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**NATION**

# Congressional vote delay deemed crazy



**CONGRESS:** Loretta Lynch awaits U.S. Senate vote on her confirmation as Attorney General.

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Friday said it was "crazy" and "embarrassing" the way the Republican-led Senate has held up confirmation of his attorney general nominee, Loretta Lynch.

"What are we doing here?" Obama said. "I have to say there are times when the dysfunction in the Senate just goes too far. This is an example of it. It's gone too far. Enough. Enough."

"Call Loretta Lynch for a vote," he said emphatically. "Get her confirmed."

Lynch is the U.S. attorney for New York's Eastern District and would succeed Attorney General Eric Holder if confirmed. She would become the first black woman to serve as the nation's top law officer.

Dozens of Senate Republicans have opposed her for various reasons, chiefly her

support of Obama's immigration policies.

The president spoke at a news conference alongside visiting Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi. Asked about Lynch's nomination, Obama praised "some outbreaks of bipartisanship and common sense" in Congress recently on issues such as fixing a longstanding problem with Medicare payments to doctors.

"Yet what we still have is this crazy situation where a woman everybody agrees is qualified ... has been now sitting there longer than the previous seven attorney general nominees combined," Obama said. He said there was no reason for the delay other than "political gamesmanship in the Senate" on issues unrelated to Lynch.

"This is embarrassing, a process like this," Obama said.

**BROWARD**

# Blacks disregarded in life and death

FORT LAUDERDALE — The Florida Department of Transportation has been surveying the grounds of Broward County's historic Woodlawn Cemetery for human remains. Searches with dogs reportedly took place Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12, as well as a survey of the property with a ground penetration radar (GPR) Saturday, April 18 at the Fort Lauderdale cemetery.

The Woodlawn Cemetery was established in the 1920s during segregation because blacks were not allowed to bury their loved ones in the main cemeteries. Reportedly, Raleigh P. Moore, publisher of the Fort Lauderdale Colored Bulletin, the city's first black newspa-



Walter Hinton and Grandson, Linval

per, was buried there. Also, prominent religious leader Rev. Joseph Smith and his wife, who was the first black female to vote in Broward County, we're both buried at the cemetery as well, according to longtime resident Johnny Alexander whose property borders a portion of the cemetery site.

Alexander said he thinks the Department of Transportation knew graves and human remains were there when construction on the highway was originally done. "We're going to have to do something because we know that there are bodies in the right-of-way that they own,"

PLEASE TURN TO **WOODLAWN/3A**

**REGION**

# And the killing continues!

**DAPHNE TAYLOR**  
 Special to South Florida Times

Why does this continually happen? Black men are dying in astonishing numbers in police custody! Now it's happened again, this time in Baltimore, Maryland. Freddie Gray died Sunday, a week after being hospitalized following a police incident. When he was arrested on April 12, he gave up without the use of force, officials say. A total of six officers were involved in his arrest. He was arrested after an officer allegedly found a switchblade in his pocket. His attorney says he was carrying a pocket knife of legal size. Whatever the case, when Gray was put into a police van, he was fine. When he came out, he was unresponsive. No one knows how he ended up with a severed spine. An autopsy showed he died of a severe spinal cord injury. Cell phone videos do not show how he was injured. He was said to be in perfect health when he was chased and tackled by police last week, his lawyer said. Less than an hour later, he was en route to a trauma clinic with a spinal cord injury, where he fell into a coma. He died of his injuries on Sunday.

"I'll tell you what I do know, and right now there's still a lot of questions I don't know. I know that when Mr. Gray was placed inside that van, he was able to talk. He was upset. And when Mr. Gray was taken out of that van, he could not talk, and he could not breathe," Baltimore Deputy Police Commissioner Jerry Rodriguez told reporters Monday.

Rodriguez said the



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAWYERS REPRESENTING FREDDIE GRAY FAMILY

Freddie Gray placed in van by Baltimore police.

officers had been working an area that was known for violent crimes and drugs when they spotted Gray. They thought he may have been involved in a crime, but police didn't say what their suspicions were based on, according to the Gray family attorney, William Murphy. When officers approached him, he fled, but was caught quickly. Cell phone video captured him already on the ground with three officers hovering over him. He let out a loud wail.

Police say they will conclude their investigation on Friday, May 1, and then the case will go to the state attorney's office, which will decide whether to file charges. For now,

the six officers involved have been suspended. Protesters have been hailing signs that have become synonymous with these incidents which have sparked up across the United States as of late. Demonstrators chanted, "Hands Up! Don't Shoot!" and "I can't breathe." They carried signs that said, "Black Lives Matter."

But despite the national outcry and the world focusing on police matters concerning black males, these incidents continue to happen, leaving many in the black community stunned and left wondering how to bring closure to these situations.

PLEASE TURN TO **POLICE/3A**



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONGRESSWOMAN FEDERICA WILSON

# Champion of Chibok

Congresswoman Frederica Wilson (D-FL) is pictured with escaped Nigerian school girls Patience, left and Saa, right after Congresswoman Wilson's news conference at the House Triangle on Capitol Hill, Wednesday, April 15, 2015, marking the one year anniversary of the kidnapping of nearly 300 Chibok school girls by terrorist group Boko Haram, and brings attention to the plight of girls who have been kidnapped by terrorists in West Africa.

**MIAMI-DADE**

# Churches collaborate for change

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

They arrived by car and by the busload, members of churches, synagogues and mosques throughout Miami-Dade County. They

chanted a defiant "Let Justice Ring," when officials affirmed a commitment to seriously address a social issue presented to them; and murmured their displeasure when the answer was "no."

With nary a seat left at the spacious New Birth Baptist church in North Miami, members of PACT (People Acting for Community Together) gathered for its Nehemiah Action Assembly. Three specific issues were on the agenda that the organization with 35 churches and two universities strong presented to officials from local police departments, the Miami-Dade County Commission, the Juvenile Assessment Center, the State Attorney's Office and the Miami-Dade Public Schools.



PHOTO COURTESY OF EVENS ST LOUIS  
 Dr. Inaki Bent recognizing Director J.D. Patterson for work with Juvenile Justice.

This was not a typical community gathering. This assembly, as its name attests, was patterned after the biblical figure, Nehemiah, who took action after he "heard the cries of the people."

In a handout that

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# Bodies under interstate 95?

WOODLAWN, FROM 1A

he said. "When they originally started 95 (Interstate), they made a jog in the fence. So they knew at that time that there were graves there. The only reason they made the jog at the fence was to avoid graves."

Allegedly, the FDOT right-of-way runs through the area of the cemetery where many poor and/or unknown individuals, mostly blacks, were buried called the "Paupers" section. A number of bodies could possibly be buried underneath the highway, which was constructed in the 1970s, but an exact number is not known.

FDOT spokesperson Barbara Kelleher said that in conjunction with its I-95 Express Lane project, a development study was done. She said as a result of that study, a cultural resource committee was formed that included members of families who's loved ones had been buried at the cemetery, as well as state and local historians, leaders from the African-American community and the Florida Department of Transportation. Kelleher said the group has met several times to avoid any further impact on the Woodlawn Cemetery but also to get an idea if there are any remains within the state right-of-way. "The purpose of the work that we're doing in that area is to avoid any further impact," she said. "We're not going into the cemetery itself."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Worker marks gravesites along I-95.

An outreach committee meeting for the Woodlawn Cemetery will be held next month to discuss the results of the ground investigation, according to a letter sent by FDOT project manager Lynn Kelley to a cultural resource committee member.

The cemetery is located at 1936 NW 9th Street, in Fort Lauderdale and is the resting place of many pioneering African Americans, according to the website, [www.browardcemeteries.com](http://www.browardcemeteries.com).

The cemetery was badly deteriorated by the 1990s when it was acquired by the city of Fort Lauderdale to preserve its heritage and historic importance, according to information on the site.

Walter "Mickey" Hinton said he thinks it is important to preserve the cemetery because of its historic significance. "A lot of black pioneers that (really made things happen) for the city of Fort Lauderdale are buried

there," he said. "Anybody could have been buried there. They didn't care how much money you had."

Hinton, 76, said many of his relatives and extended family are buried at the Woodlawn Cemetery. He said he thinks the human remains search dogs found about 10 hot spots within the cemetery and six outside of the fence. Kelleher said no official results have been submitted yet but a cultural resource committee meeting will be held sometime in May to discuss the findings.

She said the FDOT right-of-way is from the fence line of the cemetery out towards the interstate and into the interstate property. "That's why we have conducted some non-ground disturbing work in order to determine if there are any human remains in the DOT right-of-way," Kelleher said. "A

couple of weekends ago, we used human remains detecting dogs and then this past weekend, we used ground penetration radar in order to detect if there were any human remains in the DOT right-of-way itself."

Kelleher said the desire is to not do any further disruption or impact to the cemetery. "The purpose of this research is so that we can get an idea of what's there, so that we can make future plans that would not impact those (areas)," she said.

Kelleher said it is her understanding that the cemetery is eligible for a listing on the national registry of historic places but she does not know if it has been designated as a historic site at a state office. "We are obviously interested in working with the community to come up with a solution for the long-term on how to handle that particular area, so that we hopefully don't do any further disruption," she said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF EVANS ST LOUIS  
Deacon Michael McBride, Antioch Missionary Baptist recognizing Miami Gardens Chief Antonio Brooklen for Neighborhood Resource Offices.

## Officials respond "Yes" or "No"

CHANGE, FROM 1A

included the agenda items, a statement on "Engaging Power: Preparing Ourselves for Reactions from Power People" distinguishes

public from personal relationships. The former, it explains, must be based on making commitments and holding each other accountable. "We are not concerned about being liked; instead, we are concerned about getting something done," it reads.

Getting something done was the prevailing theme of the assembly.

After providing a brief background on the congregations' motivations for joining PACT and its similarities to Nehemiah's scriptural assembly, Father Chris Marino, from the Cathedral of St. Mary, broke it down succinctly. "There may be some tension in this room tonight," he warned. "We are asking that our county officials answer our questions with a direct "yes" or a direct "no."

No official was being blindsided, because "this is not the first time that these, our public officials, have been presented with these issues. We have met with them ahead of time and we have sent them letters with exactly the questions that we put before them tonight," Marino stated.

The first official to face the mass audience was Miami Gardens Interim Police Chief Antonio Brooklen. He replied "yes" to each of the questions posed to him regarding the city's agreement to install resource officers at

PLEASE TURN TO CHANGE/6A

## Police hiring practices must improve

POLICE, FROM 1A

Black leaders in South Florida are mixed on how to resolve these complex police relations. Patrick Franklin, President and CEO of the Urban League of Palm Beach County, says he believes hiring practices of police departments have to get better. "I personally think there's a misrepresentation of minority officers. They say there's a shortage of minority recruits. They are saying they can't find good minorities for the force. Well, they're not looking in the right places. I think it goes back to retention and recruitment. Do they adequately seek minority officers? We need to address this issue across the nation," said Franklin.

He also said a lot of the misconduct may have been taking place all along, but today there's social media that's playing a role. "We live in the age of social media. These things may have been going on, but now we can see them via social media. You have a few more eyes and heightened awareness now with cell phone cameras and videos."

The other pertinent question is "How do black men avoid becoming victims of a trigger-happy officer?" Franklin says there has to be an open dialogue about this. "We have to keep the dialogue open with our officers. There are more good officers than bad officers out there, but we have to discuss whether to move on when we find ourselves in a situation with an officer, or to engage. We just hope you pick the right action at the right time. We need an ongoing, open dialogue about this." Reverend Lloyd Taylor, 52, of West Palm Beach, says what he sees happening right

now with police officers is a total disrespect of black life and a devaluing of the black race. "With these recent shootings, what they (officers) see is a silhouette that's completely black. It's not even a black life, but a black silhouette. It's a total devaluing of the black man and the black race as a whole," said Taylor, who has two black male children, age 27 and 20. "I keep my children covered in prayer as their father. I pray constantly for them every day. I raised my kids to be respectful of everyone. But to these officers, we're just another 'negro.' Most parents are encouraging their children to take specific measures when they encounter a police officer. We have to do this if we want to see the next day," he said. Franklin agrees. He says it's not a matter of "if" there will be another encounter as a black man; it's a matter of "when." But while Rev. Taylor sees these officers as devaluing black life, T. Willard Fair, President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Miami, says we, as blacks, devalue our own lives. Fair says none of these cases would be sensationalized if they didn't involve a white officer and black males. "These situations would not even be newsworthy," he said. "We don't talk about the escalating violence in our own community," he said during a South Florida Times interview on police relations. "It has to start with us! When we become just as outraged over black on black crime...we don't get outraged when we kill each other. This is evidence that black lives don't matter to us. That's perfectly clear," said Fair. "Where is the outrage when a black officer kills a black child? What we need is to police our own behavior!"

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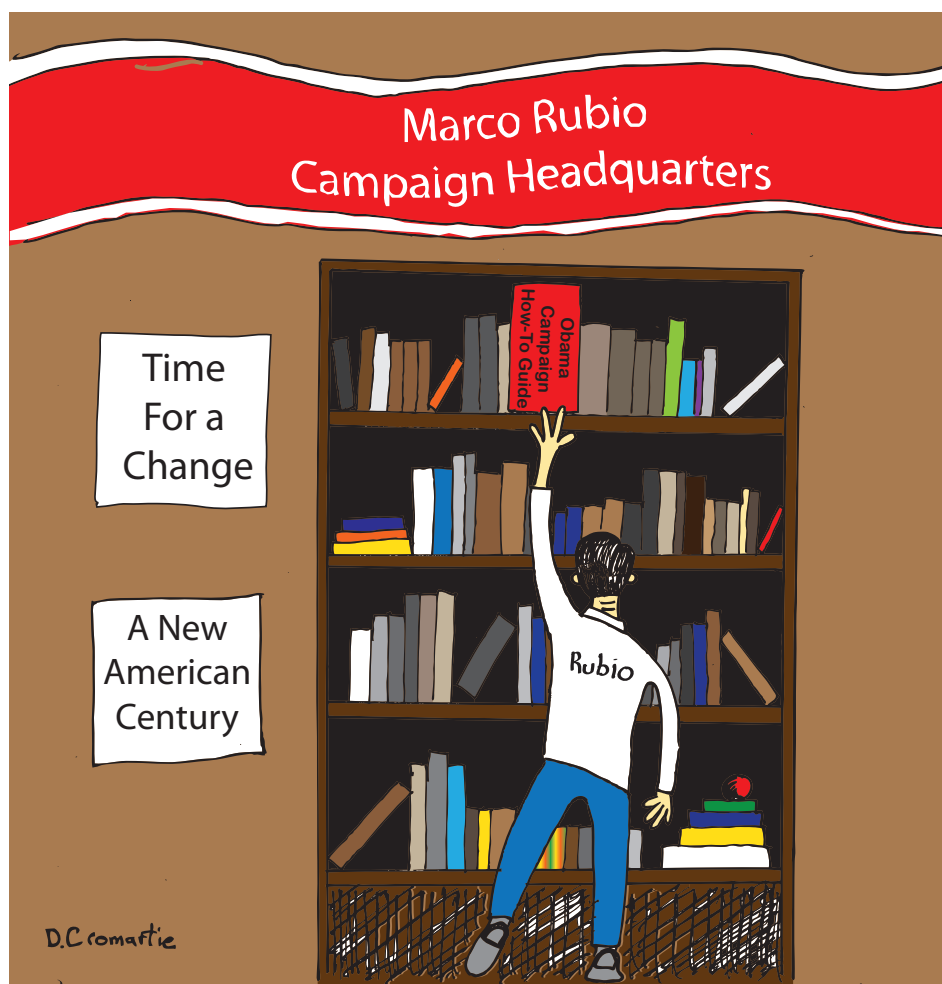
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# Opinion



## We deserve better policing of our community now



ANTONIA WILLIAMS-GARY

There are a few new spins on the story of police killings- of black men- and/or unarmed men in general.

Spin number one:

If you expect to encounter a criminal, then you are more likely to see a crime, or an illegal weapon, or discern a criminal intention, where there might not be one.

In the *American Sniper*, a movie based on real events, there is one particularly tense scene in which the sniper spots a woman, presumably the mother of a young boy, reach under her cover and hand the boy an object. A bomb? The sniper waited; he didn't want to take the life of an innocent boy, even though it was his job to accurately shoot the enemy-dead.

You know the ending. It was a *clean kill*. Let's peel this back a bit.

- The sniper was in a declared combat zone.
- The enemy was clearly defined.
- Weapons were carried undercover, literally, sometimes under the chadors of women.
- The US has a policy to limit collateral damage to innocent civilians.

Wait! That was in Iraq.

Do we have domestic war zones? Yes, they are called *high crime* areas. Are there domestic policies to limit the damage to innocent civilians?

This Sunday's New York Times published an opinion by Lisa Feldman Barrett, a professor of psychology, and Jolie Wormwood, a postdoctoral research associate, in which they comment on police involved shootings. Their study looked at a Justice Department analysis of shootings by the Philadelphia police which reported that fifteen percent of those shot were unarmed; and in half these cases, an officer reportedly misidentified a "nonthreatening object (e.g. a cellphone) or movement (e.g., tugging at the waistband)" as a weapon.

The authors' research suggests that the brain often perceives things that aren't there, i.e., guns, crime, criminals. They go on to explain that brain perception consists of predictions about the world-thousands of them at a time- based on past experiences.

They refer to the perceptions as "neural guesses" which largely shape what you see, hear and otherwise perceive.

So, logic holds that police who are assigned to so- call *high crime* areas expect to see crime, criminals, weapons, etc., when there may not be any such thing.

So much for the science.

But what is it about policing itself that gets it wrong?

Let's go back to Baltimore, where just this past week, the police, practicing a routine tactic, *rousted* a suspect in a *high crime* area. The suspect died from severe trauma to his neck and vertebrae while in custody. Oh yes, he was a black male, and

he had something in his pocket (as it turns out, it was a legal knife).

Roustering? That's when there is no suspicion of crime, but used in *high crime* areas to find criminals.

There is an investigation.

Spin number two:

Recent headline story: There has not necessarily been an increase in police brutality, including shootings, just more reports of same; and an increased use of social media- especially videos, to depict police brutality against unarmed black males, makes it appear to be more.

Don't put down those cell phones!

But what we need to begin to document are the number of police encounters with non-black males, and record the differences in treatment.

Just this week, an officer is being congratulated for not shooting a white murder suspect because he already heard: 1) he had a mental issue; and, 2) he had a gun. The car dash camera clearly shows how the officer kept his gun pointed directly at the front of the suspect who, despite demands from the police to get on the ground, he continued to advance and demand that the officer shoot him.

He was arrested.

Not shot.

Not more incidents; just more reporting?

Thankfully, black media has been reporting on these issues, forever.

Beginning in the 1880s, Ida Wells Barnett, pioneer, built a media campaign on her brave crusade against the brutalization of blacks, men in particular, and often at the hands of sanctioned, nee, sworn officers, taking place across the South, What has changed?

The rhetoric.

How about this concept: good people (non-criminals) also live in *high crime* areas.

And they deserve better community policing.

They are victims too.

So, what can we expect from police officers who are likely not from the community they are assigned to, who disproportionately perceive danger based on their brain conditioning, experience, background, precinct culture, myths, fears, and poor training?

Especially if that community is vilified as a dangerous place.

Especially if, the clearly defined enemy is any/all black males.

Especially if the community itself closes rank; "No snitch" practices harm more than help.

Especially if police have unrealistic fear for their lives in certain communities. Police-issued weapons, vests, radios, and, a back- up force notwithstanding, fear overrides the reality of danger.

Last checked, police have the statistical advantage of being alive at the end of their shifts.

And, especially if black lives matter less than others.

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

## Time to Get Engaged-Turn Up!

By PERRY THURSTON



THURSTON

It was barely two years ago and at the end of an issues-dominated legislative session when a memorable conversation took place. That year, my caucus members and I had used every tactic available to us, including forcing bills to be read in their entirety, to draw attention to the issue of health coverage for all Floridians.

After the session winded down, I had an earnest exchange with a few enlightened friends. I told them I thought it was regrettable that they had not engaged and joined those of us who fought to secure desperately needed health care for hard-working Floridians. They responded, to my surprise, that I had not engaged them!

I won't make that mistake again. We cannot afford to allow another opportunity to gain health coverage for so many people to pass us by.

If you agree with me and so many others that there's a crisis in people lacking health coverage in Florida, then now is the time to get engaged and to demand that state officials act on a solution available to them. More than 850,000 Floridians are being unnecessarily denied basic health care so that a few officeholders - the Republican leaders in the Florida House of Representatives and the state's governor - can score political points with some of their supporters. But their reasoning is

illogical and their excuses are lame. It's time that the governor and the House do what's long been asked of them and to accept for Florida the billions of dollars that are available to expand health care.

Now is the time for us to stand together. It's a time for our Baptist, Methodist, Protestant and Jewish congregations and other statewide leaders to stand together to call on the Florida House and Governor Scott to act in the best interest of all Floridians. We, along with the business community, are subsidizing our fellow citizens forced to use emergency rooms for basic medical care.

It's time for the NAACP, the Urban League, ACLU, Unions and trade groups to join hands and demand that stubborn state officials do the right thing for the people who each day find themselves having to make the decision of whether to eat or to medicate.

Now is the time for all organizations, the Greek organizations from Alphas to Zetas, the Masonic Family, Charmettes, and the 100 Black Men to take to the streets and, if necessary, to storm the Capitol in peaceful protest as another legislative session comes to a close without adequate help for the working poor.

Finally, to our young people and their organizations, we need you to turnout and turn-up.

Turn-Up for your neighbors and friends. Come and get involved with the enthusiasm that's only afforded the young.

It's time that we all recognize that this is the time to turnout and Turn-Up for a Better Florida!

Perry Thurston is the Past Democratic House Leader for Florida. He may be reached at [thurstonpa@bellsouth.net](mailto:thurstonpa@bellsouth.net).

## Wake up black Christians



BARBARA HOWARD

In February I wrote about how American black Christians seem to be blind to the global atrocities committed by the radical Islamic terrorists known as ISIS, Boko Haram and Al Qaeda. Since then, the bodies of Christians in Libya and North Africa have been piling up.

Just this weekend, ISIS beheaded and shot more than 30 Ethiopian Christians and made a video showing the world how vicious they were. Many across the globe have registered their distaste at the horror, but I've yet to hear even one liberal American black Christian voice concern.

So I ask myself why? Don't they watch the same news? Maybe not. CNN or MSNBC may not give as much credence to the massacre of North African Christians as they give to the murder of blacks by so-called "racist" cops.

What happens when they hear that there are home-made terrorists right next door? There are American Muslims enamored with ISIS and are ready to eliminate Christians wherever they are.

What happens when black Christians wake up and there are radical Muslims ready to have them submit to Islam or pay a fine or die? Listen to the leader of the ISIS death squad as he prepares to commit their latest episode of genocide. (CNN)

"All praise be to Allah, the Lord and cherisher of the world and may peace and blessings be upon the Prophet Mohammed. To the nation of the cross, we are back again on the sands, where the companions of the Prophet, peace be upon him, have stepped on before, telling you: Muslim blood that was shed under the hands of your religion is not cheap."

"In fact, their blood is the purest blood because there is a nation behind them (which) inherits revenge. And we swear to Allah: the one who disgraced you by our hands, you will not have safety, even in your dreams, until you embrace Islam."

"You pay (tax) with willing submission, feeling yourselves subdued. Our battle is a battle between faith and blasphemy, between truth and falsehood, until there is no

more polytheism -- and obedience becomes Allah's on its entirety."

"The Islamic state has offered the Christian community this many times and set a deadline for this, but the Christians never cooperated."

What happens when the preachers find out they live in the same neighborhood as radical terrorists? What happens when the same Muslim leaders that their beloved POTUS met with just before he chastised Christian leaders at the 2015 Prayer Breakfast, succeed in transforming America into an Islamic State?

You see, the above statement uttered by the murderous Islamic terrorist leader before ordering the deaths of over 30 Ethiopian Christians is the same sentiment that American Muslims feel. Just ask them.

When I ask what they think about the radical Islamic terrorists murdering Christians across the globe, they respond that it is no difference than what Christians did during the Crusades. Funny thing, though, Christians never did what ISIS is doing now. And if the Muslims who think ISIS is so slick would do their homework, they would know that.

At any rate, as long as black American Christians would understand what is going on now across our globe and how it negatively affects Americans, they would be very vigilant about the elimination of global Christianity.

And maybe the black media might even begin to cover something other than what Obama did today.

The Daily Beast, a radical leftist media outlet, features former lawyer turned writer and comedian Dean Obeidallah, whose latest piece makes fun of Indiana Republican Governor Mike Pence and "his merry band of liberty-loving Republicans in the state legislature" for passing the "religious liberty" law.

American-born of Palestinian-Italian descent, Obeidallah writes that the law, which was originally meant to protect Christians from having to go against their beliefs when dealing with the LGBT community, actually gives Muslims the right to bring Sharia to Indiana.

Sharia is Islamic law by which all Muslims are governed. It is their moral code. It allows for what our democracy considers the violation of human rights, including stoning women to death for adultery or murdering homosexuals or beheading Christians who refuse to submit to Islam.

But Obeidallah thinks if our American religious laws

protect Christians, they will also protect Muslims who adhere to their own moral code.

Black American Christians need to wake up and hear the Islamic call to prayer at 5:00 in the morning. It's coming - if we aren't careful. Just read "America 2064" by Wayne Rawlins.

When that happens, it'll be too late to wish you should have listened to us Black Republicans.

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)

**April 22, 1922:** Bassist, composer, and bandleader Charles Mingus is born.

**April 23, 1856:** Granville T. Woods, inventor of the steam boiler and automobile air brakes, is born.

**April 24, 1993:** Oliver MINGUS Tambo, leader of the African National Congress, dies in Johannesburg, South Africa.

**April 25, 1918:** Ella Fitzgerald, "Frist Lady of Song," is born in Newport News, Va.

**April 26, 1991:** Maryann Bishop Coffey becomes the first female African American co-chair of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

**April 27, 1994:** South Africa's first all-race democratic elections are held.

**April 28, 1913:** Political activist Margaret Just Butcher is born in Washington, D.C.

**April 29, 1992:** Four Los Angeles police officers are acquitted of charges stemming from the beating of Rodney King; rioting ensues.

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# Health

## Practicing While Black

[Part 2]



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

By **PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM**

"Mom says you are a really good veterinarian because you are black and had to work extra hard." the little girl said with a smile. My eyes narrowed as my lips pursed into a smirk. I looked across the exam table into her mother's eyes and watched the color drain from her face. How do you respond to a statement like that? You keep doing what you do and make sure you do it well.

I often encounter many who choose to see the color of my skin as a handicap to be overcome instead of acknowledging my accomplishments as a product of my drive and intellect. I describe it as being defined by the "exceptional black man syndrome":

because or in spite of my achievements, I can't possibly be like the rest of "them" so I must be exceptional. When thought of that way, factors of my upbringing are ignored: being the son of educators who instilled in me and my five siblings the idea any goal in life could be accomplished as long as we work hard; value intelligence and education above popularity and athletic prowess; knowing beyond a shadow of a doubt I was raised by parents who did the best they knew how; being nurtured to believe in myself while having the courage, and sometimes the lack of common sense, to dream as big if not larger as the situation requires. And let's not discount being blessed. I am not better than anyone, just an individual. No better nor worse than the rest of "them" whom ever "them" may be.

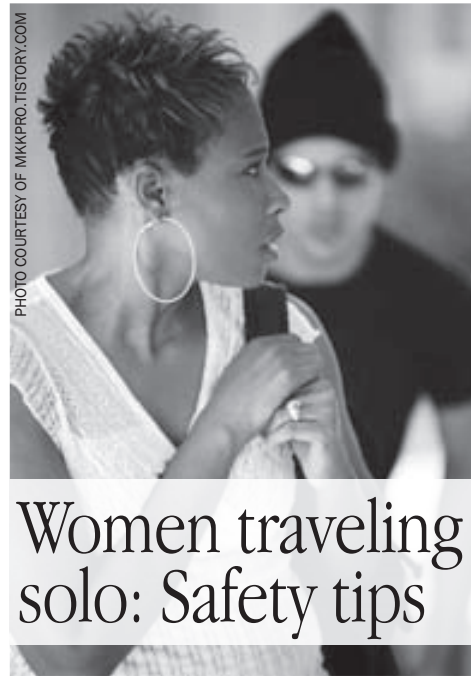
"Are you sure you are qualified to treat my pet?" the lady asked. After vomiting for three days, she decided to bring her seven year old Labrador Retriever in for medical attention. My eyes narrowed as my lips pursed into a smirk. I looked across the exam table into her eyes. How do you respond to a statement like that? You keep doing what you do and make sure you do it well.

We are repeatedly told we live in a post-racial America. I think

we just live in America. Stories of how people of color, women, and children are devalued, mistreated, and disrespected seem to be main stays of the daily news. The slogan "Black Lives Matter" echo in the streets, appears on the cover of news magazines, saturate social media platforms, and is displayed on the t-shirts and accessories of the politically active and the fashionable. Although the concept should be universally accepted without question, one can't help but wonder about those to whom black lives, and further more, all lives seem not to matter. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are inalienable rights, but obviously not guaranteed for all.

When challenged with such statements and situations, my thoughts go back to the instructions of my parents. Take the high road. Always. There are times my inclinations are not to rise about the level of discourse, but to sink to its level if not lower. Not an acceptable action. One must consciously and constantly take the morally superior path, less we are no better than those who torment us, be it intentionally or through insensitivity and ignorance. Justice not vengeance is the watch word and the goal.

*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*



## Women traveling solo: Safety tips

By **BARBARA FOSTER**

Perhaps more than ever, women are willing to ditch their traveling companions and go solo when it comes time to hit the road and see the world.

A survey by Small Luxury Hotels of the World, for example, revealed that between 2011 and 2012 there was a 53 percent increase in the demand for rooms by women traveling alone.

The London Daily Mail also reports that some hotels have taken steps to make their accommodations more appealing to women traveling on their own, with such features as women-only floors.

Still, despite the trend, many women may worry that such solitary excursions carry too many risks, making them a target for thieves, kidnapers and other criminals.

But one woman who has logged endless miles exploring the world and finding romance says it doesn't have to be that way.

"There is no reason to let your fears keep you from the adventures you can experience," says Barbara Foster, a veteran globetrotter and author of the book "The Confessions of a Librarian: A Memoir of Loves" (www.threelovestory.com)

"Sure, there are risky places and bad types out there. But with the right precautions, women can travel solo with confidence, visiting the places and meeting the people they always dreamed of and returning home

with wonderful stories and memories."

Foster speaks from experience. Her travels have taken her across the country and around the world, with stops in Istanbul, Bombay, Buenos Aires, Jerusalem and other locales.

As an adventurer, Foster is something of a contradiction. She describes herself as a librarian who has difficulty reading flight schedules, and suspects a haggling merchant in an Arab bazaar would view her as easy pickings.

He would be mistaken.

While Foster has spent a professional lifetime in academia, and co-authored books on such esoteric subjects as Tibetan Buddhism, she also is steeped in real-life experience.

Foster, who says solo trips can be deeply rewarding for women, offers five tips for traveling boldly while staying safe.

- **Steer clear of the most dangerous locales.** Simply put, some places just aren't worth the risk, so avoid "no go" neighborhoods, cities and countries. For example, if you feel compelled to go to the Middle East, visit Israel, which is the safest Middle Eastern country. Still, if the destination is truly important to you, go ahead and take the risk. India can be dangerous and Foster says she was nearly kidnapped there, saved only by the intervention of a librarian friend. At the same time, she says, the country offers a once in a lifetime experience.

- **Connect with friendly contacts.** Make yourself known not only to the U.S. embassy or consul, but also to people in your field, Foster says. During her travels, Foster wrote articles about libraries she visited. Her fellow librarians were a protective group.

- **Learn the language or at least useful phrases.** Even if it's just a few key words, speaking the language can come in handy if you need to seek assistance. Understanding what others are saying also can alert you to potential dangers.

- **Dress wisely, pay attention to manners and spend money in moderation.** Essentially, don't draw unnecessary attention to yourself. In her book, Foster recounts a visit to Istanbul where she watched horror-struck as two Turkish men slapped a young British woman for wearing a miniskirt on the street. For added protection against thieves, Foster recommends carrying money and identification in a pouch under your shirt.

- **Travel in the USA.** You will miss many of the world's must-see places, but if the thought of traveling abroad holds too much stress for you, it might be better to stick closer to home. Foster says two of her favorite U.S. cities are New York and New Orleans, both great places to explore.

# Classifieds

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### PUBLICATION OF BID SOLICITATIONS

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

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will hold a public meeting in coordination with the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (Broward MPO) regarding the MPO's Federal Certification Review. Representatives from the FHWA and the FTA will be present and are interested in hearing from the public. The primary purpose of the review is to certify that the MPO is satisfactorily meeting the planning requirements as defined in Federal laws and regulations. The review also provides FHWA and FTA the opportunity to add value to the MPO's planning processes through the sharing of best or innovative planning practices, techniques, and/or technology.

This is an opportunity for the public to express their thoughts and comments about the transportation planning process; to allow the Federal Review Team to obtain a better understanding of the community's issues; and to inform the public about the Federal transportation planning requirements.

WHEN: Monday, May 4, 2015  
TIME: 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.  
WHERE: Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Trade Centre South Building  
100 West Cypress Creek Road, 8th Floor, Suite 850  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

For further information, directions and to obtain a Comment Card please call 954-876-0033 or 0036 or visit [www.browardMPO.org](http://www.browardMPO.org) Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Christopher Ryan at 954-876-0036 or [ryanc@browardmpo.org](mailto:ryanc@browardmpo.org) at least seven days prior to the meeting. If hearing impaired, telephone 1-800-273-7545 (TDD).

For complaints, questions or concerns about civil rights or non-discrimination please contact: Christopher Ryan, Public Information Officer/Title VI Coordinator at the numbers or e-mail above.

#### BROWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

The Executive Committee of the Broward County Community Action Agency (CAA) Advisory Board will meet on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Edgar P. Mills Multi-Purpose Center located at 900 N.W. 31st Ave, Conference Room 3031, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311. The CAA Advisory Board will also hold their regular bi-monthly meeting at the Edgar P. Mills Multi-Purpose Center on Wednesday, May 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend. For additional information contact Shatara Piedrasanta at 954-357-5801 or [spiedrasanta@broward.org](mailto:spiedrasanta@broward.org). For the complete meeting schedule visit [www.broward.org/HumanServices/FamilySuccess](http://www.broward.org/HumanServices/FamilySuccess) and click Community Action Agency Board Meetings

#### NOTICE OF SALE

**NOTICE OF SALE** given that **BELTMANN RELOCATION GROUP** intends to sell at Public auction the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said personal property.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY CONSISTING** of items used around the garage or in our outside home of workplace, clothing, dishes, glassware, furniture and other misc. items.

Purchases must be paid for at the point of sale in **CASH** or **CREDIT CARD** only. All items sold as is, where is, and must be removed within 48 hours from time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. **WILL BE SOLD BY COMPETITIVE BIDDING AT AUCTION.**

**PROPERTY ADDRESS:** Beltmann Relocation Group, 3039 N. Andrews Ave. Ext., Pompano Beach FL, 33064

**AUCTION DATE:** Saturday, 5/9/15  
**AUCTION TIME:** 9:30 AM

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Richard Elliot	MISC HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Glen Gordley	MISC HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Indoff	OFFICE FURNITURE
Rockwood Realty	OFFICE FURNITURE
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Snowbar	COUNTER, BUNKER & UPRIGHT FREEZERS
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### REAL ESTATE

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- Rents are subject to change



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## Caribbean

### Our distant cousins

By CALIBE THOMPSON

I asked an older Cuban friend once, why she hated the Democratic party. She was losing her vision and couldn't walk very well — her husband was also in very poor health and would pass away only a few months later. Between the two of them they had extensive medical bills and needed government assistance to survive. For all intents and purposes, the success of Obamacare should have been a high priority for them. But it wasn't. You see, there is an equation many Cubans draw between the communism that Castro ushered into Cuban reality, and the "socialist" tendencies of the Democratic party.

In the 1960s and 70s, Castro's recently empowered regime which held a strong anti-American position was closely aligned with America's nemesis, the Soviet Union. Castro implemented communist doctrines to level the imbalance of financial prosperity facing the nation, penalizing the wealthy by taking assets from them to give to the poor.

To escape this anti-capitalist movement thousands of Cubans, especially business people, fled the country to seek asylum and to start a new life in the US — a life where they could take their work ethic and business acumen and build what would now become their American Dream. To older Cuban immigrants, American taxation and the social safety net, according to the Democratic party, meant more of what they left behind. So they still shun Democratic policies even to their own detriment.

Today, our Democratic president is making strides toward reestablishing a relationship with Cuba. That older generation of Cuban immigrants seems to be holding on to grudges for issues that might now be cast as water under the bridge. They would want the rift to be maintained because they hate Castro, but maintaining that rift seems to be causing more harm to the people of Cuba than to the country's leaders.

For the English-speaking Caribbean, Cubans are our family. The island trains our doctors, dancers and artists. Our countries continue to support reconciliation between the United States and Cuba, and we're looking forward to the new age of open communication that the American government has bravely decided to usher in.

Calibe Thompson is a personality, author and the Executive Producer of "Taste the Islands", premiering on South Florida's WPBT2 on April 27th at 7:30PM. For your free preview of her 2015 collection of writings, Things I Probably Shouldn't Say, visit [www.calibe.net](http://www.calibe.net).



DAVID L. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES



PHOTO COURTESY OF Q2VARVARA.WORDPRESS.COM

Voters in Cuba cast their vote.

### Cuba holds first vote with a twist: Dissent

Associated Press

HAVANA, Cuba — On Sunday Cuba held its first

local elections since a historic thaw in relations with the United States with an unusual wrinkle

in the single-party system: two of the 27,000 candidates openly oppose the government.

Hildebrando Chaviano and Yuniel Lopez were chosen by a show of hands in Havana neighborhood nominating meetings and hope to win two of the 12,589 seats at stake in 168 municipal councils, which deal with services such as street repair, water supplies and insect fumigation.

The municipal elections are generally a tranquil affair with heavy turnout and with almost no pre-election campaigning beyond biographical sketches posted in a few places.

A win by either would have symbolic but little immediate practical implication for the Communist Party system.

Municipal assemblies are at the bottom rung of the formal electoral system. They nominate half the candidates for provincial assemblies, which in turn choose half the candidates for the national parliament.

which chooses the Council of State, which in turn elects the president. The other half of the candidates to the assemblies are chosen by a government electoral commission.

Chaviano, 65, and Lopez, 26, said they think the government simply was caught off guard by their candidacies. Lopez is an unemployed member of a dissident political party and Chavez is a government attorney-turned-independent journalist.

President Raul Castro began slow but wide-ranging reforms in the centrally planned economy in 2010. He also promised changes to the electoral system but has provided no details to date.

In December, Castro and President Barack Obama announced the intention to restore full diplomatic relations after a half-century break, but negotiations have been complicated by numerous issues, including U.S. laws imposing an embargo of Cuba.

### PACT gets Commissioners' agreement

CHANGE, FROM 3A

three of its parks; receiving applause followed by a resounding "Let Justice Ring."

Officials responding to PACT's questions regarding reducing the number of youth arrests got much of the same from the audience. Miami-Dade police director, J.D. Patterson, was asked, "Will you continue to support the expansion of the civil citation program throughout Florida and build allies for the local and statewide level for the coming legislative session?"

After his "yes" reply, Patterson put the shoe on the other foot and asked the audience for help with two forthcoming initiatives.

"Miami-Dade police will need your support in the future for body worn video cameras and your support for our real time crime reporting system," he said.

The first "no" response came

from Arnold Montgomery, director of MDPS' Office of Educational Equity, Access and Diversity, regarding his authority to speak for Superintendent Alberto Carvalho and his ability to approve a restorative justice pilot program, an alternative proposed to help lower the suspension rate.

Restorative justice programs allow youth who have committed minor offenses in school to face their victim with trained school professionals in an atmosphere of redemption and resolve. Similar programs have reduced the suspension rate in Duval County by 80 percent, according to PACT. Montgomery did accept PACT's request to continue negotiations in an effort to reach an agreement.

As it relates to affordable housing, PACT was able to secure agreement from Miami-Dade Commissioners Dennis Moss and Daniella Levine-Cava to

provide leadership to activate the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and to work on a plan to secure funding. Although approved in 2007, the trust has existed on paper only since it has no sustainable source of money, no one running the fund, no one raising money for it and not even an order to implement it.

Rabbi Robert Davis from Temple Beth Shalom said that the trust fund is desperately needed because, "The average renter in Miami-Dade earns \$28,500 and pays over 70 percent of their income for rent."

According to Rev. Robert Brooks of St. Peter's Missionary Baptist, the trust fund will need at least \$200 million in order to make the necessary impact, however, PACT is proposing that commissioners commit to securing \$10 million annually by 2017.

"Without adequate funds, there is no housing trust fund," Brooks said.

## Business

### Almonds get roasted in debate over California water usage

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — California almonds are becoming one of the world's favorite snacks and creating a multibillion-dollar bonanza for agricultural investors. But the crop extracts a staggering price from the land, consuming more water than all the showering, dish-washing and other indoor household water use of California's 39 million people.

As California enters its fourth year of drought and imposes the first mandatory statewide water cuts, backs on cities and towns, the \$6.5 billion almond crop is helping drive a sharp debate about water use, agricultural interests and how both affect the state's giant economy.

Almonds have claimed the spotlight as "the poster child of all things bad in water," almond grower Bob Weimer said.

People around the world are eating over 1,000 percent more California

almonds than they did just a decade ago, and last year almonds became the top export crop in the nation's top agriculture state. China's booming middle class is driving much of the demand.

That strong Asia market is producing up to 30 percent returns for investors, prompting agri-businesses to expand almond planting in the state by two-thirds in the past decade. The crop has come to be dominated by global corporations and investment funds.

Rows of almond trees now cover nearly 1 million acres (400,000 hectares) in California, many of them on previously virgin hillsides or in pastures or desert with little rain or local water. Since each tiny nut requires a gallon (3.8 liters) of water, almonds are consuming 1.07 trillion gallons (4.06 trillion liters) annually in the state, one-fifth more than California families use indoors.

So when Gov. Jerry Brown ordered cities and

National Public Radio called almond farms "a rogue's gallery" of water users.

Now almond farmers and investors are on the defensive.

"The tomato growers use a lot more water than we do. You should go after those guys," said Ryon Paton, a global real-estate developer and principal of Trinitas Partners.

Paton's online literature tells investors to think of his newly planted almond orchards in Stanislaus County as "the classic Silicon Valley startup, except



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HAPPYMAP.CO AND KITCHENPLATER.COM

California Almonds

we have nothing to do with technology."

California growers provide 80 percent of the global supply of almonds. In China, where the number of middle-class households has doubled since 2006, consumers see almonds as a healthy snack and regard American food in general as less contaminated than products from elsewhere.

California almonds are a popular bagged treat in China's convenience stores and supermarkets and a must-have item in holiday gift baskets.

As big a global money-maker as California's agriculture is, though, it's little more than a blip in the state's economy. And that's driving the debate on water use.

In all, agriculture uses 80 percent of the water that Californians draw from groundwater and surface supplies but produces just 1.5 percent of the state's gross domestic product, noted Christopher Thornberg, an economist who has served as an economic adviser to state agencies.

Other top almond producers include Stewart and Lynda Resnik, the politically influential Beverly Hills billionaires behind Fiji bottled water, Pom

pomegranate juice and a Central Valley almond and pistachio operation that they say is one of the world's largest.

Smaller almond farmers view the newer, bigger almond investors skeptically. "They shouldn't be growing almonds or walnuts in those areas," including parts of the state that are naturally too dry and too cold for almond trees, said Paul Wenger, head of the state Farm Bureau and an almond and walnut grower on land near Modesto that's been in his family for a century.

Almonds aren't even the biggest sponges when it comes to water-thirsty crops in semi-arid California - that would be the state's million acres (400,000 hectares) of alfalfa, which go to feed livestock.

Unlike the row crops they're displacing, the new almond trees require water year round.

The governor and his cabinet secretaries defend almonds as a high-value crop.

"We're going to try to maximize all beneficial uses, not pick one we like better than the others," said Felicia Marcus, head of the state Water Resources Control Board.

### Oil pushes gas prices up 6 cents

CURRENT AND PAST PRICE AVERAGES					
Regular Unleaded Gasoline					
	Sunday	Saturday	Week Ago	Month Ago	Year Ago
National	\$2.452	\$2.446	\$2.390	\$2.425	\$3.667
Florida	\$2.490	\$2.486	\$2.465	\$2.435	\$3.759
Georgia	\$2.335	\$2.330	\$2.249	\$2.244	\$3.651
Tennessee	\$2.233	\$2.227	\$2.136	\$2.167	\$3.499

Associated Press

TAMPA — The most expensive oil of 2015 triggered increases at the gas pump, and prices could continue to climb this week. The national average price of

regular unleaded gasoline is \$2.45 per gallon, up 6 cents since last Sunday. Prices also rose 3 cents in Florida and 9 cents in both Georgia and Tennessee.

"The average price at the pump typically reflects a bit of seasonality this

year," said Mark Jenkins, spokesman, AAA - The Auto Club Group. "It is not uncommon for prices to inch higher leading up to the summer driving season and the transition to more expensive summer-blend fuel. However, record high domestic oil production is likely to deliver the cheapest summer gas prices in a decade."

A primary factor driving prices this week was more expensive oil prices keyed by a combination of increased geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, a sharply lower U.S. dollar, and the release of OPEC's monthly market report. News of Al Qaeda militants taking control of a major oil terminal in Yemen stoked some fears that violence could spread in the region. A weaker U.S. dollar makes West Texas Intermediate crude oil (priced in U.S. dollars) a more attractive investment, which pressures prices higher. Also last week, oil prices moved after OPEC's monthly market report unveiled expectations of a slight increase in demand for the

oil it produces. These factors led to WTI recording its highest settlement for 2015 (\$56.71) on Thursday. Oil slipped the following day, closing almost a dollar lower (\$55.74 per barrel) on the NYMEX, Friday.

"It could take a full week before the full impact of higher oil prices hit the gas pump, and gas prices could rise 5-10 cents as a result," Jenkins said. "The good news is that oil began to fall again by the end of last week. Looking long term, gas prices could still fall in time for the busy summer travel season."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXSHARK.COM

While the cost of everyday items continues to go up...



It's good to know the price you pay for electricity has come down.

For the second time this year, your FPL bill is getting even lower, by \$3 a month starting in May.



# FMU continues its consistent effort to excel in track and field

By DAMIAN ALEXANDER  
Special to South Florida Times

Florida Memorial Men's & Women's track and field team closed out a successful showing at The Sun Conference Championship on Sunday, as both teams finished among the top teams in the Conference. The women placed 7<sup>th</sup> overall with 48 points, while the Men scored 57 points for 5<sup>th</sup> overall. The 2015 Sun Conference Championship was held on the campus of Embry-Riddle University in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Brittany Starling captured her first conference title crown by racing to first place in the 100-meter dash finals in 12.27 and 25.93 in the 200-meter for 6<sup>th</sup> placed. Gerrard Burrows shines in the men's Discus Throw, taking 1<sup>st</sup> place in a throw of 47.21 meters and Gerrard Burrows also came with a 6<sup>th</sup> placed finish in the Men's Shot Put with a toss of 13.16 meters.

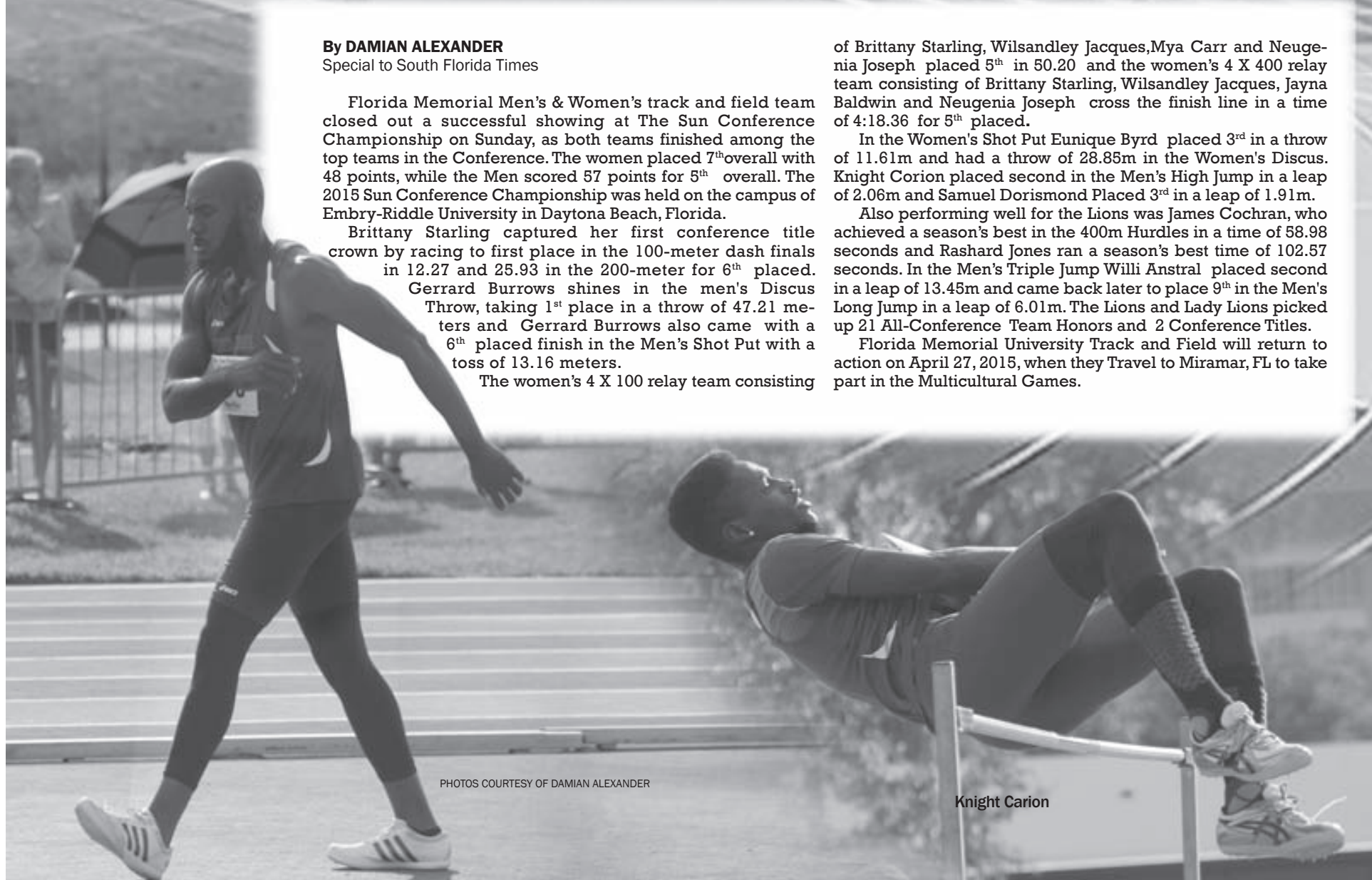
The women's 4 X 100 relay team consisting

of Brittany Starling, Wilsandley Jacques, Mya Carr and Neugenia Joseph placed 5<sup>th</sup> in 50.20 and the women's 4 X 400 relay team consisting of Brittany Starling, Wilsandley Jacques, Jayna Baldwin and Neugenia Joseph cross the finish line in a time of 4:18.36 for 5<sup>th</sup> placed.

In the Women's Shot Put Eunique Byrd placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in a throw of 11.61m and had a throw of 28.85m in the Women's Discus. Knight Carion placed second in the Men's High Jump in a leap of 2.06m and Samuel Dorismond Placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in a leap of 1.91m.

Also performing well for the Lions was James Cochran, who achieved a season's best in the 400m Hurdles in a time of 58.98 seconds and Rashard Jones ran a season's best time of 102.57 seconds. In the Men's Triple Jump Willi Anstral placed second in a leap of 13.45m and came back later to place 9<sup>th</sup> in the Men's Long Jump in a leap of 6.01m. The Lions and Lady Lions picked up 21 All-Conference Team Honors and 2 Conference Titles.

Florida Memorial University Track and Field will return to action on April 27, 2015, when they Travel to Miramar, FL to take part in the Multicultural Games.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DAMIAN ALEXANDER

Knight Carion

# Study: MLB racial and gender hiring numbers remain stagnant

By KYLE HIGHTOWER  
Associated Press

ORLANDO — Major League Baseball maintained its grades for its racial and gender hiring practices, while its percentage of African-American players remained only slightly above a study's low set in the 2007 season.

The annual report issued Wednesday by Richard Lapchick's Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at the University of Central Florida gave MLB an A grade in racial hiring and C in gender hiring. The rosters on opening day featured 8.3 percent of players who identified as African-American, a slight increase from 8.2 percent last year, which equaled the study low set in 2007. It has not been 10 percent since 2002.

MLB managers identifying as a racial minority

dropped 10 percentage points from 16.7 percent (five total) in 2014 to 6.7 (two total) this year.

There were also only two Latino, one African-American and one Asian general manager at the start of this season.

In April 2013, MLB instituted a task force to consider ways to increase diversity in the game, especially among African-American players.

Lapchick thinks it is a crucial time for baseball in its efforts to draw more African-American players into the sport, but predicts it will take time for some of its current diversity initiatives to have an impact.

"I think that these numbers aren't going to change in the next few years at best because pipeline so void at the Little League, college and minor league levels," Lapchick said. "It's just not there for African-American young people. Baseball has started to increase the numbers at those levels, but not where we will see it in Major League Baseball in the short term. If it's going to come it will come in the long term."

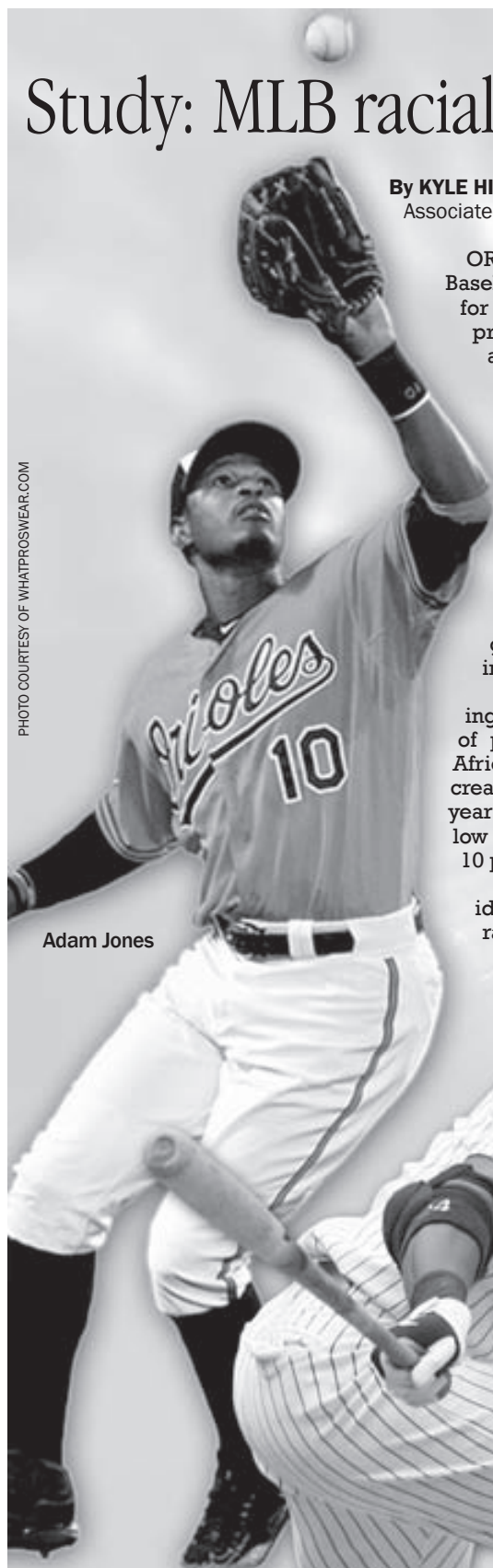
Overall, at total of 41.2 percent of players in the major leagues are made of up minorities, which Lapchick said is a positive reflection of America as a whole. The number of Latino players saw a slight percentage point increase from 28.4 in 2014 to 29.3 in 2015. According to MLB, of the 538 front-office employees in its league office, 9.5 percent (51) are African-American, 12.8 percent (69) are Latino, 3.2 percent (17) are Asian and 2.2 percent (12) were classified as American Indian and "two or more races."

The number of

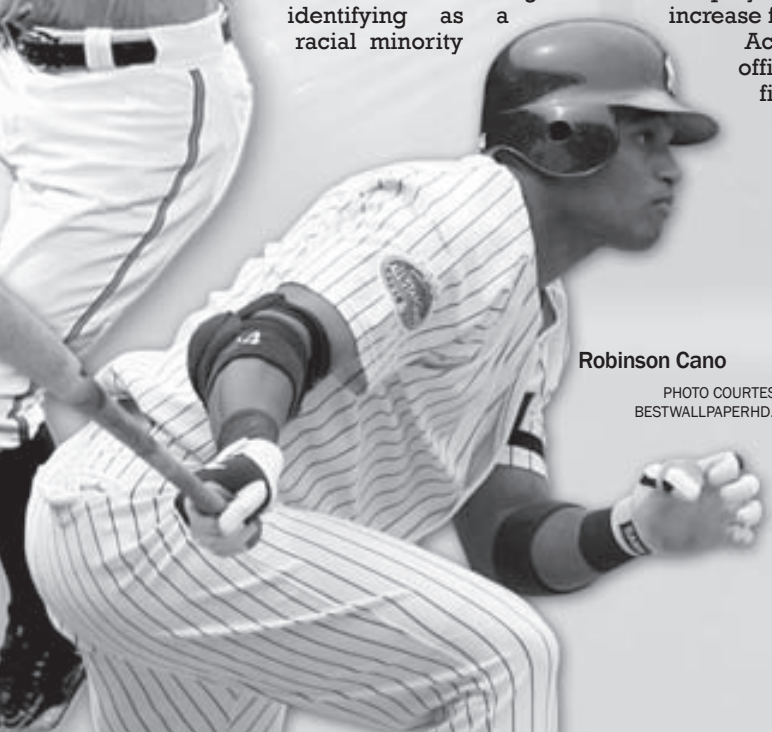
women in the league office is 29.4 percent (158), just slightly down from 30 percent (157) in 2014. The percentage of women in the league office has declined each year since 2006, when it was 42.9 percent.

Lapchick thinks baseball can begin to see an increase in the hiring of women if adopts a mandate similar to the one former Commissioner Bud Selig made in 1999 that requires teams to interview at least one person of color for open managerial positions.

"I think across all report cards we see, only the NBA has done well in terms of gender hiring," Lapchick said. "Pressure has been on in racial hiring in all sports and that's why grades have been high. I don't think there's an equal amount of pressure to hire more women in all professional sports and in college. There simply needs to be more pressure to include more women."

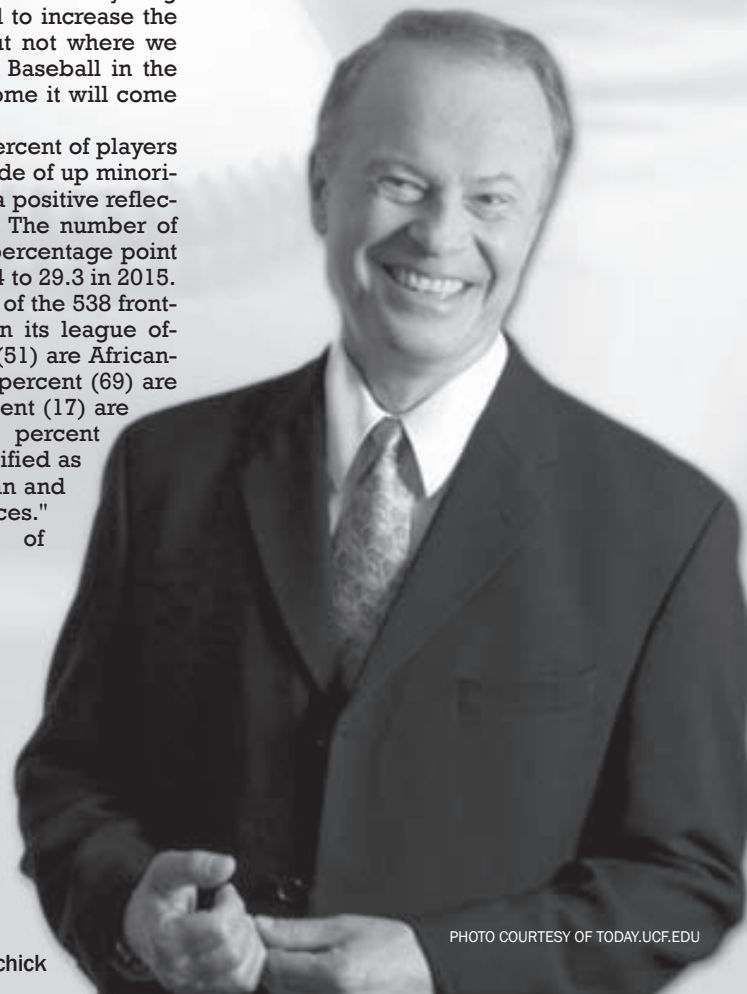


Adam Jones



Robinson Cano

PHOTO COURTESY OF BESTWALLPAPERHD.COM



Richard Lapchick

PHOTO COURTESY OF TODAY.UCF.EDU

PHOTO COURTESY OF WHATPROSWEAR.COM



**AUTOGRAPH:** Audrey Peterman signs a symposium poster.

PALM BEACH

## FAU's Wilkes Honors College holds 13th Annual Symposium and Research Day

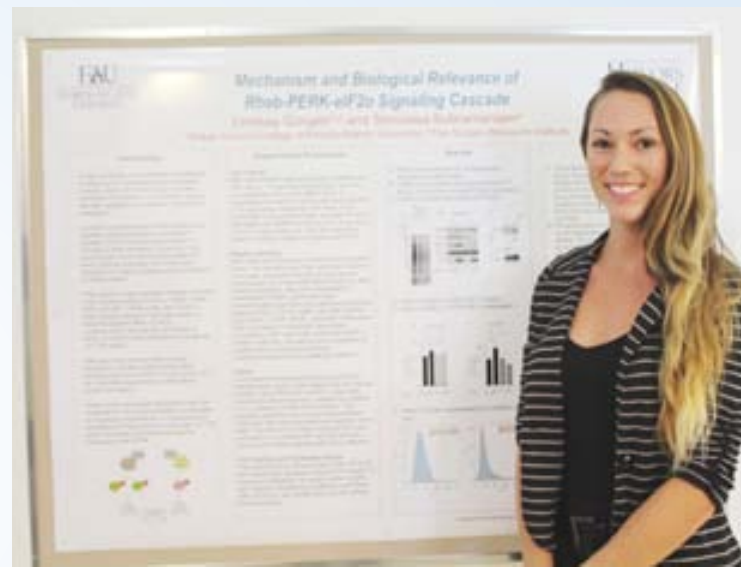
Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite and Everglades National parks, as well as lesser-known sites off the beaten path.

During her adventures, Peterman said she saw less than a handful of Americans of Hispanic, Asian, African or Native American heritage enjoying the Great American outdoors.

Recognizing that this problem stemmed from a lack of information and misconceptions Peterman decided to become a catalyst for change.

As president of Earthwise Productions Inc., an environmental consulting and publishing firm,

PLEASE TURN TO SYMPOSIUM/2B



**RESEARCHER:** FAU honors college student Lindsay Gorgen stands next to a poster that illustrates her thesis project.

Staff Report

**JUPITER** — The Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College of Florida Atlantic University recently hosted its 13th annual Symposium and Research Day. One of the guest lecturers was South Florida Times contributor and leading Florida environmentalist Audrey Peterman.

The symposium celebrates student academic achievement in the honors college, with more than 100 visual art and research project displays spanning a variety of subject areas.

Peterman, president and co-founder of Earthwise Productions, gave a presentation titled "Being the Change You Want to See: How the Vision of Our National Parks Transformed My Life."

About 200 people attended from students, their families and members of the community.

Described as a charismatic speaker, Peterman spoke about the importance of exposing National Parks to the community and in particular minority groups. She told the audience how she's visited the Grand



**TAKING A BREATHER:** Audrey Peterman (center) joins FAU faculty and students following the Symposium and Research Day.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAU

MIAMI-DADE



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF OPA-LOCKA

**UNSAFE STRUCTURES:** Before the demolition, a photo of the first structure to come down by the joint efforts of Miami-Dade County and the City of Opa-Locka. Pictured from left are Police Chief Jeffery Key, Commissioner Terrence Pinder, Mayor Myra Taylor, Attorney Vincent T. Brown, Public Works Director Ensin Abia, Arshad Viqar and Asst. City Manager David Chiverton, back row.

## Miami-Dade County, Opa-Locka join to demolish unsafe structures

Staff Report

**OPA-LOCKA** — Hoping to improve its image and spur new interest of economic development investors, the city of Opa-Locka teamed with Miami-Dade County to demolish abandoned structures starting in the Magnolia North area and extending throughout other locations in the community.

After fielding complaints from the residents and official inspections, the Building and Licensing Department drew up a list of the first 10 structures that should be destroyed. Mayor Myra L. Taylor identified other uses for the sites.

"The land will possibly be used for

more housing, businesses, resource centers or other significant structures to help build status within the community," Taylor said. "The public is eager about the demolitions, and excited to hear plans about the potential land development."

"However," she added, "a picture is worth a thousand words, so as we progress beyond the destruction, and begin enriching the area, they will begin to see lots of opportunity and the long-term vision."

The city said it notified 11 property owners that the sites were declared unsafe under Opa-Locka and county ordinance, and requested they submit plans

to bring the buildings up to code.

After having received no response, the city's building department forwarded the cases to the county's Unsafe Structures



**AFTER:** As the final bricks plummet on the first of nine abandoned, unsafe structure set for demolition, Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley walks among the rubble of a building at 2090 Ali Baba Ave.

Board, which set hearings that were advertised in local newspapers. When none of the owners appeared, the county signed off on demolition proceedings.

Esin Daniel Abia, director of the city's public works and building and license departments, said that before demolitions began, one owner obtained a permit to perform repairs and was removed from the list.

"The structures are not only unsafe, but they are also an eyesore to the community," said Commissioner Terrence Pinder. "We have a comprehensive-holistic plan for a mixed-use development, which will bring the area to life."

Opa-locka Police Chief Jeffery Key predicted the demolitions will help reduce crime.

"Removing these buildings will eliminate squatter crack dens, where crimes are committed and burglars with stolen property can often be found," Key said, adding that "badly-inhabited sites lower the property value of many nice neighborhoods."

BROWARD

## Broward Health talks about HPV in teens

By **BOB LAMENDOLA**  
Special to South Florida Times

**FORT LAUDERDALE** — Some parents don't like to hear about it. Some doctors don't like to talk about it. As a result, the Florida Department of Health in Broward County will start a special initiative to increase it.

"It" is the vaccine for human papillomavirus, which federal experts recommend for girls and boys starting at age 11-12 to prevent cancers caused by the sexually transmitted infection.

Unlike other immunizations, the three-dose HPV vaccine is not required for school enrollment in Florida and is not offered by some physicians. Vaccination rates are low in the nation, Broward and Florida — including among black families.

DOH-Broward is preparing a campaign to start this summer to increase the number of adolescents vaccinated against HPV, says Dr. Paula Thaqi, director of DOH-Broward.

"We think the major issue is education," Thaqi says. "Parents may be hesitant about the vaccine. We need to communicate that the vaccine can prevent cancers."

Every year, HPV causes 21,000 cases of cervical cancer (1,000 in Florida) and kills 4,000 women — and also causes other genital cancers and warts.

In 2013, an estimated 50 percent of Florida girls got a first dose of HPV vaccine (seventh lowest among states) and 28 percent of boys (17th lowest), according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Only 34 percent of Florida girls and 13 percent of boys received all three needed doses. The rates in South Florida are thought to be similar.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH-BROWARD

**KNOWLEDGE IS KEY:** DOH-Broward is preparing a campaign to start in summer to increase the number of adolescents vaccinated against HPV.

PLEASE TURN TO HPV/2B



# Around South Florida



**ELGIN JONES**  
EJones@SFLTimes.com

## Palm Beach County



**SWEETING**

### BURGLARS BUSTED

Freddie Sweeting, 19, and Nikobra Stringer, 18, both of Riviera Beach have been arrested on burglary charges. Police say the duo committed at least 23 vehicle burglaries in a two-mile radius on Singer Island within a three-hour period. Police believe the suspects may be part of a countywide burglary ring and are asking anyone with information to call Riviera Beach Police at 561-845-4123.



**AVOSSA**

### NEW CHIEF

Robert Avossa, 43, is the new Superintendent of the Palm Beach County Public Schools. School board members voted unanimously to hire him. Contract negotiations will begin shortly; Avossa says he is ready to begin work on a 90-day plan of action.

## Broward County



**BATES**

### INCUMBENT CHALLENGE

Mae Smith, former president of the St. George Homeowner's Association, has announced her candidacy for Lauderdale Commission Seat 3. She will face incumbent Margaret Bates, who is expected to run for what would be her final term, because of term limits.



**HINTON**

### REMAINS CONFIRMED

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is looking to hear from people who may have had relatives and loved ones buried in Fort Lauderdale's Woodlawn Cemetery, including those who were laid to rest in the old Pauper's Graveyard section of the burial grounds. Interstate 95, just south of Sunrise Boulevard, was constructed through the western portion of the cemetery, which included the Pauper's Graveyard section. It is situated in predominantly black Durrs neighborhood of northwest Fort Lauderdale. Durrs Homeowners Association President Walter "Mickey" Hinton wants additional testing and all of the gravesites marked and left undisturbed. FDOT has been holding

a series of public meetings to get feedback from residents on the issue.



**SANTIAGO**

### BROWARD HEALTH

Andrea Santiago, 36, is suing the taxpayer-funded Broward Health Hospital District over alleged violations of the Federal Family Leave Act. Santiago had a double mastectomy after being diagnosed with breast cancer. When she was cleared to return to work, the hospital's policies required employees to submit to an examination depending on the nature of their conditions. Santiago obtained note from her doctor and requested the exam requirement to be waived. The hospital district refused her request and issued a deadline for her to comply. When she did not, she was fired.

## Miami-Dade County



**GIMENEZ**

### BODY CAMERAS

Miami-Dade County commissioners have approved \$1 million to purchase the first 500 body cameras for police officers. Mayor Carlos Gimenez wants to implement the program immediately. But Police Benevolent Association President John Rivera wants further evaluations of the camera program

and any related policies before implementation. The issue has spawned a name-calling rift between the mayor and the union.



**RUIZ**

### COUPLE ARRESTED

Wanick Joseph Cadet, 35, and Lourdes Ruiz, 32, of North Miami face neglect charges after a neighbor called police to report a dirty home. Police arrived to find unclean conditions with insects, garbage and other deplorable conditions throughout the home they shared with three children.

## Monroe County

### CHILD DIES

Jonathan Wells, 14, of Key West passed away six days after being shot in the chest with a pellet rifle. Authorities have not released details or named the person who fired the gun. Pellet guns are not toys and, as in this instance, can be lethal and even deadly.

### MANAGER MERRY-GO-ROUND

Marathon City Manager Mike Puto will step down at the end of the year or sooner if a replacement is selected. Puto stepped into the post when former city manager Roger Hernstadt up and quit to take a job in Marco Island last January. Seems like the manager changes may finally be coming to an end.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GREGORY REED

## FlipSide fundraiser scores with audience

The Dade County (FL) Chapter of The Links Incorporated recently hosted an evening of spectacular national and local entertainment featuring a diverse group of talented artists hailing from a cross-section of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. "Flip Side" Miami was an evening of fun and relaxation celebrating

individuals from various professions with extraordinary artistic talents. Nationally-recognized entertainers - world-renowned tap dancer Marshall Davis Jr., stage and film actor Afra Hines, and stage actor and singer Don Seward were the showcase headliners for the production at Florida Memorial University's Lou Rawls



Center for the Performing Arts. Other local performers included journalist and sportscaster Jim Berry, community leader and pastor Bishop Victor T. Curry, UTD President Fedrick Ingram, dentist Dr. Joseph Gay, Oscar Thomas Foundation Founder Dr. Nanci Thomas, and many more.

## Living WITH ETIQUETTE

### Reservations with class

By ROSE HEDGEMOND  
Special to South Florida Times

I just love making plans to surprise my husband. It's great! I take a lot of care and planning to ensure, as much as possible, that the plans even down to the venue (restaurant) are well thought-out.

To get into a special restaurant many times simply means...reservations. Most nice restaurants prefer (require) reservations. Making reservations can help you more than you may realize. When making reservations you can advise the host that the evening you're planning is a very special one and you can place special requests. Some restaurants will do their best to accommodate a specific table or general location requests.

If you want to take someone out to a special restaurant for a special celebration or for a special day, make reservations as far in advance as possible to secure the time you want. Here are some tips on making restaurant reservations:

- Call at least one week in advance. Some popular places are booked as much as a month or two.
- Call the day before your big event to confirm your reservation.
- Show up at least 15 minutes before your reservation. If you think you might be running late, call the restaurant and let them know.
- Plan to tip. Know the restaurant tipping policy and if allowed, tip the host, hostess, or maître d. This will ensure your evening is very well attended to (cared for) by the staff. And more importantly, show your token of thanks and appreciation.
- If you have a special request (such as an engagement ring delivered along with champagne), make arrangements early and add more to the tip.
- If you need to cancel, do so as soon as you know.
- Don't make a habit of canceling reservations in restaurants. Many of them participate in one of the databases that keep them apprised of people who are chronic cancellers.



Rose Hedgemond is CEO of Avenues of Excellence and an etiquette and social protocol professional. Do you have an etiquette or social protocol question? Email her at [info@avenuesofexcellence.com](mailto:info@avenuesofexcellence.com) or follow her on Facebook at Rose Hedgemond and Twitter @AOE\_IN.

## Health officials target teen HPV

HPV, FROM 1B

Black children are slightly more likely to get HPV vaccine, but rates are still low, the CDC says.

Hoping to boost usage of the vaccine, DOH-Broward won a special \$40,000 grant over two years from the National Association of County and City Health Officials. Grants were given to only nine organizations nationwide from states that have low HPV vaccination rates.

The grant will be used to create the new campaign, which will concentrate on informing medical providers about the vaccine and educating families about the benefits and misconceptions about the vaccine.

To better understand the community's thoughts about HPV vaccine, DOH-Broward is asking parents to take a minute and fill out an anonymous, nine-question survey about HPV.

In addition to education, there's a logistical hurdle to solve. The vaccine is given in three doses over six months, but many families who come for the first dose never return for the second or third dose. Creating a system to remind families about the follow up doses is also in the works.

For more information visit the CDC website at [www.cdc.gov/hpv/vaccine.html](http://www.cdc.gov/hpv/vaccine.html).

## FAU's students present projects

SYMPOSIUM, FROM 1B

Peterman expertly provides information about the meaning of the great American outdoors and environment, particularly to African Americans and under-served people of color. She is also the author of the travel guide, *Our True Nature: Finding a Zest for Life in the National Park System*, released in 2012.

"Having a dynamic speaker like Peterman linking environment, outdoors, global warming and climate change to people, in an engaging and persuasive way, is just another

way to encourage personal growth for our students," said Jeffrey Buller, Ph.D., dean of the Wilkes Honors College. "We welcome to the community to join us for the symposium showcasing our students' academic success and for this thought provoking presentation."

At the symposium, 109 Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College students presented their thesis' by oral presentation, visual art and poster display. The event is held every year in celebration of academic achievements of students at the Harriet L.

Wilkes Honors College.

Lindsay Gorgen, who is earning a bachelor's degree in biology, presented her thesis about the relevance of Rheb, an enzyme which may play an important role in the go/stop signal for a cell to make new proteins. Gorgen worked with Dr. Srinivasa Subramaniam from The Scripps Research Institute on her thesis. Her work was recently published in *Cell Reports*. [http://www.cell.com/cell-reports/pdf/S2211-1247\(15\)00027-3.pdf](http://www.cell.com/cell-reports/pdf/S2211-1247(15)00027-3.pdf).



Come out and have a great time!

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Thursday** Bid Whist w/ prizes to winners and Line Dancing

**Friday** Smooth Jazz and Neo Soul by Derrick Hadley with Shantel Baker on vocals & Ricky Williams on keyboard  
4 - 8pm Happy Hour



**Saturday** Old School / New School Step & Line Dancing and Giveaways

**Sunday** Live Jazz  
The Velvet Voice of Pamela Diggs



**Monday** Happy Hour - 4pm until closing Step & Line Dancing and Giveaways

**Tuesday** Step & Line Dancing

**Wednesday** Old School / New School  
FREE BUFFET EVERYDAY

# LINKS LODGE

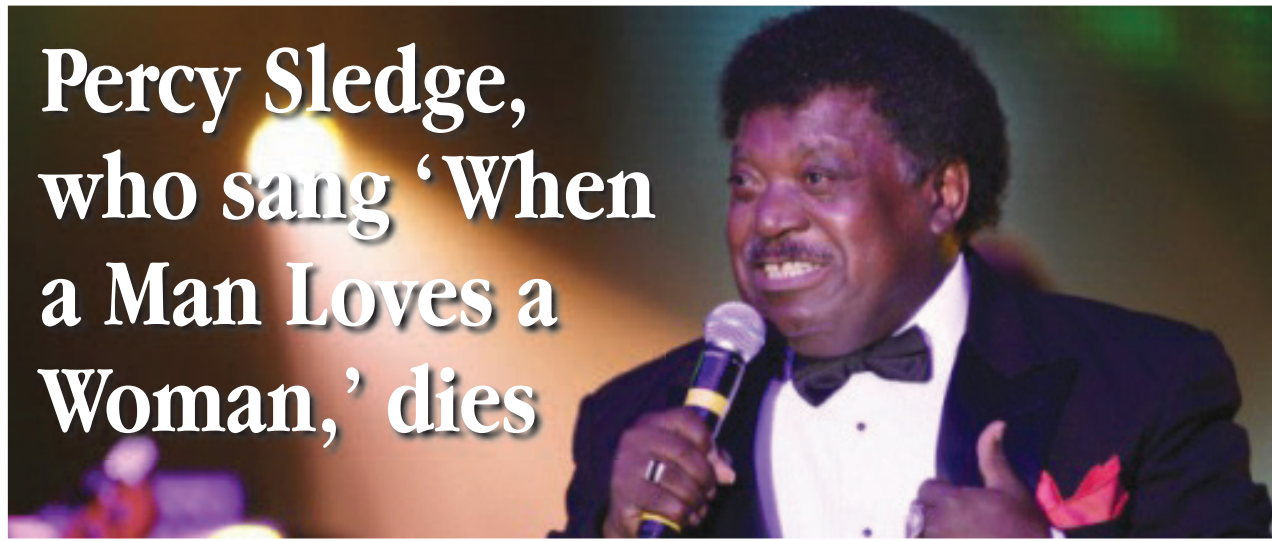
712 NW 2nd Street  
Ft Lauderdale

954-763-7474

James Gibbs, the Exalted Ruler, and Harry Murphy, House Chairman, thank Miss Jo Marie Payton from *Family Matters* for coming back and sharing her new movie with us. Come out to see her again this Friday. Please continue to patronize us. With your help we can take this to a higher level.

# Obituaries

## Percy Sledge, who sang 'When a Man Loves a Woman,' dies



POWERFUL CROONER: Percy Sledge, 2008

By REBECCA SANTANA AND KEVIN MCGILL  
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Percy Sledge's *When a Man Loves a Woman*, a desperate, soulful ode to the lengths a man will go to for the woman he loves, was his only big hit but it had staying power. When he stepped into a recording studio in 1966, he unleashed a haunting wail of loss and love that continues to touch listeners nearly 50 years later.

The song launched the former Alabama hospital orderly to fame, became a staple in movies and television and was the last tune he sang at concerts.

Aware of the song's significance, he rarely sang it as a duet, said manager Mark Lyman, who worked with Sledge for roughly 20 years. Lyman recalled another artist once called to ask if Sledge would sing it with her. Sledge told Lyman, "Now Mark, you know that's my song."

The only exception Lyman remembers was a duet with Michael Bolton, whose cover of the song won him a Grammy in 1991.

Sledge died April 14 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at age 74. His family said in a statement released through Lyman that he died "peacefully" at his home after a yearlong struggle with cancer. The cause of death was

liver failure, Lyman said. The coroner for East Baton Rouge Parish also confirmed the death.

A No. 1 hit in 1966, *When a Man Loves a Woman* was Sledge's debut single, an almost unbearably heart-felt ballad with a resonance he never approached again. Few singers could have. Its mood set by a mournful organ and dirge-like tempo, it was for many the definitive soul ballad, a testament of blinding, all-consuming love haunted by fear and graced by overwhelming emotion.

The song was a personal triumph for Sledge, who seemed on the verge of sobbing throughout the production, and a breakthrough for Southern soul. It was the first No. 1 hit from Alabama's burgeoning Muscle Shoals music scene, where Aretha Franklin and the Rolling Stones among others would record, and the first gold record for Atlantic Records.

Sledge's hit became a standard that sustained his long touring career in the United States, Europe and South Africa and led to his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2005. It was a favorite at weddings, and often turned up in movies, including *The Big Chill*, *The Crying Game* and a 1994 Meg Ryan drama named for the song's title.

*When a Man Loves a Woman* was re-released after being featured in Oliver Stone's Vietnam War film *Platoon*

in 1987 and reached No. 2 in Britain. Rolling Stone magazine later ranked it No. 53 on its list of the greatest songs of all time.

Recognizable by his wide, gap-toothed smile, Sledge had a handful of other hits between 1966 and 1968, including *Warm and Tender Love*, *It Tears Me Up*, *Out of Left Field* and *Take Time to Know Her*. He returned to the charts in 1974 with *I'll Be Your Everything*.

Before he became famous, Sledge worked in the cotton fields around his hometown of Leighton in northwest Alabama and took a job in a hospital in nearby Sheffield. He also spent weekends playing with a rhythm-and-blues band called the Esquires. A hospital patient heard him singing while working and recommended him to record producer Quin Ivy.

Sledge said a girlfriend who left him for a modeling career after he was laid off from a construction job in 1965 inspired the song, but he gave the songwriting credits to two Esquires band mates, bassist Calvin Lewis and organist Andrew Wright, who helped him with it.

Lyman called it Sledge's "signature song."

"It was like his child. He knew that song was the song that propelled him to international stardom. It was his last song of any performance," Lyman said.

## Bahamas R&B singer Johnny Kemp of 'Just Got Paid' fame dies



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALLMUSIC.COM  
Johnny Kemp

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Bahamian R&B singer Johnny Kemp, who is best known for the hit song *Just Got Paid*, has died in Jamaica. He was 55.

Jamaica police said Friday that Kemp was found floating at a beach in Montego Bay on Thursday morning. It has not been determined how he died.

Reach Media Inc. said Kemp had been scheduled to be on a Caribbean cruise this week but he did not get on the ship. The U.S.-based parent company of the *Tom Joyner Morning Show* did not have further details.

Kemp was nominated in 1989 for a Grammy Award for *Just Got Paid*. The song was a No. 1 hit on the U.S. Billboard R&B chart.

Kemp appeared on a 2007 Keith Sweat DVD called *Sweat Hotel Live*.

## Ben Powers dead at 64

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. (AP) — Actor Alton "Ben" Powers, known for his role in the 1970s CBS television series *Good Times*, has died at the age of 64.

Auclair Funeral Home, which is handling arrangements, said Powers died April 6 in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Details were not released.

Powers played football player Keith Anderson, the third husband of Thelma Evans (Bern Nadette Stanis) in *Good Times*.

He also appeared in the 1980s CBS series *Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer* with Stacey Keach, and had roles in several 1980s movies.

Powers, a Brooklyn, New York, native, was brought up by his grandparents in Providence, Rhode Island. He attended the Rhode Island School of Design, and began his acting career at the Trinity Repertory Theater in Providence.

His first TV roles were on NBC's *Rowan and Martin's Laugh-in*.

### JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



**SOLOMON BURGESS**, 77, Farm Laborer, died April 14. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Jay's Chapel.



**MITCHELL FERGUSON**, died. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at National Church of God.

**LAPORSHA SHONTA GREENE**, 22, Student, died April 18. Arrangements are incomplete.



**GERALD GRESSEAU**, 60, Cook, died April 13. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at South Miami Heights Haitian Baptist Church.

**MAE HILL**, 62, Hospital Environmentalist, died April 17. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church.



**LEE H. JONES**, 91, Bishop, died April 17. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at The Bethel Church.

**JAMES MILLER**, 79, died April 12. Arrangements are incomplete.

**FREDERICK MOODY**, 46, Laborer, died April 17. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Holy Ghost Powerhouse.

**ROSA TAYLOR**, 93, Housekeeper, died April 20. Funeral will be held 10 am Thursday at Graceland Memorial Park South.

**BARBARA THOMPSON**, 58, Laborer, died April 20. Arrangements are incomplete.

### BAIN RANGE FUNERAL HOME - Coconut Grove



**THELMA LOUISE GOUCH COLZIE**, 92, of Coconut Grove, died April 17 at home. Viewing will be held Fri. 6 - 8 p.m. at Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church. Funeral will be held 12 at the church.



**THEODORE CHARLES "PETE" GIBSON SR.**, 61, City of Coral Gables Employee, of Coconut Grove, died April 17 at Mercy Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Macedonia Baptist Church.

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK



**JAMES J. DEAN**, 67, Postal Worker, died April 17 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at 79 Street Baptist Church.

**JAVIS HENDERSON**, 16, Student, died April 17. Funeral 10:30 am Saturday at Jordan Grove MBC.

**PAUL LAWSON**, 66, Laborer, died April 14, at home. Funeral 1 pm Saturday at Jordan Grove MBC.

### RANGE FUNERAL HOME



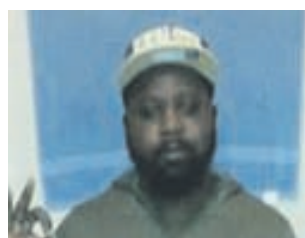
**CARL DAVID GRIFFIN**, 62, Laborer, died April 13. Funeral will be held 4 pm Saturday in Oscar L. Range Memorial Chapel.

**KEITH JOEL PHILLIPS SR.**, 57, Motor Escort Service, died April 15. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at St. Paul AME Church.

Place your Card of Thanks Here

Call 954-356-9360

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



**JUAQUIN JAMES KING**, Died April 16. Funeral will be held 1:30 pm Saturday at Full Deliverance, Florida City, 101 SW Redland Road, Florida City



**HAILEY LEE WADE**, 53 died April 4. Services were held at Zion Church of God Florida City.

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens



**JESSULA GOULBOURNE**, 21, Cosmetologist, died April 11. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Grace United Community Church.

**GERALD JORDAN**, 53, Construction Worker, died April 15. Arrangements are incomplete.

### HALL-FERGUSON-HEWITT MORTUARY



**JEANINE P. JOHNSON**, 69, Custodian, for East Orange, died April 14. Funeral was held 11 am Tuesday at St. Matthews Freewill Baptist Church.

**FRANCES WHITFIELD**, 96, Home-maker, died April 15. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at The Church of the Incarnation.

**ISIAH BOWENS**, 68, Sanitation Worker, for City of Miami Beach died April 15. Viewing will be held 12 pm to 8 pm Wednesday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt-Mortuary. Rinal Rites and Burial 11 am Monday in Midway, Georgia.

**BETTY FISHBURNE**, 78, Educator, for MDCPS, died April 17. Funeral will be held Saturday, time to be announced.

**NEALIE MAE YOUNGBLOOD**, 85, died April 16. Arrangements are incomplete.

**LOUISE BROWN**, died. Arrangements are incomplete.



### WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME



**JEFFREY HALLER**, 53, Electrician, died April 18. Services were held.

**FLORA HEWITT**, 75, died April 11. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at House of God Miracle Revival Fellowship.

**CLOVETT McDONALD Jr.**, 38, died April 6. Viewing 10 am to 8 pm Friday in the chapel.

**EDOUARD SIMON**, 69, died April 15. Graveside Service was held Wednesday at Graceland Memorial Park South.

**TERENCE WADE**, 36, Businessman, died April 13. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Cornerstone Christian Center.

### ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME



**JOHN FRANK BOWENS SR.**, 91, of Dania Beach died April 13. Funeral was held 11 am Wednesday at Saint Ruth Baptist Church, Dania, Florida.

**MARK DANIEL DUKES**, 79, of Fort Lauderdale, died April 15. Funeral was held 11 am Tuesday at New Hope Baptist Church.

**BENJAMIN SMITH**, 94, of Fort Lauderdale, died April 15. Arrangements are incomplete.

### MANKER FUNERAL HOME



**MADIE BATTS-HILL**, 80, Custodial Technician, died April 16 at University Plaza. Funeral will be held 3 pm Saturday at Manker Funeral Home Memorial Chapel.

**GRETCHEN LATOYE MIRANDA**, 48, Restaurant Manager, died April 14 at her residence. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at St. Luke M.B. Church.

**BURDINE SIMMONS**, 74, Fedex Courier, died April 14, Franco Nursing Home. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Manker Funeral Home Memorial Chapel.



### J. C. BOYD FUNERAL HOME



**NICK ANSARA SR.**, 78, died. Funeral was held Wednesday at James C. Boyd Funeral Home.

**RALPH LEE HOLMES SR.**, 80, died. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church located at 800 NW 8th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL.

**CELESTIN JOSEPH**, 79, Funeral was held Thursday, April 16 at the funeral home.

**TOMMIE LARRY**, 77, died. Viewing was held from 6 pm to 8 pm Friday at the funeral home.

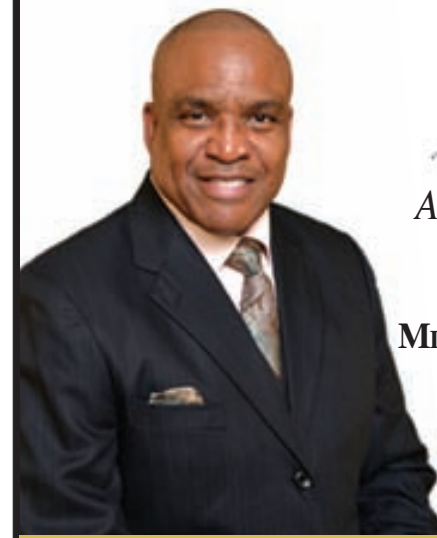
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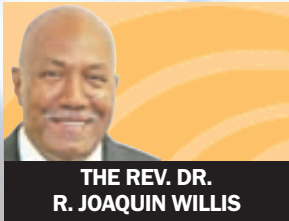


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# Prayerful Living



THE REV. DR.  
R. JOAQUIN WILLIS

# Peace Be With You

*“Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”~ (John 20:21 NIV)*

**J**esus' peace is not the same as simply saying "shalom," the Greek word for peace. But Christ said to the disciples, "Peace be with you."

The Psalmist says, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe." (Psalm 133:1-2)

We cannot say too much, nor do enough, to persuade people to live together in peace. Peace is good for honor and comfort. It brings constant delight to those who live in peace.

David likened the pleasantness of peace and unity to the holy anointing oil. As a fruit of the spirit, peace is proof of our union with Christ. Peace, as Psalm 133:1 puts it, adorns Christ's gospel. Minister and biblical commentator Matthew Henry says, "Peace is profitable, as well as pleasing; it brings blessings as numerous as the drops of dew."

In John 20: 19-23 we read, "Later on that first day of the week, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, they had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, 'Peace be with you.'" Then He showed them His hands and side.

The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were exuberant. "Jesus repeated His greeting: 'Peace Be with you'. Just as the Father sent me, I send you. Then He took a deep breath and breathed onto them. 'Receive the Holy Spirit,' He said. 'If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?'"

Christ appeared on Resurrection Day, which scripture says, "being the first day of the week" (John 20:19 KJV) and it was in the evening. This brought special honor to the day we now call Sunday.

It wasn't that the disciples intended to put honor on that day, for they were still in doubt about everything. But God, it seems designed to place honor on Sunday.

The disciples probably met in the Upper Room to hide out, but perhaps it was also for some religious exercises like prayer. This meeting was private, because they dared not appear publicly, especially as the followers of Christ.

Perhaps they simply met to know each other's thinking, or to strengthen each other's hands, but regardless of why they had come together, there was no peace in that room that day!

Eight days later, His disciples were again in the Upper Room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus again came through the locked doors, stood among them, and again said, "Peace be with you." (John 20:26 MSG)

Christ knew about Thomas' doubt, and yet He was pleased to show himself to Thomas, too, rather than just leave Thomas wallowing in his unbelief.

We, too, are to follow Christ's example — to bear with the weak-in-faith and the doubting novice. This is a warning given to all; if we are faithless, we are Christ-less and graceless; therefore, hopeless and joyless, and there is no peace in this.

There is a special point to be noted here: the marks on Christ's body yet remained, though He was now without

pain. This was to demonstrate that Jesus arose. He had not only overcome death, in three days, He had also overcome the pain and the suffering.

It is comforting to Christ's disciples, whenever we assemble (Saturday or Sunday), to know that no doors can shut out Christ's presence.

Christ speaking of this peace makes peace, He creates the fruit of the spirit we now call peace. His speaking peace makes peace with God. He has created peace in our conscience. He helps us maintain peace with one another. Through Him, all this peace is within us; and it is not the same as peace in the world, for it is the real peace — the kind of peace only found in Christ.

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



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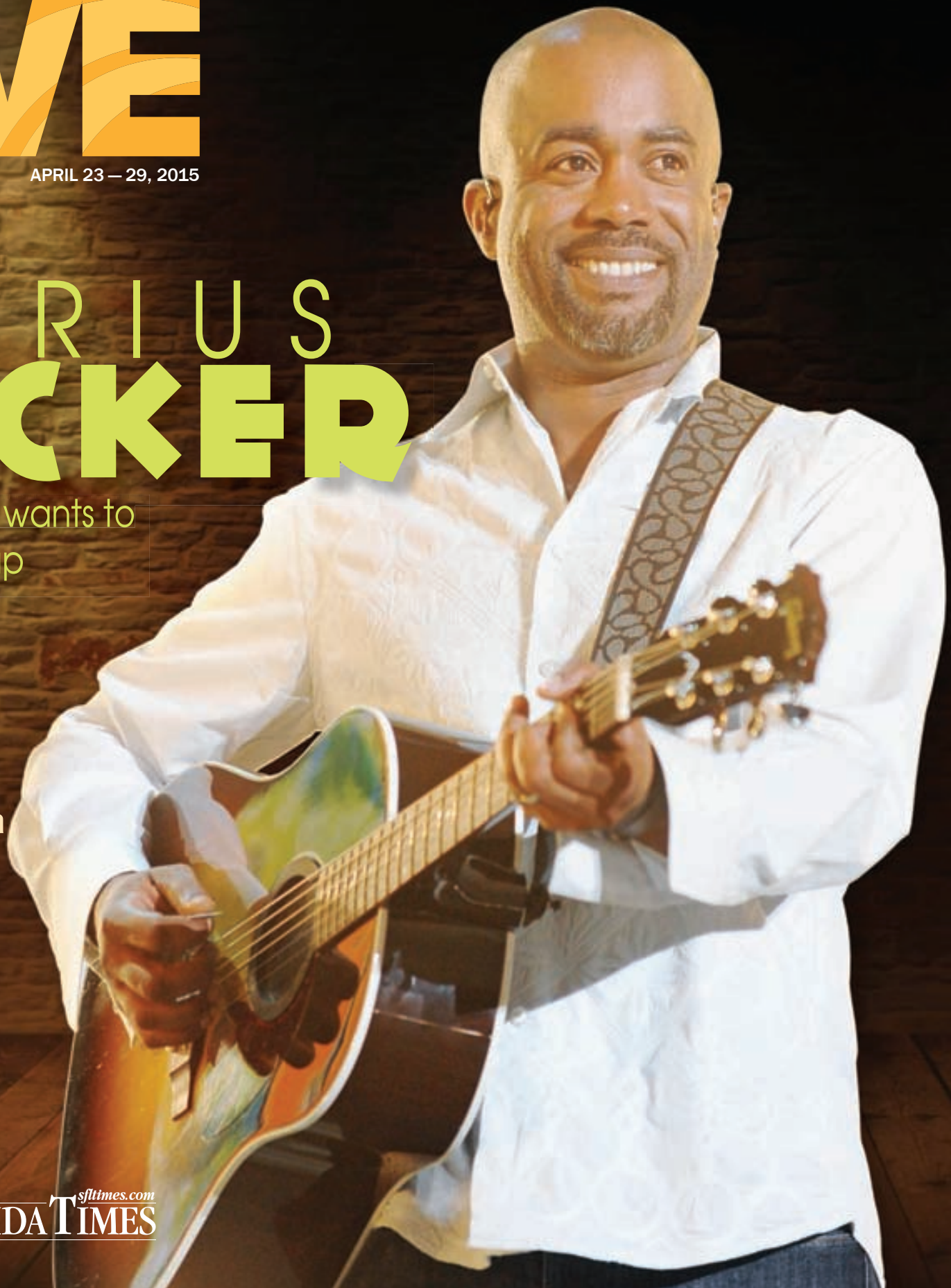
APRIL 23 — 29, 2015

## 4C DARIUS RUCKER

Hootie frontman wants to  
cross over into rap

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# technology



HTC One

PHOTO COURTESY OF CNET.DE

## New HTC One phone is strong contender

By **ANICK JESDANUN**  
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — HTC's flagship One phone has a lot going for it — except for strong sales.

In Samsung's and Apple's shadows, HTC barely has any market share despite having good phones. But the latest edition of the HTC One, dubbed M9, is even better than previous year's models, as it addresses a major shortcoming: the camera.

The latest One keeps an elegant, all-metal design with a few changes. The power

button moves from the top to the right side to keep the phone from sliding down and out of your hand when pressing. The back edges are also sharper to improve grip, though it does give the phone a boxy feel. The M9 screen stays at 5 inches, as measured diagonally. No-contract prices range from \$600 at Verizon to \$709 at AT&T.

Here are other things to know before you buy.

### Better pictures

The four megapixels in previous One cameras was

quite low, resulting in fuzzy images, especially when cropped or enlarged. HTC had turned its attention to making each pixel capture more light, but the phone didn't always succeed in taking better indoor and night shots.

The new One fixes that by squeezing in a standard 20-megapixel rear camera. Images are indeed better when enlarged. The new One does well in low light, too, compared with test shots taken with last year's model.

The One still doesn't always do as well as the iPhone 6 and Samsung Galaxy S6 in focus, color and exposure, especially in extreme situations. Many indoor shots had a purple tint, and outdoor close-ups were out of focus. You can get good everyday shots, but don't get the One just for the camera.

### It's in the location

HTC adapts the home screen to your location. At

work, for instance, you're shown apps for email, calendar and note-taking. At home, you see music, YouTube and an app store for more ways to waste time. When you're out, you get maps.

Choices change based on what you use. After a few days, the phone added Netflix while "Out," given my bad habit of watching video while dodging traffic on sidewalks. Location also influences suggestions for new apps.

It's a good feature, though it ought to automatically figure out whether you're home or at work. You need to specify that — something many people won't bother to do. And it would be nice to have more options beyond "Out." Apps you need on your daily commute will differ from what you'd want on the weekend.

When you're not home, the phone will periodically recommend nearby places to eat, based on Yelp recommendations. Late Thursday afternoon, it sent me to a coffee shop about 15

minutes away by foot. (I went to a pub instead.)

### Smash-safe

HTC is offering U.S. customers an extended protection plan for one year. You get a free replacement if you



PHOTO COURTESY OF ORZLY.COM

iPhone 6

crack the screen, drop the phone in the toilet or damage it in any other way. You're limited to one replacement, and the plan doesn't cover loss and theft. If you don't need the replacement, you'll get a \$100 credit on your next One.


The One also has superb

sound, through twin front-facing speakers. And it's one of the few phones still letting you add storage. You can't replace the battery, though.

### Compromises

There's no fingerprint reader like the latest iPhones and high-end Samsung phones. The One has a full highdefinition display at 1080p, but it's short of what comes with the latest Samsung and LG phones.

HTC also got rid of a second rear lens, which had captured depth information and allowed you to change the area of focus after the fact. Other cameras do this with a single lens, but not very well. HTC sacrificed that to fit in its 20-megapixel sensor. It's a good trade-off, as everyday pictures are much better now. But avid photographers will do better with an iPhone or a Galaxy S6. Then again, if you're clumsy, you can't beat the promise of a free replacement.




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Samsung Galaxy S6

## film

By **LINDSEY BAHR**  
AP Film Writer

Cinema has always been fascinated by androids. From *Metropolis* to *Blade Runner*, the juxtaposition of humans next to their artificial form has provided endless hours of stories that can be as exhilarating as they are poignant. Tough moral questions about consciousness and humanity go down easier when hidden under the glossy sheen of genre, after all.

With so many now-classics preceding it, *Ex Machina* might seem like just the latest flavor in the android movie shop. And yet, without necessarily expanding on this well-trod territory or innovating contemporary science-fiction, by going deep on a simple construct, *Ex Machina* establishes itself as a unique and deeply unsettling psychological thriller that's both necessary and unforgettable.

The construct in question: How good is this android?

Writer-director Alex Garland in his feature debut tells the story with basically only three characters: Caleb (Domhnall Gleeson), the sharp programmer whose life is upended to spend a few days in a remote location with his company's billionaire CEO and brilliant recluse, Nathan (Oscar Isaac); and Nathan's creation, Ava

**Ava (Alicia Vikander) comes face to face with an early version of herself.**

(Alicia Vikander).

Caleb thinks he's won a prize and a retreat with a genius. It's only when he arrives that Nathan tells him his real purpose is to advise Nathan on whether or not Ava passes the human or machine test.

Nathan's home embodies the modern design ideal of organic architecture and he and Caleb discuss Ava as

Schubert and Bach play faintly in the background. Big, fascinating ideas fly around at rapid speed, but "should" does not seem to be in their vocabulary.

Garland builds a subtle tension by making everything slightly off, from the concrete, bunker-like bedrooms, to the occasional power-outages and the militaristic security methods. Caleb is never at ease and, as the audience's window into this strange world, and neither are we.

A big reason  
f o r

with his shaved head, thick black beard and burly but fit physique, is an intimidating physical presence as well. He's a bruiser, a genius, and a charismatic eccentric who spends his days boxing and his nights getting blind drunk alone.

Isaac, who is quickly proving himself to be one of the greats of his generation, plays Nathan as a celebrity of sorts — the kind who is always requesting that the other person just be more "real," which usually has the opposite effect.

But it's really Ava's form,

too, is distracting. Her body, made of caged metal and fiber optics, though interesting and perfectly curved, is secondary to the face — the only visually human aspect to her.

Her innocent beauty, perfect expressiveness, and

As the test progresses and Ava starts to resemble not an experiment but a prisoner, things get more complicated and motives, all around, become fuzzier. Then, *Ex Machina* elegantly transitions from a theatrical exercise in discourse into a tense thriller, with gripping twists and haunting turns right up to the conclusion.

Perverse and provocative, *Ex Machina* is a cult classic in the making.

surprising wit even make Caleb question whether Nathan is using her loveliness to muddle judgment (i.e. the magician's assistant).

"Did you program her to flirt with me," Caleb asks self-consciously at one point.

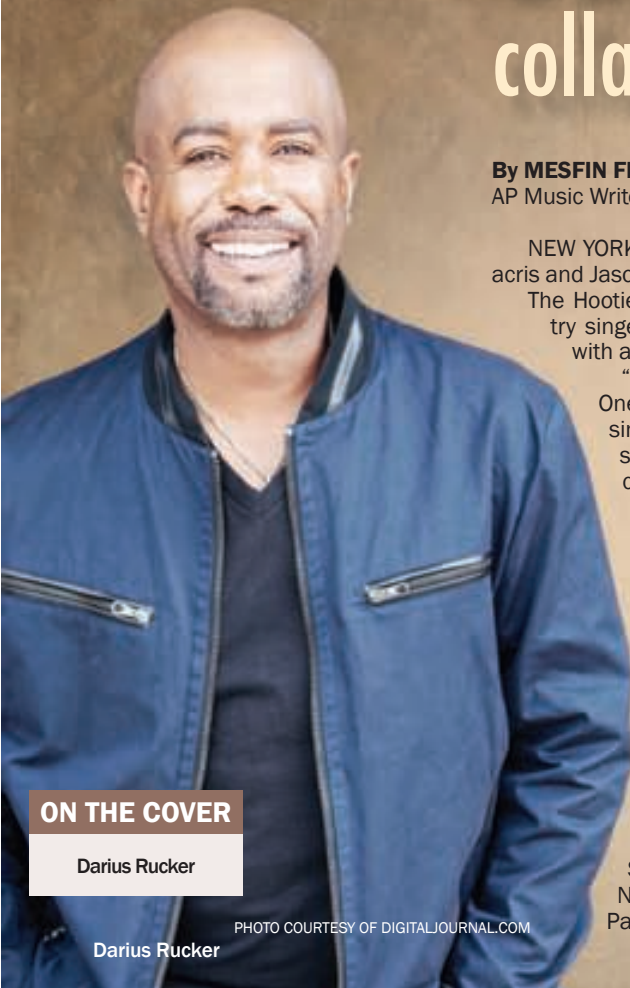
# A visionary sci-fi thriller is born in 'Ex Machina'

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EPK-TV

**Nathan shows Caleb parts he used to create Ava the Android.**

pop culture

# Darius Rucker wants rap collaboration; talks Hootie reunion



**ON THE COVER**  
Darius Rucker

PHOTO COURTESY OF DIGITALJOURNAL.COM  
Darius Rucker

By MESFIN FEKADU  
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK — Nelly and Florida Georgia Line. Ludacris and Jason Aldean. Darius Rucker and Jay Z?

The Hootie & the Blowfish frontman-turned-country singer says he's hoping to jump on a song with a rapper.

"I don't have much left on my bucket list. One of the things that I'm dying to do is to sing the hook on a big rap song," Rucker said in a recent interview. "No one's ever called me to do that."

Rucker said he wants to collaborate with hip-hop heavyweights like Jay Z, Eminem and Snoop Dogg.

"Somebody that's had a career; I get where they're coming from, they get where I'm coming from," said Rucker, 48. "Let's do something cool."

Rap and country duets have become popular over the years: Florida Georgia Line and Nelly's *Cruise* remix was one of 2013's biggest hits. In addition, other collaborations between the genres have matriculated, from Snoop Dogg and Willie Nelson to Jerrod Niemann and Pitbull to Jake Owen and T-Pain.

But before Rucker guests on a rap track,

he's putting out new country music. *Southern Style*, his fourth country effort, was released this month. He said he started work on the album a year ago and wrote over 50 songs for the project, though only 13 made the final track list.

Rucker will launch a tour May 14 in Holmdel, New Jersey. Aside from his country material, he's also been playing shows with his Hootie band mates, like they do every year.

But Rucker said they're cooking up new music.

"I pulled the guys together just last week and said, 'Let's start writing some songs.' If we decide to do it a year from now or if we decide to do it two years from now, I don't want to just have to decide and start writing a bunch of songs, I want it to be like when we wrote our first record," he said. "I want to take a couple years, write a bunch of songs and play them together in the basement and, you know, let's make a great record."

Hootie & the Blowfish, whose hits include *Let Her Cry* and *Only Wanna Be With You*, released its last album in 2005.

"We're brothers and we play all the time, and we know we're going to do it, but we're not going to do it until it's right," he said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEACHCAROLINA.COM  
Nelly

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHIEFMUSICMANAGEMENT.COM  
Florida Georgia Line (Brian Kelley)

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHIEFMUSICMANAGEMENT.COM  
Florida Georgia Line (Tyler Hubbard)

## Essence Fest's empowerment scene to feature Chopra, Fulton



PHOTO COURTESY OF BATGAR.COM  
Deepak Chopra



Sybrina Fulton

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The 2015 Essence Festival's lineup for its free daily empowerment sessions inside New Orleans' convention center will feature South Floridian Sybrina Fulton and a first-timer — celebrated author Deepak Chopra.

Festival organizers say that Chopra will join nationally recognized activists, artists and entertainers who will share tips for personal success including Fulton, the mother of Trayvon Martin; television

commentator and activist Rev. Al Sharpton; author and motivational speaker Iyanla Vanzant; actress Lynn Whitfield and her daughter, Grace Gibson, as well as cast members from *The Real Housewives of Atlanta*.

The festival, which includes nightly concerts in the Superdome, will be held July 3-July 5. The daytime experience culminates with an all-star gospel tribute to singer Kim Burrell.

For a full line-up of this year's daytime speakers and artists, visit [www.essence-festival.com](http://www.essence-festival.com).



Kim Burrell

PHOTO COURTESY OF BLOG.GOSPELFLAVA.COM

## Jay Z, Nicki Minaj among owners of Tidal

NEW YORK (AP) — Madonna, Rihanna, Beyonce and Jay Z are among the A-List musicians who are co-owners of Tidal, a streaming service being billed as the first artist-owned platform for music and video.

The membership-based service — similar to subscription service Spotify — will provide music and video content that users can stream on computers, tablets and smartphones or listen to offline. It is being offered at two price points: \$10 for standard sound quality and \$20 for "lossless high fidelity sound quality."

Few other details were released about the streaming service.

Kanye West, Daft Punk, Alicia Keys, Jack White and Nicki Minaj also were among the artists who announced at a recent New York City event that they are co-owners of the service that quietly launched in October. Keys said the artists hope Tidal will "forever change the course of music history" and ensure the viability of the industry.

The celebrities — who also included Jason Aldean, Usher, members of Arcade Fire and deadmau5 — stood

in a line onstage as Keys spoke to the audience at Skylight at Moynihan Station in Manhattan. Most of them wore black as a sign of solidarity. Keys called the event "a graduation."

"So we come together before you on this day, with one voice in unity in the hopes that today will be another one of those moments in time, a moment that will forever change the course of music history. For today we announce of Tidal, the first ever artist-owned, global music and entertainment platform," Keys said.

The venue for the event was

transformed to display a walkway paying tribute to the different decades in music, starting with the 1950s.

"Our mission goes beyond commerce, it goes beyond technology. Our intent is to preserve music's importance in our lives," Keys said. "Music is the language of love, of laughter, of heartbreak, of mystery. It's the world's true, true, without question, universal language."

Each of the owners signed documents at the event as the audience screamed when they walked to a table in the center of the stage.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROCKNYCLIVEANDRECORDED.COM AND VIVELOHOY.COM  
Usher, Rihanna, Nicki Minaj, Madonna, Kanye West, Jay-Z, J. Cole, Jason Aldean, Jack White, Daft Punk, Beyonce, members of Arcade Fire and Alicia Keys

# ROBERTA FLACK



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# social media

By **ANICK JESDANUN**  
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In its five short years of life, Pinterest has become “the” place where brides-to-be create wish boards of wedding china photos and do-it-yourself home renovators bookmark shiny turquoise tiles for bathrooms. It’s where people share ideas and ingenuity and get creatively inspired. And it’s fueled a new way of searching for items that’s even stolen traffic from tech giant Google.

The San Francisco-based venture capital darling was recently valued at \$11 billion. While its core audience has always been female, Pinterest says its popularity is growing faster than ever among men. It is winning in the all-important social-mobile space — the vast majority of “pinners” connect from mobile devices — and is enjoying a healthy expansion overseas.

As Pinterest celebrates its fifth birthday this month — hopefully with perfect bacon cupcakes topped with a single, artisanal beeswax candle — here are five things to know about the site and where it’s headed.

## Who uses Pinterest?

Pinterest had 79.3 million unique visitors in February (the latest data available), up 47 percent from a year earlier, according to Internet research firm comScore. The vast majority were women, but male visitors grew at a much faster clip: 62 percent for men vs. 42 percent for women.

Enid Hwang is the company’s community manager and the fourth employee ever hired at Pinterest. She wouldn’t disclose what percentage of users are male but says Pinterest’s male user base in the U.S. has doubled in the past year. She doesn’t think Pinterest is for women any more than it is for men.

“At its most fundamental, we believe that Pinterest is a tool for unlocking people’s creativity,” she says.

Pinterest often gets lumped in with popular social networks like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, but there are plenty of ways that it stands apart. Hwang sees it as more intimate and personal. While Facebook is about sharing what you did, read or saw recently with 400 of your closest “friends,” Pinterest users pin stuff for their own inspiration and benefit. While others can see it, she says Pinterest people are “saving stuff that means a lot to them personally.”

## ‘Man trends’

Popular “man trends” as Pinterest put it recently, range from do-it-yourself home projects such as making a wooden couch sleeve for your drinks, to different ways to tie knots, to the world’s best hiking trails. And then there’s the more unusual.

“Last year, we noticed a trend of

survivalists using Pinterest,” Hwang says. These pinners found “creative ways of solving what they might do if there is a zombie apocalypse,” she adds, or a more mundane natural disaster. There are Pinterest boards of base-

ment fallout shelters, disaster preparation and the contents of survival backpacks.

After Pinterest introduced “Place Pins” in late 2013, the vast trove of pinners’ travel-inspired boards became easier for people to find. Users pin photos, links and videos inspired by past trips or travel aspirations. Place Pins are designed to work sort of like an online travel magazine combined with an interactive map.

## By the numbers

- There are now more than 50 billion “pins” on Pinterest. One billion boards have been created.
- Headquartered in San Francisco, Pinterest has six international offices: in Britain, France, Germany, Japan and Brazil. More than 40 percent of Pinterest users are outside the U.S., up from 28 percent in 2013.
- About two-thirds of the content on its site was created by brands. “If we were in the magazine business, (that) would be 50 billion pages being ripped out and referenced,” says Joanne Bradford, head of partnerships at Pinterest.

# Search, social & shopping: Pinterest turns 5

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PORTENT.COM, DESIGNLINESLTD.COM, BLOGS.READING.AC.UK, ROCKFISHDIGITAL.COM, SHOFTWIXT.BLOGSPOT.COM, HAPPYHEALTHYMAMA.COM, BUSINESS2COMMUNITY.COM, THENEXTWEB.COM, AND TECH-KID.COM



Pinterest co-founder Evan Sharp likens this phenomenon to “search without typing,” making it particularly well suited for smartphones.

## Diversity

- Earlier this year, Pinterest raised \$367 million that valued the company at \$11 billion. It says it may raise as much as \$211 million more, and plans to use the more than half a billion dollars for international expansion and other corporate purposes.

## A new way to search and shop

Pinterest’s penchant for exposing people to something new has turned its site into a learning and shopping hub that can be more useful than Google and other search engines for certain topics. Many people now go to Pinterest first when they are looking for ideas on planning a wedding, preparing an exotic dinner, planning a kids’ birthday party or finding the perfect pair of shoes for a new outfit.

The heat is on tech companies for lacking gender and racial diversity among their employee base, especially in the highest ranks. Pinterest is no exception. At the same time, the company seems to be doing better on this front than some of its Silicon Valley counterparts. According to statistics released last July, 40 percent of the company’s employees are women. This compares with 20 percent at Apple Inc. and 30 percent at Twitter Inc. and Google Inc. Among Pinterest executives though, it’s a different story. Nineteen percent are women, compared with 21 percent at Google.

“We’re not close to where we want to be, but we’re working on it,” wrote Tracy Chou, a software engineer and tech lead at Pinterest, in a blog post last July.



# events calendar

COMPILED BY MARISSA CLARKE  
Special to South Florida Times

## April 23-May 3

PHOTO COURTESY OF BAYFRONTPARKMIAMI.COM

### APRIL 23

**Earl Stewart:** The author of *Confessions of a Recovering Car Dealer*, will discuss his book and share tips on how to get the best deals when purchasing or car or having your car serviced. 6 p.m. at Mandel Public Library, 411 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-868-7701.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SOMETHING-2TALKABOUT.NET

**Fine Wines & Canines:** Bring your favorite pooch out for a night out on the town at this event. Sample food from more than 18 local restaurants, and wines plus raffles, a best dressed canine contest and performance by

singer Kendra Erika. The evening benefits PROPEL (People Reaching Out to Provide Education and Leadership), a non-profit organization that promotes education. 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Royal Palm Place, 101 Plaza Real S. Boca Raton. \$40, \$35 in advance. 561-955-8553.

### APRIL 24

**Roberta Flack:**

The '70s songbird comes to South Florida to sing some of her greatest hits, including *Killing Me Softly with Her Song*, *Tonight I Celebrate My Love*, and *The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face*. 8 p.m. at Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$29.50 to \$75. 954-462-0222 or www.browardcenter.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TADDLR.COM

**Concert on the Green:** Groove to the sounds of The Castaways, who will perform classic rock, Motown tunes and more. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the live show. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Colony West Golf Club, 6800 NW 88th Ave., Tamarac. Free. 954-597-3620.

**The Fountainebleau on Film:** Kevin Wynn, a film critic and history buff, will discuss the Fountainebleau Hotel. Through archive footage from the Wolfson Archives, and feature films, Wynn will discuss the glitz and glamour, and down fall of the famed hotel. Light refreshments will be served following the presentation. 7 to 9 p.m. at Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus, 300 NE Second Ave., Miami. Free. 305-237-7731.

### APRIL 25

**Ballet Memphis:** The group comes to Miami and performs in a program that includes *Devil's Fruit* by Julia Adam, *Party of the Year* by Matthew Neenan and *In Dreams* by Trey McIntyre. 8 p.m. at South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Complex, 10950 SW 211th St., Cutler Bay. \$25-\$45. 305-285-9060 or www.smdcac.org.

**Children's Book-**

**fest:** The 10th annual event includes many activities for the entire family plus a book giveaway! Storyteller Windell Campbell will share a story and the Florida Grand Opera Young Artists will perform *Telephone*. E.B. Lewis, artist and illustrator, Nikki Grimes, poet and author, and Lucia Gonzalez, author of *The Bossy Gallito* are all scheduled to appear. Didgeridoo Down Under will discuss Aboriginal Australians and Fantasy Theatre Factory performs magic! 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd., Fort Lauderdale.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WINDELL-CAMPBELLSTORYTELLER.COM

**Cinderella:** The classic story of *Cinderella* comes to life with the help of the Professional Theater for Children. Cinderella's Fairy Godmother comes to the rescue to defeat the evil stepmother and help her charge unite with Prince Charming. 10:30 a.m. at Cypress Bay High School Theater, 18600 Vista Park Blvd., Weston. \$10, \$5 in advance.

**Craftastic Family Movie:** Watch a movie and create fun arts-and-crafts. Bring the entire family for a day at the library. 10 a.m. at Mandel Public Library, 411 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-868-7701.

**Kathy Griffin:**

The funny lady who has made her way from the "D-list" performs her stand-up. The Emmy winner, Grammy winner and author is known for getting people to laugh at the little things, with jabs at celebrities for good measure. 8 p.m. at Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$40-\$95. 954-462-0222 or www.browardcenter.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF S3.AMAZONAWS.COM

### APRIL 27

**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 28

**A Stranger in the Kingdom:** A small town in 1950s Vermont hire a new minister based on his war record and presentation but are shocked to learn that he is a black man. The minister's luck goes from bad to worse when he is accused of murdering a local woman who he helped in her time of need. Presented by the Miami Jazz and Film Society. 6:15 p.m. at African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave., Miami. Free. 305-638-6771.

### APRIL 29

**Sunfest:** The annual five-day waterfront event kicks off with performances by Lenny Kravitz and Wilco! The fest features an all-star line-up with Paramore,



PHOTO COURTESY OF MONSTER-MUSIC.CZ

**Lenny Kravitz**

and Thursday, 5 to 11 p.m. Friday, noon to 11 p.m. Saturday and noon to 9 p.m. Sunday along Flagler Drive from Banyan Boulevard to Lakeview Avenue in West Palm Beach. \$40-\$80 one-day, two-day and five-day passes available. 1-800-786-3378 or www.sunfest.com.

### MAY 1

**Lyric Live:**

Comedian Chello Davis hosts this live talent show featuring local singers, dancers, spoken word artists and more! The Jody Hill Band provides the live music. Tonight's show kicks off the second season. Happy hour is from 7 to 8 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. at the Lyric Theater, 819 NW Second Ave., Miami. \$15-\$25. 305-636-2390.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CDN.EVBUC.COM

### MAY 2

**Dog Loves Books:** Louise Yates' New York Times best seller gets the musical treatment in this show presented by ArtsPower. The musical follows a dog who loves books enough to open up a book store. 2 p.m. at Hollywood Central Performing Arts Center, 1770 Monroe St., Hollywood. Free. 954-921-3274, ext. 254.

### MAY 3

**Spring Musical Celebration:** The Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County performs. Listen to the group's soothing sounds and bring blankets and chairs for a comfortable time. 5 p.m. at Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$5. 561-393-7984.

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

## food

# Quinoa Chicken Vegetable Salad

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

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

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

## WEEKNIGHT MEALS JUST GOT EASIER

**FAMILY FEATURES** — Don't let the stress of a hectic schedule interfere with your desire to prepare a wholesome, satisfying meal for your family. A pantry stocked with canned foods is all you need to ensure mealtime success, any day of the week.

"With a well-stocked pantry full of canned ingredients, I know I always have the makings of a nutritious and flavorful meal," said Kelsey Nixon, host of "Kelsey's Essentials" on Cooking Channel and Food Network.

Bring to life your family's favorite recipes with pantry staples such as canned chicken, tomatoes, green beans and broth. Like the home canning process, cans seal in foods' nutrition, freshness and flavor, making naturally delicious, homemade dishes achievable and easy.

For more information about the canning process, delicious recipes and to learn how you can get cooking with canned foods, visit [www.CansGetYou-ing.com](http://www.CansGetYou-ing.com).

**PREP TIME:** 5 minutes  
**COOK TIME:** 10 minutes  
**SERVINGS:** 6

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 ounces chopped pancetta (about 1/2 cup)
- 1 medium yellow onion, finely chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cracked black pepper
- 2 (15-ounce) cans cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 (14.5-ounce) can diced fire-roasted tomatoes
- 3 (14.5-ounce) cans chicken broth
- 1 1/2 cups ditalini pasta (short tubular pasta)
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese, for garnish

In large heavy-bottomed pot, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Brown pancetta bits just until they start to crisp, then add onion, garlic and thyme. Season with salt and pepper, and saute until fragrant and golden brown.

Add canned beans, tomatoes and chicken broth. Bring soup to rapid boil before adding pasta. Reduce to simmer and cook soup covered, stirring occasionally for 8-10 minutes or until pasta is cooked al dente.

Season with salt and pepper to taste before serving. Garnish with Parmesan cheese and serve with crusty bread.

**Note:** You can substitute bacon for pancetta, if desired.

**PREP TIME:** 5 minutes  
**COOK TIME:** 25 minutes  
**SERVINGS:** 4

## PASTA E FAGIOLI SOUP