and yet went forth and served the United States honorably."

The Tuskegee Airmen, also known as the Red Tails, were men and women who enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps or served as civilian support staff in the Tuskegee experience.

Approximately 300 Airmen flew more than 15,000 missions in Europe from 1943 to 1945, serving as bomber protection escorts and destroying more than 400 enemy aircraft either in the air or on the ground.

Their bravery earned them more than 850 medals, including 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses. In 2007, then President

George W. Bush and Congress bestowed the nation's highest civilian honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, on the group. The medal recognized their "unique military record that inspired revolutionary reform in the armed forces."

Approximately 30 of the Tuskegee Airmen are known to still be alive.

# Around South Florida



**ELGIN JONES**  
EJones@SFLTimes.com



## MARIJUANA THREAT

The Poarch, an Alabama-based Creek Indian tribe, has petitioned Gov. Rick Scott to operate casinos on land the tribe owns in the Florida Panhandle area. They have said if their request is not granted, they will fight for the right to do so. They also say they will begin growing and selling marijuana on the land, as federal law permits, regardless of state laws or regulations.



## PAY RAISES

Wal-Mart CEO Doug McMillon announced the company will spend \$1 billion to provide pay raises for its employees. The company employs more than 1.3 million workers and more than 500,000 will receive pay increases. Wal-Mart, the largest private employer in the country, has been under pressure from unions and other organizations to better compensate its workers.

## Palm Beach County

### OBAMA CARE

Enrollments in the Affordable Care Act insurance plan reached more than 1.6 million in Florida as of the Feb. 15 deadline. The federal Department of Health and Human Services also said tri-county areas of Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties had more than 750,000 people sign up for the affordable Obamacare health plans,

which is among the highest number in the country.



JONES

## ROBBING THE CRADLE

Antonio Jones, 38, and Jami Price, 33, both of Lake Worth, are facing charges after being accused of robbing a 15-year-old boy. The alleged incident occurred outside a Lake Worth pharmacy where the couple asked the boy for some spare change. When the victim reached into his pocket, they allegedly put a knife to his throat and threatened to stab him if he did not hand over all of his money. They also took his cell phone. The boy was choked and suffered scratches in the attack before the pair fled on foot. Police were called and Jones and Price were spotted a few blocks away and taken into custody.



KEISER

## HALL OF FAME

Evelyn Keiser, a 91-year-old nurse and educator who co-founded Keiser College along with her husband, has been inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame. Keiser joins the likes of Julia Tuttle and Mary McLeod Bethune in the hall of fame.

## Broward County



POLLOCK

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES

There are 23 applicants seeking appointment to complete the term of County Court Judge Giselle Pollock, who was removed from the bench following several alcohol abuse relapses while serving on the bench. Among them are General Magistrate Phoebe Francois and Donald

Gelin, an attorney with the Broward Sheriff's Office. Both are of Haitian descent.



BROWN

## TOP PRINCIPAL

Six educators are the finalists for school principal of the year honors in Broward County. They are Angela Brown of Dillard Elementary, Estella Eckhardt of Hallandale High, Michelle Kefford of Charles W. Flanagan High, Susan Leon-Leigh of Coral Springs High, Priscilla Ribeiro of Fort Lauderdale High, and Sonja Smith Braziel of Pompano Beach Middle. Good luck!

## FRAUDSTER JAILED

Shanice Ethridge, 24, of Fort Lauderdale has been sentenced to five years and three months in federal prison for her role in a bogus Jamaican lottery scam. The mostly elderly victims were misled into believing they had won the Jamaican lottery, but needed to pay a fee to have the money wired to them. Ethridge had been warned by federal agents about her participation in the fraud, and was charged after she was caught about two years later continuing the con game.



PHILLIPPE

## ADMITTED MOLESTER

Boaz Nono Phillippe, 35, of Pembroke Pines allegedly confessed to having sex with a then 5-year-old child on multiple occasions. The child, now 10, told her parents, who contacted police. When questioned, Phillippe confessed and admitted watching porn with the child. Book'em Danno!

## Miami-Dade County

### TESTING CONTROVERSY

Florida Education Commissioner Pam Stewart has proposed doing away with some testing for high school students.



STEWART

Now, state legislators are proposing to end compensating teachers on how well students perform on tests. It means former Gov. Jeb Bush's Florida Comprehensive Assessment Testing (FCAT) initiative may be in its last days.



FERNANDEZ

## MILLION DOLLAR BONUSES

The 800 employees at Simply Healthcare in Coral Gables received a total of \$100 million in bonuses. The proceeds came from the sale of the company for \$1 billion. CEO Mike Fernandez says the employees made the company successful and deserved to share in the profits.

## Monroe County

### GARBAGE GAS

Monroe County will send its yard waste to Hendry County while awaiting the construction of a plant that turns the waste into gas. Commissioners voted last week to sign a 30-month agreement with Energy 3, a Maryland company, to haul yard waste out of the county. Energy 3 also will build a gasification plant near Homestead, which will convert the waste into gas for use in cars. That project is slated to be completed in three years.

### RECORD COLD

The Florida Keys set a new record low of 42 degrees for Feb. 20 at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in Key Largo during the recent cold snap. According to the National Weather Service, the coldest temperature ever recorded in the Keys was 41 degrees in 1981.

Got a story idea? Please email [News@SFLTimes.com](mailto:News@SFLTimes.com)



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Dr. Paula Thaqi

# Health officials focus on teen suicide

## SUICIDE, FROM 1B

is now in college, because she is young enough to speak credibly to teens.

The woman's poster urges students to "Keep Holding On" and to seek help from the Teen Hotline at Broward 2-1-1. The Broward Regional Health Planning Council donated 1,000 posters and thousands of cards. The School Board commended the initiative and agreed to discuss other

proposed actions in the future.

Broward County School Board Member Robin Bartleman, who is on the subcommittee, plans to propose that public school staff receive mandatory training on warning signs of suicide and best ways to help.

Other agencies involved in the suicide campaign include the Florida Initiative for Suicide Prevention, Children's Services

Council of Broward County and Broward Health. For more information, call 954-467-4700 Ext. 3014, or email [Maureen.Keefe@flhealth.gov](mailto:Maureen.Keefe@flhealth.gov).

Bob LaMendola is a public information officer with the Florida Department of Health in Broward County.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF DEREK COLE

PLAY BALL: Optimist exhibition game player



Painting of Negro League great, Josh Gibson.

# Dorsey Park gets murals

## DORSEY, FROM 1B

City of Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado, City Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, artist Kadir Nelson, baseball Hall of Famer Andre Dawson and baseball player Jon Jay from the St. Louis Cardinals.

After the National Anthem and remarks by officials, attendees were treated to an exhibition game played by players from Optimist Rattlers, coached by Justo Jay, and joined by the Miami Marlins Ayudan, Andre Dawson, John Jay and Marlins player Dee Gordon.

The dedication ceremony marked the completion of over 6,000 square feet of murals celebrating the Negro League in Dorsey Park, which was once the South Florida home of games played by the Negro Baseball League teams.

URGENT, a community-based organization headquartered in Overtown, initiated the project in fall of 2012 with seed funding from the Ethel and W. George Kennedy Family Foundation. In 2013, URGENT's mural project was awarded funds as a Knight Foundation Arts Challenge winner and became a recipient of the very competitive National Endowment for the

Arts Challenge America Fast-Track grant in 2014.

Emily Gunter, URGENT's director of building literacy through arts and culture, spearheaded the project, and was delighted with the results.

"I am joyous that this project helped bring together the children, youth, families, the artists community and volunteers from throughout Miami-Dade to celebrate historic Overtown and the contributions Negro Baseball League made to the culturally rich stories of Miami," Gunter said.

Kadir Nelson, whose work is featured on the new FOX series, *Empire*, helped to guide the project and contributed three striking portraits to the front mural wall of the park featuring Negro League greats Satchel Page, James "Biz" Mackey and Josh Gibson. Nelson also donated a painting to help URGENT raise funds for further art programming.

Local artist Alex Douyon served as lead mentoring artist and guided youth apprentices to work on the mural during the summer months as part of URGENT's summer training and employment program funded by the South East Overtown Community Redevelopment Agency.



GLORY DAYS: Holding a portrait of a Negro League player are Miami-Dade Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, left, Matt Haggman, Saliha Nelson, Justo Jay, Namiya Crespo, Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Emily Gunter, Henry Crespo, Kadir Nelson and Jim Morris.



JERI ★★★  
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# Obituaries



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER.COM  
Jerome Kersey

## Former Trail Blazers player Jerome Kersey dies at 52

in a statement. "My thoughts and condolences are with the Kersey family. He will be missed by all of us. It's a terrible loss."

Kersey averaged 10.3 points and 5.5 rebounds in 17 seasons in the NBA with Portland, Golden State, the Los Angeles Lakers, Seattle, San Antonio and Milwaukee. He helped the Blazers reach the NBA Finals in 1990 and 1992, playing alongside Porter, Clyde Drexler, Kevin Duckworth and Buck Williams.

"He was the greatest guy, the nicest friend, teammate and brother. He was loved by everyone. We will all miss him. He just cared so much," Drexler told Comcast SportsNet Northwest. "This is unbelievable."

Kersey had his best season in 1987-88, averaging 19.2 points and 8.3 rebounds. Kersey played in 1,153 regular-season games, also averaging 1.9 assists and 1.2 steals.

The former Longwood University star ranks second on Portland's career games list with 831, third in minutes played at 21,400, second in rebounds with 5,078, third steals with 1,059, and fifth in points with 10,067.

At 6-foot-7 and 215 pounds, "No Mercy" Kersey had a broad smile and a warm manner that made him a fan favorite.

Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard posted to Twitter: "Spoke to him regularly about life and the ups and downs of a NBA season. Gone too soon, much love!" Others who posted their condolences included Kobe Bryant and Vince Carter.

Kersey retired from basketball in 2001. He was an assistant coach with Milwaukee in 2004-05 under Porter. In addition to serving as a team ambassador, he appeared on Blazers' broadcasts for Comcast SportsNet Northwest.

At Longwood, a Division II school in Farmville, Virginia, Kersey averaged 17 points and 11.3. He was a second-round pick by the Blazers in the 1984 draft.

"It is indeed a sad day for our organization, the city of Portland and the NBA. Jerome will be remembered not only for his incredible contributions on the court, but his tremendous impact in our community," said Blazers President Chris McGowan.

Kersey lived with wife Teri in Lake Oswego.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROOKLYNVEGAN.COM  
Bruce Sinofsky

## Noted documentary filmmaker Bruce Sinofsky dies at 58

TRENTON, New Jersey (AP) — Bruce Sinofsky, an Oscar-nominated and Emmy-award winning documentary filmmaker who gained prominence for his works that shined a spotlight on a child murder case in a small Arkansas town, has died. He was 58.

Sinofsky died at his New Jersey home on Saturday, the eve of the Oscars, a spokesman for Hugh M. Moriarty Funeral Home said.

Sinofsky's longtime collaborator Joe Berlinger said on Twitter that Sinofsky died of complications from diabetes.

Sinofsky and Berlinger drew praise and attention for their *Paradise Lost* trilogy, a series of films about the case of three teenage boys convicted in 1994 of killing three boys in West Memphis, Arkansas. The films, released in 1996, 2004 and 2011, raised questions about evidence used to convict the teens, who became known as the West Memphis Three.

The teens each spent 18 years in prison, but in 2011 they were allowed to enter a plea in which they asserted their innocence while acknowledging there was enough evidence to possibly convict them. The initial film in the trilogy, *Paradise Lost: The Child Murders at Robin Hood Hills*, won an Emmy, while the final film, *Paradise Lost 3: Purgatory*, was nominated for an Academy Award.

Sinofsky and Berlinger also collaborated on the critically acclaimed *Brother's Keeper*, which documented the case of an elderly man accused of killing his brother, and on *Metallica: Some Kind of Monster*, a documentary of the renowned heavy metal band.

"We lost a valued member of our family ... as award winning filmmaker Bruce Sinofsky passed away," the members of Metallica wrote in a statement posted on the band's website. "Smart, funny and dedicated, Bruce was with us almost every day in the early 2000's and was an integral part of helping us to navigate the rough waters during those times. Although not very welcomed at times, he was there through some of the darkest times of Metallica."

Born in Boston, Sinofsky graduated from the Tisch School of the Arts of New York University in 1978. He and Berlinger eventually formed their own production company, Creative Thinking International, in 1991.

### BAIN RANGE FUNERAL HOME - Coconut Grove



**RHODA ANN HOOKER**, 78, Home-maker, of Coconut Grove, died February 20 at Select Specialty Hospital. Viewing will be held Friday 5 pm to 7 pm at Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church. Final Home-going Service will be held 11 am Saturday at the church.

### MANKER FUNERAL HOME

**TERRY OWEN ARMSTRONG**, 58, Painter, died February 8, in Tampa. Funeral service was held.

**GEORGE BRADSAHAW**, 89, Factory Worker, died February 17, at University Of Miami Medical Center. Remains were shipped to South Carolina for final rites.

**EMECIA T. BROWN**, 47, Cashier, died February 20, at North Shore Medical Center. Funeral will be held 3:30 pm Saturday at Hosanna Community Baptist Church.

**KELSNIC JAMEL COOPER**, 33, Sanitation Worker, died February 18, at Jackson Medical Center. Funeral service was held.

### RANGE FUNERAL HOME

**GEORGIA JONES AYERS**, 86, Retired Director, for The Alternative Programs, Inc. died February 17. Services were held.

**JULIA AHWAI EVEANS**, Retired LPN, died February 20. Funeral will be held 2:30 pm Saturday in the chapel.

**EVANGELIST DAVID SHANKS**, 89, Minister, for Church of Christ died. Services were held.

**LAURA B. WILLIAMS**, 74, Home-maker, died February 17. Funeral 10 am Saturday at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

### A.J. MANUEL FUNERAL HOME - Florida City



**CHARLES BRUNSON**, 80, Retired, died February 22 at Baptist Hospital. Viewing 5 to 8 pm Friday at Freewill Baptist Church. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at the church Freewill Baptist Church in Homestead.

### ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME

**PATRICIA FACYSON**, 57, of Fort Lauderdale, died February 20. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Roy Mizell & Kurtz Worship Center.

**WILLIE GEORGE KELLY**, 69, of Fort Lauderdale, died February 20. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at The New Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

**MARJORIE MOORE**, 77, of Fort Lauderdale died February 21. Arrangements are incomplete.

**LARRY MOSLEY**, 43, of Fort Lauderdale, died February 16. Funeral will be held 10 am Thursday, February 26 at Mount Bethel Baptist Church.

**EULA TAYLOR**, 97, of Fort Lauderdale, died February 18. Memorial Service 11 am Saturday at Roy Mizell & Kurtz Worship Center.

**SOPHIA WILLIAMS**, 100, of Fort Lauderdale, died February 23. Arrangements are incomplete.

**Place your Obituaries Here Call 954-356-9360**

### JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



**TRACEY BATTLE**, 41, Beautician, died February 21. Arrangements are incomplete.

**LESTER CROSBY**, 91, Truck Driver, died February 19. Funeral will be held 1:30 pm Saturday at House Of God Miracle Revival.



**MARIE GINETTE JEANTY**, 59, Nursing Assistant, died February 14. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Jay's Chapel.



**WILLIE B. JOHNSON**, 64, Truck Driver, died February 13. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Jay's Chapel.

**CAMILLE PAYEN**, 93, Certified Nursing Assistant, died February 17. Arrangements are incomplete.



**GARY ROBINSON**, 50, Supervisor, died February 17. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at First St. John.

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

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK

**SAPPIE FARMER**, 71, Truck Driver, died Feb. 21, at Aventura Hospital. Funeral 11 am Saturday at St. Luke MB Church.

**DELORES GENE RATIFF**, 61, Retired, died February 19, at North Shore Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.

**JOHN EDWARD SAWYER**, 47, died January 10, at home. Arrangements are incomplete.

### HALL-FERGUSON-HEWITT MORTUARY

**CLEVELAND CONNER**, 84, Retired Roofer, for Milton E. Thompson & Son, died February 19 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

**FRANK WALTON**, 76, Auto Mechanic died February 23rd. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt Chapel.

### WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME

**MAGGIE EVERETT**, 64, died February 22. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at New Hope M.B. Church.

**LAVALL HALL**, 25, Cook, died February 15. Funeral 1 pm Saturday at Cierra Norwood Baptist Church.

**RANDOLPH HOPKINS JR.**, 67, Painter, died February 21. Funeral 11 am Saturday in the chapel.

**IVERY WALKER**, 56, Postal Worker, died February 15. Funeral 2 pm Saturday at Bethel Apostolic Temple.

### NAKIA INGRAHAM FUNERAL HOME

**ALPHONZIA DANIELS SR.**, Maintenance Supervisor, died February 14 at Aventura Hospital. Services were held.

**GLUCIA JOHN**, 86, Homemaker, died February 16 at Memorial Hospital. Services were held.

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens

**WILLIE JAMES BATTLE**, 71, Retired Construction Worker, died February 20, at home. Services were held.

**JIMMIE CRAIG**, 58, Truck Driver, Died February 20, in Asheboro, N.C. Arrangements are incomplete.

**PATRICK FIGARO**, 28, Laborer, died February 8. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday in the chapel.

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# Prayerful Living



THE REV. DR.  
WALTER T. RICHARDSON

## “Stretching Beyond the Limits”

*“Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left!” ~ Isaiah 54:2, 3*

In February 1932, Richard Spikes, an African-American engineer from San Francisco, California, invented the automatic gearshift for cars. He had already been credited with designing one of the first automobile directional signaling devices. Later he would design the swinging barber chair.

People, both black and white, told him he would not be successful. He stretched himself beyond the limits that were placed on him by society as a black man. In February 1964, the Kentucky boxer Cassius Clay, who would change his name to Cassius X and eventually Mohammed Ali, defeated Sonny Liston for the world heavyweight boxing championship. No one could convince Ali that he could lose to a bigger, more muscular, and more experienced fighter. In the Hebrew Bible, David stretched himself and fought a giant of a man three feet taller than the average person, and more familiar with fighting. Not only did David fight Goliath, he defeated him. David, like Richard Spikes and Mohammed Ali, refused to accept the limitations or adopt the attitude of the ordinary, the common, or the mundane. Many people do not succeed because they don't expect to succeed. They look around and look backward without ever looking within and above for motivation and strength to stretch beyond their own ability. People can be heard daily crying the blues: I'm barely making it; the cards are stacked against me; I seem to be going around in circles; or I'm swimming against the current.

Isn't it strange that others in the same life situations from the same communities are thriving? Within the same community one can notice one bank is closing while another is opening; one business is closing its doors while another business is established in the same area and the lines for service are long. One church is reducing its service times, while another church in the locale is extending its service times and ministry opportunities. So, what's the difference? Well, every successful person and organization have two things in common...their outlook is different and there is separation from the ordinary.

In Isaiah 54, the prophet describes a community of hopeless people who have been reduced from more than two million to fewer than 50,000 because of war and injustice. Their surroundings upon their return from exile are in ruins, and the chosen people of God feel they

are doomed for non-existence. So Isaiah says to them, “live in expectation.” He encourages that though outcomes appear bleak to be optimistic, because the Lord always favors the righteous.

And, the one who expects nothing will seldom be disappointed. Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays often said, “The tragedy of life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goal to reach.” Rev. Norman Vincent Peale expressed the same sentiment: “If you paint in your mind a picture of bright and happy expectations, you put yourself into a condition conducive to your goal.”

Stretching involves not only expectations, but expanded activity. Carpets on the floor do not perform to their maximum capacity until they've been stretched. Balls used in sports cannot be used in play until they have been stretched. Rubber bands were invented to be stretched. Now, stretching is always accompanied by resistance. Stretching involves pain and friction.

Learn to stretch. Stretch your commitment because God is not through with you. Extend your possibilities, enlarge your horizons, expand your capacity, expand your influence, extinguish fires of doubt, exalt the Savior, exaggerate your expectations, exceed your goals, excel in the work beyond what is requested, exercise your faith in God AND yourself, exhaust every means possible, exhibit humility, explode with excitement, and express your joy in expectation.

Get beyond of curse  
o f

the ordinary; those insistent voices in our internal choir that won't stop singing songs of doubt, dismay and disbelief.

Yes, you may fall along the way, but fall up. You may fail along the way, but fail forward. Falling and failing doesn't mean one is finished.

Another famous boxer, Joe Louis, got knocked down once, but after the fall still won the fight. A reporter asked him, “How could you come back after being knocked down?” Louis replied, “When I fell down, I made sure I could still see. In my mind even while on my back I said, ‘If I can look up and I get up!’”

Lord, help us to see the possibilities beyond our present condition. Amen

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

## Beloved pastor retires from historic Mount Zion Primitive church

By KYOTO WALKER  
Special to South Florida Times

WEST PALM BEACH — It is befitting to have the final farewell celebration for beloved pastor Elder Cornice Reid Jr. on the day after Valentine's Day because he is our “sweetheart,” longtime church member Mary Lawrence Brabham said Sunday, Feb. 15 at Mount Zion Primitive Baptist Church. Reid, who last month celebrated his 35th anniversary as senior pastor of the church, more than 100 years old and historically black, also retired recently so he could, in his words, “get some rest.”

There were tears. And some sad goodbyes. But mostly, it was an extended celebration filled with sentiments of gratitude and fond memories for Reid. The festivities began at Mount Zion Primitive Baptist, 1425 Ninth St., West Palm Beach, Monday, Jan. 19 - Thursday, Jan. 22 as well as Sunday, Jan. 25, and culminated on Sunday, Feb. 15. The events featured choirs and stirring sermons delivered by visiting preachers, and enjoyed by family and friends from across the state coming to wish Reid a fond farewell after 35 years of service. “I've been a lover of God and a lover of the church for as long as I can remember,” he said.

On Sunday, Jan. 25, about 150 attended the commemoration service including West Palm Beach Mayor Jeri Muoio, Riviera Beach Mayor Thomas Masters and West Palm Beach Commissioner Sylvia Moffett.

Reid, 77, said that he didn't really have preaching in mind when he was younger but rather singing in a gospel quartet. “All of my uncles were quartet singers. On Sunday mornings they used to sing on the radio,” he said. “We would sit there at the radio and listen to them sing. They were real good and I guess it kind of got in my blood.”

Reid said that he tried to continue with his singing career after he became a preacher but found the demands of being in a musical group, including the travel, were too much. He said that he didn't want to leave his



Pastor Cornice Reid Jr.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY LAWRENCE BRABHAM

wife, the late Mary Reid, and their children to perform at various churches and organizations throughout Florida and Georgia. “We went to Georgia, and all up into Tallahassee,” Reid said. “The first time we went to Georgia, it was so packed the people couldn't get into the church.”

Brabham said that she thinks Reid has been a community leader, a counselor and a teacher who has touched many lives in a positive way. “Elder Reid is a gifted gospel singer, having sang with the famous recording group, the Sensational Vocalaires,” she said. “And in working with the community, he hosted the first ‘Unity Day’ annual celebration for the Martin Luther King Jr. Coordinating Committee, Inc. of West Palm Beach.”

Reid's children, from oldest to youngest, are Charles (deceased), Ernest, Pam (also know as Laura), Adriene and Keith.

The father of five recently attended the wedding of his youngest daughter's son in New Orleans. Adriene Reid said that her son, Cornice, 27, named after his grandfather, might follow in the pastor's footsteps one day. “His mannerisms are so much like my dad's,” she said. “They both are so humble. They are nonchalant to many things that most people typically would just go off the scales (concerning). And he loves reading the Bible. He's read it from cover to cover.”

Adriene Reid said that her nephew Aaron Tookes, who is also a minister and singer, is already continuing the legacy. “Aaron was born and raised right here at Mount Zion,” she said. “This is his life, his love, his passion. And he just mimicked daddy from the (first) day.”

Reid was married to his late wife, Mary, for 49 years. She passed away last May from ovarian cancer. “My wife was beautiful,” he said. “She had a beautiful personality. And we were what you call ‘in love.’”

Reid said of Mary, who he affectionately referred to as “shug” or “honey dew,” “God couldn't have given me a better wife.”

Adriene Reid said that in terms of her father's ministry, she thinks he didn't see his duties as a challenge. “If his phone rang 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, my dad knew his role and my mom knew her role and if she had to drive him somewhere, she would,” Adriene said.

Cornice Reid Jr. said that he misses his wife and losing her was extremely difficult. “We would never fight or fuss or things of that nature,” he said. “She was a sweetheart. She really was. We did things together. We went places together. We just had a lovely relationship.”

Reid said that he has saved all of his sermons from the past 35 years and they were all hand written. “I have no regrets,” he said. “It's been a lovely time as a preacher. And I enjoyed every minute of it.”

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# technology

## The fine print: Unlimited data plans have limits

By **ANICK JESDANUN**  
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — Just how limited is your unlimited plan? As a long-time buyer of these data plans, I'm well aware that unlimited doesn't really mean unlimited.

### T-MOBILE

Technically, most T-Mobile plans are unlimited. But once you hit a certain threshold on its faster, 4G LTE network, T-Mobile will cut your speed to 128 kilobits per second — about twice the speed of dial-up modems, for those who remember them. You'll get back to the fast lane when the next billing cycle starts.

For truly unlimited data, get the Unlimited 4G LTE package for \$80 a month. That includes unlimited voice and text. For family plans, a second unlimited line is \$60 and each one after that is \$40 per month. T-Mobile says speeds won't get reduced, but there's still a catch: You get unlimited data only on T-Mobile's own network.

Like other carriers, T-Mobile has roaming agreements with rivals, so you might actually be using AT&T's network, for instance, where T-Mobile lacks coverage. T-Mobile has to pay AT&T in that case, so it limits how much you can roam. Unlimited customers who hit 50 megabytes of U.S. data roaming in a given month won't have data service until they are back on T-Mobile's network.

Unlike its major rivals, T-Mobile offers free data roaming on some plans when traveling in more than 100 countries. It's unlimited, but those who spend extended periods out of the country won't be eligible. Speeds are slow, at about 128 kilobits per second. You need to pay extra for faster speeds abroad.

### SPRINT

Sprint offers an unlimited voice, text and data package for \$60 a month. On family plans, each additional line is \$40. Regardless of whether a plan is unlimited or capped, Sprint may slow down speeds for the heaviest five percent of data users — typically those who use five gigabytes or more a month — when the network is congested.

On unlimited plans, domestic roaming is capped at 100 megabytes. After that, according to the fine print, "Sprint reserves the right, without notice, to deny, terminate, modify, disconnect or suspend service." Yikes. Sprint said in an email that it will offer warnings and a grace period before any service suspension. International roaming is always charged.

### AT&T AND VERIZON

AT&T stopped offering unlimited data plans to new customers in 2010, and Verizon did so in 2012. Existing

customers were allowed to keep it. Both companies slow down service for heavy users.

For AT&T customers with 4G LTE phones (which the latest phones typically are) the threshold is five gigabytes. After that, speed slows until the next billing cycle. For 3G and non-LTE 4G phones, the threshold is three gigabytes. However, speeds are only reduced in areas where there is network congestion. AT&T plans to bring that policy to 4G LTE phones, too, later this year.

Verizon slows its heaviest users — the top five percent — when they have a 3G device and are in a congested area. It announced plans to extend that restriction to 4G users last October, but backed down following complaints.

With both companies, the policy that applies depends on the type of phone you have, not the network you're on.

AT&T and Verizon say they don't limit roaming in the United States. Their networks are more extensive than T-Mobile's or Sprint's, reducing the need to roam. International roaming always costs extra.

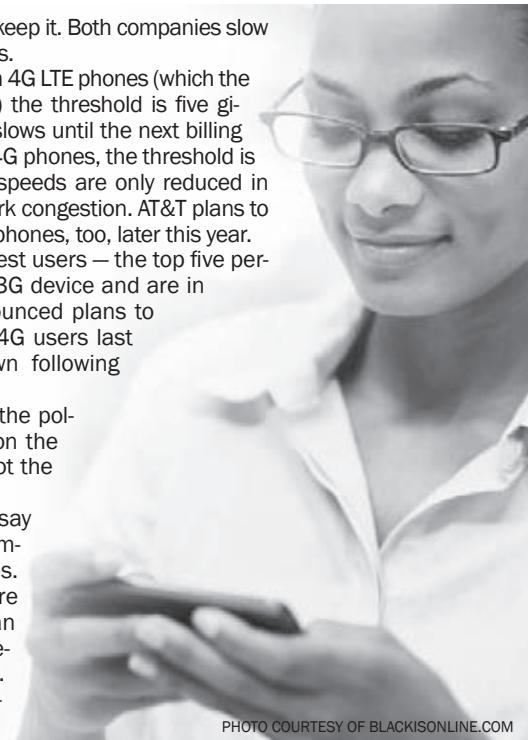


PHOTO COURTESY OF BLACKISONLINE.COM

## Study reveals the season's least breakable tablets

StatePoint — People of all ages and lifestyles use tablets for just about everything. Unfortunately, the way we use these fragile devices often puts them at risk for breaking, and certain models are more susceptible to going kaput.

To help shoppers make smart decisions, SquareTrade, a protection plan provider for tablets, smart phones and other electronics, decided to find out how durable the most popular tablets are. Evaluating key elements such as front and back panel design, edge construction and materials, size, weight, "slide-ability," water resistance and "grip-ability," SquareTrade's breakability score tests devices in everyday danger situations brought on by our lifestyles and habits.

Overall, larger tablets proved to be far more breakable than smaller ones, as well as the least water resistant.

No matter how durable your device is, accidents do happen and an affordable protection plan can help you protect your pricey tablet investment. More information can be found at [www.SquareTrade.com](http://www.SquareTrade.com).

If you're buying a new tablet, make sure you research your options first, and consider adding a protection plan.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATEPOINT

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film

Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan in *Fifty Shades of Grey*By **LINDSEY BAHR**  
AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES — When Universal bumped *Fifty Shades of Grey* from August 2014 to Valentine's Day 2015, it seemed like a cheesy gimmick. Now that box office results are in, it's clear that was the most brilliant stroke of all.

The adaptation of author EL James' erotic novel debuted to an astounding \$94.4 million domestic and \$172 million international across the long President's Day weekend, breaking box office records for the month of February, female filmmakers and R-rated movies in what is proving to be a perfect storm of intrigue, brand, and crafty execution by Universal Pictures.

*Fifty Shades of Grey* was always expected to be a fruitful endeavor — that's why nearly every studio in town clamored to scoop up the rights to James' phenomenally successful trilogy in 2012. When Focus Features and parent company Universal were the lucky winners, the hype only intensified as fans hungered for everything from casting rumors, to first photos of stars Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan, and clues about what would make the final cut.

However, fans alone don't explain a blockbuster debut, especially when the entire Northeast was battling severe winter storms.

Produced for a modest \$40 million with no tested star-power in front of the camera, Universal and Focus were hedging their bets from the beginning, keeping costs reasonable and stoking the buzz machine with a coy

Dakota Johnson and Eloise Mumford in *Fifty Shades of Grey*

marketing campaign playing on the interest of those who hadn't read the book.

Not only did it spark a culture-wide dialogue, it became an event movie centered on a single date: Valentine's Day.

"It follows in the tradition of the edgier, naughtier, so-called romance movies, and that paid off. Audiences like a good R-rated escape," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office firm Rentrak, noting racy films like *Last Tango in Paris*, *9 1/2 Weeks* and *Basic Instinct*.

*Fifty Shades of Grey* is poised to surpass all of them.

"Certainly the fan base came out, but to reach these numbers, you have to go broader than the built-in audience," added Gitesh Pandya, editor of BoxOfficeGuru.com.

The somewhat random fact that Valentine's Day fell on a Saturday was key: it ensured that interest would stay high for at least the first two days of theatrical release.

Day One would be for the die-hard fans. Day Two would be for the couples.

"That was a shrewd move," said Pandya. "This is the one weekend of the

entire year where men will see a film that they do not want to see. The other 51 weeks of the year are a little different."

Whereas most films with ardent fan bases drop off dramatically by the second day, *Fifty Shades of Grey* grew. The first *Twilight* film fell 40.8 percent on its second day. *Fifty Shades* spiked 21 percent.

An estimated 68 percent of opening weekend audiences was female (that number was even higher on Friday night), with 42 percent under the age of 25-years-old for the R-rated film. Racially, an estimated 52 percent were Caucasian, 22 percent Hispanic, 15 percent African American, and seven percent Asian.

Still, moviegoers didn't seem to be thrilled with the results. According to market research firm CinemaScore, audiences gave the film a dismal C+ rating.

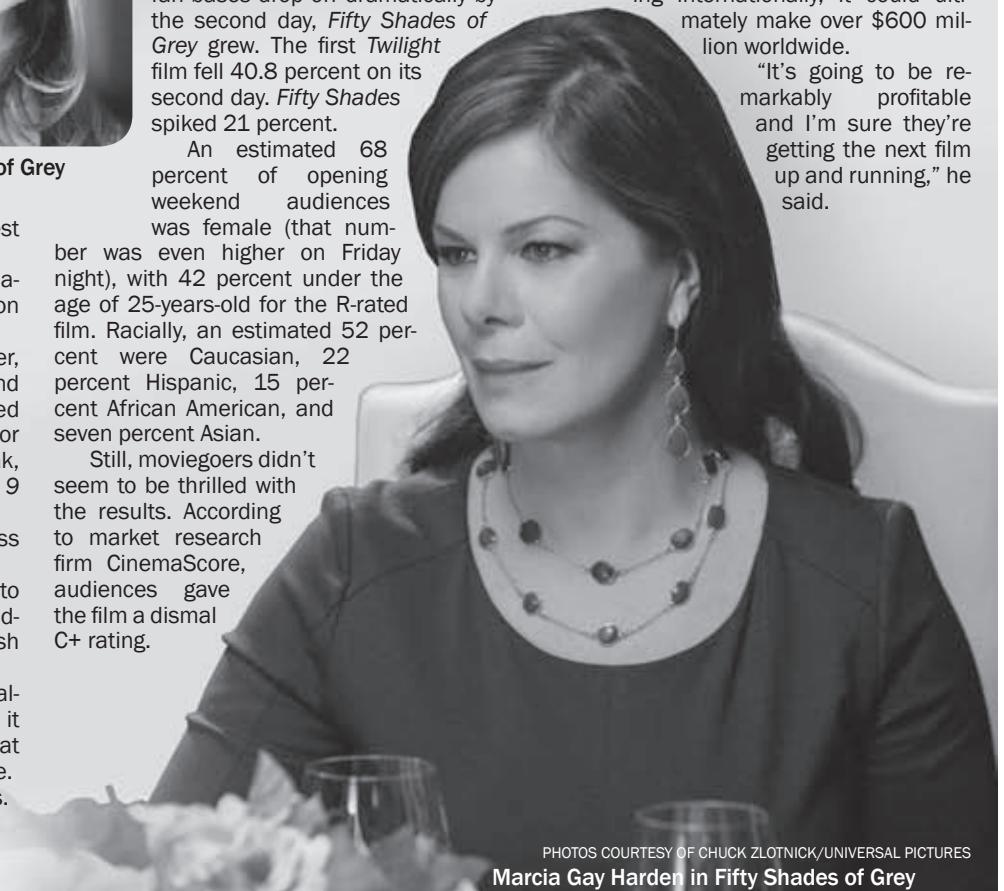
# 50 SHADES OF GREEN:

## How studio roped men into seeing 'Grey'

"I'm expecting very large declines and rapid erosion in the days and weeks to come. This is one that is not going to have much stamina going forward," said Pandya.

He noted that the way the movie is tracking internationally, it could ultimately make over \$600 million worldwide.

"It's going to be remarkably profitable and I'm sure they're getting the next film up and running," he said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHUCK ZLOTNICK/UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Marcia Gay Harden in *Fifty Shades of Grey*

## pop culture

*SoBeautiful app sponsored by beauty pioneer Iman*

Staff Report

NEW YORK — HelloBeautiful (www.hellobeautiful.com), the fastest-growing online destination for today's Black woman, has launched the SoBeautiful app.

Sponsored by Iman, a pioneer in the beauty and fashion industry, the app is a mobile destination for women of color seeking beauty and fashion advice curated by industry experts and top HelloBeautiful editors. The app, which launched in late fall, is available for Apple and Android devices.

HelloBeautiful is part of Interactive One, which bills itself as the Number One digital platform for the New Urban community.

"The HelloBeautiful woman is all about mobile!" said Leigh Davenport, Editorial Director, Women and Lifestyle, at Interactive One.

"Every day over 70 percent of our users are finding us on their smart phones and the SoBeautiful app is the perfect way to indulge their insatiable appetite for beauty, hair and style trends," Davenport said. "The SoBeautiful app also allows our readers to participate in a community where their beauty is celebrated shamelessly. The more selfies the better!"

The app offers curated how-to videos from top iconic influencers such as social media maven & founder of the style blog, LoveBrownSugar, Christina Brown and co-founder of the beauty company DooBop.com, Jodie Patterson, as well as user-generated content. Users can share their own personal tips and will be encouraged to share content with friends to create social conversation.

SoBeautiful is HelloBeautiful's first-ever style and beauty-focused app. It can be used with Android and iOS smart phones and tablets, and is now available in the Google Play and iTunes app stores.



## HelloBeautiful launches first beauty app



CYBER BEAUTY: SoBeautiful app is sponsored by super model Iman, left.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF POPSUGAR.COM/PLAY.GOOGLE.COM/HELLOBEAUTIFUL.COM

## TV dance contest winner to enter Broadway's 'On the Town'

NEW YORK (AP) —The newest winner of TV's *You Think You Can Dance* is ready for his Broadway close-up.

Ricky Ubeda, a 19-year-old from Miami, won the Fox TV contest show in September and will join the ensemble of Broadway's *On the Town* at the Lyric Theatre starting Friday.

"I'm super-pumped," said Ubeda last week from frozen Fargo, North Dakota, where his tour with the other Season 11 finalists has ended. "Anything warmer than here," he joked. "It's in the negatives."

Ubeda has seen rehearsals of *On the Town* and called it "huge," "amazing" and "some of the hardest dancing on Broadway."

In addition to a \$250,000 prize and the dance title, Ubeda won a part in show," he said.

*On the Town*, which was made into a 1949 film starring Gene Kelly and Frank Sinatra, features the songs *New York, New York* and *Lonely Town*.

In the show, three sailors on leave jump around the city looking for love.

It's been a crazy few months for Ubeda, who graduated high school in May, won the

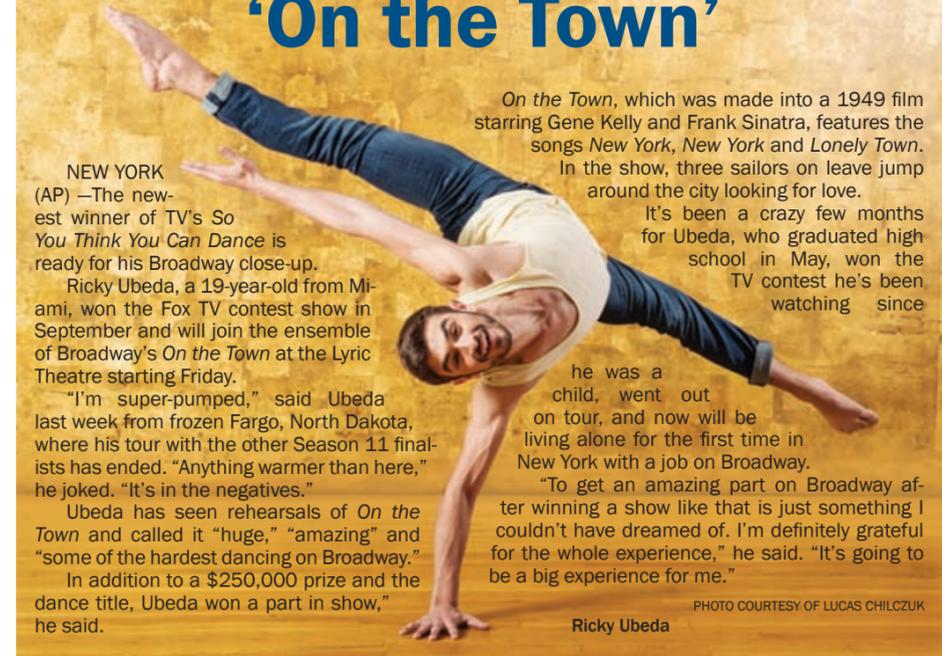
TV contest he's been watching since

he was a child, went out on tour, and now will be living alone for the first time in New York with a job on Broadway.

"To get an amazing part on Broadway after winning a show like that is just something I couldn't have dreamed of. I'm definitely grateful for the whole experience," he said. "It's going to be a big experience for me."

PHOTO COURTESY OF LUCAS CHILCZUK

Ricky Ubeda



## Favorite Disney characters and world-class illusions combine in 'Mickey's Magic Show'

Staff Report

SOUTH FLORIDA — In a captivating combination, favorite Disney characters join a professional illusionist live on stage in a performance producers say will delight children of all ages. *Mickey's Magic Show* brings audiences into a world where Disney magic takes on a completely new meaning.

The magic comes to South Florida with two shows. The first takes place 4 and 7 p.m. today at Bank United Center on the University of Miami campus, 1245 Dauer Dr. in Coral Gables. The second stop is Friday at the BB&T Center, 1 Panther Parkway in Sunrise. Show times there also are 4 and 7 p.m.

The show features the special magic from legendary Disney films: Cinderella's rags turn into a beautiful ball gown in a split second; *Aladdin's* Princess Jasmine levitates into the air; and the enchanted dancing brooms in *Fantasia* help sweep



inspirational journey with the Disney characters where they learn to find the magic within and all around them. At the same time, families will see world-class illusions that will truly take their breath away."

The production values and stagecraft of Disney Live! presents *Mickey's Magic Show* make

Minnie off her feet. Mickey Mouse performs astonishing illusions along with Cinderella's Fairy Godmother, *Alice in Wonderland's* Mad Hatter, and professional illusionist Zak Williams. The magic is complimented by appearances from Disney princesses Belle and Snow White and Mickey's pals from Toontown — Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy.

"This one-of-a-kind show gives parents and children the power to see magic everywhere," says Kenneth Feld, producer of the *Disney Live!* shows. "We take them on an

this an exceptional family show. Famed illusion designer Jim Steinmeyer, who has worked with leading magicians David Copperfield, Lance Burton and Siegfried & Roy, brings his more than 20 years of world-class experience to the illusions in the show, which include a dynamic sawing-in-half duet and an awe-inspiring levitation of Minnie set to black light.

In another astonishing magic act, Williams levitates Princess Jasmine. The moment is pinned by a starry night sky, with a mood both mesmerizing and surreal. To the tune of *A Whole New World*, Williams ultimately joins Jasmine in the air as they soar high above in harmony.

"In every show we do, we try to exceed audiences' expectations," says director Jerry Biliik. "With the sheer magnitude of the illusions, we are able to take the audience to a place far beyond what they would ever imagine. From the moment the magic begins on stage, audiences will be in for a visual surprise as they take part in a unique Disney experience."



MAGIC: Mickey Mouse and friends entertain via illusions.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FELD ENTERTAINMENT

## fashion

## Kanye West rolls out Yeezy shoes

By **LEANNE ITALIE**  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — With Beyonce, Rihanna and Diddy among the celebrity royalty in the front row, Kanye West rolled out his Yeezy Boost shoe line for Adidas as his baby North fussed in mama Kim Kardashian's arms next to a stone-faced Anna Wintour.

Models, men and women, wore minimal neutral tights or black jackets to let the shoes shine in a tech-driven unveiling that included a simulcast of the presentation to 42 theaters on three continents around the world.

A mysterious Yeezy website with a countdown clock went up to stoke excitement over the highly anticipated release, West's inaugural

collaboration with Adidas Originals.

An app was set up to take reservations for the gray suede high tops, to be collected at Adidas and other stores in New York City only. Reservations were closed just a couple of hours later. Only 9,000 pairs of the 750 Boosts were sold, at \$350 a pop. More reportedly will be available Feb. 28 worldwide. Already there are reports that the shoes are selling on Ebay for \$1,500.

At the fashion show, Kanye's voice was on blast talking about art, freedom and fashion as the show opened in a cavernous space downtown, followed by the calming drone of a trumpet then a blast of loud, edgy music as his models stood solemnly in rows. They marched in lockstep to take their turn in front of a scrum of cameras before walking off in single file to make room for the next line.

Backstage after the show, West

was chill and smiling, a pair of his new Yeezys with their thick white soles and wide strap across the laces in place. A side zip and front perforations complete the look of the lead style, which comes with a spare set of laces.

The rapper has big plans to create more Yeezys, for women and kids as well, after leaving Nike for Adidas more than a year ago.

He has spoken of the "isms" in fashion and in life — classism, elitism, racism. But on shoe launch day, after the crowd dissipated, he had no problems on his mind, refusing to talk about his Grammys diss of singer Beck, which he retreated from in a radio interview.

"I just focus on beauty, fabric, proportion and try to get the price where the kids can get a hold of it," he told The Associated Press of his Yeezys after urging fans to avoid "shoe wars" and thefts and be patient for more of the shoes to come.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARTICLE19.COM  
Kim, North and Kanye West



PHOTO COURTESY OF INSIDETHESNEAKERBOX.COM AND WFTV.COM  
**YEEZY:** Models show off new shoes by Kanye West.

# events calendar

COMPILED BY MARISSA CLARKE  
Special to South Florida Times



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE WILLIAMS

## February 26-March 4

### FEB 26

#### An Evening with Jason Alexander & His Hair:

The actor stars in this one-man show, which features stand-up comedy, music, improv, and a bit of audience interaction. 7:30 p.m. at Coral Springs Center for the Arts, 2855 Coral Springs Dr., Coral Springs. \$50-\$200. 954-344-5590.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



**Art, History, and Soul:** Students from the African Heritage Youth Theater perform in this show, which takes the audience through time in a black history celebration. 7 p.m. at African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave., Miami. \$10. 305-638-6771 or www.ah-camiami.org.

**Artopia Miami:** A celebration of Miami's artists, musicians, fashion designers and more at the seventh annual event. Enjoy food, wine, and sample beer. Circ X, a travelling performance troupe, Steve Warner and Angels Entertainment are all set to perform. 6 to 10 p.m. at Coral Gables Museum, 285 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables. \$40. 305-603-8067.

**Read Along, Sing a Song:** Monica Kurtz, teaching artist of the Florida Grand Opera, leads students in a story. During the reading children can pick up an instrument, follow a dance, or sing a song to illustrate certain parts of the story. 6 p.m. at Tyrone Bryant Branch Library, 2230 NW 21st Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 305-403-3308, reservations required.

### February 27

**Caribe Film Festival:** The two-day festival features film screenings, workshops and more. From a panel discussion on producing films in Florida to a lecture on auditioning for actors, this festival has something for everyone. 10 a.m. today and Saturday at Little Haiti Culture Center, 212-260 NE 59th Terr., Miami. \$10 per film screening, \$20 for weekend pass, which includes access to all workshops. 754-273-7166.

**Jerry Seinfeld:** The comedian and co-creator of that show about nothing and the web series *Comedians in Cars with Coffee*, comes to town to share his take on his life's experiences. 8 p.m. today and Saturday at Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$79-\$169. 954-797-5531. \$16-\$60. 1-800-745-3000.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHALOMLIFE.COM

**Disney Live! Mickey's Magic Show:** Mickey, Minnie and more join an illusionist on stage for an amazing display of Disney magic. 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at BB&T Center, 1 Panther Parkway, Sunrise.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FELD ENTERTAINMENT

### FEB 28



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**Black History Month Heritage Tour:** All aboard the Big Bus Miami to learn about the landmarks and neighborhoods touched by the African Diaspora and people of color in Miami-Dade County. Timothy A Barber, executive director of the Black Archives, leads the four-hour tour with stops in Overtown, Lemon City, Little Haiti and Liberty City. 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. The bus departs from the Historic Lyric Theater Cultural Arts Complex, 819 NW Second Ave., Miami.

**Civil Rights in the 21st Century:** A panel discussion on the past, present and future importance of the Civil Rights Movement. 1:30 p.m. at Mandel Public Library, 411 Clematis Blvd., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-868-7701.



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**A Celebration of Japanese Culture:** The Fushu Daiko Drummers perform. Founded in 1990, the drummers use taiko to promote understanding and appreciation of Japanese culture. 1 p.m. at Bailey Concert Hall, 3501 Davie Rd., Fort Lauderdale. \$10, \$5 children. 954-201-6884.

**CityPlace Art Festival:** The fifth annual festival features a wide variety of work created by local artists and crafters. From jewelry to sculptures, find the perfect piece at this fair. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. along Rosemary Avenue at CityPlace, 700 S. Rosemary Ave., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-746-6615.

**Health & Wellness Experience:** Get the scoop on healthy living at this expo. The day features cooking demos, health screenings, fitness demonstrations and more! 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Free. 561-881-0702.



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**Melton Mustafa Jazz Festival:** The 18th annual festival presented by the world-famous trumpeter features performances by local high school and college jazz bands. The Melton Mustafa Orchestra, comprised of Rosario Giuliani-Master on saxophone, Askhat Sayfullin on bass and Darrell Green on drums. 6 p.m. at Lou Rawls Center for the Performing Arts, 15800 NW 42nd Ave., Miami Gardens. \$50, \$25 students. 305-626-3600 or www.meltonmustafa.com.

### Youth Summit:

Miami-Dade Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson sponsors this panel discussion titled The State of Black Youth in America. 10 a.m. to noon at St. Paul AME Church, 1892 NW 51st Terr., Miami. Free. 305-636-2331.



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### March 3

**Contemporary Masterworks:** The Frost Wind Ensemble performs works by Paul Hindemith and Scott Stinson, faculty composer. 8 p.m. at University of Miami Gusman Concert Hall, 1314 Miller Dr., Coral Gables. \$15, \$10 seniors. 305-284-4940.

### MAR 4

**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.



STOCK PHOTO

Please email your event to [news@sfltimes.com](mailto:news@sfltimes.com) by the preceding Thursday at 10 a.m.

# food

## 5 tips for weeknight meals

**FAMILY FEATURES** — Most families aspire to spend more time together around the dinner table, but between work and after-school activities, it's hard to find the time.

If you're finding it tough to get your family to the table each night, here are a few simple tips:

1. Keep the meals simple by choosing recipes with one star ingredient and easy preparation — like pork tenderloin. Fresh pork cuts can be easily sliced into medallions or cubes to cook faster, while still maintaining juicy, delicious flavor, so you can have a dinner that is ready in less than 10 minutes.

2. While waiting for dinner to finish cooking, slice and chop any ingredients that can be stored to cut down on some of the prep work for the next night's meal.

3. Get the whole family involved and assign each member a task, such as setting the table or assembling a crisp green salad.

4. To save on time, choose meats that have done some of the work for you, such as Smithfield's seasoned pork line. Slow marinated in a variety of delicious seasonings, they're perfect for any night of the week, and will taste like you spent hours in the kitchen.

5. On weekends, take the extra time in the kitchen to double a recipe for you to serve during the week.

For a simple weeknight meal that is sure to get your family in their dinner seats, try a pre-seasoned pork dish such as Fresh Pork and Veggie Stir-Fry, or Fresh Pork and Apple Salad.

For more family-friendly and time-saving recipes, visit [www.Smithfield.com](http://www.Smithfield.com).



## FRESH PORK AND VEGGIE STIR-FRY

Prep time: 5 minutes | Cook time: 15 minutes | Serves: 4

- 1 pkg. Smithfield Teriyaki Seasoned Pork Tenderloin
- 4 cups assorted fresh vegetables (i.e. sugar snap peas, carrots, broccoli), cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1/2 cup teriyaki or stir-fry sauce
- 2 cups prepared rice or rice noodles

1. Cut tenderloin into thin strips or 1-inch cubes.
2. Heat large skillet over high heat; spray with nonstick cooking spray. Sauté pork strips for 2 to 3 minutes until browned. Add vegetables and stir-fry until tender-crisp (about 3 minutes).
3. Stir in teriyaki sauce; heat through. Serve stir-fry over rice or noodles.

## FRESH PORK and Apple Salad

Prep time:  
15 minutes

Cook time:  
5 minutes

Serves: 6

- 1 Smithfield Peppercorn & Garlic Seasoned Pork Tenderloin
- 1 (7-oz.) bag mixed salad greens
- 2 apples, thinly sliced
- 2 cups assorted fresh vegetables (e.g., red onions, sugar snap peas, radishes) cut into bite-sized pieces
- 1 cup nuts (e.g., cashews or almonds)



1. Cut tenderloin into thin strips or cubes.
2. Heat large skillet over high heat; spray with nonstick cooking spray. Sauté pork strips for 2 to 3 minutes until done and browned.
3. To make salad, layer salad greens, apples, vegetables, and sliced tenderloin in large bowl. Garnish with nuts. Serve with your favorite salad dressing.