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SPORTS/8A MO'NE DAVIS Throws into history at 13



SPORTS/8A BRITTANY STARLING FMU Track and Field triumph

BROWARD



MIRAMAR'S NEW LEADERSHIP: (Left) Commissioners Maxwell B. Chambers and Darlene B. Riggs, Vice Mayor Yvette Colbourne and Mayor Wayne M. Messam.

The changing face of Miramar

By JARRELL DOUSE Special to South Florida Times

On Monday, March 23, history was made in Broward County, Florida. The Miramar mayor and city commission are, for the first time since its incorporation on May 26, 1955, comprised of black men and women, exclusively. Each was sworn into office on Monday.

The Miramar election also became historic at the victory of one of its new commissioners, Maxwell Chambers. His wife is a Broward County political powerhouse, as well.

The new Miramar Mayor Wayne Messam

is a dreamer and an incurable believer in perseverance. He credits his humility and innate need to succeed to the efforts of his parents, more specifically, his late father Hubert Messam, a sugarcane field-hand in Palm Beach County who instilled in his children that "success is an obligation and not an option."

Messam, 40, said he believes in his father's message. While he was commissioner, Messam began laying the foundation for a bid to become the mayor of Miramar, ultimately defeating long-tenured Mayor Lori Moseley on March 10. Messam said he

PLEASE TURN TO MIRAMAR/2A

BROWARD

Zero tolerance for racist conduct

[Part 1]

By DAPHNE TAYLOR Special to South Florida Times

Their words were despicable and their language was appalling; but they were sworn to serve and protect all members of the public. Yet again, police officers, who are to uphold the law and enforce it, are demonstrating a side of them that shows they are not for all of the people.

Fort Lauderdale police officers James Wells, 30, Jason Holding, 31, and Christopher Sousa, 25 were fired last Friday for exchanging among themselves 50 pages of racist text messages and repetitively using the "n" word, referring to African Americans - all while tasked with canvassing a predominantly black neighborhood as part of their beat.

As if that weren't enough, a fourth officer, Alex Alvarez, 22, made a racist video, police said, disparaging the President of the United States by depicting President Barack Obama with gold teeth and chains around his neck. Alvarez also participated in the text messaging with the other three. It was Alvarez's ex-fiancée who tipped off the officers' boss to the text messages and video last October. An investigation ensued and Alvarez resigned amid the controversy in January. The other three officers were fired last Friday, upon the conclusion of the internal investigation.

The text messages and the video were despicable and highly offensive. Amongst the messages were the following texts circulated among the officers.

Holding: "I had a wet dream that you two found those two 'niggers' in the VW and gave them the death penalty right on the spot."

Sousa: "Holdings we are coming and drinking your beer and killing 'niggers.'"

Alvarez: "Jimmy what would big dad do to that 'nigger.' Get that 'nigger' out from under that wagon."

Wells: "And that 'nigger' lover in the wagon."

They also made inappropriate remarks about Hispanics and gays.

The movie trailer, called "The Hoods," depicted President Obama with fake gold teeth, references to the Ku Klux Klan, and a dog biting a man who appears to be black.

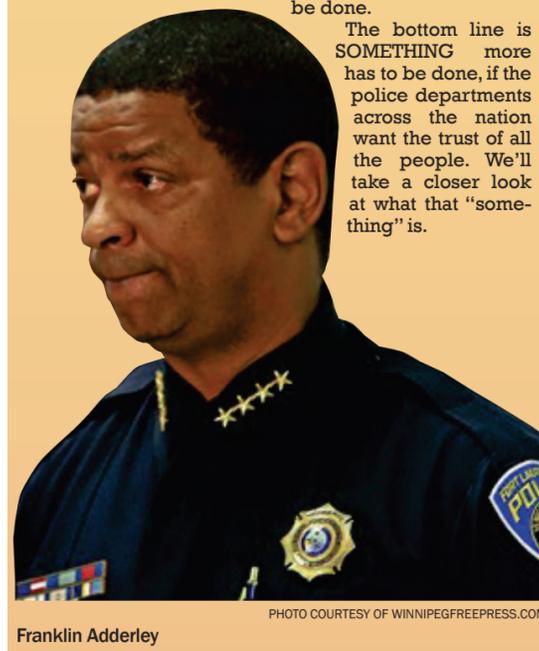
Fort Lauderdale Police Chief Franklin Adderley, who is black, said although there was no criminal behavior among the officers involved, his department has a zero-tolerance for such conduct. "Once this behavior was brought to our attention, we acted swiftly and within the law in handling this type of matter," Adderley said. "All of the officers were immediately removed from having any contact with the public while the investigation was conducted. Adderley is expected to talk to the FBI soon, as it is now involved in the case. The Fort Lauderdale NAACP has asked the U.S. Department of Justice to do an inquiry.

Alvarez's ex-fiancée emailed the chief regarding the behavior on October 16. The conduct took place between mid-September and mid-October. The two had reportedly had a 10-month relationship before she alerted the department about his behavior.

Ultimately, these officers - two of whom are white and two Hispanic, were fired, but the question is why this conduct continues to appear in non-black police officers when it comes to African Americans. After high profile cases such as Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown, and after months of rioting in Ferguson, Missouri last year and across the nation, new cases of racists police misconduct continue to surface. Yet, police departments nationwide continue to insist that all of their officers are there to protect and serve all segments of the community. Not so, says many in the black community. They say, the writing is on the wall in each new case.

In part two of this report, we'll examine why bad cops continue to be hired. We'll examine whether these racist behaviors are simply inherent within the force and why more isn't being done to counter this behavior. We'll talk to police departments across South Florida and black organizations to determine why this continuously is happening among cops and the black community. We'll talk to citizens about what they think should be done.

The bottom line is SOMETHING more has to be done, if the police departments across the nation want the trust of all the people. We'll take a closer look at what that "something" is.



Franklin Adderley

PHOTO COURTESY OF WINNIPEGFREEPRESS.COM

REGION

Former architects bring 'Taste the Islands' to PBS

By MICHELLE HOLLINGER Special to South Florida Times

The first Caribbean cooking show on PBS brings together two dynamic personalities determined to live life on their own terms. It is no coincidence that the star of 'Taste the Islands,' Chef Irie, and its executive producer, Calibe Thompson, both have degrees in architecture.

Their respective journeys to build lives that fulfill them and allow them to indulge in their passions unfolded differently; however, the similarities include an intention to embrace their Caribbean culture by placing it front and center in their careers and sharing it with a mainstream audience.

Although armed with her architecture degree, which she got because "my father was not going to pay for me to go to art school," Thompson's life has been immersed in the



TASTE THE ISLANDS: Chef Irie (left) and executive producer Calibe Thompson make history with the first Caribbean food show on PBS.

arts, her first love. Following college, she worked in interior design before going into music, singing on tour with artists like Beenie Man, Kevin Lyttle and Ki-Mani Marley. She transitioned from performing musically to creating her

own online show, The Caribbean Diaspora, which is now seen weekly on the CW Network.

Chef Irie, born Hugh Sinclair, found his way to cooking after spending a few unfulfilling years working in architecture.

"I went to University of Florida, got a degree in architecture, worked for a few years, decided that there was something else that I wanted to do to fulfill my life," he shared.

PLEASE TURN TO TASTE/2A

MIAMI-DADE

OneUnited Mural Project promotes STEAM



DEREK JOY/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

THE PROJECT: Addonis Park at podium addresses the importance of the Mural Project.

By DEREK JOY Special to South Florida Times

OneUnited Bank and Miami Children's Initiative unveiled a creative partnership in conjunction with Liberty City Renaissance.

The event was a presentation of the OneUnited Mural Project.

The Project is a public arts work, youth development, community development and beautification program providing arts enrichment through Science, Technology, and Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) education.

"They say a picture is worth a thousand words. This picture today says more. When

PLEASE TURN TO MURAL/3A

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Miramar swears in its new mayor, Wayne M. Messam, with his family looking on.

DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

## Voters cast historic vote in constructing city leadership

MIRAMAR, FROM 1A

didn't have to think that the incumbent was bad in order to believe that he could do a better job.

He said being a visionary with an unjaundiced vision for the city of Miramar is what ushered him into the mayor's seat.

Messam is focused on facilitating change and making sure the \$60 million bond monies are properly allocated and used with fidelity. He plans to ensure that the two new police headquarters are constructed for residents' safety on both the east and west sides of the city and a 5,000 seat amphitheater at Miramar Regional Park is built to satisfaction to attract entertainment premieres, said Messam during Monday night's swearing in ceremony.

The revitalization of Miramar's historic east side community is a priority for Messam and his approach includes brokering goodwill among east side residents who are faced with heightened illicit activities and the lack of trust for police.

Kha White, a longtime resident of Miramar said, "I

believe in Mayor Messam's message. I think it is necessary for all residents to feel included. The east side residents of the city are in need of the very resources that are made available to those who live in the central and western parts of the city."

Darline Riggs, 35, victor of Commission Seat 4 previously held by Messam is a byproduct of Miramar's sketchier parts. Having been adopted at two months old into a family of eight children; she said she understands the value of family and community, noting that it was the concept of a village that helped to raise her.

Riggs said her upbringing on the city's east side helps her to connect to the issues that plague the area. Still, she is optimistic, viewing the burgeoning city as a cultural mosaic. She affirmed, "I will do whatever is in my power to enhance the service, infrastructure and historic and cultural heritage that helps to make Miramar the wonderful place to live and raise our children."

Maxwell Chambers, 52, was also victorious after winning his bid for

Commission Seat 1. He is married to Barbara Sharief, former Broward County Mayor, and Commissioner representing District 8, which includes Miramar. Chambers, says he is glad to be able to represent his district which has suffered greatly since the beginning of the recession. "There are many residents who have yet to recover from economic hard times and there is a need to create employment and bring local government to the people," he said.

The peoples' politician is adamant that though he and his wife are elected officials, he is not a "City Hall person." Chambers admits to being a "man of the struggle."

The cabinet-maker by trade said, "I am real and tangible and I understand hard times; I will work so that the people of Miramar knows that."

The power couple represent the first black husband and wife Broward political team in recent memory. With Sharief at the city of Miramar, a more meaningful relationship between the two governments is likely.

## Chef Irie promotes the Caribbean

TASTE, FROM 1A

That "something else" was cooking, based, in part, on advice from his friends. Despite making the decision and applying to Johnson & Wales University, Irie said it took him over a year to muster the courage to leave his full-time job.

He did the "fickle" restaurant scene for a while before becoming a private chef to athletes like former NBA player Lamar Odom and the Heat's Mario Chalmers, for whom he continues to cook. Being a personal chef morphed into his catering business.

Meanwhile, Thompson said she and Irie, "kept crossing paths over and over." They both discovered that a cooking show was on the horizon during a conversation about the future.

"I'm sitting with him on his patio one evening, chit-chatting about...what you want in life," she shared.

That discussion revealed Irie's interest in cooking on television, so Thompson told him, "You want to be a TV personality and I'm getting into making television more consistently, let's do a show together."

The result is 'Taste the Islands,' and its appearance on PBS is ideal, Thompson said, because in an era when housewives and competition shows rule, "PBS just kind of goes back to the roots of things, gets back to basics."

She said that Irie's passion for what he does comes through whether he's cooking or not.

"Even in regular conversation, you ask him 'how's the weather' and he starts telling you about the origins of cardamom. He loves talking about food," Thompson said of Irie, who was a contestant in 2014 on the Food Network's Cutthroat Kitchen. (It is said that he did not prevail on the show, which pits chefs against each other, because he's too nice.)

Nice, happy, and now fulfilled, which is especially apparent when he's in his element. At the Dania Beach Arts and Seafood Celebration on Saturday, Irie has a small audience captivated as he cooks a seafood dish, jovially explaining why adding fresh herbs to food instead of salt infuses the dish with enormous flavor while also helping people with hypertension to easily lower their blood pressure. He's already in TV chef mode because he talks as he plates the food, meticulously arranging it so that when he's done, the dish looks like it could be served at a high end restaurant.



ALEXANDRA HARRIS/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Chef Irie doing what he does best.

Executive producing the show through her company, Blondie Ras Productions, Thompson said she aims to "showcase the best of our Caribbean culture for a mainstream audience."

"Taste the Islands' provides her and Irie the platform to do just that.

His ability to infuse Caribbean flavors into dishes from other cuisines gives him "an opportunity to express my Caribbean identity through food," he said. "I've had the opportunity to travel. I understand now, wholeheartedly, that being Caribbean, being Jamaican, is my identity, and it shows in my food."

The 48-year old Irie said "Taste the Islands' viewers will learn "how to make unique ingredients shine. It's going to be fun. It's about bringing part of my culture, and part of me to the show by talking about some of my childhood experiences and how some of those ingredients affected me as a child."

You get a hint of how herbs excite him when he recalls how thyme's aroma always got his attention as a child.

"Thyme is one of my favorite herbs to use. I like the way it tastes. I grew up experiencing thyme in a whole different level based on the dishes that we grew up eating. I remember how it smells when you walk into the market. It perfumes the whole area. You can't mistake what it is," said Irie, who is unmarried and has no children.

"Cooking is my love now, because I think I have developed a true passion for cooking."

*Taste the Islands premieres nationwide on PBS on April 4<sup>th</sup> and in South Florida on WPBT on April 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please visit <http://www.tastetheislandstv.com>.*

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# Nation

## Mural fosters learning

MURAL, FROM 1A

you're at home you feel the connection. I feel the connection," said OneUnited Bank President and CEO Teri Williams, who grew up in government projects in Indiantown, Fla., and earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Brown University and the Harvard University School of Business, respectively. "This project combines some of the best of our community. Artist/muralist Addonis Parker, Miami Children's Initiative, Liberty City Renaissance and others. But most importantly, our teens," added Williams.



DEREK JOY/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Enjoying the moment are (left) Dr. Dorothy Bendross Mendingall, School Board Member, Teri Williams, CEO and Jean Monestine Miami-Dade Commission Chairman.

The project will feature 20 teens selected from Booker T. Washington, Miami Edison, Miami Jackson and Miami Northwestern High Schools under the supervision of Parker, a locally acclaimed artist/muralist, who is a native of Ohio.

The Miami Children's Initiative was created in the image of the Harlem Children's Zone (Harlem, N.Y.), where Miami-Dade Public Schools Board Member Dr. Dorothy Bendross Mendingall, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson (Dist. 3) and 13 others visited seven years ago.

The Liberty City Renaissance is a celebration of African-American culture that promotes Liberty City artists. A

\$75,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation for this project aims to further that goal.

"I'm glad to be a part of this project as so much effort comes to fruition. We tried to replicate the Harlem Children's Zone. I'm just so excited," said Edmonson, while noting the progress and national recognition received by Miami-Dade County's effort to transform communities one block at a time.

"President Obama was here for that recognition and to announce the \$1.3-million Promise Grant. The recognition was for the tremendous progress made in such a short period of time."

Getting youth involved is a key component of this project. The aspiring artists, under the guidance of Parker will research, design and create a public work of art on the front of OneUnited Bank, located at 3275 N.W. 79<sup>th</sup> Street, in Miami.

These kids will also get to open a bank account and participate in a "Day-at-the-Bank," where they will learn financial literacy skills. The mural is scheduled for completion in June 2015.

"I think this is a great endeavor," said Miami-Dade Commission Chairman Jean Monestine (Dist.2), who earned an undergraduate degree in finance. "This shows that this organization is a good corporate citizen.

"It is an investment in children, money matters and education. Everybody can't be a college graduate. But everybody can invest in the community. Everybody can own a business."

Williams has demonstrated that fact and more. OneUnited Bank started in Boston, then acquired what was then Peoples Bank of Commerce, the first African-American owned bank in Miami-Dade County, and subsequently acquired a bank in Los Angeles, Calif.

"That's why we have the name OneUnited Bank," Williams said. "We're the largest Black owned bank in America. We are the first Black internet bank. Our focus is on serving low income communities."

Said Bendross Mindigall: "I'm here to ensure that any child from the Miami-Dade Public Schools will know why they're here, will know their work will be here for eternity.

"This is reminiscent of our gifts. I will be here daily to ensure that our children are used and not abused."



PHOTO COURTESY OF POLITIFACT.COM

President Barack Obama nominates Loretta Lynch, the U.S. attorney in Brooklyn, to succeed Eric Holder as attorney general during an event in the Roosevelt Room.

## Democrat: Republicans putting Lynch at 'back of the bus'

By ERICA WERNER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The second-ranking Senate Democrat on Wednesday accused Republicans of putting the president's attorney general nominee "in the back of the bus" by delaying her confirmation.

Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois made the comment on the Senate floor as he criticized the GOP over its handling of Loretta Lynch's nomination. She would become the nation's first black female attorney general, replacing Eric Holder, the first African-American in the job.

Lynch was nominated last fall and Democrats are growing increasingly agitated over the holdup in confirming her, although they were in control of the Senate for some of that time.

"Loretta Lynch, the first African-American woman nominated to be attorney general, is asked to sit in the back of the bus when it comes to the Senate

calendar," Durbin said. "That is unfair. It's unjust. It is beneath the decorum and dignity of the United States Senate."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell planned a vote on Lynch's nomination this week but delayed it when the Senate was unable to finish work on a bill to combat human trafficking. That legislation is stalled because of a partisan spat over abortion funding, with Democrats objecting to a provision blocking money in a new victims' fund from paying for abortions in most cases.

"The Lynch nomination is next on the schedule. The only thing holding up that vote is the Democrats' filibuster of a bill that would help prevent kids from being sold into sex slavery," McConnell spokesman Don Stewart said in response to Durbin. "The sooner they allow the Senate to pass that bipartisan bill, the sooner the Senate can move to the Lynch nomination."

Democrats claim Republicans snuck the abortion provision into the trafficking bill without telling them. Republicans note that the language has been there since the bill was introduced early this year, and no one raised objections as it unanimously passed the Judiciary Committee. Democrats insist they weren't aware of it.

It's not clear how the issue will be resolved. Both sides say they want to get the bill passed, but Democrats are milking the politics of the dispute. Around the same time Durbin made his racially charged accusation on the Senate floor, female senators held a press conference with women's groups to accuse Republicans of a "war on women."

A procedural vote to move ahead on the trafficking measure failed Tuesday when Democrats blocked it, and a similar motion was expected to fail later Wednesday.

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# Caribbean

## Tourists flocking to Cuba 'before the Americans come'

By **ANDREA RODRIGUEZ AND PETER ORSI**  
Associated Press

HAVANA — Bookings to Cuba jumped 57 percent for one New York tour operator in the weeks after Washington said it would renew ties with Havana. In February, they were up 187 percent; and so far this month, nearly 250 percent.

The boom is just one sign that the rush

"We're very excited," said Yadiel Carmenate, a 26-year-old English major at the University of Matanzas who moonlights as a tour guide.

It's unlikely Cuba will see major changes overnight. Talks to take the first steps toward normalized relations are just beginning and there is stiff opposition in the U.S. Congress to lifting the 53-year-old embargo that bars most trade with and travel

"Word's gotten out and people are communicating that they want to go before Cuba changes."

Already this year, more foreigners are roaming the cobblestoned streets of Old Havana. Cuba saw a 16 percent increase in visitors in January compared with a year earlier, a total of about 371,000.

Tourism, a \$2.6 billion-plus industry, is one of the main engines that has kept Cuba's economy sputtering along. Last year, the country welcomed 3 million visitors, a record.

About 600,000 U.S. travelers are estimated to visit Cuba each year, most of them Cuban-Americans visiting family but also tens of thousands coming on approved cultural, religious and educational exchanges. An untold number of others have, for years, skirted travel restrictions by journeying through third countries such as the Bahamas or Mexico.

Cuban officials estimate that 1.5 million Americans would travel here annually if all restrictions were removed, supplanting Canada as the No. 1 source of tourism and

won't be enough services to accommodate the Americans who will come like rats on a ship."

Privately run B&Bs and diners that have mushroomed under President Raul Castro's economic reforms could help ease the load on the government's 64,000 hotel rooms and bland, poorly stocked restaurants.

The recently renovated Havana airport is set to undergo a \$207 million expansion led by Brazilian conglomerate Odebrecht.

Several U.S. airlines have talked of launching service to the island; currently all U.S.-Cuba flights are operated by charter companies. Canada-based Cuba Cruise has begun marketing its sea voyages directly to Americans.

Travel agents that have been doing business here for years are aware that the competition is about to get a lot stiffer. Carlos Javier Rodriguez, head of Argentina-based tour operator Carimar Eventos, expressed hope that Cuba would reserve some quota of capacity for non-U.S. travelers.

"We tour operators," he said, "can say that we view the arrival of American tour-



PHOTO COURTESY OF LATINO.COM

**CUBA:** In this Feb. 15, 1946 file photo, the exterior of the famous Sloppy Joe's Bar stands opposite the reporters club in Havana, Cuba.

is on to see Cuba now - before, as many predict, McDonald's claims a spot in Old Havana and Starbucks moves in on Cubita, the island's premium coffee brand.

The sense that detente will unleash an invasion of Yankee tourists and change the unique character of one of the world's last remaining bastions of communism is shared by many travelers flocking here.

"Cuba has a very authentic atmosphere which you see nowhere else in the world," Gay Ben Aharon of Israel said while walking through Revolution Square. "I wanted to see it before the American world ... but also the modern Western world comes here."

Outsiders may romanticize the "time-capsule" nation, but many on the island are ready for change.

Where foreigners see charming, historic architecture, bright 1950s-era American cars and vast stretches of white-sand beaches, locals see decaying buildings in need of repair, new vehicles priced beyond their reach and a lack of economic opportunity.

For many Cubans living in dilapidated, multigenerational tenements, change could be good. It may expand access to the Internet and the outside world, creating engagement that could bring brighter economic days and, practically speaking, make it easier to fix a leaky roof.

to the island.

Still, the December announcement appears to have sparked an influx of tourism.

InsightCuba, the tour operator based in New Rochelle, New York, is adding excursions as its monthly bookings explode compared with early 2014.

"It's a huge surge," company president Tom Popper said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GLOBUSJOURNEYS.COM

Cuba today



PHOTO COURTESY OF GG2NET640

Sloppy Joe's Bar today.

potentially adding some \$2 billion a year to state coffers.

However, the island is hardly ready for a Yankee invasion. Already it strains to accommodate travelers during the December-April high season.

Tourists trying to dine at high-end private restaurants are often struggling to find an empty table these days, and it's practically impossible to get a room at Havana's best hotels. Some travel agents report being turned away when trying to book group reservations.

Rogelio Gauvin, a tourist from Canada, predicts demand will continue to outpace capacity.

"I see a lot of construction, very nice restorations - that's very good," he said. "But there won't be enough hotels. There won't be enough restaurants. There

ism with trepidation."

For now, Rodriguez is busy tending to travelers interested "in experiencing this Cuba, and right away."

Carmenate, the university student and tour guide, dismisses concerns that the island will lose its character.

Cubans, he said, eagerly await change but won't allow their country to become the capitalist playground it was before the 1959 revolution.

"It's not going to be that way. Our identity, we will preserve it at all cost," he said. "That's why I think that it's going to be really hard for you to find a McDonald's or a Starbucks right down the corner."

Thomas Mieszkowski, a 28-year-old tourist from Leeds, England, however, was among the visitors taking in the experience of seeing Cuba now - before, he said, it risks becoming "another outpost of Florida."

## A tale of two women

By **CALIBE THOMPSON**



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

It was Madeleine Albright who said "there's a special place in hell for women who don't help other women." I'm not sure I believe in heaven and hell, and if they do exist I don't wish hell on anyone...but there are some women who make you think about it. There are two types of women who stand out in my mind.

There's the type who is a genuine joy. She is uplifting to other women, takes time to help them when she can, and when she has nothing else to give she will find a kind word and

week one of each of these women made an impression on me. The joy was an African-American woman I had only recently met, the curmudgeon was a Caribbean-American woman who I had interacted with for a while. Although there are both types of women in each cultural group, I was taken aback. Naively, I believed the woman who shared my Caribbean heritage would have at least given simple encouragement for the mutually beneficial vision I approached her to discuss. I was

give that. Then there's the curmudgeon type. She will make every effort to belittle other women, her smile surfaces only when she puts someone else down, she seems like the type that would take pleasure in stomping on your newly planted flowers.

wrong. On the other hand, with little more than a conversation about similar passions and purpose, the African-American woman took me under wing and invested her time and resources just because she saw potential in another trying black woman.

The interactions reinforced the point that though things which are common to us may bring us comfort, far more might be accomplished by stepping outside of our comfort zones. As this wonderful new mentor has impressed upon me, I encourage you too to step out of your comfort zone and toward whatever influence brings focus and good energy to your life. And ladies of every background, as she suggests, never know a trying woman needs help and not help her get it.

*Calibe Thompson is a personality, author and the Executive Producer of "Taste the Islands" premiering nationwide on South Florida's WPBT2 on April 27 at 7:30 p.m. For your free preview of her 2015 collection of writings, Things I Probably Shouldn't Say, visit www.calibe.net.*

## Jamaica imposes import restrictions on poultry

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Jamaica has imposed import restrictions on poultry products from various spots in North America in the wake of a big outbreak of bird flu that has infected stocks.

The island's agriculture ministry says fresh and frozen poultry, hatching eggs and various by-products from U.S. states including Kansas, Minnesota and Missouri are restricted until further notice. Poultry imports from Canada's British Columbia were also restricted Thursday.

The government says the measures "are intended to safeguard the country's poultry and public health" from the H5N2 bird flu strain.

Numerous other countries have banned poultry imports from impacted areas. China stopped importing all U.S. poultry earlier this year.

The World Health Organization says avian influenza viruses can survive in contaminated raw poultry, so it's possible to spread them via fresh or frozen products.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AGRODAILY.COM

**JAMAICA:** Poultry, unwanted.

## Major survey shows US gun ownership declining

Gun Control

By **EMILY SWANSON**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans who live in a household with at least one gun is lower than it's ever been, according to a major American trend survey that finds the decline in gun ownership is paralleled by a reduction in the number of Americans who hunt.

According to the latest General Social Survey, 32 percent of Americans either own a firearm themselves or live with someone who does, which ties a record low set in 2010. That's a significant decline since the late 1970s and early 1980s, when about half of Americans told researchers there was a gun in their household.

The General Social Survey is conducted by NORC, an

independent research organization based at the University of Chicago, with money from the National Science Foundation. Because of its long-running and comprehensive set of questions about the demographics, behaviors and attitudes of the American public, it is a highly regarded source of data about social trends.

Data from the 2014 survey was released last week, and an analysis of its findings on gun ownership and attitudes toward gun permits was conducted by General Social Survey staff.

The drop in the number of Americans who own a gun or live in a household with one is probably linked to a decline in the popularity of hunting, from 32 percent who said they lived in a household with at least one hunter in 1977 to less than half that number saying so now.

That the number of households with at least one gun is declining doesn't necessarily mean that the number being purchased is on the decline. Data from the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check system shows

that in recent years there's actually been an increase in the number of background checks being run, suggesting the total number of firearms being purchased is going up.

But those are concentrated in fewer hands than they were in the 1980s, the General Social Survey finds. The 2014 poll finds that 22 percent of Americans own a firearm, down from a high of 31 percent who said so in 1985.

The survey also finds a shrinking gender gap in personal firearm ownership as a result of a decline in the percentage of men who own one, from 50 percent in 1980 to 35 percent in 2014.

Fewer women than men own guns, but the percentage among women has held fairly steady since 1980, with 12 percent now saying they personally own a gun.

The poll finds half of Republicans live in households with at least one gun, which is twice as high as ownership among Democrats or independents.

People in higher-income households are significantly more likely than those in lower-income households to own a gun, the survey finds. Gun ownership rates

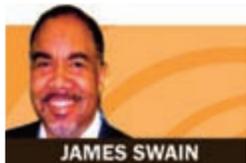
also vary by race, with 4 in 10 white Americans living in households with a gun compared with less than 2 in 10 blacks and Hispanics.

Blacks and Hispanics are also more likely than whites to support requiring a permit to own a gun, although large majorities among all three groups support requiring a permit.

The General Social Survey is administered by NORC at the University of Chicago, primarily using in-person interviewing. The GSS started in 1972 and completed its 30th round in 2014. The typical sample size was 1,500 prior to 1994, but increased to 2,700-3,000 until 2008, and decreased to 2,000 for the most recent surveys. Resulting margins of error are between plus or minus 3.1 percentage points for the smaller sample sizes and plus or minus 2.2 percentage points for the larger sample sizes at the 95 percent confidence level. The 2014 survey was conducted March 31-Oct. 11, 2014, among 2,538 American adults. The GSS 1972-2014 Cumulative File was used to produce the statistics presented.

## Opinion

# A conversation about the conversation



**Correction:** This Column, published in last week's edition was authored by James H. Swain

In recent months, from crisis to crisis, incident to incident, there's been lots of talk about the need to have a conversation about race. But frankly, I'm not all that big on the talk of a conversation. There is no shortage of talk. Hopefully it is experience, and not a sense of futility, that informs my skepticism when I hear the phrase: "We need to have a conversation about race."

First, people almost always want to talk. Blacks want to explain, describe and chronicle the litany of unfairness, slights and injustices they have suffered and continue to endure. Well-meaning whites want to explain that they are not all bigoted or racist and that they "feel our pain." Others want to stridently hold to their race based privileges and lay at the feet of minorities, the blame for the adverse conditions in which they find themselves. To be sure, we need to get to know and trust each other before we can successfully meet the challenges posed by race and racism in America. But far too frequently, talking is as far as it goes.

Race goes to the core of much of what ails us as a community and as a nation. It cannot be explored without considerable risks. But to what end? There is often little to show for taking the risks that a meaningful dialog involves. Inherent in "keeping it real," is the risk that we are all likely to hear a few things that don't sit too well with us; and the risk that we might disagree about remedies and responsibility.

One thought that immediately comes to mind is that for the conversation to move forward everyone involved needs to believe that it can effect a positive outcome and everyone needs to believe that they have a significant stake in achieving that outcome.

So moving forward, let me suggest that we agree on a few basic premises: that we are all created in God's image; and that we are all vested with the same, equal, inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We must agree that our present intention is to ensure that the promise of those rights can be pursued by each and all of us. We must agree to remove impediments to the realization of that promise that are grounded in racism.

This basic agreement won't solve the race

problem for sure. It will help us move forward from a common social baseline. We can then get closer to the kind of clear thinking we need to solve the big problems caused by the disease of racism.

But then what? We can start with what we know.

We know that poor educational opportunities contribute to bad outcomes for young people. What can we do to achieve fairer, if not equal, funding of educational opportunities? Can we justify property tax based funding of education in the face of our history of segregated housing patterns and practices and in the face of race based income disparities? Are we willing to develop inclusive curricula, implement funding alternatives and equitably invest in educational infrastructure?

We know that transportation options impact economic opportunity. Do our transportation policies limit the mobility of some citizens to racially concentrated areas with few employment opportunities? Are we willing to provide opportunities for transportation to suitable work?

We know that in many communities there is questionable treatment of inhabitants by policing authorities based on race. Are we willing to, if necessary, change the racial composition as well as the racial ethos of our public safety apparatus? Do our criminal laws and enforcement mechanisms ensure that we do not purposefully, or inadvertently, use race as a proxy for criminality, or worse? Are we ready to abandon premises and practices that reinforce our ugliest proclivities?

The to-do list on race will not be the same for every community, but every meaningful conversation needs to begin and end with one.

There is often optimism at the start of these 'conversations.' And there is a kind of spiritual beauty in "the fact that we're all talking." But ultimately the stakes may be too lopsided. Race matters are viewed as aesthetic concerns for some, but they are the gravest matters of survival for others. If the stakes are not recognized as crucial for all participants, everything begins and ends with "the conversation." We may want conversations, but we need a greater commitment to action. Maybe the time for talk is over. Actions speak louder than words. Maybe it's time for action.

James H. Swain is an attorney and author. He is an experienced labor lawyer and worked as a federal prosecutor for over 20 years in Philadelphia and Miami.

# Is Scott telling the truth about climate change ban

Governor Scott likes to embarrass Florida by implementing ridiculous policies, which make the national media ask questions such as "where's the leadership in the state?, and what are they thinking?" In 2011, there was an unwritten policy in Scott's administration that the state Department of Environmental Protection employees had been ordered not to use the term "climate change" and "global warming."

Florida Governor Scott has always denied that he ever directed state officials to refrain from using such terms. Even last week Scott said, "First off, it's not true. Let's look at what we've accomplished: we've had significant investments in beach re-nourishment in flood mitigation."

As usual, Scott has learned to never answer a question directly, and with the truth. Instead, our governor would rather tell reporters the good job he is doing in the state, and what he has just accomplished. By ignoring questions, Scott can keep his distance from reporters and issues that he refuses to address.

The Florida Center for Investigative Reporting published a report last week which quoted employees of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection who claimed that their supervisors advised them to refrain from mentioning the words that scientists have used to describe the global rise in temperatures. Scott's supervisors told their employees that they would not be allowed to discuss anything that was not a true fact.

Despite numerous studies that have put South Florida at great risk due to sea level rise, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection employees have been forced to keep their mouths closed on the subject. In the coming years, Florida will be hit hard by sea level rise. It would make sense now to account for new scientific predictions

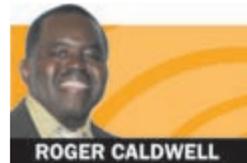
about sea level rise when making policies that affect coastal communities.

But since Scott is governor of Florida, the employees have learned to keep their job by keeping their mouths shut. Even though the story broke on March 8 in most U.S. media outlets, and international media outlets in England, Australia, Norway, France, Italy, India, and Japan, Scott denies that his supervisors and department employees were ordered not to use the words "climate change" and "global warming."

The employees know that Scott will be gone in three years, and there are departments working on climate change even if they are banned from using the words. The Department of Transportation is studying how to accommodate sea level rise in the future road plans, and how to protect existing infrastructure. The state's water management districts are modeling sea level rise projections. The DEP is managing the damage to the coasts and monitoring saltwater incursions into freshwater aquifers.

Florida is preparing for climate change, even though the governor is trying to suppress the truth. It will be hard to plan for climate change when you can't use the term. But the employees know when Scott is gone, the problems they are working on will not end. Governors and news cycles come and go, but the long thinking, and hard working employees of the state agencies will still be here working on scientific projects, which improve the quality of life for Floridians.

Roger Caldwell, a community activist, author, journalist, radio host and CEO of On Point Media Group, lives in Orlando. His book, *The Inspiring Journey of a Stroke Survivor*, details the story of his recovery from a massive stroke. He may be reached at [jet38@bellsouth.net](mailto:jet38@bellsouth.net).



ROGER CALDWELL

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# President B. Obama's militarization of America



BARBARA HOWARD

Well, I thought I had heard everything when I heard that "Uncle Luke" (Luther "Nasty as I want to be" Campbell) was running for Mayor (yes, Mayor) of Miami-Dade County. But now, I hear that "Snoop Dogg" (Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr.) is being looked at as a political voice. If it wasn't so real, you would think these were scripts for situational comedies for TV or movies.

The sad thing is that these are real situations and are no laughing matter. Uncle Luke and Snoop Dogg are two very rich entertainers/actors who started their careers as "gangsta" rappers, where the lyrics were filled with filthy language (cursing, swearing), violence and liberal use of the "N" word.

Luke was once arrested for performing sexual acts on stage with women from the audience and Snoop is a convicted felon for drug possession, handgun possession, assault and even murder. He was even banned from Australia and denied a British visa.

But these bad boys have been elevated to political status. Uncle Luke was backed by the Editor of *Miami New Times*, Chuck Strouse, formerly of the *Miami Herald*, who convinced Luke, who also wrote for the *New Times*, to run for mayor as a joke. Strouse thought it would be fun to fool the Black community into voting for the Black candidate, who had never even voted and whose biggest goal was to be the porno king of South Florida.

Ironically, Uncle Luke received 11% of the vote in 2011, for a total of 20,982 votes for the man who was known for "Pop that Coochie, with 2 Live Crew.

Now Snoop Dogg is marketing his new HBO reality show about

his upbringing in East L.A. as he blames Republican President Ronald Reagan for the drugs and gang violence that seemingly destroyed the community. Several media sites have quoted him as saying:

"Early in the '70s and toward the latter part of the '70s everything was beautiful because we had ways to have fun and communicate....the government would provide for us...it was a society... and we all had it...Then when Reaganomics kicked in, certain things were taken away...Guns and drugs were shipped into the neighborhood. So it was a shift of having fun and playing football to selling drugs and shooting at each other. To me it was a system that was designed, because when the Reaganomics era began, that's when this began."

What? President Reagan shipped drugs and guns into the black inner city? Are you serious?

But black people will believe that. Notice he also said before Reagan, the government took care of them. That's one of the problems, the government is not supposed to take care of you. You go to school and learn how to take care of yourself. Then you get a job or start a business and take care of yourself and your family.

But it seems some black folk want the government (paid for by other working people's taxes) to pay for their lifestyle. At least that's what Snoop Dogg says. And those who decide that black folk in the neighborhood, otherwise known as "the hood," should work and pay for their own houses, their own food, their own cell phones, etc., are nothing other than racists.

Reagan's "trickle down" policies, know as Reaganomics, has been deemed racist. Republican President George W. Bush was called all kinds of racist. His brother Jeb Bush, when he was Republican Governor of Florida, was accused by the Democratic

Party of not only being a racist, but of wanting to take black folk's civil rights away.

They even had little black children saying they hated Jeb Bush, but couldn't tell you why. Needless to say, Jeb served for 8 years and black folk never had any of their civil rights taken away.

Last year Vice President Joe Biden told a large group of black folk that Republicans wanted to "put ya'll back in chains." Mind

you only Democrats held our forefathers/mothers in chains.

Biden and President Barack Obama, along with all the Democratic Congress, constantly call Republicans terrorists, but won't call Islamic murderers terrorists. And black folk believe it all.

They don't ask for proof, they just believe. Reagan had a saying, "Trust, but verify." Black folk trust anything a Democrat says, but won't take the time to verify

it. That makes them very vulnerable. And that's just sad.

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

**From the children in the 5000 Role Models of Excellence project that I founded 20 years ago. They (the black men) prosper in spite of many barriers that they have to overcome every day.**

**Frederica Wilson**  
An American politician who has been a member of the United States House of Representatives since 2011

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# Health

## When friends are used as foes

By PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

I opened the door and walked into the exam room. A Belgian Shepard lunges at me. Snarling. Growling. Barking. He means me no good. The fact he is on a leash and firmly held by his handler ensures my safety. I stand just inside the doorway with my hands behind my back looking down at the dog. I calmly glance up, catching the attention of the handler and raise my eye brows. He shouts a command in German and the dog's aggressive actions cease as if a switch had been turned off. In what I interpreted as a strangely proud but perverse statement, the handler said "He was just doing that because you are a large black male." I replied, "Yes I am." I deemed this strange because the animal is a police dog and the handler a deeply brown skinned Hispanic police officer. In light of recent events of our time, this event more accurately can be described as bizarre.

The reasoning the officer gave for the dog's actions is chilling. When the statement is analyzed in a linear thought manner, as I am prone to do, the conclusion to which I arrive is personally unsettling. I conclude the dog was trained to see a person like me as a threat. Not a potential treat, but as an actual THREAT. Not my actions or reactions, but my being. To take the linear process further, it is disturbing any police officer, and particularly concerning a Hispanic police officer would make such a statement. Does he not realize he is just a uniform and a bad experiencing form being perceived by his brothers in arms as me? Stockholm Syndrome (Google it.) in full effect...but I digress...or take another logical linear step.

After this experience, my memory could not help but flash back to the grainy black and white video of civil rights protesters in Montgomery, Alabama. The sight of people protesting for their human dignity being mowed down with fire hoses and more vividly having police dogs unleashed upon them. Mental images of the video of the protesters crossing the Edmund Pettis Bridges some fifty years ago with police dogs and horses at the ready to disband and disperse protesters. Images of Ferguson, Missouri and marches from around the country protesting the use of excessive force by law enforcement officers, still fresh in my mind. It seems in this country when and where ever there are people gathered in the name of justice and human dignity, there are dogs at the ready to be used as instruments to "keep the peace." Dogs as weapons. A chilling thought, especially when that weapon is designed to be used against you.

The Belgian shepherd was at the clinic for an exam and testing. He passed with flying colors. Later that day, as I was working at my desk in the treatment area, the dog was accidentally released from his cage. He made a bee line for me. He came over and stood by my chair and nuzzled his head in my lap. I calmly continued my work and gently scratched between his ears. I considered each scratch a step in his deprogramming. I dare say I was probably "deprogramming" the wrong officer.

*Dr. Pierre Bland is the owner of Dr. Bland's Vet House Calls. He can be reached at 954-673-8579 or at doctorblandvet.com.*

## Poll: spend more, tax less legalize pot

By EMILY SWANSON  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans want lower taxes and more government spending both at once, although their support for spending more tax dollars on health care has dropped dramatically. They're likelier than ever to not feel connected to any particular religion, but no less likely to believe in God. And for the first time, most want to legalize marijuana.

Those are among findings from the 2014 General Social Survey, which has been measuring trends in American opinion and behavior since 1972.

The survey, which is conducted by the independent research organization NORC at the University of Chicago, puts wide-ranging and long-running questions about a large array of issues to the public. Data from the 2014 survey was released earlier this month, and an analysis of its findings was conducted by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and the General Social Survey.

Five things to know about the survey's findings:

### LOWER TAXES, MORE SPENDING

It's no wonder Washington is tied in knots trying to please the people. The people want more spent on many government programs, yet lower taxes for themselves.

Out of 22 spending items asked about in the survey, Americans are more likely to want cuts than increased spending on only four of them - welfare, foreign aid, assistance to big cities and the space program.

Education rates as Americans' highest priority for spending more money, with 70 percent saying the country spends too little. Foreign aid is what most Americans would like to see cut, with 69 percent saying the country spends too much on that.

Majorities of Americans want more spending on Social Security, assistance to the poor, alternative energy sources, crime and drug addiction. But that doesn't mean they want to pay for that themselves. More than half of them - 57 percent - say their own taxes are too high.

### STILL BELIEVERS, BUT NOT JOINERS

The portion of Americans saying they have no religious preference has increased dramatically since 1972, when only 5 percent of Americans said they didn't identify with any particular religion. In 2014, 21 percent of Americans said they had no religion - a record high. Younger Americans are especially likely to fall into that group, with 30 percent of those under age 35 saying they have no religion.

But that doesn't mean Americans are more likely to be atheists than they used to be. Just 3 percent say they don't believe in God, while 5 percent say they're agnostic.

Fifty-eight percent say God does exist, and 70 percent believe in life after death.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THELIBERTYDOLL.COM

### UP WITH POT

For the first time since the survey first asked the question in 1975, a majority of Americans supported legal marijuana in 2014. Fifty-two percent of Americans now say marijuana should be legal, while 42 percent think it should be illegal. That's a big jump in support for legalizing the drug since 2012, when only 43 percent said they were in favor. Twenty-five years ago, in 1990, just 16 percent supported legal marijuana.

Majorities of blacks and whites support legalizing marijuana, the survey finds, but only 38 percent of Hispanics say the same.

The survey finds support for legalizing the drug rose among all age groups in 2014, though the youngest adults - those under age 35 - are most likely to say it should be legal.

### EROSION ON HEALTH CARE

The percentage of Americans who think the country spends too little on improving and protecting health has dropped dramatically since 75 percent said so in 2008, probably as a result of the 2010 enactment of President Barack Obama's health care law. But more than half of Americans - 57 percent - still think the country should be spending more.

There's major partisan division on the issue. The survey finds 67 percent of Democrats and 58 percent of independents, but only 41 percent of Republicans, say the country is spending too little.

### CONFIDENCE IN BANKS REBOUNDS SLIGHTLY

Only 15 percent of Americans say they have a great deal of confidence in banks and financial institutions, but that actually marks a rebound from a record low reached during the great recession. In 2010, only 11 percent said they had a lot of confidence.

The survey finds confidence in all three branches of government, and in the media, to be at record lows.



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# Business



PHOTO COURTESY OF WERNERLAMPERT.COM

**SMART HIGHWAYS:** Highways of tomorrow have smart pavement.

## Engineer wants to turn dumb pavement into a smart I70

By **RICK MONTGOMERY**  
The Kansas City Star

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The following is about infrastructure. Don't nod off just yet.

To be specific, it's about pavement - basic, boring road surface. In the six decades since Interstate 70 began to creep across Missouri, how we view pavement hasn't changed much. Now meet Tim Sylvester, 33. He sees pavement as an electronic tablet with a concrete touch screen. The Kansas City Star (<http://bit.ly/1MWYIxn>) reports.

Assembled right, it would help navigate rigs with no drivers. If Sylvester can get Missouri officials on board, I-70 might evolve from the cracking corridor it's long been to what he envisions as the "first smart interstate" in America.

As the nation's overall repair needs reach the trillions of dollars, Sylvester and a coming generation of engineers hope to convert dumb old infrastructure into tech-rich traffic lanes, pipelines and utilities boasting brains tuned to the 21st century.

Though his dream is just a proposal needing financial support "mostly private - and plenty of testing," it would completely change how we look at roads," he said.

Hard to fathom a freeway that charges your electric car as you drive? Just try imagining a road that snaps together, alerts you to icy spots, knows from built-in sensors what all vehicles are doing and even posts profits without tolls.

This is not your grandpa's infrastructure.

Consider the extent to which our cars, culture and communications have changed since the 1950s, when Missouri's first stretches of I-70 ushered in the freeway age.

Now as state planners weigh options for rebuilding I-70 to serve another half century, could it be made to function as smart as today's phones?

Much of the technology Sylvester cites already exists. That doesn't mean it will work on a real road-way with real traffic, nor is today's wizardry guaranteed to defy obsolescence a decade down the road, said Tony Bartolomeo of the American Society of Civil Engineers. But he agreed that making the aging interstate system more high-tech is a worthy concept.

"A lot of interesting things are being done with sensor technology and robotics" to improve travel and prevent infrastructure decay, Bartolomeo said.

"I don't think the public knows about it.

"They take the infrastructure for granted. It's mundane."

While some techies foresee an "Internet of Everything," others' eyes roll. Ultraspeed this, wireless that.

And yet for pavement alone, smarter possibilities bend the imagination:

-A highway project in the Netherlands uses solar panels and tiny windmills blown by passing trucks to store energy for embedded LED lights, allowing roadways to glow at night.

-Scientists are testing "self-healing" concrete designed to produce bacteria to fill cracks, according to the global engineering firm Arup.

-Some U.S. bridges are currently dotted with sensors that provide real-time data when the heaviest trucks, possibly illegally overloaded, rumble across. -Drawing boards around the world include pavement threaded with heating elements to melt snow and roadside Wi-Fi to alert motorists to rough patches ahead.

-Many futurists expect that by 2030, self-driving cars will be wirelessly talking to one another and to the road itself, promising to make motoring safer, swifter and mistake-free.

## Starbucks baristas stop writing "Race Together" on cups



PHOTO COURTESY OF MASSLIVE.COM

**RACE TOGETHER:** Larenda Myres holds an iced coffee drink with a "Race Together" sticker on it at a Starbucks store in Seattle.

By **CANDICE CHOI AND TOM KRISHER**  
Associated Press

Starbucks baristas will no longer write "Race Together" on customers' cups starting Sunday, ending a visible component of the company's diversity and racial inequality campaign that had sparked widespread criticism in the week since it took effect.

The coffee chain's initiative will continue more broadly without the handwritten messages, Starbucks spokesman Jim Olson said.

The cups were always "just the catalyst" for a larger conversation and Starbucks will still hold forum discussions, co-produce special sections in *USA Today* and put more stores in minority communities as part of the Race Together initiative, according to a company memo from CEO Howard Schultz said.

The campaign has been criticized as opportunistic and inappropriate, coming in the wake of racially charged events such as national protests over police killings of black males. Others questioned whether Starbucks workers could spark productive conversations about race while serving drinks.

The phase-out is not a reaction to that pushback, Olson said. "Nothing is changing. It's all part of the cadence of the timeline we originally planned."

He echoed the company memo, saying of the Race Together initiative, "We're leaning into it hard."

Schultz's note acknowledged the skeptics as an anticipated part of the outreach.

"While there has been criticism of the initiative - and I know this hasn't been easy for any of you - let me assure you that we didn't expect universal praise," it read.

He said the campaign at its core aims to make sure that "the promise of the American Dream should be available to every person in this country, not just a select few."

But the campaign didn't sit well with some Starbucks customers. Many voiced on social media and elsewhere that they didn't want a debate with their brew.

At a Starbucks in Pittsfield Township, Michigan, near Ann Arbor, two customers said on Sunday they didn't think a coffee shop was the right place for race relations dialogue.

Ninette Musili, a junior biomolecular science major at the University of Michigan, said the campaign seemed to her like an insincere publicity stunt that wasn't executed properly.

Like many who criticized Starbucks, she goes to the shops either before class or later in the day to study. At neither time does she want to discuss race relations.

"Most people come to Starbucks for coffee," said Musili, who is 19 and African-American. "Race is an uncomfortable thing to bring up, especially in a Starbucks."

She said such discussions are important, and that Starbucks should have set aside time during the evenings for race discussions and invited people to attend.

Another customer, Shane Mulholland, 46, of Ann Arbor, also said Starbucks isn't the venue to talk about race.

"They're here for coffee. They're not here to push their political agenda," he said. "I even contemplated not coming here because of it."

He said Starbucks should remain neutral on such topics because it's an established brand, rather than risk alienating customers. "There are other ways you can go about doing things to stimulate interest in what you're doing," said Mulholland, who is white and runs an edible mushroom-growing business. "They must be doing so well they don't have to worry about losing customers over that," he said.

The campaign, he said, didn't start any discussions about race with him.



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# Sports

By KYOTO WALKER  
Special to South Florida Times

Fairytales, in the form of a 70 mile per hour fastball, do come true. Just ask American teenager and athlete Mo'ne Davis. The Disney Channel recently announced plans to make a television movie about her life. The 13-year-old pitcher from Philadelphia made history last year becoming the first girl to win a Little League World Series game, which was followed by a slew of awards, endorsements and appearances, making her a celebrity and a household name overnight.

And now the Disney Channel wants to make a movie about her life. The network announced it is developing a biopic for television about Davis, titled "Throw Like Mo," according to a statement released to the Associated Press. Davis will be a consultant on the Disney Channel film project, according to the website, [www.nydailynews.com](http://www.nydailynews.com). The network did

not specify an airing date or any details about casting.

Davis gained national attention at the 2014 Little League World Series where she threw a two-hitter to help her team, Philadelphia's Taney Dragons, beat Nashville (Tenn.) 4 - 0 in the opener for both teams. She also pitched eight strikeouts without walking a single batter in that game. The win made Davis the first female pitcher to throw a shutout in the LLWS.

Davis appeared in Sports Illustrated last August, becoming the first Little Leaguer to grace the cover of the national publication. The petite player is only 5'4" and 111 lbs. But she has an arm strong enough to throw a fastball at 70 mph. "To be honest, I never thought I'd be famous for baseball," Davis said in that SI article. "I want to play basketball, and I could also do both basketball and baseball, but I really want to play basketball."

The youngster has learned recently that fame comes with a lot of perks, but also some downsides. Although the past year has been filled with the things that fairytales are made, it hasn't come without controversy. A male college baseball player made a derogatory comment about Davis on social media after the Disney Channel announced its plans to develop the television movie about the young female athlete last week, causing a public outcry.

Joey Casselberry referred to the 13-year-old as a "slut" on Twitter. Subsequently, he was dismissed from Bloomsburg University's baseball team Saturday for the profane tweet, according to the website, [ftw.usatoday.com](http://ftw.usatoday.com). Taking the high road, Davis asked for the college to reinstate Casselberry on the team. "Everyone makes mistakes," she said in an ESPN SportsCenter interview. "Everyone deserves a second chance. I know he didn't mean it in that type of way. I know people are tired of seeing me on TV. But sometimes you got to think about what you're doing before you actually do it."

Bloomsburg University, located in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, about 150 miles from Philadelphia, released a statement which said in part that the institution stands by its decision at this time but the issue may be reviewed in the future, which is common in situations such as this.

While the Disney Channel hasn't released any specifics about the film project, Davis' list of accolades and honors are impressive and will surely provide some interesting choices to depict the gifted athlete's young life. Davis' jersey is displayed in baseball's Hall of Fame and she was named Sports Kid of the Year by Sports Illustrated Kids,

according to information on the website, [www.espn.go.com](http://www.espn.go.com).

In addition to other firsts, Davis was named by the Associated Press as the 2014 Female Athlete of the Year, making her the youngest person to receive the title. She already plays for her high school's varsity basketball team even though she is still in the eighth grade. The teen said she enjoys playing a variety of sports. Davis can also add author to her list of accomplishments with her new book, titled "Mo'ne Davis: Remember My Name."

The young baseball star is taking her good fortune and paying it forward. Davis, along with the company M4D3 and the organization "Because I'm a Girl" will release a line of Limited edition Mo'ne Davis designed sneakers and donate a percentage of the proceeds to impoverished girls around the world, according to the website, [www.stylemagazine.com](http://www.stylemagazine.com).

The prevailing message here seems to be to never give up on your dreams because they may become a reality, even in the most unexpected ways. "Don't let anyone stop you from doing what you like," Davis said after the LLWS win. "Just keep dreaming. Go for it."



MONTAGE BY M JURY/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

## Samuel Dorismond and Brittany Starling shine at University of Miami Invitational



### Staff Report

The Florida Memorial University Track and Field Team had a strong showing at the Hurricane Invitational held Saturday at Cobb Stadium on the campus of University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida.

Brittany Starling ran an impressive performance in the 100m dash in a season-best time of 12.22 seconds, which was a 10th of a second off the "B" standard time for the NAIA Outdoor National Championship. Also performing well for the Lions was James Cochran, who achieved a season's best in the 400m Hurdles in a time of 58.05 seconds and Rashard Jones ran a season best time of 102.57 seconds. In the Men's Triple Jump Willi Anstral placed second with a leap of 45-10.50 and came back later to place 9th in the Men's Long Jump with a leap of 21-02.

Florida Memorial University Track and Field returns to action on March 27-28, 2015, when they travel to Orlando, Florida to take part in the UCF Invitational.

11th in a throw of 33-03 and had a throw of 96-02 in the Women's Discus.

On the Men's side, Samuel Dorismond, won the Men's High Jump with a leap of 6-08, which also was an "A" standard height for the NAIA Outdoor National Championship.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

## NEWS BRIEFS

## Pompano Beach Chamber hosts CEO roundtable

POMPANO BEACH — The Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual CEO Roundtable 7:45 a.m. April 7 at Galuppi's on the Green, 1103 N. Federal Highway, at the Pompano Beach Golf Course.

The roundtable will feature Pompano Beach City Manager Dennis Beach, who will give an update on happenings in and around the city.

Tickets are \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. RSVP by calling 954-941-2940 or visiting [www.pompanobeachchamber.com](http://www.pompanobeachchamber.com).

## Spring Fling at Palm Springs Middle features music, fun

PALM SPRINGS — The community is invited to an afternoon of art, music and fun on Saturday as Palm Springs Middle School presents its annual Spring Fling.

The event will feature a creative street painting festival with artists from the school and Florida Atlantic University's art school, a "Best in Hoops" four-on-four basketball tournament featuring 16 teams and performance by the school's Storm Band, steel drums, jazz band, philharmonic strings, musical theatre, chorus and dance groups.

Spring Fling takes place 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the school, 560 Kirk Road in Palm Springs.

## Edmonson to present movie night at Olinda Park

MIAMI — Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson will present a free Family Movie Night at the Park featuring *Monsters University* 7 p.m. Friday at Olinda Park, 2101 NW 51st St.

Free popcorn will be served. Residents are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs, blankets and picnic baskets. For more information, call the office of Commissioner Edmonson at 305-636-2331. For accessibility information for persons with disabilities, call 305-755-7848.

## Broward Health, CDC team to promote safe injections

FORT LAUDERDALE — Broward Health is proud to announce that it is now a member of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) *One & Only Campaign*, a public safety campaign to promote safe injection practices in all healthcare settings. By teaming up with the Safe Injection Practices Coalition, the campaign brings together professional groups, healthcare systems, provider groups, private companies and others dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of injection safety.

While patient protection is a priority and injection safety is critical, unsafe injection practices still happen. More than 150,000 people have been impacted by dozens of preventable outbreaks of hepatitis B, hepatitis C or HIV over the last decade due to unsafe injection practices. Some of these outbreaks involved healthcare providers reusing syringes, resulting in contamination of medication vials or containers that were used then on subsequent patients.

The One & Only Campaign seeks to eradicate outbreaks from unsafe injection practices by empowering patients and healthcare providers to insist on nothing less than "one needle, one syringe, only one time" for every injection. Since its inception in 2009, the campaign has participated in national and state meetings and conferences to raise awareness of CDC guidelines for safe injection practices.

Compiled from Staff, Wire Reports

## MIAMI-DADE

## Celebrating art in Overtown



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAJ HUNTER WAITE

In honor of National Youth Art Month, The Urban Collective and The Black Archives History and Research Foundation of South Florida led dozens of children from the Overtown Youth Center and Urgent Inc. on a tour and discussion of the exhibition to celebrate late artist Purvis Young, "A Man Among the People." The students got a chance to learn about art forms and create their own masterpieces.

## PALM BEACH

## Hackers promote good health

Staff Report

BOCA RATON — The Quantum Foundation is teaming up with Modernizing Medicine and Florida Atlantic University's world-class accelerator, Tech Runway, to stimulate health-related innovation in Palm Beach County for a tech weekend that starts Saturday.

The foundation will host its first hackathon, giving engineers, designers and entrepreneurs a hands-on environment to connect, build teams and create a piece of software that enhances the quality of life in underserved communities.

The Code4Good hackathon will be held 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at the FAU Tech runway, 901 NW 35th St. in Boca Raton.

Participants will work together to create a technology solution then present their project to a panel of judges on the final day. There are cash incentives for teams to put their talents to work. The top three teams will receive awards: first prize, \$5,000; second prize, \$3,000; and third prize,



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

**TECH RUNWAY:** Florida Atlantic University's accelerator will host the competition.

\$2,000. The first-place team will have the opportunity to participate in building their solution into an actual working product.

This event gives aspiring entrepreneurs, engineers, and tech experts an opportunity to display their skills and

code for good in Palm Beach County.

"South Florida is home to some of the best and brightest coders and software developers, as well as individuals dedicated to improving society. The technology resulting from the Code4Good hackathon will help increase efficiency and improve healthcare outcomes for our region's citizens and beyond," shares Dan Cane, CEO and co-founder of Modernizing Medicine.

The event is open to designers, coders, marketers and anyone who has an idea and wants to contribute to a team in a technical or creative capacity.

The Quantum Foundation has given away \$115 million since its inception and continues to push the envelope in support of its mission of inspiring and funding bold initiatives that improve community health. Code4Good Palm Beach County is the first of its kind in the county.

To learn more or to register as a participant visit: [www.code4good-PBC.org](http://www.code4good-PBC.org)

## MIAMI-DADE



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEERINGESTATE.ORG

Brodes Hartley

## Golfing to save lives: Fundraiser aims to build children's crisis center for troubled kids

Staff Report

For some South Floridians, access to quality health care seems unaffordable. But South Miami-Dade County residents have what some consider to be a beacon of hope for the uninsured and underinsured.

For more than 40 years, Community Health of South Florida Inc. (CHI) has provided medical care to those who would otherwise go without doctor's visits, medication and life-saving treatments. The majority of CHI patients do not have the

money to pay for medical care. CHI is a neighborhood resource that gives and goes beyond the call of duty. Its comprehensive medical services offer a wide array of care under one roof: family medicine, pediatrics, OB/GYN, radiology, pharmacy, dental, behavioral health, urgent care and much more.

A celebrity golf tournament is planned this week to help raise funds to expand CHI's services.

When celebrities like NFL Pro Athletes Robert Bailey and Adewale Ogunleye hit the links on Friday, they will swing with

a greater good in mind. The annual Robert Bailey/Glen Rice/Adewale Ogunleye Celebrity Golf Tournament raises funds for a variety of programs at Community Health of South Florida Inc.

"I am so proud to be a part of this fundraiser," Bailey said. "It helps to remind us all that health care should not be a luxury. The work that CHI does is nothing short of game changing in the lives of thousands of people."

CHI hopes to break ground on the new Dr. Jacquelyn T. Hartley Children's Crisis Center

in South Miami-Dade County next to its Doris Ison Health Center, 10300 SW 216th St., Miami.

The center will specialize in treating children who have been victimized by abuse and those with psychological issues. Right now there is no such place in the South Dade area, causing some families to drive all the way to Hialeah from the Keys and Homestead.

"This is a resource that the community can no longer afford to go without,"

PLEASE TURN TO GOLF/2B

## BROWARD

## ArtServe presents second 'Antidote to Hate' exhibit

Staff Report

FORT LAUDERDALE — Designed to convey social experiences, elicit discussion and promote action on critical current social issues of our time, ArtServe presents the second annual "art = antidote to hate" celebrating respect, equality and diversity through art.

This groundbreaking show runs through Friday, April 10, in the J.M. Family Gallery at ArtServ, 1350 E. Sunrise Blvd. in Fort Lauderdale.

Curated by ArtServe program manager Allan Baldwin, the multi-media exhibition contains paintings, interactive installation works, sculptures, videos and other artworks that focus attention on social causes and alter perceptions as they raise awareness on the human condition and shed light on



**ON DISPLAY:** The exhibit features artworks that promote peace and harmony. Artists and their works include *Freedom* by Yamakito, left, and *The Hat Artist* by George Rusovick.

the inequities in the world. "This exhibition is very powerful," said ArtServe President and CEO Jaye Abbate. "While the quality of the art work is exceptional, it is also thought-provoking, creative

and inspiring. The take away from last year's show was that there is still so much to be done. Both the public and the artists felt such a strong connection to the topic in our inaugural exhibition that we

knew we wanted to make it an annual event!"

Among the issues addressed by the artists are gender bias, bullying, political persecution, abuse and racial and religious

discrimination. Eliminating pre-conceived perceptions is another big theme of this year's show. Photographer Sean Black's powerful series addresses this issue by featuring works of both

homeless individuals and transgender teens. Ann Storck Center's Empowered Creative Program features a sculptural statement piece

PLEASE TURN TO ARTSERVE/2B



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARTSERVE

# Around South Florida



**ELGIN JONES**  
EJones@SFLTimes.com

## Palm Beach County



### EXTRA PAY

Marcello Galasso called police to report that someone had gotten into the safe at the West Palm Beach car wash where he worked and made off with more than \$8,000. After an investigation, Galasso was charged with stealing the money. He was one of only three people who had accessed the safe and he was also a recently hired employee, whose duties included taking money to the bank to make deposits. A co-owner said Galasso had a history of making deposits late or failing to make them at all. Galasso was booked into the Palm Beach County Jail. He is currently on probation related to his 2010 conviction for stealing a friend's paychecks and cashing them.



### NRA COMPLAINTS

National Rifle Association's Florida head Marion Hammer has filed complaints with Gov. Rick Scott alleging police chiefs of Florida's public universities improperly use tax dollars to fund their opposition to allowing guns on campuses. The state Legislature is considering whether to allow people with concealed weapons permits to carry weapons on state-controlled campuses.



**GOLDBERG**

### WHAT A MESS

Amy Goldberg, 57, of Boca Raton says it wasn't her, but she is accused of smearing dog feces on her 67-year-old neighbor. The incident in question reportedly began as the neighbor was walking her dog, and the animal relieved itself on Goldberg's lawn. An argument ensued over the dog droppings. Goldberg is charged with battery on a person over the age of 65.

### WAWA PLANS

Wawa, the huge Pennsylvania-based retailer with stores in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and Central Florida is coming to West Palm Beach. Wawa is best described as a gas station with groceries and deli inside. The stores will compete against other convenience stores, none of which have fresh, made to order foods or the free ATM service. The company announced its entry into the South Florida market earlier this year and has selected a site near Palm Beach International Airport for its first location here.

## Broward County

### LIKE OLD TIMES

The city of Fort Lauderdale desegregated its beaches decades ago, but racist behavior and attitudes continue to plague the municipality. Following an investigation, four police officers no doubt were fired after their not-funny-at-all *The Hoods* movie trailer and racist text messages were released to the public. Officers James Wells, 30, Jason Holding, 31, and Christopher Sousa, 25, were fired. Officer Alex Alvarez, 22, resigned in January, but officials say he would have been fired anyway.

### SEEKING FAME

The International Game Fishing Hall of Fame, located in Dania Beach, is moving to Springfield, Missouri. In Springfield, the Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum will be part of a 315,000-square-foot museum and aquarium.

## Miami-Dade County

### HOUSE FOR SALE

LeBron James has not been able to sell his Coconut Grove mansion for \$17 million, so he has dropped the price. Anyone interested in a six bedroom, 8.5 bath home with private boat docks and more, can get this if they have a cool \$15 million laying around.



**FERNANDEZ**

### UNION REP FIRED

Hialeah Mayor Carlos Hernandez has fired police union representative Lt. Rick Fernandez from his police officer job over his role in a fatal police shooting that took place in 2013. Officials say Fernandez put other officers and the public in harm's way when he entered a house instead of waiting for SWAT to respond to the scene. Inside the house was Arturo Guzman, who was barricaded in a closet. Guzman was shot and killed by officers, who later found a suicide note and gun. Fernandez and the Police Benevolent Association vow to appeal the firing, calling it retaliation.

## Monroe County

### STAR STRUCK

*Bloodline* is the Netflix-produced show that is set and filmed in the Florida Keys. Most of the filming was actually done in



**SHEPARD**

Islamorada. A number of businesses and locations are featured in the program, which stars Sam Shepard, Sissy Spacek and others. Each season features 13 45-minute episodes.



**DUGAS**

### LIZARD ABUSE

Jeremy Dugas, 35, of Key West is charged with animal cruelty over his alleged hog-tying of large iguanas he had for sale in Key West. According to the report, Dugas had the reptiles' legs secured with duct tape and hanging from his bicycle. Dugas told officers he intended to eat the iguanas, but some witnesses said he told them he would sell them.

### 15 YEARS

Francisco Leon Marquez, 39, was sentenced to 15 years in prison over the stabbing death of 29-year-old Geovani Perez. He agreed to plead guilty to second-degree manslaughter and avoid a possible life sentence if found guilty of murder at trial.



**ZIEG**

### JOB OPENING

Marathon Councilman Dan Zieg has advocated for a deputy city manager position and the city has accepted a number of applications for the position. All is well, except the pay. There is no money allocated in this year's budget to pay for the position. Oops.

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

## Golfing tourney to help CHI

GOLF, FROM 1B

said Col. Brodes H. Hartley Jr., CEO and president of CHI. "The children's crisis center is a sanctuary to heal these young fragile lives and put them on the path for success."

### IF YOU GO

The CHI Foundation will host a VIP reception 7 to 11 p.m. today at Mercedes Benz of Cutler Bay, 10701 SW 211 St., Cutler Bay. The celebrity golf tournament will tee off at noon Friday at Shula's Golf Club, 7601 Miami Lakes Dr., Miami Lakes. For more information, call (305) 242-6018.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROSENHAUSSPORTS.COM  
**Robert Bailey**

## ArtServe exhibit promotes peace

ARTSERVE, FROM 1B

on changing the perceptions of those with disabilities. And Lori Pratico's work on women with body art beautifully celebrates the need to look beyond to find the true essence and talents of every individual.

The gallery reception will feature several highlights including interactive installation art from artists Tabatha Mudra and Randy Burman. The Cuban dissident artist Nadal Antelmo will be on hand to show his new works. Award-winning artist Frank Papandrea's solo exhibit *Unconscious Anxiety* will showcase a collection of his meticulously crafted, wickedly intelligent pen and ink drawings. And Lori Pratico will be painting a wall mural live on site as part of her

national "Girl Noticed" project. There will also be an Open Studio during the reception where ArtServe artists in residence Lee Berlin and George Gadson will welcome the public into their working artist studios.

The public will have two chances to comment or purchase the art and select their favorite "Best in Show" works for this exhibition, both during the reception itself and in advance by casting their vote on the Online Gallery. All artworks are available for purchase at [www.ArtServe.org](http://www.ArtServe.org).

The free gallery reception is 6 to 8 p.m. today. ArtServe is celebrating its 25th anniversary season. For more information contact (954) 462-8190 or [information@artserve.org](mailto:information@artserve.org), or visit [www.artserve.org](http://www.artserve.org).

## Overtown filmmaker displays his video at White House Film Festival



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTHA WHISBY WELLS

**AT THE WHITE HOUSE:** Overtown resident and filmmaker Elijah Wells, 17, and filmmaker Will Packer tour the White House. Wells visited Washington, D.C., to participate in the second annual White House Film Festival.

Staff Report

MIAMI — A rising young filmmaker in South Florida who is making strides in the industry has a new achievement under his belt — a screening in the nation's capitol.

Emerging filmmaker Elijah Wells of Overtown was chosen from a group of 1,500 high school students to screen his video *Giving Back Through My Lens* at the second annual White House Film Festival this past weekend in Washington, D.C. The festival highlights the impact of service and giving back to the community.

Supporters say that Elijah's devotion to film truly shows the world that great things do come out of the Overtown community despite media reports. He has written and directed *The Gift* and *Welcome to Miami*, both of which have gone viral.

One of the highlights of the trip was meeting President Barack Obama.

"Before the event started all of the filmmakers went into the West Wing of the White House and staff informed us the President Obama was coming in to see us and say a few words," said Elijah, 17, a senior at Miami Arts Charter School. "We waited maybe 20 minutes because you know, he's running the world. "But out of nowhere he walked into the room with the coolest walk ever and he filled the room up with laughs and applause and at that moment it hit me —

I'm in Washington, D.C., to share my video at the White House Student Film Festival, and I'm meeting the president of the United States.

"I want the youth in my community to know if I can do it anybody can do it."

Always having a love for film, Elijah had the opportunity to participate in the 2011 Cine Lab Young Filmmakers program in Overtown. Although Elijah was too young for the program at the time, Reggie Scott, founder of the program, saw

something special and permitted him into the program.

"I am so proud of Elijah Wells. From the day we interviewed him for the program, I realized that he was special and that great things were going to be a part of his journey," said Reggie Scott, president of the Pepper Shaker Company Inc. and founder of the Cine Lab Young Filmmaker's program.

Elijah has had the opportunity to work in other aspects of the industry. He worked with the cinematography team on Director Robert Townsend's film *Playin For Love*, and also screened his film *Welcome to Miami* at the American Black Film Festival community day.

"Elijah is an extraordinary young man with exceptional talent and I am proud to see that his work has been chosen to be viewed at the annual White House Film Festival. His commitment to his craft will continue to make him undeniable on his journey in cinematography," said Miami Commissioner Keon Hardemon, who represents District 5, the area that includes Overtown.

Elijah forged full steam ahead after that workshop, creating vibrant stories through cinematography. He credits his "mom-manager" Martha for helping navigate his career in the film industry. More recently, he has been a recipient of the 2013 Legacy Black History Award from the Miami World Cinema center.

Elijah said he is committed to highlighting the positive characteristics of Overtown and inspiring those in the community to pursue their artistic dreams.

The White House Film Festival featured official selections chosen from more than 1,500 student videos showcasing "The Impact of Giving Back." Elijah's *Giving Back Through My Lens* not only showcases the impact of giving back but also the influential power of filmmaking.

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# Obituaries

## Rev. Willie Barrow, front-line civil rights fighter, dies



PHOTO COURTESY OF AYEAROFWOMEN.COM  
Rev. Willie Barrow

CHICAGO (AP) — The Rev. Willie Barrow, a front-line civil rights fighter for decades and a mentor to younger generations of activists, died Thursday in Chicago. She was 90.

Barrow was a field organizer for the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., marched on Washington and Selma in the '60s and more recently focused concern on Chicago's

gun violence and changes to the Voting Rights Act.

Barrow had been hospitalized for treatment of a blood clot in her lung, said fellow activist the Rev. Michael Pfleger.

"She's one of those icons in the movement we've been able to hold onto for a long time, to learn from, to be loved by, to be challenged by," Pfleger said.

Barrow helped organize sit-ins and boycotts in the South with civil rights icons including King, Rosa Parks and the Rev. Ralph Abernathy.

Alongside the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Barrow co-founded the Chicago chapter of Operation Breadbasket, which would become Operation PUSH.

Around Chicago, many knew her as "godmother"

or "mother" because of the care she took to advise and inform younger activists.

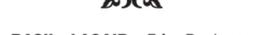
Barrow was born in Burton, Texas. In 1936, as a young child, Barrow demanded to be let on an all-white school bus.

"The fight for equality she joined that day would become the cause of her life," President Barack Obama said in a written statement

that lauded Barrow for her "pursuit of justice for all God's children."

"To Michelle and me, she was a constant inspiration, a lifelong mentor, and a very dear friend," Obama said. "I was proud to count myself among the more than 100 men and women she called her 'Godchildren,' and worked hard to live up to her example. I still do."

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens



**BASIL LAGAIR**, 54, Business Owner, died March 18 at Palmetto General Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday in the chapel.

**JACOB LEWIS**, 87, Retired Inspector, died March 16 at home. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Memorial Temple Missionary Baptist Church.

**MARGARET MACK**, 84, Retired Housekeeper, died March 17 at Hialeah Hospital. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday in the chapel.

**DOROTHY PATERSON**, 88, Business Owner, died March 14 at Jackson North Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Holy Family Episcopal Church.

**SHIRLEY ANN RICHARDSON**, 74, Retired Educator, died March 19 at Aventura Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at New Generation Missionary Baptist Church.

### JAMES C. BOYD FUNERAL HOME

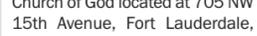


**CHARLES KING**, 61, Viewing 7 pm to 9 pm Friday at James C. Boyd Funeral Home located at 2324 Sistrunk Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

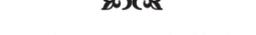
**PEARLIE MAE SCOTT**, 94, died. Funeral will be held 11 am Friday at Mt. Olivet Seventh-day Adventist Church, located at 649 NW 15th Way, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Interment at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens (Central).

**ANGELA LAVERNE WALKER**, 51, died. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at James C. Boyd Funeral Home, located at 2324 Sistrunk Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

**KASHILYN RICHARDSON**, 45, died. Funeral will be held on 11 am Saturday at 15th Avenue Church of God located at 705 NW 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Interment at Sunset Memorial Gardens.



### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK



**DERICKA M. BANKS**, 18, Student, died March 12 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Funeral 12 pm Saturday at New Beginning Embassy of Praise.

**MACTAVIS L. BURROWS**, 28, Student, died March 19 at Jackson Hospital North. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at MLK Chapel.

**MINNIE B. CHESTER**, 82, Minnie B. Chester 82, Retired Nurse Aide, died March 13 at Jackson North Hospital. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at 1st Deliverance Fellowship Church.

**NORMAN W. LUNDBERG**, 65, Plater, died March 20 at VA Hospital. Funeral 10 am Saturday at MLK Chapel.

**VICTOR L. REDDMAN**, Laborer, died March 18 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at Greater Holy Cross MBC.

### RANGE FUNERAL HOME



**JUANITA W. MIXON**, 81, Retired Office Manager/ Technician at TLC Dental Prosthetics, died March 18. Services were held Tuesday.



**ROBERT L. MCKINNEY**, 73, Attorney, died March 18. Survivors include: his daughter, Attorney Erica K. McKinney; sister, Barbara J. McKinney; brother, Fr. J. Kenneth J. Major, Jr; niece, Jennifer Robinson; nephew, Pierre Rutledge; and a host of other nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Litany 7 pm Friday at The Historic St. Agnes Episcopal Church. Funeral 11 am Saturday at the church.

### MEMORIES FUNERAL HOME



**JULIET HINDS**, 67, Nurse Aid, died March 7 at Jackson North Medical Center. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Gods House of Prayer.

**SHEILA JOHNSON**, 46, Labourer, died at her residence in Opa Locka. Arrangements are incomplete.



**NINON JOSEPH**, 86, Retired Nurse, died in Fort Lauderdale Hospice March 18. Funeral will be held 11:45 Saturday at Tabernacle Church of Grace Fort Lauderdale.

**JAN OLLY LYNN**, 74, Retired Banker, died at Memorial Regional Hospital March 19. Service will be held in Savannah, Georgia 11 am Friday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

**SCOTT ROGERS**, 31, Flight Attendant, died at Jackson Health Systems March 18. Arrangements are incomplete.

### ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME



**SARAH CAMPBELL**, 75, of Fort Lauderdale, died March 22. Graveside service 1:30 pm Thursday at Lauderdale Memorial Park.

**LATRICE ROLAND SHAW**, 56, of Fort Lauderdale, died March 28. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at First Baptist Church of Piney Grove.

**PATRICIA SHAW**, 62, of Fort Lauderdale, died March 18. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at House of God, Pompano Beach, Florida.

### WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME



**ALICE BEST-HANNA**, 76, Cafeteria Aide, died March 17. Funeral 1:30 pm Saturday at Ebenezer United Methodist Church.

**PERNELL LOUISE CAMPBELL**, 77, died March 18. Service was held.

**EMMA POUNDS**, 92, died March 21. Funeral 10 am Saturday at New Birth Baptist Church.

### JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



**HANSEL BENNETT JR.**, 27, Construction Worker, died March 21. Funeral will be held 11 am Friday at Jay's Chapel.

**ALVIN CORDY**, 54, Construction, died March 21. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at House of God.

**ROBERT MCGEE**, 76, died March 20. Arrangements are incomplete.



**EMANUEL MILLER**, 84, Aircraft Maintenance, died March 17. Funeral will be held 11 am Tuesday at Hurst Chapel A.M.E.



**DESTINEE C. MILLS**, 16, Student, died March 19. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church.

**ERIKA DENISE MOORE-CONLEY**, 59, CNA, died March 20. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday, at Jay's Chapel.

**PHYLLIS ELNINE TAYLOR**, 54, Record Assistant, died March 22. Funeral will be held 11 am Wednesday, April 1, at Sweet-home MBC.

### MANKER FUNERAL HOME



**CARRIE MAE GLENN**, 67, Dietitian, for Miami Dade County Schools, died March 18 at Memorial Pembroke Pines. Funeral will be held 11 am Friday at Ebenezer United Methodist Church.

### LAKESIDE MEMORIAL



**SALOMON AUGUSTIN SR.**, 57, Computer Tech., died March 22. Funeral 10 am Saturday at Sinai Missionary Baptist Church.

**DENNIS ROACH**, 47, Electrical Controls Engineer, died March 15 at West Boca Medical Center. Services were held.

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

## Classifieds

### LEGAL NOTICES



DeAngelis Diamond Healthcare Group, LLC is currently seeking bids from qualified **Subcontractors** and **Suppliers**. Miami, FL and surrounding area businesses are invited to attend a Pre-bid Meet & Greet to learn more about opportunities associated with the Kendall Regional Medical Center construction project.

The project will consist of a 2nd floor operating room addition with associated circulation and support space along with a 3rd floor shell area. Overall size of addition is roughly 20K SF, consisting of site work and associated parking/drive renovations, deep foundations, structural steel frame with architectural precast exterior walls, heavy medical interior finishes and MEP systems.

**What:** Pre-bid Meet & Greet **When:** Wednesday, April 8, 2015 • 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 a.m.  
**Where:** Holiday Inn Express • 11520 SW 88th Street • Miami, FL 33176

*Bid packages associated with the project include the following:*

- Earthwork / Utilities / Paving / Hardscapes • Auger Cast Piles • Minor Demolition
- Landscape / Irrigation • Concrete Cast in Place • Precast Architectural Concrete
- Concrete Unit Masonry • Structural Steel/Miscellaneous Metals • Casework • Roofing
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- Windows • Doors, Frames & Hardware • Door and Hardware Installation
- Framing, Interior Insulation & Drywall • Acoustical Ceilings • EIFS
- Painting • Ceramic Tile • Flooring and Base • Wall Protection • Signage
- Bathroom Accessories/Fire Extinguishers/Curtain Track • Furnishings • Fire Protection
- HVAC • Plumbing • Medical Gas • Electrical • Low Voltage

DeAngelis Diamond Healthcare Group and HCA/Kendall Regional Medical Center are strongly committed to the development and implementation of initiatives which promote the inclusion of local, small, minority and women-owned businesses.

For information regarding bid packages for this project contact: Brian Swanson, Senior Estimator at (239) 260-8267 or Email: brians@ddhealthcaregroup.com

To RSVP for the upcoming Meet & Greet contact: Rhea Kinnard at (615) 941-8396 or via Email: kinn0167@aol.com

### PUBLICATION OF BID SOLICITATIONS

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

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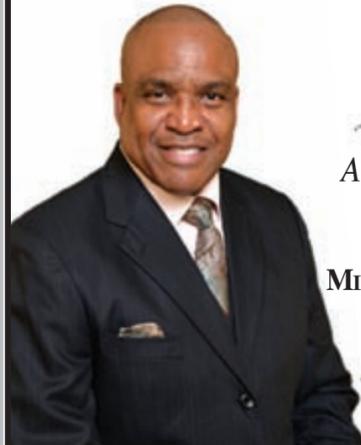
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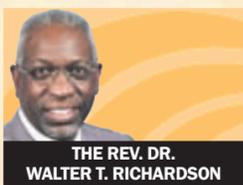
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# Prayerful Living



## Too much Mardi Gras!!



THE REV. DR. WALTER T. RICHARDSON

It is amazing to me how our society and in particular, our Christian communities have progressively devalued the importance of our most important holidays. The Christmas season is now more materialistic and patronizing than spiritual. Even the Easter season has been reduced to a casual glance at the cross where Jesus died.

What caught my attention recently was the advertisement of a party being held THIS WEEK called a Mardi Gras Party. This was not the only event called Mardi Gras that has been advertised since the celebration was officially observed on Feb. 17. Most Americans, particularly those living in the South, are aware of Mardi Gras and Carnival. But not many are

aware of how these two "feast" events are connected to the season of Lent. Since Lent involves fasting (the opposite of feasting), it is significant to know that the early observers of Lent would eat all they could the day before on Mardi Gras, which means "Fat Tuesday" or have Carnival, which means "Flesh be gone," to prepare to refrain from eating meat and then living a life of controlled religious sobriety beginning a day later for the next 40 days.

Here we are at the end of the Lenten season, and Christians are still celebrating Mardi Gras. Mardi Gras is ONE day. Lent is a time of sacrifice for Jesus the Christ. The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the Christian believer — through prayer, praise, purifying, penitence, and patience for the annual commemoration during Holy Week of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events linked to the Passion of Christ and culminates in Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This Sunday is Palm

Sunday, and next week ends Lent.

It is late in the season, but not too late for us to seriously consider this Easter season. Let us together in earnest cultivate a life of prayer. We are much better when we carve out a special time daily for Him. Then, let us claim God's promises. When we are faithful to our calling, the Lord promises to bless us in ways that defy our understanding. It is always helpful in prayer to confess our faults. Finally, it will be strengthening to commit to fasting with the several other thousands of Christians around the world as we learn from our Master the spiritual strength we derive from sacrificing for another.

So we are taught in the Model Prayer to ask the Lord to not lead us into temptation. We first recognize the possibility that we can and will be tempted, we request help through prayer, we resist the devil, retreat from obvious strongholds, remove issues and

items associated with temptations, replace bad behavior with good, and resolve to always do what is best for the glory of God. When we ask fervently for the Lord's intervention when temptations knock, we will better be able to tame our temptations!

Fasting (instead of feasting) is like defragmenting a computer. It is a necessary process. Defragmenting the computer enhances performance. Fasting provides a similar effect to the spiritual life of a believer. Isaiah 58 quotes God's promises to those who fast. Spiritual breakthrough takes place, wholeness and strength appear, prayers are answered, divine guidance is granted, freshness and growth are realized. Special time with God through praying and fasting yields special blessings. Less Mardi Gras,

and more time with the Master!

*Lord, help us to sacrifice the conveniences of life to grow more intimately with you, just as you sacrificed your life to show grace and mercy to us! 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*

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The cast of FIRST DATE. Photo by Alberto Romeu.  
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PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW COOPER/LIONSGATE

Shailene Woodley, Miles Teller and Theo James in *Insurgent*

## Girl power deliciously comes to forefront in 'Insurgent'

By **KIMBERLY GRANT**

Special to South Florida Times

As a child born in the early 1980s, I consider myself an older millennial and quite lucky. I know what it's like to play outside all day or use my imagination to play games and the value of an up-to-date encyclopedia. I also had positively strong female role models, which include my grandmother, mother, *Xena: Warrior Princess*, and *Buffy: The Vampire Slayer*. These women showed me that a woman can be strong, independent, and still have a man for priceless things in life like love.

However, I have feared for the next generation: the Instagram Generation. It seemed that these girls didn't have any strong female role models to look up to when it comes to literature and cinema. Sure *Twilight's* Bella and *Fifty Shades of Grey's* Anastasia are popular, but are they strong enough to stand up to the villain on their own?

In the latest installment of the *Divergent* franchise, *Insurgent*, Tris (played by Shailene Woodley) and Four (Theo James) are on the run from Jeanine (Kate Winslet), leader of the intelligent Erudite faction and a ruthless sect of Dauntless soldiers, led by Max (Mekhi Phifer) and Eric (Jai Courtney). Tris and Four are looking for allies in the other factions (the brave Dauntless, the peaceful Amity, and the honest Candor) so that they can declare war against Jeanine. Meanwhile, our hero and heroine are both wrestling with their past. Their journey culminates into a revelatory experience that shakes the foundation of their society.

*Insurgent* is based on the second book of best-selling author Veronica Roth's young adult series *Divergent*. The simplistic script for *Insurgent* was adapted by Brian Duffield, Akiva Goldsman and Mark Bombback, with Robert Schwentke directing.

### WE NEED A HEROINE

With the recent phenomenon that is great young adult fiction centered on a strong female

presence, the literary industry and its authors have birthed *Hunger Games'* Katniss Everdeen and *Divergent's* Tris Prior (and counting). While it would be unfair to compare these two heroines and their respective stories, there are some parallels.

Both women are strong, save the day, and live in a dystopian world. But, Katniss (love the character to pieces) gets a lot of outside help. She always comes into a situation after everything has been set up for her. She never boldly initiates a fight or even is brave enough to go into the lion's den like Tris.

### BUILDING CHARACTER

Tris is strong, deadly, and selfless. Those qualities make her someone to root for. She also admits that she's not perfect, blasting the myth that as women we have to be everything to everyone, except ourselves. It also helps that Tris is surrounded by strong women: her mother Natalie (the 1990s epitome of a super heroine, Ashley Judd), her Dauntless friend Christina (Zoe Kravitz), Amity leader Johanna (Octavia Spencer), Dauntless ally Tori (Maggie Q), and even Four's mother and leader of the Factionless Evelyn (Naomi Watts). As Aretha Franklin put it: "Sisters are doin' it for themselves".

Likewise, to analyze a heroine and her peers you have to analyze her villainous match: Jeanine. Jeanine is a formidable and masterful adversary: intelligent, always a step ahead, and doesn't flinch from a fight. From a writer's stand-

point, she's an awesome antihero. And, Winslet is crazy good at being the villain.

It's been a decade coming, but Generation Instagram finally has two strong heroines for role models. I hope this trend never fades in the literary and film worlds and continues to open doors for more heroines like Tris and Katniss. Or else, (shudder) we'll be left watching yet another great actress play a one-note "girlfriend".



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEEKADELPHIA.COM

Mekhi Phifer in *Insurgent*.

KAliciaG@aol.com  
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VENGEANCE HITS HOME

# FURIOUS 7



UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH MRC AN ORIGINAL FILM / ONE RACE FILMS PRODUCTION VIN DIESEL PAUL WALKER DWAYNE JOHNSON 'FURIOUS 7' MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ TYRESE GIBSON CHRIS LUDACRIS BRIDGES JORDANA BREWSTER DJIMON HOUNSOU WITH KURT RUSSELL AND JASON STATHAM MUSIC BY BRIAN TYLER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS AMANDA LEWIS SAMANTHA VINCENT CHRIS MORGAN BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY GARY SCOTT THOMPSON PRODUCED BY NEAL H. MORITZ, P.P.S. VIN DIESEL MICHAEL FOTTRELL ORIGINAL FILM PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED PROLONGED FRENETIC SEQUENCES OF VIOLENCE, ACTION AND INTENSE, SUGGESTIVE CONTENT AND BRIEF STRONG LANGUAGE WRITTEN BY CHRIS MORGAN DIRECTED BY JAMES WAN SOUNDTRACK ON ATLANTIC RECORDS A UNIVERSAL PICTURE © 2014 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS MAX IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF MAX CORPORATION.

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music & pop culture

# FIRST BLACK PRINCESS FEATURED IN 'Disney on Ice'

Staff Report

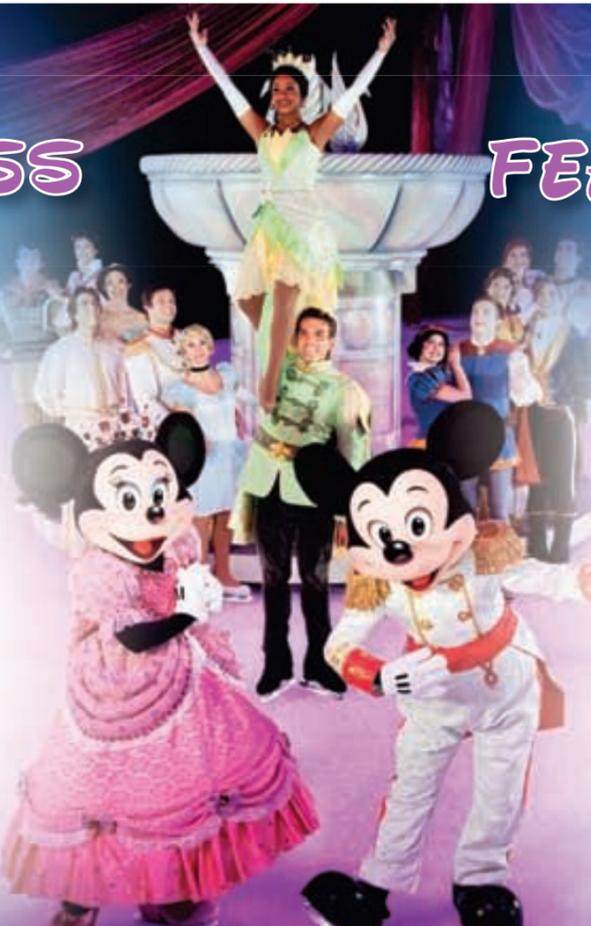
Even though the heat has made an early appearance, South Floridians can take a moment to chill and celebrate with the folks at Walt Disney who are returning with a cast of characters for a signature show on the ice rink.

*Disney On Ice Presents Let's Celebrate!* makes two stops in the region as part of a multi-city tour in the Sunshine State. The first shows are at the BB&T Center in Sunrise from March 26 to 29. The second stop in Miami is at the AmericanAirlines Arena from April 1 to 5.

Producers say the show brings more than 50 Disney characters to South Florida for one colossal party on ice. This action-packed, all-new show features a magical montage of celebrations and is set to a blend of contemporary music and favorite Disney songs.

One of the cast members is Soniah Spence, an award-winning skater who appears as Princess Tiana, Disney's first African-American princess. Spence said she enjoys the crowd and the spotlight when she's performing and says she wants the audience to "feel the story I'm telling through my skating."

Spence is a native of Springfield, Tenn., According to her bio, she was inspired by Olympic champion Michelle Kwan and encouraged by her parents to start ice-skating. She skated her way to four first-place finishes and a host of second, third and fourth-place outings



as a competitive skater. In 2008, with more than eight years of competitive ice-skating under her belt, Soniah Spence packed up her skates and postponed her studies in athletic training at Tennessee State to become a principal skater in *Disney On Ice* presents *Worlds of Fantasy*.

In an interview with the *Tampa Bay Times*, Spence said she enjoys the audience response to her portrayal.

"I see all the little girls jumping and screaming and dressed just like me," Spence said. "The reaction I'm getting, the crowds, and the impact I have on the audience. It's the biggest reaction I've ever seen (when I skate onto the ice). It makes me very happy."

This version of *Disney on Ice* shows favorite characters in different types of settings. Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse celebrate a Very Merry Unbirthday Party with Alice and the Mad Hatter. Princess Tiana and Prince Naveen celebrate Mardi Gras. The Disney princesses enjoy a Royal Valentine's Day Ball, while Lilo and Stitch do the same at an Hawaiian luau.

Tickets start at \$16 and are available at the BB&T Center and AmericanAirlines Arena box offices, through Ticketmaster and online at [www.disneyonice.com](http://www.disneyonice.com).



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FELD ENTERTAINMENT  
Disney characters have a lot to celebrate on the ice.

**ON THE COVER**  
Princess Tiana and Prince Naveen

Great for a double play...



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## Leading Player: finalist from 'The Voice' has starring role in 'Pippin'

Staff Report

The story of a young prince who makes a death-defying journey to find meaning in his existence returns to two South Florida stages in April and May.

*Pippin* runs March 31 through April 12 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts; the curtain rises later at Kravis Center in West Palm Beach April 28 through May 3.

*Pippin* is Broadway's high-flying, death-defying hit musical. Full of extraordinary acrobatics, wondrous magical feats and soaring songs from the composer of *Wicked*, critics say *Pippin* will lift you up and leave you smiling.

This new production is the winner of four 2013 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival.

Sam Lips stars in the title role as Pippin, the young man in search of himself. Will he choose a happy but simple life? Or will he risk everything for a singular flash of glory? A recent

review in the *Greenville* (S.C.) *News* says the production features a "show-within-a-show where a troupe of actors telling the story of *Pippin* relay in a rhapsodic, over-the-top style, full of pratfalls and sublime silliness."

The production also features Sasha Allen in the role of Leading Player, who is the show's emcee (the role in which Ben Vereen won a Tony Award in 1973). Allen until now is probably best known as a finalist in the 2013 TV season of *The Voice*.

Direct from an acclaimed run at Boston's American Repertory Theater, this captivating new production is directed by Tony winner Diane Paulus (*Hair* and *The Gershwins' Porgy & Bess*). It features sizzling choreography in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRY SHAPIRO  
Sasha Allen and the cast of the national touring production of *Pippin*.

style of Bob Fosse and breathtaking acrobatics by Les 7 Doigts de la Main, the creative force behind the nationwide sensation *Traces*.

*Pippin* is noted for many Broadway standards including *Corner of the Sky*, *Magic To Do*, *Glory*, *No Time at All*, *Morning Glow* and *Love Song*.

## Big Sean to headline FAU's Freaker's Ball

Staff Report

BOCA RATON — Rappers Big Sean, Slick Rick, and Doug E. Fresh are set to perform at Florida Atlantic University's annual Freaker's Ball. The event will be held on Wednesday, April 1 at the Student Union Outdoor Stage, 777 Glades Road on the Boca Raton campus. The show starts with a DJ set at 8 p.m.

The Freaker's Ball is an annual hip-hop concert put on by the Program Board, a student-run organization committed to bringing quality entertainment to FAU students. Past performers at the Freaker's Ball include Ludacris, Lil' Wayne, Flo-Rida, and Kendrick Lamar.

Big Sean (Sean Michael Leonard Anderson), 27, was born in Southern California and raised in Detroit. He has worked with Kanye West, Def Jam and Roc Nation. His third and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY  
From left, Big Sean, Slick Rick and Doug E. Fresh

most recent album is *Dark Sky Paradise*, which was released in February and debuted atop the *Billboard* 200 making it his first Number One album.

Slick Rick and Doug E. Fresh are hip-hop veterans who have gained Hall of Fame type acclaim. Both performers live in New York City, and are considered pioneers in hip hop.

Tickets are \$5 for FAU students with a valid OWL card, and \$40 for the public. FAU student-priced tickets available for walk up only at the FAU Student Union Box Office. Only one student ticket per valid Owl per person. Student Ticket and valid Owl card will be required in order to enter.

Attendees must be at least 16. No bags, purses or food will be allowed into the event, and cameras/recording devices are not permitted.

## travel

By **DONNA GORDON  
BLANKINSHIP**  
Associated Press

SEATTLE — The creators of a new traveling exhibit on the costumes of *Star Wars* are hoping to gather geeks, fashionistas and movie fans together to discuss how clothing helps set the scene.

But mostly, the exhibit that opened this past weekend at Seattle's EMP Museum is an opportunity to see 60 original costumes from the six *Star Wars* movies in one room — from Princess Leia's slave bikini to Queen Amidala's wedding dress, which has not been part of any previous public display.

The exhibit, *Rebel, Jedi, Princess, Queen: Star Wars and the Power of Costume*, was created by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the Lucas Museum of Narrative Arts, and will be traveling across the United States through 2020. The exhibit will be in Seattle through Oct. 4. The creators have not yet announced the next stops.

The exhibit designers want people to know this is a rare opportunity to see the costumes up close and personal, without Plexiglas in the way. But be warned, the alarm system will loudly rebuke anyone who leans in too close.

Photography is allowed, but no flash, tripods or selfie sticks. The Darth Vader costume is set off on its own, perfectly arranged for selfies.

Videos of filmmaker George Lucas, costume designers and star Natalie Portman, along with the descriptions under the costumes share a wealth of insider information about costume construction and idea development.

The displays address cultural influences from Africa to Asia. Quotes from actors talk about the way the costumes made them feel, from Carrie Fisher's experience in what she called the bikini from hell, to the power the Sith lords felt in their getups. Gloomy lighting and music from the films permeates the exhibit space.

"The costumes help the characters really come to life," said Laela French, the Lucas Museum's senior manager of exhibits and collections.

She talked about the visual clues the costumes offer, such as the way Anakin Skywalker's Jedi robes darken as he gets older and closer to becoming Darth Vader. Most people don't notice that Luke Skywalker's robes also darkened through his trio of films, showing the mix of light and dark in his character as well, French said.

# Obi-Wan, Chewbacca, Vader and gang reunite for new exhibit

Star Wars experts may not learn anything new, but a lot of people probably don't know that the lights in Queen Amidala's dramatic red throne room gown were powered by a car battery that had to be worn underneath the heavy costume during filming of *The Phantom Menace*.

Among the other display descriptions: Amidala's wedding dress was made partly out of an Italian lace bedspread; and Chewbacca's fur is a combination of Yak hair and mohair.

The costumes are displayed on faceless manikins instead of life-size figurines to put the emphasis on the clothes and not the characters, French said.

Because the costumes for the second trilogy of films — the prequels — were so much more elaborate and interesting, the exhibit shares many more of them, including several walls of clothing worn by Queen Amidala and her attendants.

But the highlights for most people will be the old ones, including the two droids, which were costumes worn by people, not puppets as some assume. Most of the puppets and computer-generated creatures are not represented. Yoda is present, but slightly hidden.

There are no hints of the new movie, scheduled to come out at the end of 2015.

Some gift shop highlights: Chewbacca slippers, storm trooper knit cap and a travel T-shirt that says "Welcome to Tatooine."

Those who haven't seen the six movies in some time may want to refresh their memories before going to see the exhibit.



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMIC-BOOK.COM  
**Obi-Wan Kenobi**



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA.CMGDIGITAL.COM  
**Chewbacca**



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA.CMGDIGITAL.COM  
**Queen Amidala (center) is seen with handmaidens gowns**



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOULCALIBUR.WIKIA.COM  
**Darth Vader**

## IF YOU GO

**WHAT:** *Rebel, Jedi, Princess, Queen: Star Wars and the Power of Costume*

**WHEN:** Through Sunday, October 4th.  
Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Emp Museum, 325 Fifth Ave. N., Seattle, WA.

**COST:** \$23 to \$29 weekdays; \$24 to \$30 weekends; children 4 and under free.

**CONTACT:** Visit the website at <http://empmuseum.com> or call 206-270-2702.

# events calendar

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

## March 26-April 5

PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRY SHAPIRA



### March 26

**An Intimate Evening with Dudu Fisher:** The performer uses his background as a performer, cantor and singer to share the story of his life and celebrate his home country of Israel. Fisher starred as Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables* on Broadway. 7:30 p.m. at Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, 3385 NE 188th St., Aventura. \$50-\$75. 305-466-8002 or [www.aventuracenter.org](http://www.aventuracenter.org).

PHOTO COURTESY OF NYKRAPP.COM

### Hard Rock Rising Global Music Festival:

The city of Miami Beach celebrates its centennial in style with a night of performances by local and international stars. The outdoor concert features performances by Gloria Estefan, Andrea Bocelli, Barry Gibb, Wyclef, Afrobeta, Flo Rida and more! 5 p.m. on the beach at Eighth Street and Ocean Drive in Miami Beach. \$79-\$579. 1-877-987-6587 or [www.miamibeach100.com](http://www.miamibeach100.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF  
CHARLEY GALLAY



PHOTO COURTESY OF  
RAPBASEMENT.COM

**Love, Loss and What I Wore:** This play by Nora and Delia Ephron follows five women who discuss relationships. Based on the book of the same title by Ilene Beckerman, the play is a series of monologues in which the women discuss their lives by using the clothes they wore to reflect on certain memories. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. today, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$35. 561-832-7469 or [www.kravis.org](http://www.kravis.org).

### March 27

**Florida Grand Opera Family Day:** There's something for everyone in the family during an afternoon of music, crafting and learning. Play a note or two in the Instrument Petting Zoo, check out the Wig, Mask, and Prop shop and build, paint or decorate a cool production piece. Children can sing in the FGO Kids Chorus, where they will learn music basics. A performance of Menotti's *The Telephone* by the Florida Grand Opera's Young Artists is the perfect cap to the afternoon. 11:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at Milander Center for the Arts & Entertainment, 4800 Palm Ave., Hialeah. Free. 305-854-1643 ext. 1206 or [www.hialeahfamilyday.eventbrite.com](http://www.hialeahfamilyday.eventbrite.com).

### March 28

**Artist in Action:** David Rohn, visual and performance artist, will discuss his work, career path and offer insight into his creative process. A signed, limited edition print will be available for purchase at the event. 6 to 8 p.m. at Girls' Club Foundation, 117 NE Second St., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 954-828-9151.

**Cocowalk's Easter Egg'Stravaganza:** Hang with bunnies in the petting zoo, kids can have their face painted and more at the annual event. Check out other furry animals as the Miami-Dade Animal Rescue Service offers pet adoptions. Children 10 and under can participate in the egg hunt and the child who finds the highest number of the 2,000 eggs planted throughout the mall will receive a \$50 Cheesecake Factory gift card! 2 to 7 p.m. at CocoWalk, 3015 Grand Ave., Coconut Grove. Free. 305-444-0777, ext. 211.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WNYC.ORG

**Family Storytelling Festival:** Storyteller, musician and author Madafo Lloyd Wilson headlines a day of art, music and stories. The day includes an interactive mural, music and art projects. Andy Offutt Irwin and YOUmedia Miami are also scheduled to perform. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at North Dade Regional Library, 2455 NW 183rd St., Miami Gardens. Free. 305-625-6424 or [www.mdpls.org](http://www.mdpls.org).

**SpringFest:** Get a hop on spring celebrations and bring the family for a morning of bounce houses, games and an egg hunt for children 10 and under. One lucky person who finds the golden egg will receive a special prize. 10 a.m. to noon at Tamarac Sports Complex, 9901 NW 77th St., Tamarac. Free. 954-597-3674.

### March 29

**Jackie Evancho:** The 14 year-old soprano and winner of *America's Got Talent* performs music from her latest album *Awakening*. 7 p.m. at Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$49.50 and \$89.50. 954-462-0222 or [www.broward-center.org](http://www.broward-center.org).

**Wynwood Green & Art Market:** South Florida grown or created produce, artisanal foods along with art and hand-crafted items. The market is a part of the Our Miami Public Space Challenge, a project by the Miami Foundation and Health Foundation of South Florida. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bakehouse Art Complex, 561 NW 32nd St., Miami. Free. 305-576-2828.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF FUNNY-  
PICTURES.PICPHOTOS.NET

### March 30

**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.

### April 2

**Clematis by Night:** Enjoy a relaxing evening underneath the stars and listen to the sounds of Cecilia Lauren and the Ocoee River Band. The country band is known for its single *If Only*. Grab a bite to eat from a local vendor and chill. 6 p.m. at 101 N. Flagler Dr., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-822-1515.

### April 4

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

### April 5

**Jazz Brunch:** Sit back, relax and enjoy the smooth sounds of jazz by local musicians. Musicians will play on one of four stages. Bring a blanket and grab a bite to eat from a local vendor for an unforgettable afternoon. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Riverwalk, 305 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Easter Bunny makes a stop in town for a day of live music, pony rides and an egg hunt! Expect live music, bounce house and more. 3 to 5 p.m. at Weston Town Center, 1675 Market St., Weston. Free. 954-349-5900.

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

# food

## Easter Lamb Carrot Cupcakes

Servings: 12-16

- Frosting:**
- 1 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
  - 1 teaspoon baking soda
  - 2 teaspoons cinnamon
  - 1/4 teaspoon ginger
  - 2 large eggs
  - 1/2 cup vegetable oil
  - 1 1/2 cups Dixie Crystals Extra Fine Granulated Sugar
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
  - 2 cups finely shredded carrots
  - 1 can (8 ounces) crushed pineapple, drained
  - 1/2 cup chopped walnuts or pecans

- Royal icing:**
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese
  - 1 stick or 1/2 cup unsalted butter, very soft
  - 4 cups Dixie Crystals Confectioners Powdered Sugar
  - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

- Royal icing:**
- 1 cup Dixie Crystals Confectioners Powdered Sugar
  - 2 1/4 teaspoons dried egg whites
  - 2 tablespoons warm water
  - 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice

**Decoration:**

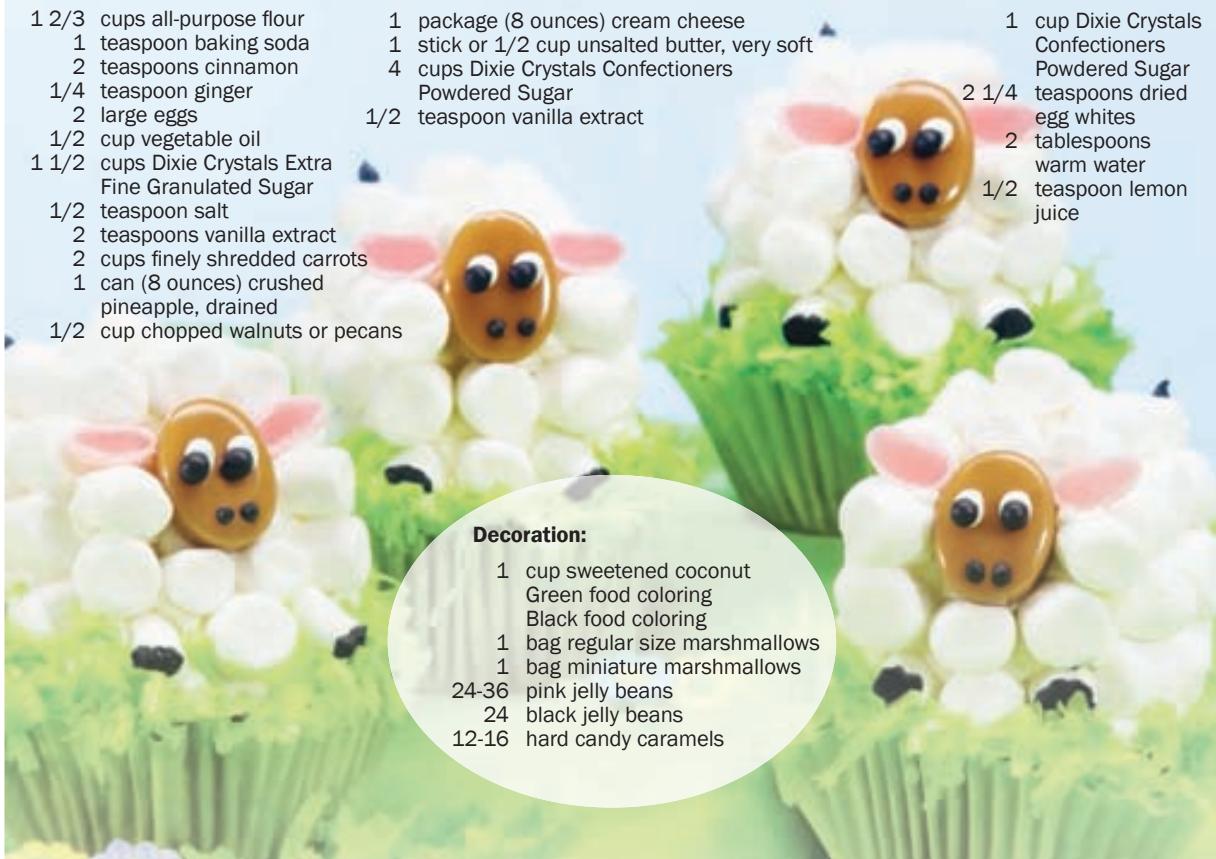
- 1 cup sweetened coconut
- Green food coloring
- Black food coloring
- 1 bag regular size marshmallows
- 1 bag miniature marshmallows
- 24-36 pink jelly beans
- 24 black jelly beans
- 12-16 hard candy caramels

### Edible Easter Fun

**FAMILY FEATURES** — Little ones (and big ones too) will have fun making these adorable Easter Lamb Carrot Cupcakes. Easter is a special time for bringing families together. Make memories happen in the kitchen when you get hands on with these sweet cupcakes

made with Dixie Crystals Sugar. Marshmallow lambs sitting atop moist carrot cupcakes on a bed of green coconut grass are a sure way to sweeten any family gathering.

For more recipes to add fun and flavor to your Easter festivities, visit [www.dixiecrystals.com](http://www.dixiecrystals.com).



Heat oven to 350°F. Place 16 cupcake liners in cupcake or muffin tin and set aside.

Sift together flour, baking soda, cinnamon and ginger and set aside.

In large bowl, whisk together eggs and vegetable oil until well blended. Add sugar, salt and vanilla; mix well.

Add carrots, pineapple and nuts and combine well. Stir in flour mixture.

Scoop into paper cups about 2/3 full. (May make more depending on size.)

Bake until center of cupcakes bounce back when lightly pressed or inserted toothpick comes out clean, about 23 minutes. Allow to cool before frosting.

For frosting, mix cream cheese and soft butter on low speed until blended. Add one cup powdered sugar and mix on low speed. Gradually add remaining powdered sugar and mix on low to medium speed until light and fluffy. Add vanilla and mix well. Set aside covered in refrigerator.

Place coconut in bowl and add drop of green food color, mix by gloved hand until color is well distributed. (Add touch of yellow if color is too harsh.)

Fill piping bag or food storage bag fitted with medium round decorating tip with cream cheese frosting.

Prepare 2 small paper piping bags; set aside to prepare icing.

To make royal icing, sift together powdered sugar with dried egg whites and place in bowl. Add water and lemon juice and whip several minutes to stiff mixture. Thin mixture with water if necessary.

Place 3 – 4 tablespoons of royal icing in a small bowl and tint with black food coloring.

Fill 2 small piping bags; one with white and the other with black royal icing. Set aside.

Using cream cheese frosting pipe generous circle of frosting onto cupcake.

Cut large marshmallow crosswise in half. Lay one and a half large marshmallows horizontally onto cupcake. Pipe thin layer of cream cheese frosting onto marshmallows.

Starting at bottom surround large marshmallows with miniature marshmallows. Pipe a little cream cheese frosting onto first layer of mini

marshmallow and stack another layer of mini marshmallows. Continue until completely covered.

Press green coconut onto edges of cupcake.

Position cupcake so circle side of large marshmallow faces you.

For head, place hard caramel onto top edge of large marshmallow and ensure it is resting onto miniature marshmallows. (Remove some marshmallows to fit if necessary.)

For ears, cut pink jelly bean lengthwise in half. Pinch beans to make pointy. Place next to head and use a little cream cheese frosting to make them stick.

Cut black jelly beans in fours to create feet. Cut black jelly bean lengthwise to create tail. Attach with cream cheese frosting.

Using white royal icing pipe eyes, followed by black. Pipe with black royal icing for nostrils.

**Notes:** When measuring flour, avoid firmly packing measuring cup. Mixing frosting on high will make it runny and too soft.



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Presents



Saturday, April 11, 2015 – 6:30 pm

Lou Rawls Center for the Performing Arts  
Florida Memorial University  
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Miami Gardens, Florida 33054

### FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST STARS



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World renowned  
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**Mr. Don Seward**  
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Bishop Victor T. Curry  
Mrs. Sommer Walker Davis

Dr. Joseph Gay  
Mr. Fedrick Ingram  
Ms. Mattye Jones  
Mr. Andre Sweeting  
Dr. Nanci Thomas

Mr. Vaughn Tooley

Please plan to join us for an evening of entertainment as we showcase and celebrate individuals from various professions who have extraordinary artistic talents!

**Admission: \$50.00**  
You may purchase tickets online at:  
[www.dadecountylinksinc.org](http://www.dadecountylinksinc.org)

For more information, email:  
[theflipsidemiami@gmail.com](mailto:theflipsidemiami@gmail.com) or call (844)249-8366