

# The Miami Times

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## THE FEUD CONTINUES

### Transport Workers Union slaps mayor with statistics

MARCUS LIM  
Special to the Miami Times

The ongoing public feud between the Miami chapter of Transport Workers Union and Mayor Carlos Gimenez continues.

Taking offense to the mayor's comments about the Miami-Dade transit workers as the problem for the county's public transportation issues, the local branch compiled and released statistics to dispute his claims.

The reports point to faltering equipment of the buses saying that the blame should instead be on the mayor's administration for their mismanagement.



Gunn

The mayor last week said absenteeism and workers not doing overtime was a waste of taxpayer's money, referencing the contract, which county officials signed off on, that pays stewards \$1 million a year.

The data, originally gathered by Miami-Dade Transit, was then compiled in the union's press release in response to the

SEE FEUD 6A



Transport Union Workers hold a press conference/rally on Jan.22 at the Local 291 union in reaction to comments from the Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez about transit inconsistencies.

Photo courtesy of Transport Workers Union Local 291

“ In November alone, bus operators reported that nearly a quarter of the buses had fare box issues.”

## NO MORE BROKEN HEARTS

MARISSA ALEXANDER KEYNOTES DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EVENT

NYAMEKYE DANIEL  
ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com

As millions of Americans celebrate Valentine's Day, many face the dark side of love. On average nearly 20 people per minute are physically

abused by a partner in the U.S., according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

It is a silent epidemic where victims believe they suffer alone, according to Miami-Dade School Board member, Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall. For the last 18 years, she has worked to bring awareness to domestic violence with

her annual event, No More Broken Hearts - Domestic Violence Workshop, "Break the Silence, Break the Cycle."

As a former school principal, Bendross-Mindingall came face to face with the biggest carnage of domestic violence, the children.

SEE ABUSE 5A



Jonathan Spikes, Founder of Affirming YOUth, leads a discussion with youth on Conflict Resolution techniques at the 17th Annual No More Broken Hearts Domestic Violence Workshop in 2017.

MDCPS District 2 Office



School Board Member Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall (center left) thanked attendees, committee members and student volunteers for their support at the 17th Annual No More Broken Hearts.



Deval Patrick speaks at North Miami High School on Feb. 7.

Gregory Reed/Miami Times photos

## The next Black presidential candidate?

Deval Patrick visits South Florida as talk resurfaces

PHILIPPE H. BUTEAU  
Special to The Miami Times

The first Black governor of Massachusetts paid a visit to South Florida as talk resurfaces about his possible interest as a candidate in the 2020 Democratic Party presidential nomination process. Deval Patrick was a guest of North Miami Mayor Smith Joseph and the City

Council on Wednesday at an event to kick off the city's Black History Month celebrations.

Patrick is living Black history. In 2006 he became the first Black person elected as governor in Massachusetts and was subsequently re-elected in 2010. Before that, he served as a U.S. Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights during the Clinton Administration.

Rumors of Patrick as a possible presidential candidate started last summer in a Politico magazine article. A recent CNN online article referred to his ties with David Axelrod, the noted political operative and chief strategist to President Barack Obama's two successful campaigns. The article also noted that Obama sees Patrick as "a top-level talent."

Patrick downplayed any talk of a presidential run. He said it's too early to say

SEE DEVAL 4A

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# VIEWPOINT

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BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | FEBRUARY 14-20, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

## EDITORIAL

### Mayor Gimenez, don't veto oversight panel

Community members have waited years for Miami-Dade County to bring back a fully funded agency that handles complaints against county employees, especially law enforcement officers.

The county created the Independent Review Panel (IRP) in the 1980s to calm the county's disparate communities in times of civil unrest and disturbances. The primary trigger was the race riots that broke out after the acquittal of four county police officers in the death of Arthur McDuffie, a Black motorcyclist.

For nearly 30 years, the IRP reviewed complaints against police officers, reviewing the disciplinary actions taken by internal-affairs investigators, issuing reports and recommendations for further action. Its actions were public, and neither the police department nor the county controlled the IRP; it operated as a completely separate entity.

The nation's financial downturn of the mid-2000s crippled the county budget. Funding for the IRP went away as a result. For the last six years the panel existed with a governing board, but with no staff.

Led by a coalition of civic and social justice agencies, including the Miami-Dade NAACP and the Miami ACLU chapter, volunteers created a report that outlined how such an agency would work. District 1 Commissioner Barbara Jordan sponsored the ordinance to restore the agency with a new name, the Independent Community Panel (ICP). Miami-Dade commissioners gave tentative approval last summer.

Last week, amid strong criticisms by Commissioners Joe Martinez and Rebecca Sosa, the commission voted 7-5 to approve the ICP. The celebrations were short-lived. Word now comes that Mayor Carlos Gimenez could veto this long-awaited legislation.

We believe a mayoral veto would be short-sighted and wrong. Distrust of government and law enforcement are still too high in Black communities. It is prudent to have an extra set of eyes and ears to review controversial cases.

As strong mayor, Carlos Gimenez represents all of Miami-Dade County. The majority have spoken. Mr. Mayor, do the right thing, and let the ICP stand.

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## Why America cannot get over slavery

ROCHELLE RILEY, *Detroit Free Press*

Slavery. It is America's open wound. It is the painful injury that a third of America lives with and the rest of the country attempts to ignore because, for them, it is an ancient scar and, well, hasn't it healed by now?

Its very name evokes emotions so strong that many Americans demand that we no longer speak of it, while others — those who live with its enduring impact — cry it aloud in hopes that America will finally have the conversation about it that it has refused to have for nearly 400 years.

Slavery's long legal existence created the American caste system that endures today, one that maintains a false white superiority and Black inferiority built on an unfair education system, unfair employment system and social institutions that support this notion while appropriating Black language, music and fashion.

No amount of complaint or

discrimination has led to a real discussion of slavery and its aftermath — and of what is owed to a people who helped build America. The cost, some say, would be too great.

"There are two reasons that we don't talk about slavery: The first is it's a subject that makes us have to face the ugliness of our history against the beauty of American history," says Michael Simanga, adjunct professor of African-American studies at Georgia State University. The unheld conversation is woven into the fabric of 1968, arguably one of the most important years in history as far as race and slavery are concerned. Why don't we talk about it? Because talking about it makes it real, makes it impossible to ignore.

There are still people in America who believe that slavery was a gift to Blacks and that two and half centuries of horror were a small price to pay to escape Africa — a continent they feel was



Associated Press  
Savage whipping left the back of this former slave badly disfigured, as shown in this photograph.

so much worse that slaves' descendants should be honored by the capture. Because there is no education about slavery in America's public schools, there has been no discussion about what the massive residential theft did to Africa or what centuries of maltreatment did to generations of Blacks.

Every attempt to discuss some recompense for those years of horror is met, mostly, with outrage by white Americans who say, "It wasn't me."

Yes, it was. It was America. It was us.

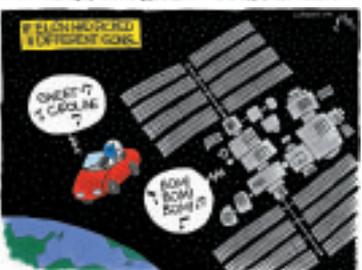
Slavery endures in a legal system that allows black voter suppression and housing restrictions and education policies that continue to make life harder for blacks than whites in America.

Slavery endures in an injustice system that continues to jail more Black men than white people for the same crimes.

And slavery will endure a little more than a year from now when we commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first enslaved Africans' arrival in Jamestown, Va.

Slavery remains the subject of a conversation that only one side wants to have and the other side continues to put off, decade after decade after decade.

## CARTOON CORNER



The Miami Times welcomes and encourages letters to its editorial commentaries as well as all other material in the newspaper. Such feedback makes for a healthy dialogue among our readership and the community. Letters must, however, be 300 words or less, brief and to the point, and may be edited for grammar, style and clarity. All letters must be signed and must include the name, address and telephone number of the writer for purposes of confirming authorship. Send letters to: Letters to the Editor, The Miami Times, 900 N.W. 54th Street, Miami, FL 33127, or fax them to 305-757-5770; Email: editorial@miamitimesonline.com.

## Black History Month, celebrate us

TARYN FINLEY, *Huffington Post*

There's something uniquely glorious about Blackness. It's in our walk, our talk, the way we celebrate, the way we set trends. We were born this way.

I've always known this, especially growing up with parents who emphasized this by reading Maya Angelou poems at bedtime and sent me to an elementary school where we learned black history year round. What I didn't know was the lengths the rest of the world would go to turn a blind eye to our magnificence.

I realized this when I left the comforts of my mini-HBCU and attended a predominantly white middle school where Black history lessons were limited to a focus on slavery, Jim Crow laws and the Civil Rights movement. Much of this we learned during February — Black History Month. Those were the moments I sat at my desk feeling a mix of anger and discomfort at the

class' white gaze, as the few Black kids in the room were expected to lead the discussion.

Often times, society tries to focus on our battle scars, and its glare isn't with the intention to heal. Navigating through a world that only halfway celebrates you for what you've endured — and then tells you a watered-down version of that — is taxing.

Which is why we must celebrate ourselves and do it loudly.

No matter the shape, size, hue or ability, all of our stories matter and they deserve to be told through our lens.

This February is dedicated to showcasing, exploring and exalting the beauty in Blackness. In addition to op-eds about the impact of Blackness on American culture, Black Voices will be featuring essays throughout the month that highlight four key areas of our glory: the impact of represen-

“ All Black lives are special, not because of the historical and cultural battles we've overcome and are still fighting today, but because we just simply are.

tation, the expansiveness of Black love, the power of Black women and the necessity of Black kids' joy.

All Black lives are special, not because of the historical and cultural battles we've overcome and are still fighting today, but because we just simply are. Our story didn't begin with trauma, and though it is a very real and important part of our history, it shouldn't be the only thing we're celebrated for. We should be celebrated

for our skills, our dreams, our skin, our hair, our rhythm, our traditions, our love. We should be celebrated because there would be no American history without Black history.

Yes, our resilience is special, but it is not the sole source of our glory. To be Black is glorious, period. And it's about time the world acknowledges that.

With Black athletes in the spotlight at the Winter Olympics, the epic release of Marvel's "Black Panther," the usual stream of viral moments for the culture and, of course, inspirational reflections on black history makers, we have a lot to look forward to this February.

As Black Voices Editor, I am dedicated not only to making sure that we tell compelling and real stories that matter to the diaspora, but also to empowering us with frequent reminders of how hope we truly are — February and beyond.

## A big parade of pomp and insecurity

EUGENE ROBINSON, *The Washington Post*

Well, of course the president who claimed bone spurs to dodge the Vietnam War wants the biggest, bestest military parade ever, of tanks and rockets and flags — zillions of flags — and fighter jets screaming overhead. Why is anyone surprised?

We should have seen it coming. And be careful, parade-watchers: As far as Dear Leader Trump is concerned, anyone who fails to cheer as the bands play and the troops march by will surely be guilty of treason.

It was entirely predictable to learn, thanks to The Post, that Trump has been hectoring the nation's top military leaders to give him a huge martial parade down Pennsylvania Avenue, complete with heavy weapons. Trump envisions a display of mili-

tary might like the parades we used to see file past the Kremlin reviewing stand in the days of the Soviet Union — and like the somewhat less grim procession he jealously witnessed in Paris on Bastille Day.

It is hard to imagine any other president summoning his generals to demand not a better strategy in Afghanistan, not a detailed plan for success in Syria, but rather an elaborate entertainment that gives him an opportunity to be seen reviewing the troops. In this reality-show presidency, it sounds like the kind of extravaganza that one could imagine as a series finale. If so, bring it on.

We've had military parades in the capital before, but generally they have been staged to mark a victory — the rout

of Saddam Hussein's forces in the 1991 Gulf War, for example. At present, we don't have a fresh victory to celebrate — or even a vaguely recent one. Trump wants the pomp without the usual circumstance.

Again, why should anyone be shocked that Trump would care much about style and not at all about substance? The only question is whether the parade idea is evidence of his alleged political genius or his delicate and damaged psyche. I vote for the latter.

Trump is more a creature of instinct than calculation. My guess is that both his narcissism and his authoritarianism are at play in his need to honor himself with a parade.

The campaign-style rallies he so enjoys do not appear

well-designed to advance a political agenda; they do, however, boost his spirits and massage his ego.

Imagine all the love he would feel while reviewing a miles-long parade whose participants all had the sworn duty to show him respect as commander in chief. He would be saluted and serenaded to his heart's content. It would be an egomaniac's heaven.

Trump's big parade would also be a massive display of power — not so much the nation's as his own. There is not a soul on Earth who doubts the overwhelming strength of the U.S. military. I can think of one soul, however, who is insecure enough in his own authority that he accuses members of Congress who do not stand and applaud him of treason.



**FLOYD NORMAN**  
AWARD-WINNING ANIMATOR

**PHIL LAMARR**  
VETERAN VOICE-OVER ARTIST

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## Behind the Mask

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To go behind the mask, visit [xfinity.com/discovermore](http://xfinity.com/discovermore)

# DEVAL

CONTINUED FROM 1A

whether he'll seek public office again, but he didn't close the door on a possible presidential campaign. He wants to focus on his business. Patrick currently serves as a managing director of Bain Capital Double Impact, where he focuses on investments that deliver both a competitive financial return and significant positive social impact.

Speaking to audiences at the Museum of Contemporary Art and at North Miami High School, however, Patrick said he is worried about the future of the country.

"We're in a dark chapter right now," he said after receiving his key to the city. He blamed the current political climate on the political leadership in Washington, D.C. — a reference to Donald Trump and the GOP House and Senate leaders.

"Leadership now is getting us to turn on each other instead of to each other," Patrick said.

But he maintains hope. "I think we can be brighter and better," Patrick said. In his speech, Patrick connected the civil rights accomplishments of all people which have led to new sights of inspiration despite the ongoing struggles.

"Racism is not over," Patrick said. "I was threatened and called [the n-word] at 16 years old and in some of the mail I got while governor."

"In more settings than ever you can be recognized for your abilities and not get marginalized for what you look like. But colorblindness is not our reality and besides the point."

"There's a connection to Thurgood Marshall ending Jim Crow in school, and you finishing your education. There are Black entrepreneurs, astronauts, scientists, political leaders, investors, university presidents, judges, surgeons and CEOs."

City and school officials hon-

ored Patrick with two dance performances - one from De-lou Africa Dance Ensemble, "Movements & Rhythms from Africa," while at MOCA and another performance, titled "Bondage," from the dance class at the high school.

"We have in our midst a pioneer, a champion and an idol," Joseph said. "A man who has given his time to public service."

Joseph said Patrick would make a "wonderful president." "He has the gubernatorial experience and insights into the problems whether it be domestic violence, the economy or international affairs," Joseph said.

Councilman Alix Desulme said the more options the better but also said the current bar for president is low.

"Anybody would be better than what we have now," said Desulme.

Desulme said Patrick is bright and that he followed his career.

Patrick grew up on the South Side of Chicago, Illinois, an area known for homicide rates higher than the national average and just as much poverty and racism as any other part of the country.

He moved to Massachusetts when he was 14. While in New England, Patrick had a scholarship to attend Milton Academy, named after the town that's about a 20-minute car drive away from Boston.

"Compared to the violent, overcrowded public schools in Chicago, Milton was like landing on a different planet," Patrick said to the students in their auditorium.

Boston lacks the Black population of Chicago or New York—334,000 compared to 840,000 and 2 million—and New England is no stranger to race inequalities.

In a series titled "Boston. Racism. Image. Reality," The Boston Globe's investigative reporting team Spotlight showcased where racial divisions still exist.

"The relatively small size of Boston's Black community is not an excuse for the inequali-

## Here are more North Miami Black History celebrations:

Black History Month traces its origins back to 1915. North Miami will host events themed around culture and the arts throughout the city in February.

One of the main events is the third annual Music in the Plaza block party, featuring a gospel concert, a recognition of educators and a performance of the R&B group Dru Hill between 6-11 p.m. on Feb. 24 in the plaza of the Museum of Contemporary Art, 770 NE 125 St.

There will also be a stamp dedication ceremony for Lena Horne - jazz vocalist, dancer, actress and civil rights activist - will start at 7 p.m. on Feb. 27 in City Hall, 776 NE 125 St.

## Other activities include:

The second annual pop-up block party and college fair will be from 2:30-4:30 p.m. on Feb. 16 in Cagni Park, 13498 NE Third Ave.

The Black History Month Gospel Concert, an evening of classical gospel performances, will take place from 2-4 p.m. on Feb. 17 in the North Miami Public Library, 835 NE 132 St.

The announcement of winners for an essay contest will be from 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. on the 22nd also in the library.

The third annual evening of the arts to recognize local visual and performing arts educators will start at 7 p.m. on Feb. 23 and take place in the Joe Celestin Center, 1525 NW 135 St.

ties — or biases — that persist here," wrote Akilah Johnson, a Spotlight reporter.

"The experience in other cities shows that, even when the Black population is relatively small, things can be done with sufficient will. Minneapolis, Denver, and Seattle — all with smaller Black populations than Boston — have elected Black mayors at least once. Boston has never even come close.

But Patrick got some luck. His scholarship to Milton

Academy came from Better Chance, an organization based in Boston that helps students of color attend the best schools in the country.

The financial fortune got him into Harvard University where he graduated with a law degree. Afterward, he clerked for a federal appellate judge, became a partner at two Boston law firms and was a senior executive at Texaco and Coca-Cola.

In 1994, former President Bill Clinton appointed Patrick to the nation's top law enforcement post for civil rights, assistant attorney general for civil rights.

The division, created in December 1967, has a leading role in combating hate crimes, human trafficking and excessive use of force by law enforcement or prison officers, according to a Justice Department press release published for the division's 60th anniversary in 2017.

The Civil Rights Division's law enforcement also encompasses protecting the right to vote, students and employees against discrimination, harassment and retaliation; protecting the rights of persons with disabilities to equal access to public accommodations and services; upholding the rights of persons in institutions to constitutional and humane treatment; protecting the rights of religious communities to construct places of worship; and enforcing other important civil rights protections.

"We live, work, play and marry in ways that were unimaginable a generation or two ago," Patrick said.

In his 2006 bid for public office, Patrick's first ever, he became the state's first Black governor. In his two terms as governor, he oversaw the expansion of affordable health care to more than 98 percent of state residents, launched initiatives stimulating clean energy and biotechnology, won a national Race to the Top grant, and steered the state out of recession to a 25-year high in employment.

# NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

## National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Councilwoman Lillie Q. Odom, God's Amazing Grace Outreach Ministries, the Florida Department of Health and Miami-Dade County will offer free health screenings for the public at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15 at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex, 3000 NW 199th Street. Participants can take part in health screenings, HIV testing with results in 20 minutes, entertainment, refreshments, gifts and giveaways. For details, contact Hilary Marshall at 305-622-8062 or godsamazinggrace@aatt.net.

## Miami-Dade County enacts law for animals

The Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners passed an ordinance that prevents people found guilty of animal abuse from adopting pets from the County's Pet Adoption and Protection Center and from the county's shelter partners. Potential pet adopters will be checked against a database being developed by the county in collaboration with the courts and the State's Attorney's Office. The ordinance also strengthens the Animal Service Department's authority to protect animals from harm.

The concept behind the ordinance originated in a forum held several years ago called "A Home for All Pets" where community advocates and rescue organizations gathered to provide their ideas for ways to make Miami-Dade a safer and friendlier place for all of our household pets.

The ordinance also includes provisions for: protecting the rights of religious communities to construct places of worship; and enforcing other important civil rights protections.

## Better Food Movement Conference

Top industry professionals and business leaders from the United States, Latin America, Europe and Israel will convene to explore new trends in making

healthier food more readily available at the second annual Better Food Movement Conference on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at Miami Dade College's (MDC) downtown Wolfson Campus. This conference is in partnership with the Miami Culinary Institute (MCI) and digital-first media company, NATCOM GLOBAL.

The conference will launch at the beginning of Food Week 2018 in Miami, attracting top chefs, global food industry executives, new media influencers and political leaders. This year's keynote speaker is Eivav Gefen, a corporate executive chef at Unilever Food Solutions North America, who oversees 250 chefs worldwide with influence over the food choices of millions of consumers every day, and who will discuss Innovation: The Future of Food. For more information, contact Allison Horton at 305-237-3359 or e-mail ahorton2@mdc.edu.

## Free training program for business owners, CEOs, and nonprofit leaders

The Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship is accepting applications for their Small Business Executive Program and their Nonprofit Executive Program until March 31. This program is ideal for CEOs, entrepreneurs, business owners, executive directors and presidents of small businesses and nonprofit organizations. It aims to help leaders with management, business opportunities and more. The program is free and locations are in Broward and Palm Beach counties. There are nine sessions, one every week. To apply, go to jimmorainstitute.org. For more information, call 954-399-2849 or e-mail cmickens@jimmorainstitute.fsu.edu.

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# Police oversight hangs on Gimenez

## NAACP writing letters after veto threat

ANDREA ROBINSON  
arobinson@miamitimesonline.com

The members of the Miami-Dade NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union are mounting a letter-writing campaign aimed at Mayor Carlos Gimenez, asking that he not veto legislation to fully restore civilian oversight of Miami-Dade Police Department.

Ruban Roberts, the president of the Miami-Dade branch, said he's surprised by the veto threat.

Roberts also is part of a diverse group of local community organizations that spent eight months drafting ideas on how oversight in Miami-Dade County would work.

"In a state where there is so much distrust for government, I think it's important to allow our community members to have a voice, an outlet so if there is a complaint or concern about a government entity then they have a place they can go to voice their concerns," said Roberts. "They need a place that is independent from county government. 'This will improve community relationships, and build more trust with the government.'"

Roberts said Gimenez should allow the will of the people who represent the cit-

izens — the 13 commissioners — to stand.

"These folks represent Miami-Dade County at large. The majority have passed the ordinance," Roberts said. "We would like due process to happen. We'd like the mayor to not veto, but to let the ordinance to stand as approved."

Supporters of civilian police oversight said last week they were cautiously optimistic about recent votes in favor of two such agencies operating in Miami and Miami-Dade County.

On Thursday, the Miami Commission appointed four new Black men and women to serve on its Civilian Investigative Panel. Supporters say the additions give the city panel its most diverse lineup by race and gender.

The NAACP cheered two days earlier, on Feb. 6, when the Miami-Dade County Commission voted 7-5 to restore funding to its oversight agency — and to authorize a new name. Under the ordinance, \$170,000 to fund the agency would be taken from the Miami-Dade Police Department budget.

Two of the opponents — Commissioners Joe Martinez and Rebeca Sosa voiced strong concerns against the need for oversight. Martinez is a former Miami-Dade Po-

lice officer, so his opposition isn't new.

The other no votes were from Commission Chairman Esteban Bovo, Javier Souto and Jose "Pepe" Diaz. Commissioner Sally Heyman was not on the dais during the vote.

However, after the vote, Mayor Carlos Gimenez expressed reservations about the need for the panel and

matter," Hernandez said.

In July, county commissioners gave tentative approval to a report by presented by a working group on ways the county could reinstate the new Independent Community Panel (ICP). The organization was created nearly 40 years ago in response to tensions between the police and the Black community.

The IRP, created in the wake of the 1980 riots, was a fully functioning agency with subpoena power. It was designed to monitor and investigate charges of police brutality and other complaints against county employees.

It was written out of the Miami-Dade budget in the late 2000s after the economic downturn. The IRP has a volunteer board, but no funds to investigate. Several community organizations including the Miami-Dade NAACP, ACLU of Florida, and PULSE urged unsuccessfully for the county to restore the full funding during the 2016 budget negotiations.

Under the proposal presented to commissioners, the revised panel would have more duties. The old IRP reviewed complaints by citizens primarily against Miami-Dade Police Department officers and invited officers or their superiors to address the complaints, or at least verbally respond.

**“**  
In a state where there is so much distrust for government, I think it's important to allow our community members to have a voice, an outlet so if there is a complaint or concern about a government entity then they have a place they can go

suggested he might veto the legislation.

Gimenez spokesman Michael Hernandez said the mayor had not yet decided what he will do.

"Mayor Gimenez is evaluating his options. He has met with Commissioner Barbara Jordan and Police Director Juan Perez to discuss the



# Fourth person hit by a Brightline train

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Officials in Florida say a man who was hit and injured by a new high-speed train purposely laid down on the tracks just before being struck.

A Brightline statement said that witnesses saw the man lie down on the tracks as the train approached Thursday night near Fort Lauderdale.

It was the fourth time the train has struck someone since beginning operations between Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach last month.

On Jan. 17, the train fatally struck a man who police said tried to beat the train while riding a bicycle. A week earlier, it killed a woman who ducked under the gate. Another pedestrian survived being hit by the train in January.

Brightline has put out multiple statements urging people not to race the train.

# ABUSE

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"There were instances where the families were involved in domestic violence," she said. "And I said, 'if I ever had a chance to do something to make their lives better, I would definitely do it.'"

One in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90 percent of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence, according to the CDC.

Bendross-Mindingall also served at the state capital as a state representative for eight years where she said she would push for legislation that would benefit those families before starting her own event in Miami.

This year's workshop will feature a well-known face of domestic violence, Marissa Alexander of Jacksonville.

Alexander came into prominence after her conviction for firing a warning shot at her abusive estranged husband initially sent her to prison for 20 years.

"Marissa has done all that she needed to do to become a national speaker, not that she wanted to," said Bendross-Mindingall. "I am thankful and forever grateful that she is able to move around and tell her story, so that others would understand that if she was able to get through this, then I can also."

Alexander's husband started calling her names after he found text messages to her first husband on her phone in August 2010, according to a sworn deposition from the case.

"If I can't have you, nobody going to have you," he said, according to the document.

Alexander shot her gun in the air and asked him to leave, which a court deemed a violation of the state gun laws and led to her two-decade sentence in 2012. Her case garnered national attention because her "Stand Your Ground" self-defense failed. After a national campaign of support, she was released in January 2017 under a plea deal.

In addition to Alexander sharing her story, the workshop will provide adult and youth breakout sessions designed to educate, inform and empower attendees as it relates to surviving domestic violence and teen-dating vio-



Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center at Jackson Memorial Hospital was among over 30 organizations and agencies providing free resources and information to attendees at the 17th Annual No More Broken Hearts Domestic Violence Workshop held at Georgia Jones-Ayers Middle School on Feb. 25, 2017.

lence.

In 2016, a total of 105,640 crimes of domestic violence were reported to Florida law enforcement agencies, 47 percent of the suspects were either a spouse or a cohabitant.

In Miami-Dade County, there were 9,357 cases in 2016, the third highest among Florida counties. However, many cases go unreported.

No More Broken Hearts will educate attendees on the community resources that are available to them.

One of those resources is the Miami-Dade Community Action and Human Services Department.

The CAHSD has violence intervention and prevention services for families, which include counseling, shelters, transportation, emergency financial and food assistance and more.

The director of CAHSD, Lucia Davis-Raiford said that domestic violence is a "too-common occurrence."

For more than two decades Davis-Raiford has tackled the issue, and even founded the New York Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit.

She volunteered as a panel moderator at last year's workshop and looks forward to this year's, which she said focuses on victim safety, emotional, financial and lifestyle support.

It is a personal battle for Davis-Raiford, who is also a domestic-violence survivor.

She has a message for people who are still trying to find their way out.

"Even though a part of abuse is isolation by the abuser, you are not alone," she said. "Have a safety plan, even it is to hold

but when you suffer in silence, no can help you."

The free event will be held at 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24, at Charles R. Drew K-8 Center, 1801 NW 60th Street, Miami. Free breakfast and lunch will be provided. Register online at 2018nomorebrokenhearts.eventbrite.com.

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# FEUD

CONTINUED FROM 1A

mayor's comments, to show that it was difficult to collect funds and for the drivers to do their job when bus equipment was regularly broken.

It was recorded that in November alone, bus operators reported 362 times that their fare box, with approximately 200 different buses, had a faulty box. With 800 buses in the fleet, that is nearly a quarter of buses having issues. In November, January and December alone, the county records show, fare boxes had reported more than 1000 occasions of fare boxes malfunctioning.

"These were some of the examples Lawrence Gunn, bus transportation officer of the Transport Workers Union, pointed out is mismanagement on the county, not the workers.

"The mayor said, we don't come to work, that the service is bad. Well we show up to work, we are there. What is not there is the proper equipment," Gunn said. "It's management fault, period. We are not to blame."

The feud has been ongoing with the mayor's comments coming after the TSU took out a full page in the newspaper of a photoshopped Gimenez, in a space suit, floating in the sky with money floating away.

The ad says, "come back to Earth" in reference to the mayor asking the county for a \$170,000 raise, which would be a reversal of a self-imposed salary reduction when he assumed office in 2011.

The union believes that money should be invested into Miami-Dade Transit to better services. The mayor found the ad "ridiculous" and complained about their absenteeism.

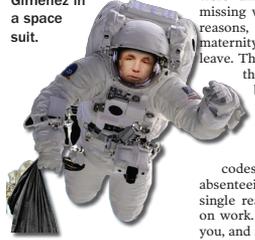
The mayor's office did not

respond to *The Miami Times* by press time.

"The mayor is giving the perception that it is the operators' fault, that we don't come to work. That has to change, it is so far away from the truth," Gunn said. "The data shows otherwise. And it was Miami-Dade Transit who gathered the information. It's their numbers."

Transit chief Alice Bravo

**Transport Workers Union took out a full page ad in the Miami Herald of a photoshopped Mayor Carlos Gimenez in a space suit.**



said that while the fare box does have some problems, the "allegations was disingenuous." She estimated that daily five or 10 buses experience a problem, but it is rectified immediately, calling the bus back in to the garage and fixing it for the next day.

She also said that mayor's comments were based on facts. The county report showed that when all departments were compared, the transit department was "unusually high."

"The county report compared every department side by side with the same criteria that included maternity leave, jury leave, and yet their numbers were still unusually high," Bravo said. "They have

to come to work for things to operate."

Bravo said that it was fairly easy for workers to call in sick, saying that they call in sick up to eight times before a supervisor can report it as absenteeism. The contract between the union and the county also stipulates that workers cannot be disciplined for excessive absenteeism.

"We are at an impasse with the union on those contract terms," Bravo said. "There is this problem that we are encouraging absenteeism."

Gunn however disputed the statement, saying the 3,366-person department were unfairly punished for missing work for mandatory reasons, such as jury duty, maternity leave or military leave. That ultimately causes the absenteeism number to look higher than it is, but he says that it is not the case.

"They have certain codes that they use for absenteeism, they use every single reason if you are not on work. They use it against you, and it is not fair. It is not right," Gunn said. "That is how the numbers for absenteeism are supposedly high, but if they use the numbers they are supposed to be using, it shows that we are not as bad as any other employee."

Bravo however referred back to the county report showing that every department was weighed against each other with the same standard. The transit was still the highest.

The union's data showed that numerous buses required constant service, causing operator service to not be able to drive.

There were a reported 76 times where drivers had to return the bus back to the garage, ensuring that scheduled rides would not be available.

Clarence Washington, president of the Transport Workers Union Miami chapter, said that the missed rides and faulty equipment caused lost fares. Most times, bus operators would be lounging in garages because they had no bus to operate.

"This is a glaring example of how Mayor Gimenez is mismanaging the transit system," Washington wrote in a statement. "His administration can't even ensure that our buses have reliable and functioning fare-boxes, so riders can pay the fare. This is lost revenue that should be available to increase and improve service. It's a ridiculous situation."

Bravo said that the county does not track revenue lost to faulty fare boxes.

There have been many discussions on the county's public transportation and the lack thereof.

Last Tuesday, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce held a discussion on how to improve transportation infrastructure, and the recurring statement was that Miami can do better when it comes to transportation.

A panelist referred to Denver having an "amazing transportation solution," and it was only possible because their community, private and public sector, were set on achieving the goal.

Gunn had echoed similar sentiments that Miami could and must improve to reach its potential and shed the sentiment that Miami is a vehicle-only city.

"We are one of the biggest cities. We should be a top 10, top five transit system. Yet, we may be one of the worst in the country," Gunn said. "When I first started, I was so proud to be a bus operator for Miami-Dade. We had the working conditions, the equipment and the management cared. We are not working together like we used to."

# Private school for bullied students

Under the proposed bill, students would be eligible if educators are told

TERRY SPENCER  
Associated Press

From third to fifth grade, Alyson Hochstedler says bullies slammed her son into lockers and punched him. One threatened to stab him. The public school's administration did little to stop his tormentors, she says, so the mother of five transferred her son to private school, using a state grant for low- and middle-income families to pay his tuition.

The Florida Legislature is considering a proposal that would give parents like Hochstedler a second, more controversial option, especially if they aren't eligible for an income-based grant. That option is a state-funded private school voucher averaging \$6,800 a year expressly for children who say they have been bullied, regardless of income.

The "Hope Scholarships" would be the nation's first such program. The grants would be funded by car buyers who voluntarily redirect \$105 from their registration fee to the program, under a bill passed by the Florida House. Religious and secular private schools would be eligible.

Hochstedler, a Tallahassee resident, wishes such a program had existed for her son, now 15 and thriving at a private school.

"When the conflict is not resolved for the safety and welfare of the child, having another recourse like the Hope Scholarship becomes just that... hope," she said in an email.

But opponents whose children have also been bullied say it would do nothing to stop the problem. The state teachers union agrees, saying it is part of an effort to weaken public schools. A 2016 study by the National Center for Education Statistics showed little difference in bullying between public and religious schools.

Leah Ribando's fourth-grade daughter suffers migraines from the relentless insults she and her friends receive from a group of girls at their central Florida school. She said accepting a voucher would seem like "I'm being paid off to leave" and would let administrators off the hook.

"The bully isn't being reprimanded -- they will still be there to bully other kids," she said.

Under the proposal, students would be eligible if their parents told administrators they had been bullied, battered, harassed, hazed, sexually assaulted or harassed, robbed, kidnapped, threatened or intimidated at school. The allegation wouldn't have to be proved, under the House bill. The companion Senate bill would require the principal's substantiation.

Critics say the measure is loosely written, and a child teased or jostled once in elementary school could get an annual voucher through high school.

Florida public schools reported 47,000 bullying incidents last year, but with 3 million students statewide, that is likely a large undercount.



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**DESTINATIONS**

EXPLORE KEY WEST FOR SOME  
**BLACK HISTORY**

9B

**SPORTS**

**Heat Wave: Dwyane Wade receives standing ovation in Miami return**

12B



EQUIFAX HACK EXPOSED MORE INFORMATION THAN WE THOUGHT, DOCUMENTS SHOW 10B

## The makings of a boss

### Miami man celebrates grand opening of clothing store

**JANIAH ADAMS**  
jadams@miamitimesonline.com

Eric Wooden was working at a post office for three years until he woke up one day in 2013 and decided he wanted to start designing t-shirts.

Five years later, the 29-year-old celebrated the grand opening of his store "THE COOL" in Liberty City off of 62nd Street and 7th Avenue last week.

THE COOL, a clothing line that Wooden describes as having an urban style, was born out of his love for fashion. However, his passion did not make the process of establishing a brand easy for him.

"First of all, my funds were very low, so I had to start with a small quantity [of t-shirts], and just getting the brand out there and making people believe in it," Wooden said. "I had to build the brand myself."

When he first started, Wooden began going to trade shows and passed out flyers in South Beach, Brickell, Aventura and other areas of Miami. It wasn't until 2015 when he really started to get noticed by stores. The clothing store COOL Js began ordering shirts from him, and so did other stores, Wooden said. In 2016, Wooden had seen enough profit from THE COOL to leave his job at the post office.

The ultimate goal for Wooden was always to open his own clothing store. However, it wasn't until he started taking courses with the Miami Bayside Foundation, a nonprofit aimed at advancing economic development in the city of Miami, that the goal became more attainable.

Wooden took part in the free training Miami Bayside Foundation holds two to three times a year that targets minorities and women in the city of Miami.

He also received a loan from the foundation to aid in opening his store and to purchase the t-shirt printer.

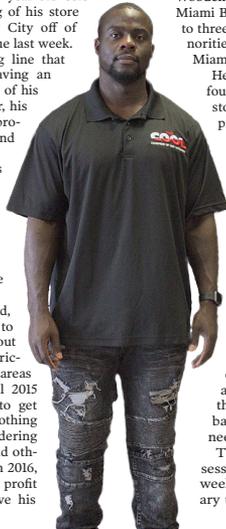
Jane Justiz, a worker for the foundation's loan program, said the free training is primarily for small business owners to help them expand.

Some of the courses are on the topics of understanding your business, mission statements and branding, market analytics, production, social media, human resources, sales and more.

"At the end, all the students present to lenders, and they have to create their own financial package, basically what they would need to get a loan," Justiz said.

The program consists of 10 sessions that are split over five weeks. Justiz said the February training is full, but the next

**SEE BOSS 8B**



Miami Times photos/Janiah Adams



**Lynette Abbott's business, Craft My Occasion creates party supplies which helps children of color develop a positive and loving self-image.**

Image: Craft My Occasion

## Party supplies for Black children on sale is crafty

### Miami mother raised \$20K on Kickstarter to start business

**ADEDAMOLA AGBOOLA**  
Black Enterprise

After launching a successful Kickstarter campaign in 2017 for her party supplies business, Craft My Occasion "mompreneur" Lynette Abbott said it is time for her to deliver on sales to prove that her products are not only a necessity but that it is also financially viable.

"I'm at a point now where I need to get more sales and to show that there is a need for the designs," Abbott said. "I know I did do that with the Kickstarter campaign, but investors don't consider that real sales. I want to have a global impact, but I have to show that my numbers back it up."

Abbott said she started Craft My Occasion in 2013 to create party supplies for children of color, which helps them to develop a positive and loving self-image. At the time, she was simultaneously planning parties for children of color, and working as an office administrator at the U.S. Customs and Border Control office in Florida — a position she held for over a decade.

As she planned parties for mostly kids of color, she said she noticed that most of the characters on party supplies



**Craft My Occasion's first design is a mermaid of color with full lips, brown eyes and curly, kinky hair.**

resembled her five-year-old daughter.

"As I was doing parties for other moms, who are parents of color, we talked about the unavailability of diverse characters in the party supplies I was using," the 38-year-old said. "I know it is important to have diverse representation because that makes kids

feel like they belong. If they feel out of place, they will find something crazy to do that will make them feel like they belong."

While making sales will legitimize Abbott's business, her goals are much bigger.

"My daughter is very young, and she's already aware of

**SEE PARTY 8B**

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING MATTERS

DANIELLA PIERRE

### Solving housing crisis What will it take to end serious ongoing county-wide issue today

Last year, South Florida was named one of the least affordable places to live. Based on that alarming news, I thought we would have had a strategic plan in effect by now.

But all I continue to see is more reports about the affordable housing crisis and not much action. What we really need are solutions along with a dedicated funding source that would be used to make housing and homeownership more accessible and affordable for the residents of South Florida.

Since we have so much data, reports and statistics on our hous-

ing crisis, policymakers need to review it and use it to make this place a more affordable place to live. Instead, we're almost two months into the new year and the state of our housing crisis is still hanging in the balance.

Our local politicians should really be ashamed of themselves. In my book, they're not doing enough and we must hold them more accountable. According to our Home Rule Charter, it's their job along with the mayor to protect the general welfare of all the residents and to prepare and enforce comprehensive plans



Pierre

for the development of the county to include housing, not just The Underline and Ludlum Trail in Coral Gables. It seems like they have forgotten that they're in office and elected to serve to protect us.

So here's what needs to happen

Simply put, local policymakers need to find more ways to bridge the widening gap between housing affordability and the availability of affordable housing, that will serve our needs today as well as the future.

This can be done by urging the Florida House of Representatives and Governor Scott to stop sweeping away the funds from the State Housing Trust Fund.

Once the mandate to stop the sweeping passes, more funding for our affordable housing and homeownership programs will be available to us locally. Next, the developers need to have a seat; in fact, they need to have several seats.

Why? They have way too much power and say so when it comes to our housing needs. If you look around, they're building what's not profitable to them and not necessarily us.

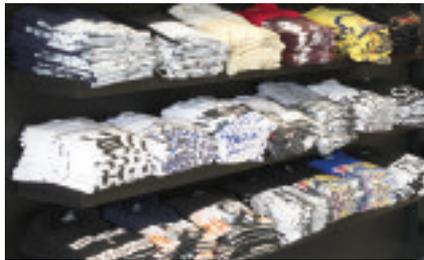
This is one of many

reasons why it's time for all developers to have a "stamp of approval" from the local residents before any of their plans are submitted to the commissioners for final board approval, especially if county funds and services are involved.

Also, vacant county lots that are sitting idle, need to be activated within two years. There's simply no reason why vacant lots that were donated by the county to local non-profits years ago and earmarked for affordable housing, still have nothing built on them.

And something that must happen at all levels, is better local and state-wide messaging around our housing needs and the misconception of what affordable housing is. Putting these things together along with leadership that follows through, will move us from acknowledging the housing crisis that we have to take action to really solving it once and for all.

*Are you priced-out of living in South Florida? Let's hear about it! Share your story, experience or solution today. Contact Daniella Pierre to affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com.*



Miami Times photos/Janish Adams

Terry Jones, Eric Wooden's brother, assists him in designing t-shirts.

## BOSS

CONTINUED FROM 7B

one will begin in the summer. Participants must attend at least eight out of 10 of the sessions in order to earn a certificate of completion.

Wooden said the courses he took with the foundation helped him a lot.

"It opened my eyes up to a business world and to go about things a different way and to conduct myself in a different way," Wooden said. "Having a store was always the ultimate goal. When I established my fan base and when I got more accounts, plus with the courses it made me realize that I could do it."

Wooden also attends Miami Dade College and is working on a degree in entrepreneurship.

Eric Wooden, Eric Wooden's

twin sister, said she and their parents are proud of her brother.

"I am so proud of him and happy that he stuck with it and didn't give up," Erica Wooden said. "He did it all himself."

Both Erica Wooden and Terry Jones, Eric Wooden's brother who also helps him to design the t-shirts, came to support him during the grand opening.

At this point, Eric Wooden has not only accomplished his ultimate goal of having his own store, but he is also living the answer to the question, why THE COOL?

"Champions Of Our Livelihood," Eric Wooden said. "Everyday is a struggle no matter where you are, no matter what you're going through. Nothing is easy, but always try to put yourself in a position to succeed."

To apply for the small business training, visit MiamiBayside-Foundation.org.

# Alvin Ailey dancers launch boycott about wages

## New terms being negotiated according to artists union

JAZZI JOHNSON  
theorio.com

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is legend for their groundbreaking history, innovative choreography and

management team for The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and demanding that their wage and benefit issues be addressed.

"It is very concerning that Ailey's artists,

Director of AGMA. "Management needs to promptly address this glaring disparity."

The Washington Post reports that the dancers banded together to boy-

And, instead of just sitting out the annual fundraising gala in protest, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater dancers made their concerns known in dramatic fashion.

part in schmoozing, smizing, and playfully dancing with Alvin Ailey donors so their absence was immediately felt. The evening's organizers reportedly were unaware of the planned boycott until the dancers left the gala.

ations for new terms since December and have yet to reach a decision.

"Artists of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater boycotted the company's annual gala reception at the Kennedy Center last night based on management's failure to adequately address the group's standard wage-

es and benefits," the release read according to Blavity. "The dancers and stage managers, represented by the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA), began negotiations in December for a new collective bargaining agreement, with the current one expiring on May 31st, 2018." To further assist

with publicizing their boycott over low wages, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Company dancers created the Artist Of Ailey Instagram page to highlight their individual stories and their collective stance.

Seeking fair compensation

The Alvin Ailey

SEE AILEY 11B



AP Photo/Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Paul Kolnik

This publicity image released by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater shows dancers performing in "Four Corners," choreographed by Ronald K. Brown, at Lincoln Center's David H. Koch Theater in New York.

iconic performances around the world. But apparently all is not well at the storied dance company.

The dancers are currently renegotiating a three-year contract with the

predominately African American dancers, earn much less than dancers at comparable companies with similar or even smaller budgets," said Leonard Egart, National Executive

cott the company's annual fundraising gala at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. last Tuesday to make a strong statement about their concerns.

A choreographed protest The dancers showed up to the gala and then in a choreographed move left the building in unison. The dancers typically play an integral

The American Guild of Musical Artists, the union that represents the Alvin Ailey dancers, released a press statement on the issue that detailed they have been in negoti-

## PARTY

CONTINUED FROM 7B

her skin color." Abbott said. "I constantly tell her that her skin is beautiful and that her hair is normal. So instead of complaining about it, I just created something that I know would be beneficial to my own kids too."

Abbott set out to raise \$20,000 online, but she ex-

ceeded her goal by raising \$21,667 from 648 backers and has shipped out over 200 orders.

"That's when I realized there was a need for this. For the business to be as big and successful as I wanted, I had to resign from her job," Abbott said.

She left her federal government job in September to focus on the business full time. Her first design was a mermaid of color

with full lips, brown eyes and curly, kinky hair. She said she wanted to ensure that the characters had brown eyes, the proper skin texture and hair.

She had her ideas illustrated by Ana Rako, who she said she met on Facebook. She created cups, plates, balloons and backpacks.

Abbott however, isn't stopping there.

"A lot of people are asking for designs for boys,"

Abbott said. "I have designs coming out next month. There is a superhero scheduled for spring. I'm also working on apparel and t-shirts," she said.

Abbott said she is also working on holiday designs for children of color that includes room decor, lamps, and everything that goes in kid's rooms. She is also planning on launching a Shopify page in March that will hopefully increase her online sales.

**MCM**  
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MCC-P-106-A

MCM is soliciting bids for this project under the BEC-B-70 Program at Miami Dade  
Shؤون Department.

Scope: Upgrades to the structural supports by removing and replacing the bearing pad  
and the expansion joints as well as repairs to spalled concrete.

Particulars Bidding: BRB/Covered Traffic Rail/Asiote "B" Elevated Misc. Work, "B"  
Shؤون/Overhead Street, "C" Expansion Joints

Pre-bid Conference (Mandatory): Tuesday, March 6, 2018 @ 10:00 AM  
Location: MCM 4381 NW 27th Street, Building 3032, 2nd Floor, Conference Room #1  
Deadline: Bid Due: Thursday, March 15, 2018 @ 2:00 PM  
Bidding required for bids at \$200,000 or higher.

For information, please contact MCM's MA office (305)956-6500

## Public Notice

### Public Housing and Community Development / Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan / Capital Fund Program (CFP) / Proposed Supporting Policy Documents

**COMMENT PERIOD**

Miami-Dade Public Housing and Community Development (PHCD) hereby advertises its proposed PHA Plan and Capital Fund Program (CFP) for Fiscal Year 2018-2019: Public Housing Dwelling Leases; Community Policies; and Admissions and Occupancy Policy (AOP) to include a Smoke-Free Policy, which will be available for review during a 45-day comment period from **February 8, 2018 through March 26, 2018**, at PHCD's management offices and website [www.miamidade.gov/phcd](http://www.miamidade.gov/phcd).

Please send written comments during the comment period to: PHCD, 301 S.W. 1st St., 10th Floor, Miami, Florida 33136. Also: PHA Plan Comments; or email: [comments@phcd.miamidade.gov](mailto:comments@phcd.miamidade.gov)

PHCD does not discriminate based on race, sex, color, religion, marital status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, status as a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, source of income, age, pregnancy or familial status in the access to, admission to, or employment in housing programs or activities. If you need a sign language interpreter or materials in accessible format for this event, call 786-189-2125 at least five days in advance. TDD/TTY users may contact the Florida Relay Service at 800-855-8771.

For legal info online, go to <http://leginfo.miamidade.gov>



## EXPLORE KEY WEST FOR SOME BLACK HISTORY

African slaves found peace in this historic southern-most Florida city, with its rich culture

ADRIAN SAINZ  
ABC News

A small, unique piece of American history lies beneath a narrow strip of sandy beach not far from this island's hotels and nightlife.

It's the known resting place of nine Africans, and 286 others are believed to be entombed along Higgs Beach on Key West's shore.

The dead were casualties of a trans-Atlantic trip aboard three American-owned slave ships intercepted by the U.S. Navy in 1860. The vessels were heading to Cuba to sell their 1,432 passengers into labor.

Rescued from slavery, the Africans spent three months in Key West, being cared for by local doctors with supplies purchased by the U.S. marshal and donated by an accepting citizenry. About 1,100 survived, and were eventually sent back to Africa in a dangerous voyage.

"They were brought here for refuge and became part of our community," said Norma Jean Sawyer, director of Key West's African-Bahamian Museum. "In Key West, they found some peace."

### A SLAVE SHIPWRECK

The cemetery is just one attraction for tourists who find themselves in Key West during February, which is Black history month. There's also a permanent exhibit focusing on the Henrietta Marie shipwreck on display at the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum, in Mallory Square just steps from famous Duval Street.

Excavated largely by the society, the Henrietta Marie, which sank near Key West in 1701 after delivering slaves to Jamaica, is one of only a handful of slave shipwrecks in the Western Hemisphere ever identified by name.

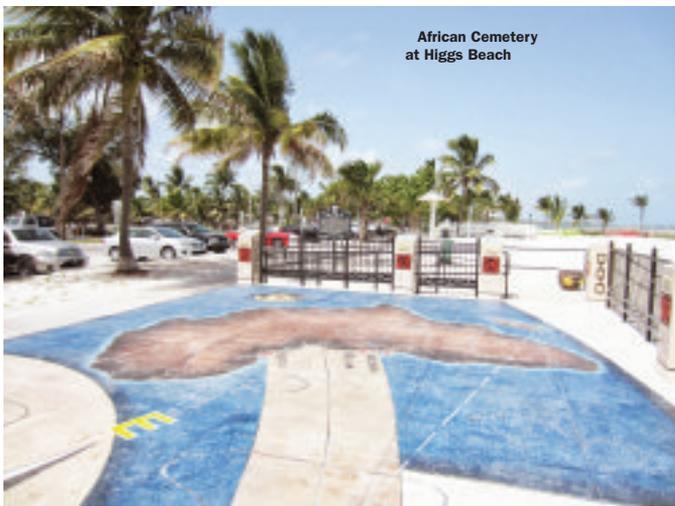
The slave trade had been declared illegal in the United States by the mid-19th century. But it still continued to places such as Cuba and Brazil, financed illegally by American profiteers. Slave traders were considered pirates and faced penalties of death if caught.

President Buchanan in 1859 ordered a blockade of Cuba with Navy steamers to intercept any American-owned slave ships.

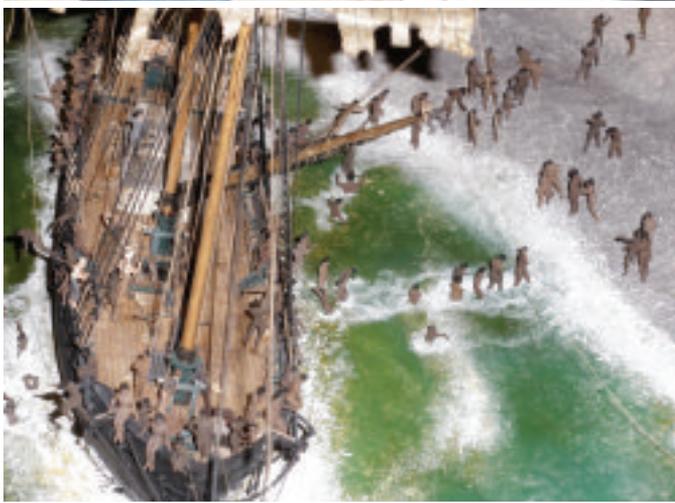
In the spring of 1860, sailors boarded the Wildfire, the William and the Bogota, finding the Africans living in deplorable conditions. They were destined to be sold as slaves in Cuba for as much as \$1,200 each, said archaeologist Corey Malcom of the Mel Fisher museum.

### A GRACIOUS WELCOME

The Navy brought the Africans to the nearest U.S. port, Key West.



African Cemetery at Higgs Beach



Model showing the last moments of the Spanish treasure galleon 'Nuestra Senora de Atocha' built for the Mel Fisher Museum in Key West.

The remote mariner town had only 3,000 residents and its main industry was salvaging, also known as wrecking.

"These surprise guests were welcomed graciously," Malcom said.

Soldiers, carpenters and others quickly built a barracks and a hospital on a three-acre compound on

what is the United States' southernmost point. The Africans, many of whom were ill after enduring the six-week voyage from their homes near present day Benin and the Congo, were confined to the compound.

They remained in Key West for three months, with U.S. Marshal

Fernando Moreno spending his own money to build the barracks and provide the Africans with food, clothes and medicine.

Townsppeople "cleaned out their closets" and wagon drivers, carpenters and other workers were hired to help, Malcom said. But despite

SEE CITY 10B

## An end to airline red tape

Protections are up for review by DOT

SCOTT MCCARTNEY  
The Wall Street Journal

Airlines want to nix a host of rules that attempt to keep them from mistreating customers. The Transportation Department is considering it.

The DOT has asked airlines to suggest changes or cuts to regulations, part of a broad initiative from President Trump, once an owner of a small airline, to reduce government red tape. It comes as DOT fines against airlines fell by half last year.

The rules matter because DOT is just about the only protection consumers have in U.S. air travel. If the airlines get what they want, the government would weaken the tarmac delay rule, which imposes hefty fines for stranding passengers on planes for long periods, and eliminate a requirement that they show the full price of a ticket when people shop.

Carriers also have asked DOT to scrap the 24-hour grace period for a full refund when buying a ticket—you would pay a change fee even if you realized right away you booked the wrong date or made a mistake in the passenger name. They want to eliminate a rule that requires them to honor tickets sold for "mistake fares," and they are asking for flexibility from a requirement they provide "prompt" wheelchair service. They argue the term "prompt" is ambiguous and complain that providing wheelchair service at zero charge costs the industry \$300 million annually and exceeds benefits.

They also want their own booking systems to be free from the DOT ban on display bias so they don't have to disclose to consumers they exclude competitors' flights, and they want to drop requirements to show on-time and cancellation data with flights.

In October, DOT asked for suggestions of "existing rules and other agency actions that are good candidates for repeal, replacement, suspension, or modification." Airlines responded in volume, calling out regulations they consider trivial, costly, outdated, burdensome and unfair. Airlines for America, the industry's lobbying group, filed 222 pages of comments. United Airlines added 50 pages of its own. There's no telling when or if the DOT will put through changes.

Airlines argue DOT has limited authority for consumer protection and has turned too-activist over the years. "DOT has strayed far from the limited scope of the statutory mandate Congress gave it when deregulating the airline industry nearly 40 years ago," David Berg, senior vice president at Airlines for America, says in one filing to DOT.

Unique in everyday commerce, airlines sometimes do bad things to their customers with expensive consequences. They leave them stranded, lose and damage their belongings, and bump them from flights when they have a ticket. It's a tough business, vulnerable to weather, machines, air-traffic control and complicated scheduling with little cushion for recovery.

The tarmac delays rule has forced airlines to closely monitor flights delayed by snow storms and other events. Airlines are trying to weaken it.

Over the years, DOT has imposed new rules in reaction to public outrage over airline fiascos like holding people on planes 10 hours or more in wretched conditions, bumping low-fare customers off planes to seat high-dollar passengers or offering misleading advertisements that not only leave out government taxes and fees but also airline-designed "fuel surcharges."

# Equifax hack might be worse than you think

Associated Press

The Equifax data breach exposed more of consumers' personal information than the company first disclosed last year, according to documents given to lawmakers.

The credit-reporting company announced in September that the personal information of 145.5 million consumers had been compromised in a data breach. It originally said that the information accessed included names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses and — in some cases — driver's license numbers and credit card numbers. It also

said the personal information from thousands of dispute documents was accessed.

However, Atlanta-based Equifax Inc. recently disclosed in a document submitted to the Senate Banking Committee, which was shared with Associated Press, that a forensic investigation found criminals accessed other information from company records. That included tax identification numbers, email addresses and phone numbers. Details, such as the expiration dates for credit cards or issuing states for driver's licenses, were also included in the list.

The additional insight into

the massive breach was first reported by the Wall Street Journal.

Equifax's disclosure, which it has not made directly to consumers, underscores the granular detail the company keeps on individuals that it may have put at risk. And it adds to the string of missteps the company has made in recovering from the security debacle.

Equifax spokeswoman Meredith Griffanti said that "in no way did we intend to mislead consumers." The company last year disclosed only the information that affected the greatest number of consumers and wanted to

"act with the greatest clarity" in terms of the information provided the committee, she said.

Griffanti also said that although the list provided to the committee includes all of the potential data points that may have been accessed by criminals, those elements affected a minimal portion of consumers. And some data — like passport numbers — were not stolen. The company reiterated that the total number of consumers affected is unchanged.

"When you are making that kind of announcement, where do you draw the line? If you saw the list we pro-

vided the banking finance committee it was pretty exhaustive," Griffanti said. "We wanted to show them that no stone was unturned."

But to consumers whose information was exposed, it may feel like yet another slap in the face.

Equifax waited months to disclose the hack. After it did, anxious consumers experienced jammed phone lines and uninformed company representatives. An Equifax website set up to help people determine their exposure was described as sketchy by security experts and provided inconsistent and unhelpful information to many. The

company blamed the online customer help page's problems on a vendor's software code after it appeared that it had been hacked as well.

Equifax has tried to make changes, replacing its chief executive, as well as spending millions to research and rectify the breach. In January, it launched a service that allows consumers to lock and unlock their credit report. But a test of the site by The New York Times found it unusable in many ways. The company said this experience was an exception and it has made some key changes to the service since it first launched.

## CITY

CONTINUED FROM 9B

their efforts, 295 of the Africans died.

Moreno paid the \$1637 for the burial of 294 Africans. One other was buried because Moreno took custody of the Africans.

Moreno spent thousands of dollars in the three months, but although he petitioned the government for repayment until his death, he was never reimbursed.

The surviving Africans were sent across the Atlantic to Liberia, a U.S.-sponsored West African colony for free slaves. Some died on the voyage, and most of the roughly 800 who did make it never returned to their homes.

Sawyer says the careful burials of the Africans is a pre-Civil War reminder of Key West's reputation of tolerance, a quality it is known for today as its acceptance of any person and lifestyle.

"The people here made sure they weren't just thrown in a hole," Sawyer said. "They were given some reverence as human beings."

The town's seafaring identity made it such an accepting place, though there was a minority who didn't like the presence of the Africans and was eager for them to leave, Mal-

**I expect at some point, whether it's us or someone else, someone will come across the other 280 people that were buried there.**

com says.

"You would see that diversity and tolerance because there were always people coming in off ships from different places with different values and different cultures," he says.

### GRAVES ON BEACH

But their tale of death and survival remained obscure until about four years ago, when Malcom helped discover the nine graves of Higgs Beach near a paved road and beach volleyball courts.

Inspired by an old map of the Higgs Beach area that showed the cemetery, he found documentation on the whole ordeal, from apothecary shopping lists, to inventories of plates and dishes, to a jour-



Key West Bahama Village display

nal of the return trip to Africa.

Malcom then decided that the area in and around Higgs Beach should be investigated. He contacted Lawrence Conyers, a University of Denver archaeology professor, who came to Key West with ground-penetrating radar. They beamed radar waves into the ground for three days and found nine graves that resembled a series of 5-to-6-foot-long ovals, neatly lined up in rows of three only a couple of feet deep.

Malcom believes most of the other graves were moved after a fort was built over the cemetery, and suspects there could be a massive pile of bones nearby.

The site of the nine shallow graves is

marked off by a Black steel fence, and plans are to build a more permanent barrier to protect them. Malcom is preparing to apply for a designation on the National Register of Historic Places.

"I expect at some point, whether it's us or someone else, someone will come across the other 280 people that were buried there," Malcom says.

Adegbolu Adefunmi, prince of the Yoruba African tribe in America, and Sawyer coordinated three days of burial and purification rituals for the cemetery last year.

While there are historic burial grounds for freed slaves, the cemetery joins one in New York as one of two in the country

that houses people from Africa who were not sold as slaves, Adefunmi said.

"Unlike many Africans buried on [U.S.] soil, these people were shown respect with an ordered burial," Adefunmi said.

### IF YOU GO...

**Site of the African Graves:** Between West Martello Tower and White Street Pier on the south side of Atlantic Boulevard. Across the boulevard from the cemetery, a plaque installed by the state of Florida tells the refugees' story. Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society & Museum: 200 Greene St., Key West. Phone 305-294-2633 or

visit [www.melfisher.org](http://www.melfisher.org). Open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Admis-

sion \$10 adults, \$8.50 students, \$5 children. Attractions include permanent exhibit about the Henrietta Marie, a slave ship. Read the story of the Henrietta Marie at [www.historical-museum.org/exhibits/hm/henrietta.htm](http://www.historical-museum.org/exhibits/hm/henrietta.htm).

**Lofton B. Sands African Bahamian Museum & Resource Center:** 324 Truman Ave., Key West. Phone (305) 295-7337 or visit [www.bclt.org/museum.htm](http://www.bclt.org/museum.htm). Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; weekends by appointment. Suggested donation: \$5 per adult. The museum is sponsoring the screening of an African film on Feb.

13 and a "Heritage Fashion Show and Dance" featuring African and Caribbean clothing on Feb. 27; both events at Key West's Veterans of Foreign Wars center.

**Key West:** Black History Month will be observed at local churches with various events including a Unity Day program and a celebration of ancient African and contemporary Black history. Other local attractions include ecotourism, fishing, historic sites, sunsets and Ernest Hemingway's house. For help with lodging or other information, contact [www.fl-keys.com](http://www.fl-keys.com) or 800-352-5397.



### OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PLEASE ALL TAKE NOTICE that a Board of Commissioners Meeting of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is scheduled to take place on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 12:00p.m., or thereafter at City of Miami, City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, FL 33133.

All interested persons are invited to attend. For more information please contact the OMNI CRA office at (305) 679-6868.

#29120

Jason Walker, Executive Director  
Omni Redevelopment District  
Community Redevelopment Agency

### OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners ("Board") of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at Miami City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida, 33133 to consider the award of grant funds to 16 Corner LLC, a legal entity authorized to transact business/render services in the State of Florida, for their acquisition and rehabilitation of affordable housing units.

In accordance with the Board's 2009 Redevelopment Plan ("Plan"), the Board will consider the funding, in an amount not to exceed \$1,800,000.00 for acquisition and \$2,000,000.00, to underwrite the expenditures and costs associated with the rehabilitation of properties located at 1541 NW 1st Place, 1535 NW 1st Place and 1540 NW 1st Court, critical in the rehabilitation of approximately 44 units of affordable housing units, within the CRA, envisioned to reduce slum and blight.

Inquiries regarding this notice may be addressed to Jason Walker, Executive Director, OMNI CRA, at (305) 679-6868.

This action is being considered pursuant to Sections 18-85 (a) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended ("Code"). The recommendation and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Sections 18-85 (a), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, and are available as with the scheduled CRA Board meeting of Thursday, February 22, 2018, at Miami City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida, 33133.

The CRA Board requests all interested parties be present or represented at the meeting, and may be heard with respect to any proposition before the CRA Board, in which the Board may take action. Should any person desire to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, that person shall ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including all testimony and evidence upon which any appeal may be based (F.S. 286.0105).

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (305) 250-5361 (Voice), no later than five (5) business days prior to the proceeding. TTY users may call via 711 (Florida Relay Service) no later than five (5) business days prior to the proceeding.



#29121

Todd B. Hannon  
Clerk of the Board

**Public Hearing**

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO FY 1998 ACTION PLAN, AND CORRESPONDING FY 1998-2002 CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM FUNDS (HOME) — CARIBBEAN VILLAGE APARTMENTS, LTD., OR RELATED ENTITY**

The Hearing and Social Services Committee (HSC) will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., or the next regularly scheduled HSC meeting if not approved due to lack of quorum or deferred. Subsequently, the item will be considered for final action by the Board of County Commissioners (BOC) at the meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 8:30 a.m., or at a meeting as determined by the BOC Chair. Both meetings will be held inside Board of County Commissioners Chambers located on the second level of the Stephen F. Clark Center, 111 NW 1st Street, Miami, Florida 33138.

The purpose of the hearing is to give the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed Substantial Amendments to the FY 1998 Action Plan, and Corresponding FY 1998-2002 Consolidated Plan including the allocation of \$679,802.88 of Surtax payment of two Surtax loans and \$588,088.00 of a Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) loan from Wynwood Tower Apartments, LLC, and affiliates, in accordance with Section 17-42 of the Miami-Sade County Code of Ordinances, the loan of three proposed loans to Caribbean Village Apartments, Ltd., a related entity, for the development of the Caribbean Village Apartments, Ltd. affordable housing project located on the corner of Caribbean Boulevard and SW 28th Drive, Miami FL 33137, and Commission District 8, represented by Commissioner Sergio E. Blass.

The public is invited to attend and comment. Comments may also be submitted in writing until Monday, March 12, 2018 at the address of the Chairman, Division Director of Public Hearing and Community Development (PHCD), 701 NW 1st Court, 14th Floor, Miami, Florida 33138 or via e-mail [Comments@DevelopmentServices@miamidade.gov](mailto:Comments@DevelopmentServices@miamidade.gov).

A copy of the proposed Substantial Amendments will be available for review online at <http://www.miamidade.gov/boozing/> and at the Miami Code Department of Public Hearing and Community Development (PHCD), located at 701 NW 1st Court, 13th Floor, Miami, FL 33138.

PHCD does not discriminate based on race, sex, color, religion, marital status, national origin, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, age, pregnancy or childbirth status or other protected activities, in providing any housing program or other services. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible format for this event call 311 (711) or 305-250-5361 (voice) or 305-250-5361 (TTY). TTY users may contact the Florida Relay Service at 800-955-8771.

For legal advice, visit <http://legalservices.miamidade.gov>



<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>Apartments</b></p> <p><b>13315 Alexandria Drive</b> Opa Locka Three bedrooms, two baths, 1,700, central air, washer and dryer. Section 8 welcome. 786-506-3067</p> <p><b>1500 NW 69 Terrace</b> Beautiful two bedrooms Section 8 OK. 786-282-8775</p> <p><b>1535 NW 1 Place</b> One Bedroom \$750 Tenant Pays All Utilities Appliances Included The Floors Call 786-506-3067</p> <p><b>1545 NW 8 Avenue</b> Two bedrooms, \$1150, central air, laundry, free Water and Direct TV. Section 8 Welcome. 786-506-3067</p> <p><b>156 NE 82 Street</b> Managers special! Two bdrms. \$1100 mthly and one bdrn, \$900. 786-325-7383</p> <p><b>160 NW 11 Terrace</b> Quiet one bdrn, \$850 mthly. Appliances included. Tenant pays all utilities. Section 8 okay. 786-506-3067</p> <p><b>220 NW 11 Terrace</b> Two bedrooms, Appliances. 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Dated this 14th day of February, 2018.</p> <p><b>LOTS</b></p> <p><b>OUR LADY OF MERCY CEMETERY DORAL</b> Two plots. One with liner and one without. Call 773-680-8523</p> <p><b>RENT NEED YOUR APARTMENT? PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD CALL 305-694-6210</b></p>
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## IRS warns tax preparers about a new refund scam

KATHY KRISTOF  
CBS News

Only a few days into the tax-filing season, the IRS is sounding an alarm about a new tax scam. Specifically, it's warning tax preparers to be on guard about the scam, which is aimed at stealing taxpayers' refunds by using data compromised in tax preparers' offices.

The agency said it has already received a number of fake tax returns that had accurate taxpayer names, addresses, Social Security numbers and even bank account information for the victims.

In an unusual twist, some bogus refunds were actually directed to the real taxpayers' bank accounts, the agency

said. A criminal, posing as a debt collector, then contacted the taxpayers saying the refunds had been sent in error and the victims should forward the money to the crook.

Because these fake returns contained all of the taxpayer's correct information, down to the right number of dependents, the IRS believes the scam started in tax-preparation offices. The agency assumes that the data was compromised because some preparers were taken in by phishing scams that then loaded malicious software onto their computer systems, making all the taxpayer information that was kept by these preparers vulnerable to theft.

The IRS said it's still in pre-

**Make sure that you keep updated security software on your home computer and ask any tax preparer you hire how your data is protected. Lemons suggested. If any of your W-2 forms contain the new 16-digit identifiers, also make sure to include that number on your tax return.**

liminary stages of investigating the con and can't quantify how many people have been affected. But because this type of scam has a way of burrowing overnight, the agency

wanted to immediately warn preparers to secure their computer systems.

"Given the history that we have seen on scams like this, when these start, they tend to proliferate quickly," said IRS spokesman Terry Lemons. "When a scam turns out to be successful, they tend to expand. We wanted to alert tax professionals to be on the lookout."

Unfortunately for consumers — the ultimate victims of this con — those who find themselves hit by tax fraud have a far more difficult course than consumers whose credit card accounts have been stolen. In the latter case, consumers have a number of steps they can take to deter

criminals from using that stolen information to open up new accounts.

In the former case, the first inkling that a taxpayer would get that they were victimized is when their electronically filed return gets rejected as a duplicate. At that point, in addition to reporting the fraud to the credit bureau and the Federal Trade Commission, tax fraud victims need to fill out a special IRS form, 14039. The taxpayer's 1040 must then be filed on paper, with the fraud affidavit attached to the form.

Be prepared that this will dramatically slow your refund. Lemons said the typical tax identity fraud takes roughly four months to investigate

and resolve.

Since tax ID theft peaked in 2013, the IRS has taken a host of steps, including forming a security partnership with preparers and software companies, to stamp out tax return fraud. The agency has also launched a pilot program that has added 16-digit identifiers to some employer's W-2 information. The agency hopes this will help it spot and stop identity thieves before they take off with taxpayer refunds.

These efforts have helped cut ID theft reports nearly in half over the past year.

"We have stepped up our defenses, and the private sector tax community has worked to strengthen their security too," Lemons said.

## Accenture partners with HBCU's 20x20

Network 2 Net Worth hosts professional workshops

ROBIN WHITE  
GOODE  
blackenterprise.com

Burnish your résumé, and spruce up your LinkedIn profile. If you're a Black professional, here's great news on the careers front: Accenture, the leading global professional services company, is partnering with HBCU 20x20, a national diversity and inclusion program to host a series of professional networking events in cities across the country.

Called Network 2 Net Worth, the series will target Black professionals, especially graduates of historically Black colleges.

"At Accenture, we're working to increase the diversity of our workforce at all levels and across all backgrounds, and to create a workplace where everyone feels comfortable to be their true authentic selves," says Chantel Soverrall, North America ethnicity recruiting leader at Accenture. "We are thrilled to partner with HBCU 20x20 to create this unique experience for our people and communities, and to help underrepresented professionals achieve greater career opportunity."

In an innovative twist, Network 2 Net Worth shifts the



Chantel Soverrall North America Diversity Recruiting, Accenture.

business connection to a more social setting. Instead of speed dating, there will be

speed networking, during which professionals will have three to five minutes to pitch their résumés to recruiters from Accenture. They will also learn more about the company and hear from its leadership.

Attendees will also learn about other tech companies that value diversity. In a more relaxed setting, they will meet business leaders and network with like-minded professional peers.

"When we created HBCU 20x20, we knew we wanted to create innovative ways to improve the recruitment of people of color to companies, especially for graduates and alumni from HBCUs," says Nicole Tinson-John-

son, president and CEO of Jobs R 4 U. "Our goal for HBCU 20x20 and Network 2 Net Worth is simple—to directly connect HBCU graduates and underrepresented talent to companies and develop a talent pipeline. Our Network 2 Net Worth series provides attendees with an opportunity to meet and interact with recruiters while enjoying music, hors d'oeuvres, and a drink or two after work. It's truly a win for all parties involved."

The first event takes place Feb. 22 in Atlanta at Suite Food Lounge; subsequent events will be held in Seattle, the Bay Area, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and New York.

## BLACK LIVES MATTER



## AILEY

CONTINUED FROM 8B

Dance Theater was founded in 1958 by choreographer and activist Alvin Ailey. The company, lauded for popularizing modern dance and for provid-

ing a platform for African-American dancers, now finds itself having to explain why the dancers don't feel supported.

Robert Battle, the artistic director for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater who was also in attendance at the fundraising gala, offered these

words about the boycott: "So many things are emotional, and I think we're in a very emotional and tense time in the country, and so this is a natural part of a process," Battle said Tuesday at The Washington Post. "We will get through it, because there's a reason

that the Alvin Ailey dance company has withstood the test of time. We're a big family, and sometimes we just need to talk, you know what I'm saying?"

AGMA's members are hoping that the publicity surrounding the Alvin Ailey boycott will also lead to a age increase that is

equal to what other dancers receive in comparable positions.

The dancers for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater reportedly perform between 175 to 200 shows per year, with nearly half of the amount of number of dancers of other major companies.

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Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade, center, looks for an open teammate past Milwaukee Bucks forward John Henson (31) and forward Khris Middleton, left, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Friday, Feb. 9, 2018, in Miami.



AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee

# HEAT WAVE

## Wade receives standing ovation in Miami return

CHRISTOPHER STOCK  
Associated Press

As the Heat fell behind early against the Milwaukee Bucks, the Miami fans were getting eager to see the man of the night.

Dwyane Wade was back with the Heat on Friday night, coming off the bench for Miami.

As the Heat fell behind 9-0, the crowd chanted, "We want Wade!"

Wade took the court midway through the first quarter as the fans gave him a standing ovation. He immediately grabbed a defensive rebound and threw a lob pass to Hassan Whiteside, who was able to slam home a dunk.

Wade is Miami's all-time leader in points, games, assists and steals. He was

drafted in the first round by Miami in 2003, but left for Chicago in 2016. Miami acquired him from Cleveland as part of the Cavaliers' deadline-day makeover.

His return seemed to put everybody with the franchise in a good mood Friday, from office workers to coach Erik Spoelstra.

"I definitely feel it's going to be a great environment," Wade said before the game. It was.

The lower bowl was full before tip-off, an uncommon sight for a typical Heat regular season game, as they awaited to see their superstar come off the bench.

But no one really saw this coming, not even Spoelstra. Prior to Thursday's practice, Spoelstra received updates on possible trades

**“**When we played them, just the love that everyone always showed me before and after games, coming back to Miami in the summer and seeing these guys around, spending time with them so that transition right there was pretty seamless for me coming in today.”

in Pat Riley's office. Riley informed him there was a possibility to acquire Luke Babbitt and also Wade.

Spoelstra was about to leave Riley's office when the news sank in.

"What?" Spoelstra said. "Dwyane who?"

Riley explained to Spoelstra about the player movement in the league and a Wade deal could potentially happen.

"We'll let you know by the end of practice," Riley said.

The coach said, "My only response was, 'Let's go, let's do it.' But it was probably not something any of us foresaw two weeks ago. Crazy things happen in this league so it just absolutely perfect timing for both parties and it was actually surreal of how quickly it

came about."

Wade could hardly wait.

"I'm excited for a lot of different reasons, but definitely the fan base that I grew up with and grew up with me, and just to be back in the environment," he said. "I'm excited for my teammates as well. When you go through a long season, this team is on a five-game losing streak, sometimes it's a lull, and to kind of get a jolt of energy like teammates will be in the arena, the atmosphere will be great. I think it's going to be great for everybody as we go down the stretch of the season. I'm just excited to put on that jersey again and get out there and try not to be too bad."

Wade was embraced by his teammates, many of whom he played with in his

last season in Miami two years ago, which should help him make a smooth transition to a team sitting at 29-26 looking to improve its playoff standing.

"I feel like I know these guys," Wade said. "I feel like I'm a part of this team already. When we played them, just the love that everyone always showed me before and after games, coming back to Miami in the summer and seeing these guys around, spending time with them so that transition right there was pretty seamless for me coming in today."

Wade snuck up on Josh Richardson in the training room and gave him a playful punch.

"It was cool," Richardson said. "It kind of felt like he never left."

# IN GOOD TASTE

Lifestyles  
Entertainment  
Culture  
Food  
Arts  
Music

SECTION **C**

THE MIAMI TIMES | FEBRUARY 14-20, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM



Ankara Miami 2017 fashion shows took place at the Macaya Gallery and Florida International University's Roz and Cal Kovens Conference Center. Ankara provides a glance into the African culture by showcasing both emerging and established designers from Africa and the African diaspora. This year's events will take place from Feb. 22 to 25.



DESCENDANTS ON THE RUNWAY

# ANKARA

Ankara Miami 2018 to showcase the best African designs

**NYAMEKYE DANIEL**  
[ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com](mailto:ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com)

Fashionistas, local and international designers of African descent will all gather in Miami next week for a four-day African fashion extravaganza.

Emerging and established designers from Nigeria, Panama, Miami and the Caribbean will get the opportunity to showcase their best designs to a back drop of Afrobeats at Ankara Miami 2018, Miami's largest and premiere African fashion week.

Former Miss Nigeria Florida Evelyn Onyejuruwa decided to start the fashion week in 2011 after winning the crown. Onyejuruwa wanted a way to continue her work as a cultural ambassador and bridge the gap

SEE ANKARA 2C



Valentine's Day  
MESSAGES **6C**

# ANKARA

CONTINUED FROM 1C

between Africans and other people of African heritage.

Now, her goal is to make sure that African fashion is available in Miami all year long for everyone to access, she said.

"Whatever that event is, put some African print in it and don't forget to do so," said Onyejuruwa. "The prints transcend time. There are prints that my mother wore that I can still wear, and you wouldn't know any difference. It's beyond any season."

As the event's producer, Onyejuruwa said she created the platform for Black designers and fashion and beauty experts to get more exposure.

"There is a real sense of pride on one end for those who are showcasing our talents, whether that be me producing, or that be a make-up artist showing you their artistry, that be the designers showing you their latest collection," she said.

This year's Ankara Miami will take place on Feb. 22 to 25 at four separate locations in Miami.

First, there will be a VIP meet and greet at a private location on Feb. 22.

Emerging designers will get to display their work at Toyota of North Miami's automobile showroom on Feb. 23 while established designers will reveal their newest collections at Atlantis Ballroom in the Newport Beachside Hotel & Resort on Feb. 24.

Guests will get a chance to snag the designs at a pop-up shop at the 1310 Gallery in Fort Lauderdale on Feb. 25.

Last year's fashion week

showcased designers from various countries in the continent of Africa and also this side of the globe. It took place at the Macaya Gallery and Florida International University's Roz and Cal Kovens Conference Center.

Miami designer Adjanie Muller was a fan favorite at the 2017 established designers showcase at the Kovens Center.

Many people in the audience, "oohed" and "awed" at her creative pieces.

Her "high-low" collection featured abstract colors and circular prints — a work of art that Muller said was inspired by Michelle Obama's speech during the 2016 presidential election. The patterns represented the highs and lows the designer has experienced in her designing career.

This year, Muller found an aquatic inspiration in the flow of water.

"Throughout the collection, you will find that there is a nice flow of under water," she said. "The water moves, motivates and the line has the colors of corals."

Muller, a Haitian-American, has participated in Ankara Miami since 2015 and said she sees it as a way to merge her artistic form with her Caribbean culture and African roots.

Ankara Miami is not only a display of fabrics on a parade of models, but it is also a spiritual reunion of Black heritage.

"When you walk in, there is a spirit of culture, and you kind of are surrounded by people who have the same appreciation," said Onyejuruwa. "Whether you have attended before or not, you are able to walk away feeling a little bit more empowered and speak to the beauty of Africa a little bit more and

“

So as we're trying to build a lot of these established designers and get them where they want to be, it is also about helping those who are coming behind us.”

walk away with a sense of pride.”

In support of Onyejuruwa's effort to enrich emerging young artists, Ankara Miami has launched the philanthropic arm — Ankara Redefined.

The goal of Ankara Redefined is to create opportunities for Black fashion students and children interested in fashion.

"As you move forward, you reach back at the same time," Onyejuruwa said. "So as we're trying to build a lot of these established designers and get them where they want to be, it is also about helping those who are coming behind us."

This year, Ankara Miami has partnered with Miami Dade College to give a fashion student an opportunity to participate in the emerging designers show. A portion of the proceeds raised from Ankara Miami 2018 will also benefit Ankara Redefined.

Future plans for the charity leg of Ankara include an educational initiative which will focus on African culture.

For more information on Ankara Miami 2018 and Ankara Redefined, visit [Ankaramiami.com](http://Ankaramiami.com).

Miami designer Adjanie Muller's collection "High-Low" at Ankara Miami 2017 featured abstract colors and circular prints.



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Saul Loeb—AFP/Getty Images

Former US President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama stand before their portraits and respective artists, Kehinde Wiley (L) and Amy Sherald (R), after an unveiling at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 12, 2018.

## Obama portraits blend paint and politics

Unveiling held Monday at National Gallery, part of the Smithsonian Institution, in the nation's capital

**HOLLAND COTTER**  
*The New York Times*

With the unveiling here Monday at the National Portrait Gallery of the official presidential likenesses of Barack Obama and the former first lady, Michelle Obama, this city of myriad monuments gets a couple of new ones, each radiating, in its different way, gravitas (his) and glam (hers).

Ordinarily, the event would pass barely noticed in the worlds of politics and art. Yes, the Portrait Gallery, part of the Smithsonian Institution, owns the only readily accessible complete collection of presidential likenesses. But recently commissioned additions to the collection have been so undistinguished that the tradition of installing a new portrait after a leader has left office is now little more

than ceremonial routine.

The present debut is strikingly different. Not only are the Obamas the first African-American presidential couple to be enshrined in the collection. The painters they've picked to portray them — Kehinde Wiley, for Mr. Obama's portrait; Amy Sherald, for Mrs. Obama — are African-American as well. Both artists have addressed the politics of race consistently in their past work, and both have done so in subtly savvy ways in these new commissions. Mr. Wiley depicts Mr. Obama not as a self-assured, standard-issue bureaucrat, but as an alert and troubled thinker. Ms. Sherald's image of Mrs. Obama overemphasizes an element of courtial spectacle, but also projects a rock-solid cool.

It doesn't take #BlackLivesMatter consciousness to see

**The present debut is strikingly different. Not only are the Obamas the first African-American presidential couple to be enshrined in the collection. The painters they've picked to portray them — Kehinde Wiley, for Mr. Obama's portrait; Amy Sherald, for Mrs. Obama — are African-American as well.**

the significance of this racial lineup within the national story as told by the Portrait Gallery. Some of the earliest presidents represented — George Washington, Thomas Jefferson — were slaveholders; Mrs. Obama's great-great grandparents were slaves. And today we're seeing more and more evidence that the social gains of the civil rights, and Black Power, and Obama eras are, with a vengeance, being rolled back.

On several levels, then, the Obama portraits stand out in this institutional context, though given the tone of bland propriety that prevails in the museum's long-term "America's Presidents" display — where Mr. Obama's (though not Mrs. Obama's) portrait hangs — standing out is not all that hard to do.

The National Portrait Gallery collection isn't old. It was

created by an Act of Congress in 1962 and opened to the public in 1968. (The Obama unveiling is billed as part of its 50th birthday celebrations.) By the time it began collecting, many chief executive portraits of note were already housed elsewhere. (The collection of first lady portraits is still incomplete; commissioning new ones started only in 2006.)

There are, for sure, outstanding things, one being Gilbert Stuart's so-called "Lansdowne" Portrait" of George Washington from 1796, a full-length likeness packed with executive paraphernalia: papers to be signed, multiple quill pens, a sword, and an Imperial Roman-style chair. Even the clothes are an 18th-century version of current POTUS style: basic black suit and fat tie. As for Washington, he stands blank-faced,

one arm extended, like a tenor taking a dignified bow.

Uninflected dignity was the attitude of choice for well over a century, with a few breaks. In an 1836 portrait, Andrew Jackson, a demonstrative bully, sports a floor-length, red-silk-lined Dracula cloak and a kind of topiary bouffant. (A picture of Jackson, one of President Trump's populist heroes, hangs in the Oval Office.) Abraham Lincoln, seen in several likenesses, is exceptional for looking as if he may actually have weighty matters on his mind. Most of the portraits that precede and follow his are pure PR.

This continues well into the 20th century. In a 1980 painting Jimmy Carter trades a black suit for a beige one. How revolutionary is that? And there's a Casual Fridays

**SEE OBAMA 6C**

## Actress Lupita Nyong'o slays in her stunning natural hairstyles

From afros to braids, the star shines for new Allure magazine feature

*TheGrio*

Oscar-winning actress Lupita Nyong'o slayed her latest magazine feature with a bevy of natural hairstyles.

The Black Panther star talked about her hair journey with Allure magazine. When Nyong'o shot to fame in her motion picture debut in 12 Years a Slave, she ruled red carpets with her close-cropped do. She shared with the magazine that like a lot of Black girls around the world, she was not always enamored with the feel and texture of her natural hair.

"In my tween years, I started begging my mother to have my hair relaxed. She wouldn't allow it, though her hair was relaxed. She felt that

that was a decision I could come to when I was maybe 18. Around 13 or 14, I had such a rough time with being teased and feeling really unpretty," said Nyong'o.

It's hard to believe that the stunning beauty at one time did not recognize her own attractiveness, but like many young women, it is now a part of her self-esteem journey. Once she finally convinced her mother to allow her to get a relaxer, she achieved a higher level of confidence.

"I felt so much better because it was easier to tame. All the girls in my class had their hair relaxed. Very few had natural kink, so I felt a lot more acceptable."

Nyong'o kept her relaxer for the majority of her teen



Photo: Patrick Demarchelier/Allure

years, but eventually shaved it off to create the iconic short crop that she had when she stepped into the Hollywood spotlight.

Now, the 34-year-old thespian fully embraces her hair and she has showcased her tresses on red carpets all over the globe.

For the Allure feature, Nyong'o worked with her favorite hair stylist Vernon Francois to create a slew of gorgeous natural hair looks. From braids and beads to expertly coiffed afros, the actress and her stylist dreamed up looks that would have any woman envious.

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# LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF  
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

■ **The George Washington Carver Alumni Association** luncheon will be Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. in the school auditorium. Call 630-362-7249.

■ **The Miami Northwestern Class of 1968** meets every 4th Saturday at 2 p.m. at The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. Call 305-218-6171.

■ **The George Washington Carver Alumni Association** meets the 3rd Wednesday each month at 4 p.m. in Rm. 6 at George Washington Carver. Call 954-248-6946.

■ **The Miami Northwestern Class of 1973** meets every 3rd Sunday at 4 p.m. Call 786-877-1176 or email msoguns@aol.com.

■ **The George Washington Carver Alumni Memorial** services will be held on Feb. 24 at 10 a.m. at Believers of Authorities Ministries. Call 630-362-7249.

■ **The Miami-Dade Chapter of Bethune-Cookman University**, meets the 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the Omega Center.

■ **Tennessee State Alumni Association/ Miami-Dade Chapter**, meets every 3rd Saturday, 9 a.m. at The African American Cultural Arts Center. Call 305-336-4287.

■ **The Morris Brown College Miami-Dade/ Broward Alumni Association** monthly meetings are held at North Shore Medical Center, Room C each 3rd Saturday from 9:30-11 a.m. Call 786-356-4412.

■ **The Miami Jackson Class of 1968** meets every second Monday at the VFW located at 11911 West Dixie Highway and is planning for their 50th Reunion June 14-18, 2018. Call 305-336-7663.

■ **The Miami Carol City Class of 1968** meets every 4th Sunday at 4 p.m. Call 305-494-6265.

■ **The George Washington Carver High School Class 1966** meets the 2nd Saturday each month at 1234 N.W. 79th St. at 12 p.m. Call 305-300-7630.

■ **The Miami Carol City Class of 1968** meets every 4th Sunday at 4 p.m. We are planning our 50th Reunion for September 14-16, 2018. Call 305-494-6265.

■ **Women in Transition of South Florida** offers free computer classes for women. Call 786-477-8548.

■ **The Surviving Twin Network** welcomes the support of twins or siblings, who have experienced such loss, to share with others, as a source of comfort. Call 305-504-4936.

■ **The Northwestern Class of 1962** meets every 2nd Saturday at 3 p.m. at The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. Call 305-681-3330.

■ **Florida A & M University (FAMU) National Alumni Association (NAA) South Dade Chapter** invites you to join them the 4th Wednesday of each month at Community Health Center of South Florida at 6 p.m.

■ **Booker T. Washington Class of 1967** meets every third Saturday from 4-6 p.m. at the African Heritage Culture Arts Center East Postale #1. Call 305-333-7128.

■ **Inner City Children's Touring Dance** will have free Introductory Classical Ballet Workshops for girls ages 6-8 and 9-12 on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Call 305-758-1577 or visit www.childrensdance.net.

■ **Karate Classes** at Range Park on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Call 305-757-7961.

■ **Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.** meets 10 a.m. every second Saturday at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. Call 305-439-5426.

■ **The Miami Central High Alumni Association** meets every second and fourth Wednesday in Miami Central High library at 7 p.m. Call 305-370-4825.

■ **Northwestern Alumni Class of 61** meets at YET Center every second Tuesday 12 p.m. Call 305-696-1154.

■ **The South Florida Alumni Chapter of North Carolina Central University** meets 11 a.m. every second Saturday at Denny's in Miami Gardens.

■ **The Miami Jackson Class of 1971** meets at 2:30 pm every first Saturday at Gwen Cherry Park NFL / YET meeting area. Call 786-285-2533.

■ **Unspoken Dance Company** is now recruiting dancers ages 5 and up. To register call 305-409-7490 or email unspokendanceco@gmail.com.

■ **The Northwestern Class of 1959** meets every third Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. Call 786-897-2646.

■ **Division of Blind Services Vocational Rehabilitation Program** provides services to the visually impaired. Call 305-377-5339.

■ **The North Dade/ Miami Carol City H.S., Class of 1967** invites you to join them aboard the Carnival Conquest Sept. 24-30, as they celebrate their 50th Class Reunion. Call 305-336-6293 or 305-333-7613.

■ **The Booker T. Washington Class of 1959** meets every first Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral Buffet. Call 305-989-0994.

■ **Active, energetic women over 55** are invited to join a fun group. Call 305-934-5122.

The deadline for the Lifestyle Calendar is on or before 2 p.m. Fridays.

## BOOK REVIEW

# All in the family is the theme

'Jefferson's Daughters' tells some of Sally Hemings' actions and decisions

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER  
bookwormsec@yahoo.com

Which one is your favorite? That's a question heavy with danger, as any parent knows. You might be asked, but you can't choose one child over another. Parents are supposed to love each of their children differently but equally though, in the new book "Jefferson's Daughters" by Catherine Kerrison, history sometimes shows otherwise.

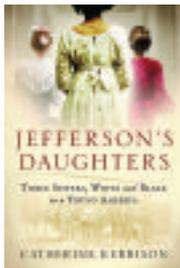
When young Thomas Jefferson, who later became the third U.S. president, married the widow Martha Wayles Skelton, their first nights were spent inside a promise: Monticello, on the grounds he'd received from his father, was only partially completed. Martha Jefferson would spend just "a little over half of her married life" and much heartbreak there.

After having birthed several children, most of whom didn't live, Martha sickened

and died in the fall of 1782; perhaps compassionately, Thomas Jefferson was sent by the U.S. Congress to Europe. With him, he took his daughter, 11-year-old Martha; and James, the son of Elizabeth Hemings, Jefferson's late wife's slave and her half-sister. Jefferson sent his youngest two daughters, along with Elizabeth's youngest daughter, Sally, to his sister-in-law's home.

Known as a lively, intelligent girl, young Martha was quick with languages, could sing and dance, and had become her father's best supporter after her mother's death. Shortly after she arrived in Paris, she was sent to a convent school and considered the idea of becoming a nun.

In 1787, Jefferson sent for his second daughter, then 9-year-old Maria, who arrived in Paris with 14-year-old "companion-maid" Sally Hemings. Maria must have been rather used to being uprooted: over the years, her



father had sent her to several homes to be raised and educated.

Just two years later, Thomas Jefferson, his daughters, and his slaves returned home to Virginia, reportedly to great fanfare. Martha, 17 and wishing to avoid being suddenly "supervised," quickly became betrothed. Maria, 11, a sweet child, was soon sent to Philadelphia, to boarding school. Sally, 16 and pregnant with her master's child, didn't have to come home to Virginia at all; in France, she was legally free, but she chose to return after negotiating

with Jefferson.

She'd be, after all, "a mother of children destined for freedom."

For the casual reader, "Jefferson's Daughters" may be a challenge, but that's not author Catherine Kerrison's fault; it's because of naming habits of 18th-century people. For instance, there are several Marthas in this book, so beware.

There's also a lot of backstory here, too, but it's necessary. Kerrison reaches well back in time to explain several points that she makes later, especially when it comes to Sally Hemings, her actions, and her decisions that showed eye-popping strength. Once we get more into Hemings' life and that of her eldest daughter, Harriet, it is where this book becomes totally compelling and can't-put-down irresistible.

Of course, it's perfect for historians, but anyone who's interested in women's issues and Black history will be happy reading this book, too. Once you settle into "Jefferson's Daughters," it may become one of your favorites.



Denzel Washington as Malcolm X in Spike Lee's epic, whose storied production began with an outcry by Mr. Lee over the plans of Norman Jewison, a white director, to make the film.

# Historic films to view during Black History Month this year

Critics choose movies that give broad history of Blacks in cinema

MANOHLA DARGIS  
The New York Times

It has been almost a year since Barry Jenkins's "Moonlight" won the Oscar for best picture. This awards season, Jordan Peele's "Get Out" and Dee Rees's "Mudbound" have received multiple nominations and accolades, optimistic signs that Black filmmakers are receiving more opportunities in the movie industry. Soon these titles will be joined by two of the most anticipated releases of the year: Ryan Coogler's "Black Panther," the first Marvel superhero movie from a Black director, and Ava DuVernay's "A Wrinkle in Time," the first movie with a \$100 million budget directed by a Black woman.

The critical and box-office success of "Get Out" and the very existence of big-studio productions like "Black Panther" are good reasons to revisit the remarkable, complex story of Black filmmaking in America. We begin in the 1920s with Oscar Micheaux (1884-1951), a novelist and bold, prolific independent filmmaker.

When Blacks in Hollywood were not singing or dancing, they were often cast as maids,

butlers, porters or other service, peripheral figures. Race movies disappeared shortly after World War II, and soon the mainstream industry turned toward social issues. Yet even as the civil rights movement gathered force, Black characters and their experiences were seen through a white lens, often myopically. There are comedies and crime stories, historical epics and slices of ordinary life, socially conscious dramas and sublimely silly comedies. Taken together, they do not offer a unified theory of Blacks in cinema, but a great multiplicity.

## SHADOWS

Directed by John Cassavetes, 1959  
Shot wild in the streets of a now-lost New York, Cassavetes's electric debut feature is a landmark independent film about three Black siblings of varying skin tones — Hugh, Ben and their younger sister, Lelia — shackled up in gritty, glorious bohemian splendor.

## WITHIN OUR GATES

Directed by Oscar Micheaux, 1920  
This stunning rejoinder to white supremacy, both onscreen and off, was also



Shadows (Directed by John Cassavetes)

written and produced by Micheaux, a pioneering director of "race movies." The film soon narrows its focus on a courageous, peripatetic young woman who, as she travels between the South and the North fleeing unfair circumstances and raising money for a school, becomes an embodiment of historical struggle.

ZORA NEALE HURSTON FIELDWORK FOOTAGE  
Directed by Zora Neale Hurston, 1928

It is Hurston's look at ordinary Black Southerners that remains her indelible contribution to the art. (Available on YouTube and is part of Kino Lorber's "Pioneers of African-American Cinema" box set.

BLACK AND TAN AND ST. LOUIS BLUES  
Directed by Dudley Murphy, both from 1929

These two shorts from the earliest days of sound seem to prophesy the rise of music videos. Each one is built around a performance of the title number by one of the great artists of the era: Duke Ellington and Bessie Smith. ("Black and Tan" is available on YouTube. "St. Louis Blues" is available on YouTube and on DVD.)

I AM SOMEBODY  
Directed by Madeline Anderson, 1970

The subject of this galvanizing 30-minute documentary is a 1969 strike by hundreds of primarily female workers

SEE FILMS 6C

# Happy Valentine's Day



**BETTY KEY**  
01/14/1943 - 02/22/2008  
We love and miss you.  
The family



**DEACONESS CEOLA BELL WALKER**  
02/10/1908 - 01/02/2005  
We miss you dearly! Love, your children, grandchildren.



**ERNEST FRANK**  
06/28/1991 - 01/30/2014  
We love and miss you. Grandma, auntie Cat, Willie, Terrance and Torrence



**ALICE BELINDA HOGAN**  
11/07/1952 - 03/1/2016  
We miss you dearly and love you always. From the Johnson family



**HAILE VALENTINE SLATER**  
02/14/1974 - 12/01/1993  
Happy Birthday! The Hobes and the entire Slater families.



**FREDDIE MAE TEDDLETON**  
12/23/1931 - 02/09/2017  
Mommy, we love and miss you. Your daughters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren.



**MERINA LECOINE**  
Your love will never be forgotten. We remember you this Valentine's Day and always. We love you.



**JIMMIE WILLIAMS SR.**  
02/13/1938 - 11/24/2010  
We love and miss you so much. Your children, Jimmie Jr., Mitzi and Jamal.



**BOBBIE RUTH VANDYKE**  
03/12/1939 - 03/30/2012  
We really miss you so much. Love always, from your children.



**CARRIE WASHINGTON NESBITT**  
04/09/1948 - 02/16/2016  
Love and miss you, from your family.



**JOSEPHINE CARR**  
02/14/1924 - 02/07/2007  
Happy birthday, we think of you always, especially today. Love always, The Carr Family.



**MARJORIE DANIELS**  
Happy Valentine's Day, as you rest in heaven.

## OBAMA

CONTINUED FROM 4C

vogue: Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush both go tie-less for it. Under the circumstances, Elaine de Kooning's 1963 portrait of John F. Kennedy, a fanfare of green and blue strokes, hits like a boost of adrenaline. Rousing too, though not in a good way, is a big head shot image of Bill Clinton by the artist Chuck Close. Using his signature mosaic-like painting technique, Mr. Close turns the 42nd president into a pixelated clown.

Mr. Obama has much better luck with his similarly high-profile portraitist. Mr. Wiley, born in Los Angeles in 1977, gained a following in the early 2000s with his crisp, glossy, life-size paintings of

young African-American men dressed in hip-hop styles, but depicted in the old-master manner of European royal portraits. More recently he has expanded his repertoire to include female subjects, as well as models from Brazil, India, Nigeria and Senegal, creating the collective image of a global black aristocracy.

In an impossibly scaled painting — just over seven feet tall — the artist presents Mr. Obama dressed in the regulation black suit and an open-necked white shirt, and seated on a vaguely throne-like chair not so different from the one seen in Stuart's Washington portrait. But art historical references stop there. So do tonal echoes of past portraits. Whereas Mr. Obama's predecessors are, to the man, shown expressionless and composed, Mr. Obama sits tensely forward,

frowning, elbows on his knees, arms crossed, as if listening hard. No smiles, no Mr. Nice Guy. He's still troubled, still in the game. His engaged and assertive demeanor contradicts — and cosmetically corrects — the impression he often made in office of being philosophically detached from what was going on around him. At some level, all portraits are propaganda, political or personal. And what makes this one distinctive is the personal part. Mr. Wiley has set Mr. Obama against — really embedded him in — a bower of what looks like ground cover. From the greenery sprout flowers that have symbolic meaning for the sitter. African blue lilies represent Kenya, his father's birthplace; jasmine stands for Hawaii, where Mr. Obama himself was born; chrysanthemums,

the official flower of Chicago, reference the city where his political career began, and where he met his wife.

Mrs. Obama's choice of Ms. Sherold as an artist was an enterprising one. Ms. Sherold, who was born in Columbus, Ga., in 1973 and lives in Baltimore, is just beginning to move into the national spotlight after putting her career on hold for some years to deal with a family health crisis, and one of her own. (She had a heart transplant at 39.) Production-wise, she and Mr. Wiley operate quite differently. He runs the equivalent of a multinational art factory, with assistants churning out work. Ms. Sherold, who until a few years ago made her living waiting tables, oversees a studio staff of one, herself.

At the same time, they have much in common. Both focused early on African-American

portraiture precisely because it is so little represented in Western art history. And both tend to blend fact and fiction. Mr. Wiley, with photo-realistic precision, casts actual people in fantastically heroic roles. (He modifies his heroizing in the case of Mr. Obama, but it's still there.) Ms. Sherold also starts with realism, but softens and abstracts it. She gives all her figures gray-toned skin — a color with ambiguous racial associations — and reduces colors to geometric forms silhouetted against single-color fields.

She shows Mrs. Obama sitting against a field of light blue, wearing a spreading gown, wearing a spreading gown. The dress design, by Michelle Smith, is eye-teasingly complicated: mostly white interrupted by black Op Art-ish blips and patches of striped color suggestive of

African textiles. The shape of the dress, rising pyramidally upward, mountain-like, feels as if it were the real subject of the portrait. Mrs. Obama's face forms the composition's peak, but could be almost anyone's face, like a model's face in a fashion spread. To be honest, I was anticipating — hoping for — a bolder, more incisive image of the strong-voiced person I imagine this former first lady to be.

And while I'm wishing, let me mention something more. Mr. Obama's portrait will be installed, long-term, among those of his presidential peers, in a dedicated space on the second floor. Mrs. Obama's will hang in a corridor reserved for temporary displays of new acquisitions — on the first floor. It will stay there until November, after which there's no set-aside place for it to land.

## FILMS

CONTINUED FROM 5C

against a hospital in Charleston, S.C. Subjected to discriminatory practices, insults and lower pay than that earned by their white counterparts, these workers sought to unionize, but their campaign was met with police violence and mass arrests.

With tangible intimacy and political sweep, Anderson — who produced, directed and edited "I Am Somebody" — lets the striking women speak for themselves, a choice that puts their fight for self-determination into stirring cinematic terms. Both Ralph Abernathy and



Jackie Robinson and Ruby Dee, center, in "The Jackie Robinson Story," which reached theaters three years after he became the first Black American to play modern Major League baseball.

Coretta Scott King appear onscreen, but this movie is for the workers. (As of Feb.

20 available on Amazon Video and DVD from Icarus Films.)

**THE JACKIE ROBINSON STORY**  
Directed by Alfred E.

Green, 1950  
In 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first Black American to play modern Major League baseball. Three years later, he proved that he could also hold the big screen when he starred in this biographical drama.

**TONGUES UNTIED**  
Directed by Marlon Riggs, 1989

Made for PBS and a culture-war flash point in its time, this passionate, angry mix of documentary, memoir and poetry is a milestone. The pain it articulates — the racism of white society, homophobia among some Blacks, AIDS, invisibility — is overwhelming.

**MALCOLM X**  
Directed by Spike Lee, 1992  
Denzel Washington dominates almost every frame of this electrifying epic, which traces the arc of 20th-century America through a single extraordinary life. Washington brings bone-deep feeling and enormous charisma to the story of one Malcolm Little, a street hustler whose prison conversion to Islam finds him walking back into the world a free, profoundly changed man named Malcolm X — religious leader, political seer, American martyr. Exquisitely acted, with a gorgeous, expressionistic Terence Blanchard score, this is one of Lee's most enduring films.

Love is a *Chocolate* thing

Publix

WAKE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE



Photos courtesy of Margarita Sweeting

## STORIES ACROSS GENERATIONS

**MARGARITA SWEETING**  
Special to the Miami Times

### Hampton House brings history to local youth

The Historic Hampton House Community Trust Inc. in Brownsville kicked off its BUMP (Brownsville Unity Music Program) at its inaugural event on Saturday collecting artifacts and stories designed to involve the community's youth in preserving Hampton House and its history.

BUMP is a youth mentorship program in which fifth to 10th-grade students receive musical training and learn the history of HH and the Brownsville area.

"This is really the vision of the board. We want to encourage activism and expose the youth to the history here," said Xavier Vega, the trust's vice president. "There is so much history here that has yet to be explored, and our goal is preserving that history."

One way of doing that, said Vega was to get the youth more involved. So, Hampton House partnered with the Florida International University (FIU) history department and the University of Miami (UM) school of

music. Students in BUMP are mentored by graduate students from both schools.

Rashard Dyer, 16, is a junior at Miami Lakes Education Center. He became curious about the program when he observed how his two brothers grew musically as a result of going to Hampton House every Saturday.

"I was watching them and realized they were getting a lot more enthusiastic about their music. I was already playing the sax,

**SEE YOUTH 8D**

**The Historic Hampton House opened its doors to the community on Saturday to kick off its youth mentorship program. Here, Rashard Dyer talks to his mentor, Jasmine Singletary about what he has learned.**



Courtesy of Commissioner Jordan's Office

**Many people were honored by Commissioner Barbara Jordan for the work and service they do with children and young adults currently in the state's foster care system.**

## Commissioner Jordan honors foster and adoptive parents

Special to the Miami Times

Commissioner Barbara Jordan and the Miami-Dade County Foster and Adoptive Parents Association honored nearly 150 people last week during the fifth annual Foster, Adoptive, Kinship and Independent Living Commemorative Ceremony. Both men and women who care for and protect children who are in the state's system were honored during the event, which took place in the Miami-Dade County Commission Chamber.

"My mom was a foster mom, and we had four adopted children in my family, so I know the importance of what you do," Commissioner

**SEE HONORS 8D**



**Commissioner Jordan presents Miami-Dade County Foster & Adoptive Parent Association President Shamele Jenkins an award at the Feb. 5 Commission meeting.**

## Community prayers are focused on our children

**Fighting violence and neighborhood crime by uniting local schools and churches**

Miami Times staff report

To address the growing trend of gun violence and crimes against children, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, joined Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson and local faith leaders for an interfaith prayer service called Prayers Around the School on Feb. 10 at Brownsville Middle School.

State Representative Cynthia

and other strategic partners were also in attendance.

Prayers Around the School is one of several initiatives aimed at leveraging places of faith as safety nets to ensure that children are kept safe from danger, and avoid committing crimes.

The attendees joined hands to form a human prayer circle and called for an end to the violence.

One day prior to the interfaith prayer service, a special screening



Photos courtesy of Vice Chairwoman Audrey Edmonson's office

**Miami-Dade County Commission Vice Chairwoman Audrey Edmonson gives introductory remarks at a special screening of the Liberty City-based documentary S.O.O.T. on Feb. 9 at Sandrell Rivers Theater.**

Stafford, Miami-Dade County Schools superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho, Miami-Dade County school board member Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Brownsville Neighborhood Civic Homeowner's Association president Kenneth Kilpatrick, members of I199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East,

of the documentary S.O.O.T. also took place at the Sandrell Rivers Theater on Feb. 9 from 5:30-7 p.m.

S.O.O.T. stands for Striding Over Obstacles Together.

Edmonson gave an introductory speech before the movie that was followed by a panel titled "I Am Liberty City".

# Association honors wives, widows of former pastors

## Women given love, appreciation for service and church dedication

GREGORY W. WRIGHT  
g.w.wright@hotmail.com

The Seaboard Baptist Association delivered a special message to the widows and emeritus wives of Baptist churches on Friday, February 9th.

"You are loved and not forgotten."

The Seaboard Baptist Association of Florida, an organization of Missionary Baptist Churches, was founded in

1929, and has steadily grown to become one of the fastest growing union of Baptist churches in the nation. The organization is led by the Rev. Dr. Carl Johnson, pastor of the 93rd Street Baptist Church of Miami, who on February 2016, was elected and installed as the organization's moderator.

The event was held at the Greater New Bethel Baptist Church in Miami Gardens. Sheryl McCloud, the first



Julia Perkins, widow, Valley Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Lady of the church, was given a lot of credit for coming up with the idea to honor the wives of former pastors.

McCloud said a total of 19 women were honored at the event. Of that number, 17 were widows, and two were wives emeriti.

First Lady McCloud said, "Being a pastor's wife, most of the time, the pastor's wife, is somewhat forgotten. These ladies are widows, and their husbands have now gone on. Sometimes we forget about that as well. So, we wanted to spotlight and highlight the widows and wives of former pastors. Usually, they are

the ones that lead the path

for [current] pastors' wives." An open invitation was sent out to all Baptist churches who are members of the association, inviting them to participate, and to include names and information about women from their respective churches who would qualify for the honor.

Rosalind Osgood, a member of the Broward School Board, got the event started with a rousing speech.

The speech impressed the audience of approximately 200 people. She said that in order for our youth to succeed in school, it is important

that our youth get involved in our churches, and that our churches get involved with our youth.

The honored guests did not leave the event with only hugs and well wishes. The association made sure that each lady left with gift bags that were filled with tangible gifts as reminders of the respect and appreciation for their past service. One of those recognized at the event was Julia Perkins, the widow of the late Pastor Artis Perkins, of Valley Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Miami's Liberty City area.

SEE LOVE 11D

## St. Valentine, no patron of love

LISA BITEL  
religiousnews@service

On Feb. 14, sweethearts of all ages will exchange cards, flowers, candy, and more lavish gifts in the name of St. Valentine. But as a historian of Christianity, I can tell you that at the root of our modern holiday is a beautiful fiction. St. Valentine was no lover or patron of love.

Valentine's Day, in fact, originated as a liturgical feast to celebrate the decapitation of a third-century Christian martyr, or perhaps two. So, how did we get from beheading to betrothing on Valentine's Day?

### EARLY ORIGINS OF ST. VALENTINE

Ancient sources reveal that there were several St. Valentines who died on Feb. 14. Two of them were executed during the reign of Roman Emperor Claudius Gothicus in 269-270 A.D., at a time when persecution of Christians

was common.

How do we know this? Because, an order of Belgian monks spent three centuries collecting evidence for the lives of saints from manuscript archives around the known world.

They were called Bollandists after Jean Bolland, a Jesuit scholar who began publishing the massive 68-folio volumes of "Acta Sanctorum," or "Lives of the Saints," beginning in 1643.

Since then, successive generations of monks continued the work until the last volume was published in 1940. The Brothers dug up every scrap of information about every saint on the liturgical calendar and printed the texts arranged according to the saint's feast day.

### THE VALENTINE MARTYRS

The volume encompassing Feb. 14 contains the stories of a handful of "Valentini," including the earliest three of whom died in the

third century.

The earliest Valentinus is said to have died in Africa, along with 24 soldiers. Unfortunately, even the Bollandists could not find any more information about him. As the monks knew, sometimes all that the saints left behind was a name and day of death.

We know only a little more about the other two Valentines.

According to a late medieval legend reprinted in the "Acta," which was accompanied by Bollandist critique about its historical value, a Roman priest named Valentinus was arrested during the reign of Emperor Gothicus and put into the custody of an aristocrat named Asterius.

As the story goes, Asterius made the mistake of letting the preacher talk. Father Valentinus went on and on about Christ leaving pagans out of the shadow of darkness and into the light of truth and salvation. Asterius made a

SEE LOVE 11D

## YOUTH

CONTINUED FROM 7D

but I wanted to learn another instrument. So, I started learning how to play the flute," said Rashard.

What he didn't expect was to learn things about his history he never learned in school. As part of the program, he watched an episode of the "African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross," a documentary series that aired on PBS covering Black history from the slave trade to the election of former president Barack Obama.

He watched an episode about Jim Crow laws, the state and local segregation laws enacted in the southern United States during the late 1800s.

"It really made me angry to see some of those scenes. I was ready to flip. That's why I like coming here. They really teach you more about our roots, our history. And, they explain why, the why behind so many things that happen now," said Rashard.

Jasmin Singletary is a graduate student at FIU,

earning a masters in African-Diaspora studies and a doctorate in sociology. She's been mentoring Rashard since September 2017.

"These students need a basic timeline of the achievements of all that transpired during the Civil Rights Movement. They know what segregation was, but they need the historical context. We want them to understand their legacy. That's the major theme here. Not just what happened before them, but their own contribution to the legacy now." This is history. We're living history right now," said Singletary.

During Saturday's event, Rashard and the other participants collected pictures, historical artifacts, and listened to residents tell stories about the Hampton House and Brownsville.

"I remember when this was just a rock pit," said Ernestine Williams, a Brownsville resident since 1948. "We didn't have to go nowhere to get nothing. We had it all right here. Now, with the work they're doing here, I want people to see the potential of what it could be again. I want us to

continue to thrive."

The artifacts and historical documents collected during Saturday's event will be utilized during an exhibition scheduled for April. The exhibit will feature a historical presentation along with a musical segment.

"We really want to expose people to the value of our history. They're sleeping through it. There are other people out there who are more enthusiastic about our history than we are," said Enid Pinkey, CEO and founding president of the trust.

Built in 1953, the Hampton House was once considered the hotspot for Black people who visited a then-segregated Miami. Malcolm X, Muhammad Ali and Martin Luther King Jr. all visited the famed motel. After being abandoned for years, it underwent a \$6 million restoration and reopened in 2015 as a community center. In 2016, it won a grant from the Children's Trust Innovation Fund, which provided the seed money to create the trust, a not-for-profit organization. The BUMP project began in August 2017.

## CHURCH Listings

**CATHOLIC**  
**Holy Redeemer Catholic Church**  
Rev. Alexander Ekechukwu, CSSP  
1301 NW 71 Street • 305-691-1701

**BAPTIST**  
**New Philadelphia Baptist Church**  
Pastor Rickie K. Robinson Sr.  
1113 NW 79th Street • 305-505-0400

**Greater Harvest Baptist Church**  
Rev. Kenneth McGee  
2310 NW 58th Street • 786-717-5818

**MISSIONARY BAPTIST**  
**New Christ Tabernacle Church**  
Rev. Harold Marsh  
1305 NW 54th Street • 305-835-2578

**Walking in Christ M.B. Church**  
Rev. Larry Robbins, Sr.  
3530 NW 214th Street • 305-430-0443

**New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church**  
Elder William Walker  
5895 NW 23rd Avenue • 305-635-3866

**New Christ Tabernacle M.B. Church**  
Rev. Harold Marsh  
1305 NW 54th Street • 305-835-2578

**Valley Grove Missionary Baptist Church**  
Elder Johnnie Robinson  
1395 NW 69th Street • 305-835-8316

**New Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church**  
Rev. Bernard E. Lang, Pastor/Teacher  
7103 NW 22 Avenue • 954-433-2028

**NON DENOMINATION**  
**Lively Stone Church of Miami**  
Pastor David Dorcas  
8025 NW Miami Ct 754-400-0899

**Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church**  
Rev. Van Gaskins, Jr., Pastor/Teacher  
7510 NW 15th Avenue • 305-418-0012

**True Faith Missionary Baptist Church**  
Pastor John M. Fair  
1890 NW 47th Terrace • 786-262-6841

**The Kingdom Agenda Worship Center**  
Prophessess Felicia Hamilton-Paranore  
630 Sharar Avenue • 954-707-3274

**AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL Metropolitan A.M.E. Church**  
Rev. Michael H. Clark, Jr., Senior Pastor  
1778 NW 69th Street • 305-696-4201

**New Resurrection Community Church**  
Rev. Dr. Anthony A. Tate  
2167 NW 64th Street • 305-342-7426

**PENTECOSTAL**  
**New Faith Deliverance Center COGIC**  
Pastor Dr. Willie Gaines  
3257 NW 7th Avenue Circle • 305-335-4389

**New Life Christian Center**  
Rev. Bruce Payne  
5726 Washington Street • 786-536-9039

**MORAVIAN CHURCH**  
**New Hope Moravian Church**  
Pastor Gregorio Moody  
6001 SW 127th Avenue • 305-273-4047

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Church of Christ at Coconut Grove**  
Minister William D. Maddox  
3345 Douglas Road • 305-448-0504

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
**Revival Tabernacle Assembly of God**  
Pastor Leonard Shaw  
2085 NW 97th Street • 305-693-1356

## HONORS

CONTINUED FROM 7D

Jordan said to those present at the event. "I can't commend you enough for what you do every day. It saves the lives of children."

Carlos Lopez-Cantera, lieutenant governor of Florida, praised the honorees as well.

"Your decision to make a difference in a child's life makes a difference in society," he said. "It makes a difference in many lives."

Shamele Jenkins, president of the association, presented awards to board members at her organization.

"Our volunteers don't get paid, but they do what they



Photos courtesy of Margarita Sweeping

do because they care," Jenkins said.

Janeris and Wilfredo Marte, a married couple who reside in Miami Gardens, decided to become foster

parents after experiencing medical issues while trying to conceive. Since 2013, they have fostered 13 children and have since adopted two girls, ages 2 and 4.

## FAITH CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF | EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

■ **Tenth Tabernacle Beth-El** will host their annual Black History program on Saturday, Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. Call 786-222-4760.

■ **Greater New Bethel Baptist Annex Bldg.** in Miami Gardens provides behavioral health, intervention and treatment services for Black men at risk for HIV or

substance abuse disorders. Call 305-627-0396.

■ **Bethel A. M. E. Church in Pompano** invites you to their Men's Day Service on Sunday, Feb 25 at 10 a.m. Call 954-781-1611.

■ **Sistah to Sistah Connection** Empowerment Women's meetings

are held every second and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon at Parkway Professional Building in Miramar. Women only. Call 954-260-9348.

■ **Women in Transition of South Florida** have started Spring computer classes. Call 786-477-8548

■ **The Elks Historical Business and Conference Center** invites you every Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. for Gospel Kickback entertainment and fine dining. Call 305-224-1890.

■ **Metropolitan A.M.E. Church** hosts a food and clothing giveaway every third Saturday. Call 786-277-4150.

■ **Zion Hope Missionary Baptist Church** has a food and clothing distribution every Wednesday at 4 p.m. Call 786-541-3687.

■ **First Haitian Church of God** hosts a food drive every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 786-362-1804.

■ **New Day N Christ Deliverance Ministry** holds free mind, body and soul self-improvement and Zumba fitness classes. Call 305-691-0018.

■ **New Miami Super Choir** invites interested persons to audition. Call Dr. Tony Siders, 786-530-2825.

■ **Florida Independent Restoration Ministries (FIRM)** offers family assistance with drugs and alcohol. Call 800-208-2924 ext. 102 or prayer line, ext. 104.

■ **A Mission with a New Beginning Church Women's Department**

provides community feedings. Call 786-371-3779.

■ **Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church** holds bereavement sharing groups every second Sunday from 3 to 4 p.m. Call 305-634-2993.

■ **Street Outreach Ministries** conducts free courses on evangelizing without fear. Call 786-508-6167.

■ **MEC Ministries** holds healing services every fourth Friday at 7:30 p.m. Call 305-693-1534.

The deadline for the Faith Calendar is on or before 2 p.m. Mondays.

## Noted Black cardiologist co-authors book

Dr. Jennifer H. Mieres launches heart health book for women that is a vital lifestyle tool to have

Special to The Miami Times

**D**r. Jennifer H. Mieres and her colleague Dr. Stacey E. Rosen have joined forces to find a way to diminish heart disease. With their new book "Heart Smart For Women; Six S.T.E.P.S. in Six Weeks To Heart-Healthy Living;" the two cardiologists aim to translate heart knowledge into action.

The book demystifies the science, biology and statistics surrounding heart disease while providing a user-friendly program for successful heart-healthy living. Despite the abundance of public awareness campaigns, 90 percent of women have one or more risk factors for heart disease or stroke and cardiovascular disease remains the leading killer of women, according to the American Heart Association.

"Heart Smart For Women" addresses the urgent need for women to assess their risk of heart disease and translate knowledge into action with sustainable approaches for preventing, minimizing and reversing heart disease.

"Being knowledgeable about heart disease is not enough. It is time for women to translate their knowledge into action. Only then will we really see the needle start to move. It's time for a new call to action," states Dr. Mieres. "Dr. Rosen and I designed this user-friendly program to advance a heart smart movement based on published research as well as on real life stories from our patients. It is designed to inspire and empower women to make small lifestyle changes that will sustain a heart-smart life."

While women are eager to change their lifestyles, most don't know where to begin.

"Heart Smart For Women" provides a practical step-by-step program to help women of all ages put the research and physician's guidance into action. The book provides readers with comprehensive insight on the workings of the heart while demystifying the science, risk factors and symptoms of heart disease.

Backed by expert research and real-life physician/patient stories, the book is a lifestyle tool stocked with effective guidance on diet, sleep, stress, strength and flexibility exercises, physician partnership and other critical factors for a heart-healthy life.

Dr. Mieres is a professor of Cardiology, and associate dean of Faculty Affairs at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. She is also the Senior vice president, Center for Equity of Care, and chief diversity and inclusion officer of Northwell Health.

With a combined 50 years of medical experience in the field of cardiology, Drs. Mieres and Rosen have seen firsthand the damaging effects of lifestyle choices affecting women of all generations, ethnicities and geographies.

"This book was inspired by the thousands of incredible women we have treated as patients or met at lectures and health screenings," states Dr. Rosen. "We know our program works and will enable women to translate the knowledge of heart disease into an actionable plan that will put them on the road to heart-healthy living."

In connection with the book, the authors have also launched the Get Heart Smart for Women campaign, which is a call to action for women everywhere that will inspire them to take the first steps.

"Heart Smart for Women: Six S.T.E.P.S. in Six Weeks to Heart-Healthy Living" is available at Amazon.com. For more information on the Get Heart Smart For Women campaign, visit [heartSMARTmovement.com](http://heartSMARTmovement.com).



“

Being knowledgeable about heart disease is not enough. It is time for women to translate their knowledge into action. Only then will we really see the needle start to move. It's time for a new call to action.

Photo courtesy of Luvette Hines Co.

## NORTH SHORE BRINGS 'LITTLE HATS — BIG HEARTS'

North Shore Medical Center is participating in the American Heart Association's "Little Hats - Big Hearts" campaign.

The goal is to raise awareness regarding congenital heart defects in February, which is also National Heart Month.

150 red infant hats were donated to the hospital labor and delivery unit and each

baby born in the month of February will receive one to bring home.

No two hats are the same, and they are all knit by hand by one of our local organizations.

For more information contact [http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Affiliate/Little-Hats-Big-Hearts\\_UCM\\_487734\\_SubHomePage.jsp](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Affiliate/Little-Hats-Big-Hearts_UCM_487734_SubHomePage.jsp)



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**Chef Kimberly Brock Brown, the first Black woman to be inducted into the Honor Society of the American Culinary Federation.**

## Miami Culinary Institute inducts new future chefs

Miami Dade College celebrated MCI class of 2018 at Wolfson Campus

Special to the Miami Times

The latest class of culinary students at Miami Dade College's (MDC) state-of-the-art Miami Culinary Institute (MCI) received their chef coats during a ceremony at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 7, at the Wolfson Campus in downtown Miami.

The 40 chefs-to-be are one of the largest incoming Spring semester classes.

MCI's chef's coat ceremony marks the beginning of the students' journey toward achieving an associate's degree in science in culinary arts management and becoming a part of Miami's dynamic gastronomic scene.

This year's key note speaker was Chef Kimberly Brock Brown.

She is a member of the American Academy of Chefs (AAC) and the Honor Society of the American Culinary Federation (ACF).

She is the only Black female chef inducted in the more than 30-year history of ACF.

## FAMU ranked number one

School tops list of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in country

bestcolleges.com

Rising from a historic environment of legal segregation, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were established prior to 1964 with the intention of offering accredited, high-quality education to Black students across the United States. These schools do, however, admit students of all races. The best historically Black colleges were determined by considering each school's academic standards, affordability, outcomes, and student support. The following school profiles explore the legacies, present successes and ongoing initiatives of each institution.

FAMU was founded as the State Normal College for Colored Students in 1887, and began classes with 15 students and two instructors. The university enrolls nearly 10,000 students from more than 70 countries, including several African and Caribbean nations. FAMU is the largest among historically Black colleges and universities in the state of Florida.

The university offers undergraduate degrees through its School of Agriculture and Food Sciences. Fields of study include agriscience, plant science, entomology and soil and water. FAMU also



offers 10 bachelor's degree teaching concentrations through its College of Education, and 13 specialized graduate degree programs through its College of Engineering.

According to the university's 2010-20 Strategic Plan, FAMU strives to 'become a top producer' of Black graduates with degrees in law, health and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, and to maintain a diverse and inclusive campus atmosphere. FAMU has launched numerous programs to build economic growth and partner-

ships in Florida, such as the Sustainability Institute and the Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research.

### WHAT IS A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY?

According to the U.S. Department of Education, the term 'Historically Black College or University,' or HBCU for short, has been in use since the Higher Education Act was amended in 1965. HBCU refers to any accredited institution established prior to 1965 "whose principal mission was, and is, the education of Black

Americans." However, HBCUs are committed to educating all students regardless of their race.

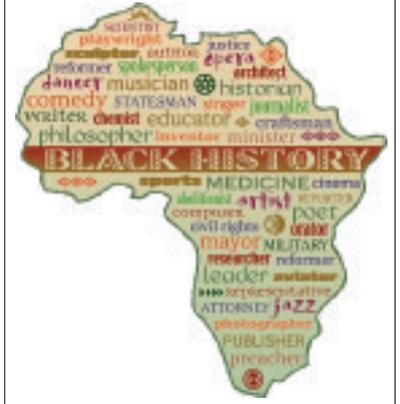
A recent Pew Research Center report notes that there are currently 101 HBCUs in the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The first HBCUs were established in the 1830s, more than two decades before slavery was abolished in the U.S. The number of HBCUs has decreased since the 1930s, but has remained fairly steady since the 1980s. In 2015, the combined enrollment for all HBCUs was

SEE FAMU 11D



## Amazing women of color

Celebrated African-Americans both past and present continue to inspire



Dynamic Graphics/liquidlibrary/Thinkstock

The Children's Trust

### ISABELLA BAUMFREE (AKA SOJOURNER TRUTH)

The abolitionist and women's rights leader, who changed her name to Sojourner Truth in 1843, made great strides in bringing racial and gender inequality to the forefront. A daughter of slaves, she not only fled to freedom, she was also the first Black woman to fight a white man in court and win -ultimately reclaiming her son from the man to whom he had been illegally sold.

### CATHAY WILLIAMS

Born into slavery in 1842, Cathay Williams was freed shortly after the Civil War

ing me down. I couldn't get up." Arrested and jailed, Colvin later went to court as a plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, a landmark case that ruled desegregation on Montgomery public buses was unconstitutional.

### BESSIE COLEMAN

Inspired by stories of returning WWI pilots, 28-year-old Bessie Coleman dreamed of taking to the skies. But the opportunity to fly high was inaccessible to an impoverished young Black woman. So a determined Coleman left the U.S. for France, where she studied aeronautics and was awarded an international pilot's license by the *Fédération Aéronautique Internationale*. As



Dynamic Graphics/liquidlibrary/Thinkstock

began and found work as a paid servant for the Federal Army. After the war, her employment options as a Black woman were bleak, so she decided to pose as a man under the name William Cathay and joined the 38th U.S. Infantry, becoming the first authenticated African-American woman to serve as a buffalo soldier in the U.S. Army.

### CLAUDETTE COLVIN

Before Rosa Parks, a 15-year-old schoolgirl took her own stand against racial injustice when a white passenger demanded her bus seat. In that moment, Claudette Colvin reportedly said, "It felt like Sojourner Truth was on one side pushing me down, and Harriet Tubman was on the other side of me push-

ing me down. I couldn't get up." Arrested and jailed, Colvin later went to court as a plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, a landmark case that ruled desegregation on Montgomery public buses was unconstitutional.

### KATHERINE JOHNSON

Katherine Johnson was 10 years old when she entered high school, and 18 when she earned a B. S. in mathematics and French. Her passion for math research, a challenging field to enter for both African-American women and men, led to a job with the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (now known as NASA) in 1953. Johnson's acumen in analytic geometry landed her an assignment to help a males-only flight research team, which subsequently enabled astronauts John Glenn and Alan Shepard to travel into space.

# With no legs he leads the band on and off field

## His mom made a tough decision

**ALYSSA MARINO**  
Humankind

"He has no fear of the word 'No,'" says Teira Johnson, Jahkee's mother. "Failure? None of that bothers him. He's gonna try it anyway."

The 16-year-old high school junior was born with a rare disease called Tibial Hemimelia.

According to the Paley Orthopedic and Spine Institute, the disease is so rare that it only occurs in one out of one million live births.

The result of this disease is usually when the child is born without a Tibia bone and the foot and ankle point inward.

Treatment depends on the

severity of the deformity but historically, amputation is the treatment of choice.

It was a hard decision for Teira Johnson to make: amputate her child's legs or put him through numerous surgeries.

"I just prayed about it and prayed about it," says Johnson. "I didn't know what to do."

Ultimately, she decided to have Jahkee's legs amputated when he was 9 months old.

"I think it would have put him in a lot of pain and he wouldn't be who he is today if we didn't make that decision," says Johnson.

Jahkee agrees, saying he's glad it happened when he was so young because he



**Jahkee Johnson doesn't need two legs to play football or to compete in the Cedar Grove High School marching band. He does just fine without them.**

"wouldn't have to think about it."

Walking into marching band practice at Cedar Grove High School, you wouldn't be able to point out Jahkee if you were looking for a wheelchair or any sign of a disability.

He stands on prosthetics next to his classmates pouring his heart and soul into his trombone.

"Now, I don't know how he does it, but he just does it," says Davion Battle, the Cedar Grove Marching Band director. "He doesn't want your help. He doesn't want you to feel sorry for him. He's very self-independent."

Jahkee's classmates and teachers all agree he is an inspiration.

"His leadership, it tran-

sceeds throughout the band," says Battle.

Jahkee's mother says her son's confidence grew even stronger after attending a summer camp with the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

"It's a camp for kids with different abilities, missing limbs, things like that and I think that helped him a lot, as well."

Jahkee is just happy to be as involved as he can.

"I'll just keep doing what I'm doing," says Jahkee. "I can be carrying two tuba cases and it'll take me being on my back to give up."

The teen plans to go to college and someday be a football coach. He says his inspiration is University of Alabama football coach, Nick Saban.

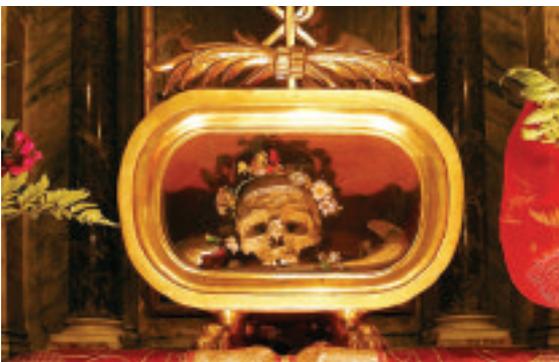
## LOVE

CONTINUED FROM 8D

bargain with Valentinus: If the Christian could cure Asterius's foster-daughter of blindness, he would convert. Valentinus put his hands over the girl's eyes and chanted:

"Lord Jesus Christ, en-lighten your handmaid, because you are God, the True Light."

Easy as that. The child could see, according to the medieval legend. Asterius and his whole family were baptized. Unfortunately, when Emperor Gothicus heard the news, he ordered them all to be executed. But Valentinus was the only one to be beheaded. A pious widow, though, made off with his body and had it buried at the site of his martyrdom on the Via Flaminia, the ancient highway stretching from Rome to present-day Rimini. Later, a chapel was built over the saint's remains.



**Relics of St. Valentine of Terni at the basilica of Saint Mary in Cosmedin.**

## ST. VALENTINE WAS NOT A ROMANTIC

The third-century Valentinus was a bishop of Terni in the province of Umbria, Italy.

According to his equally dodgy legend, Terni's bishop

got into a situation like the other Valentinus by debating a potential convert and afterward healing his son. The rest of story is quite similar as well: He too, was beheaded on the orders of Emperor Gothicus and his body bur-

ied along the Via Flaminia.

It is likely, as the Bonlandists suggested, that there weren't actually two decapitated Valentines, but that two different versions of one saint's legend appeared in both Rome and Terni.

## FAMU

CONTINUED FROM 10D

293,000. The 10 largest HBCUs ranged from 11,200 to 7,700 in terms of total student enrollment that same year. HBCUs are fairly small compared to other colleges and universities, and more than half enroll 2,500 or fewer students.

Black student enrollment at HBCUs has declined since 1980, due in part to factors like desegregation, improved access to financial aid and higher salaries among Blacks.

In 1980, 17 percent of Black students were enrolled at an HBCU, but this figure decreased to nine percent by 2015. However, HBCUs still represent 15 percent of all bachelor's degrees conferred to Black students in the U.S.

## HOW TO CHOOSE A HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE

As with selecting any college or university, choosing the right HBCU requires extensive research. Students should peruse the list of current HBCUs and identify institutions that award degrees in their desired career field.

Once they have a list of possible schools, students should compare their top picks based on factors like location, school and class size and overall cost (see bullets below). Additionally, students should research 'student outcome' data for each of their selected HBCUs. Student outcomes include retention rates, or the number of students that return after each academic year, as well as graduation and graduate employment rates. Another important outcome is 'debt default,' which measures the number of students

that are forced to default on their student loan payments (often because they are unable to find work).

It's important to note that HBCUs are open to students of all races. As fewer Black students have enrolled at HBCUs since 1980, these institutions have experienced an uptick in the number of non-Black students. The Pew Research Center notes that, in 2015, white, Hispanic, Asian, Pacific Islander and Native American students represented 17 percent of students enrolled at HBCUs. In particular, the number of Hispanic students has risen by a considerable margin over the last four decades. Hispanics represented 1.8 percent of students enrolled at HBCUs in 1980, and this figure rose to 4.6 percent in 2015.

School location may impact education costs for

HBCU students, particularly 'out-of-state' students, who usually pay higher tuition rates than 'in-state' students.

Becoming an in-state student typically requires at least one year of established residency in the state where the college or university is located. In addition to traditional brick-and-mortar campuses, many HBCUs offer online courses and degree programs that students can access anywhere in the country. Online students often pay a flat tuition rate, regardless of their state of residence.

At HBCUs, particularly FAMU, students receive the benefit of learning with and from individuals who have diverse perspectives and backgrounds. Students also experience a family-oriented environment and have unlimited opportunities to gain hands-on, real-world experience.

## Church of God in Christ 19th annual workers meeting

The Southern Florida Jurisdiction invites you to its 19th Annual Workers meeting, February 18-23 at Gamble Memorial Church of God in Christ located at 1898 NW 43 Street, Miami, FL. Bishop Julian C. Jackson is senior pastor, teacher and host pastor.

The meeting will commence Sunday, February 18 with musical extravaganza starting at 6 p.m.

Monday through Friday evening worship will begin at 7:30 p.m.

For additional information, call 305-821-3692 or 305-757-6620.



**Bishop Julian C. Jackson**

## LOVE

CONTINUED FROM 8D

Perkins said she really appreciated the love and recognition shown to her and the other widows and wives emeriti. The outreach was warmly received.

Perkins, also shared a bit of Miami's Black History with the audience. Her late husband, Artis Perkins, in addition to being the pastor of Valley Grove Missionary Baptist Church, was the very first Black train conductor for Miami-Dade County's Metrorail System.

According to McCloud, future plans for the Seaboard Baptist Association, includes, focusing on ministers' wives, and then next



**Rosalind Osgood, Broward County School Board**

year focus on the first ladies in the Seaboard Association. "We just want you to keep praising the Lord, whoever you are. It can be a first lady, sometimes, first or last."



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Apostolic Revival Center**  
Services  
Wed. Interspersed Prayer 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun.-Sat. Worship 7:30 p.m.  
Tue. Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Fri. Bible Study 7:30 p.m.  
G. S. Smith  
6702 N.W. 15th Avenue  
305-836-1224

**Liberty City Church of Christ**  
Services  
Sunday Morning 8 a.m.  
Sunday School 10 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 5 p.m.  
Tue. Bible Class 6:30 p.m.  
Thurs. Fellowship 10 a.m.  
Evangelist Eric W. Doss  
1263 N.W. 67th Street  
305-836-4555

**New Vision For Christ Ministries**  
Services  
Early Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6 p.m.  
Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.  
Rev. Michael D. Screen  
13650 N.E. 10th Avenue  
305-899-7224

**Brownsville Church of Christ**  
Services  
Lord Day Sunday School 9:45am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.  
Tuesday Night Bible Study 7:30p  
Thurs. Mon. Bible Class 10 a.m.  
Min. Harrell L. Hemton  
4561 N.W. 33rd Court  
305-634-4850

**93rd Street Community Missionary Baptist Church**  
Services  
7:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship  
11 a.m. Morning Worship  
Evening Worship  
1st & 3rd Sunday 6 p.m.  
Tuesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
Website: cmcnc.org  
Pastor Rev. Carl Johnson  
2330 N.W. 93rd Street  
305-836-0942

**St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church**  
Services  
Sunday 7:30 and 11 a.m.  
Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
Tuesday 7 p.m. Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting  
Rev. Dr. C.A. Ivery, Pastor  
1470 N.W. 87th Street  
305-691-8861

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. — Romans 8:28

**Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church**  
Services  
Early Worship 7 a.m.  
Sunday School 9 a.m.  
NBC 10:05 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.  
Worship 4 p.m.  
Mission and Bible  
Pastor Douglas Cook, Sr.  
5946 N.W. 12th Avenue  
305-751-9323

**New Birth Baptist Church, The Cathedral of Faith International**  
Services  
Sunday Worship 7 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday (Bible Study) 6:45p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 10:45 a.m.  
1 (800) 254-NBC  
305-685-3700  
305-685-0705  
www.newbirthbaptistmiami.org  
Bishop Victor T. Curry, D.Min., D.D., Senior Pastor/Teacher  
2300 N.W. 135th Street

**Pembroke Park Church of Christ**  
Services  
SUNDAY Bible Study  
Morning Worship, 10 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6 p.m.  
TUESDAY Bible Study 10 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.  
www.PembrokeParkChurchOfChrist.com  
954-962-9327  
3707 S.W. 56th Avenue, Hollywood, FL 33023

**Hosanna Community Baptist Church**  
Services  
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study  
Thursday 7:30 p.m.  
Youth Ministry  
Mon.-Fri. 2:45 p.m.  
Rev. Charles Lee Dinkins  
2171 N.W. 56th Street  
305-637-4404

## Royal

**CATHERINE SNELL**, 97, died February 3 at Jackson North Hospital. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church.



**ANNIE MARGARET SMITH**, 56, catering services, died February 12 at Hialeah Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Friday at Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church.



**WILMORE KEMP, III**, 53, environmental service, died January 29. Service 10 a.m., Thursday at New Vision for Christ Church.

## Hadley Davis MLK

**EARNST LYNN**, 69, self-employed landscaper, died February 2 at home. Service 12 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**JOHN HENRY LYNN**, 79, laundry worker, died February 11. Service 10 a.m., Friday in the chapel.



**GREGORY SCOTT**, 58, team member, died February 8 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Services were held.

## Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

**TERRY KING**, 56, auto body mechanic, died February 4 at Hialeah Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**HIAWATHA CHRISTOPHER TIBBS, JR.**, 50, warehouse technician, died February 3 at Hialeah Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Koinonia Worship Center.



## Gregg L. Mason

**VERNELL WILLIAMS WHITE**, 74, retired supervisor, Miami-Dade College, died February 7. Viewing 5-9 p.m., Thursday. Service 1 p.m., Friday in the chapel.



## Richardson

**JAMES PRINGLE**, 78, truck driver, died February 6. Service 11 a.m., Friday at St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church.



## Range Homestead

**ODELL JONES**, 68, golf course maintenance, died February 6 at North Shore Hospital and Medical Center. Service 1 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



## AJ Manuel South

**WILLIAM HUMPHERY**, 68, laborer, died February 9. Service 3 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.

**ROBERT JONES, SR.**, 87, barber, died February 3. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at New Bethel AME Church.

## Trinity

**ALAINA WILLIAMS**, 61, died February 4 at Jackson North. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Hosanna Community Baptist Church.



**JONATHAN WORTHLEY**, 64, died February 6 at Jackson North. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church.



**PRINCESS YAHNESSE TERENCE MATHIS**, five months, died February 5 at Joe Dimaggio. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Star of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church.



## Range Coconut Grove

**CHARLIE MAE MCKELLER**, 78, educator, died February 6 at Jackson North Medical Center. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Christ Episcopal Church.



**LABRENDA LEE**, 59, communications specialist, died February 9 in Apopka, FL. Service 3 p.m., Saturday at Macedonia Baptist Church.



## Eric L. Wilson

**TYISHA BROWN**, 36, died February 6 at home. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at House of God Miracle Revival Fellowship Church, Hollywood, FL.

**PHYLLIS HILL ROLAND**, 58, administrative secretary, died February 8 at home. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at St. Ruth Missionary Baptist Church, Dania, FL.

**LOUIS ANTONIO RIOS**, 24, died February 9. Service 5 p.m., Thursday in the chapel.

## Mitchell

**JOSEPH LEROY JACKSON**, 63, retired, died February 7 at VA Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Friday at Mitchell Funeral Home. Arrangements entrusted to McWhite Funeral Home.

## Eris S. George

**BABY MICHAEL ROBBY HERNANDEZ**. Private services were held.

**BABY ALORA LAURA JEAN**. Private services were held.

## Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,



**GREGORY BRUNSON SR.**  
02/18/1961 - 10/15/2010

It's been seven years since you were called home to be with the Lord.

We miss you. You will always be remembered in our hearts and never be forgotten.

From the Brunson and Lawson family, we love you.

## In Memoriam



**LONGIE JOYCE, SR.**  
04/14/1928 - 02/16/2008

Dear daddy, I thought I would take time and write you expressing how much all of us and especially mom misses you. Ten years to come, but it seems like a lifetime to Pat and all of us. I am sure she long to see you again. We continue to live our lives the way you modeled. All of us are fine. Your grandchildren are great. Shanae is charting her own course (#worththewait), Diaunte is a UF Gator. Cedric and Corey are fine. Boo and Brian are doing there thing, and Lonzie III is, (#thanksgivinggiveback) doing some amazing things. You have great grands, so many, I've lost count. We are blessed even today as a family because of things you have done twenty years ago.

I know you are enjoying the rewards of your labor. Sleep on my KING. With love, Andre' PS, tell everyone hello.

## Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,



**LATRESE MCMILLAN**  
02/12/1968 - 11/02/2016

Words cannot express how much we miss you. Your presence is felt everywhere. Your laugh, your smile, your eyes are forever etched in our hearts. There will never be another like you.

Love always, your family, Jasmine, daughter, DMitri, son; Sharon Prince, mother and James McMillan, father.

## Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,



**ROSA JAMESON**  
02/19/1934 - 09/05/2011

Happy Valentines Day and Birthday to the "Queen" of our hearts. Mother, we know that you left us to go to a better place, but you are still walking beside us every day. The love that you had for us no one can ever replace.

Love always, Leroy and family.

## Happy Birthday



**ROSIE L EDWARDS**  
02/16/1936 - 08/08/2017

Remembering Rosie We all love you so very much and miss you deeply. You were the Matriarch of our family. We celebrate your life and your legacy. Your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

## Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,



**VERDYCE JASMIN CLARKE**  
02/15/1950 - 02/21/2015

"Never far from our thoughts, forever embedded in our hearts, Clarke love is for keeps, this family misses you dearly, may you all continue to rest in peace. TERRY Z. CLARKE, T.Z. CLARKE, MARGARET CLARKE Lewis Brown and the Clarke Family.

## Leon (Ndugu) Chancler, versatile drummer, dies at 65 in Los Angeles

**JON PARELES**  
New York Times

Leon (Ndugu) Chancler, a drummer whose crisp grooves and pinpoint fireworks of syncopation were heard on hundreds of albums — including Michael Jackson's "Thriller," on which his drumbeat starts the song "Billie Jean" — died on Feb. 3 in Los Angeles. He was 65.

The cause was prostate cancer, his family said in a statement.

Chancler (pronounced CHANCE-ler) prided him-

A CD-length performance by that group was released on the 2015 collection "Miles Davis at Newport 1955-1975: The Bootleg Series Vol. 4."

Chancler worked widely and steadily, in the studio and on the road, in the 1970s. After a guest appearance on Santana's 1974 album "Boholetta," he joined Santana on tour and on its 1976 album, "Amigos," for which he was also one of the songwriters and producers.

The jazz-rock band Weather Report, led by Shorter and Joe Zawinul, heard Chancler while working in a nearby stu-



Leon (Ndugu) Chancler

dio and invited him to sit in. The sessions stretched to a week and yielded the 1975 album "Tale Spinnin'." Chancler later played drums for a 1988 Montreux Jazz Festival collaboration between Carlos Santana and Shorter.

As the 1970s ended, Chancler founded his own funk-pop group, the Chocolate Jam Co., which made two albums before disbanding, and became a first-call studio player in Los Angeles. The producer Quincy Jones hired Chancler for three songs on "Thriller," Michael Jackson's record-shattering 1982 album: "PYT," "Pretty Young Thing," "Baby Be Mine" and "Billie Jean."

"Billie Jean" for me, was a lesson in musical discipline," Chancler told Modern Drummer magazine in 1983. "A very simple rhythm that anybody can play who can play drums, but the whole discipline of it was just playing that, and being consistent at it."

In an Instagram post, Questlove, the Roots' drummer and bandleader, wrote that Mr. Chancler's drumming on "Billie Jean" was "timeless like a tuxedo" and "literally gives MJ his DNA."

Mr. Chancler also appeared on Mr. Jackson's next album, "Bad," and on another early 1980s blockbuster album, Tina Turner's "Private Dancer" (1984). He embraced electronic drums and drum machines, learning to work with and alongside them, but also maintained his jazz virtuosity.

In recent decades, Chancler had mixed performing and teaching. He was a professor of jazz studies at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California, where he created the drum curriculum. Since 1997 he had taught at the Stanford Jazz Workshop, a summer program held at Stanford University. He also performed at drum clinics presented by musical instrument companies.

"He sponsored and funded kids for percussion and education trips, offering his own home," his son, Rashon Chancler, said in a statement.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his companion, Brenda Curry, and six siblings: Londell Chaff, Louis Remer, Leroy Gibson, Henry Chancler Jr., Opal Chancler and Irma Gibson.

Chancler was 19 when Davis asked him to join his group in 1971, and he left college behind.

## In Memoriam: Celebrate a Life

Memorialize and celebrate a loved one on the pages of The Miami Times.

For more information, call 305-694-6225

Obituaries are due 4:30 p.m., Tuesday Call 305-694-6210

The Miami Times www.miamitimesonline.com