

The Miami Times

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BLACK OUT HISTORY?

How
one incident
is indicative of
Florida's schools

JANIAH ADAMS
jadams@miamitimesonline.com

Many people voice their concerns that Black History Month has become a repetition of the popular historical figures such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks.

Despite states mandating that Black history be taught in schools, teachers believe and studies show that there is a grave disconnect between the present generation and the knowledge of those that came before them.

So when a fourth-grade student at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School in southwest Miami-Dade walked into his classroom with his face painted black, the incident speaks to a broader discussion that has been brewing — is Black history being taught as well as it should be in schools across the country?

The misstep was noticed by the school's alumni but not immediately by school officials, who later apologized.

"We apologize to those who took offense at a photo published on STA's social media. It was never our intention to insult anyone or to propagate or endorse any racist agenda," St. Thomas the Apostle said in a letter to parents.

To one South Florida teacher, this apology is just part of a common story where Black history is no longer common knowledge.

"I teach world history, and they do have within certain chapters certain nations out of Africa in our recently adopted textbooks. However, when we're

SEE BLACK 4A

#woke

Black teens march against gun violence

Two groups will join together in D.C. in wake of recent school shooting

ANDREA ROBINSON
arobinson@miamitimesonline.com

On Wednesday, Rose Jean Paul and Taina Senatus will be among 4,000 students from Miami Central High School who will stage a campuswide "walk out" to honor the 17 victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting.

Later that evening, they and other Black students from across Miami-Dade County will gather at the Liberty Square Community Center for a chat with survivors of the Parkland massacre to talk



REUTERS/Joe Skipper

Tyra Hemans, 19, a student who survived the shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School, wait to board buses in Parkland, Fla., Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2018.

about an issue that now binds the two groups — gun violence. "People don't realize this is happening in Black communities the most. They don't realize we live through this every day," said Rose, a 17-year-old junior and campus leader.

The activities come on the one-month anniversary of the deadly attack at the hands of a former Stoneman Douglas classmate. The shooting left 17 students and teachers dead, and several others critically wounded. Some students remain hospitalized.

Students across the nation are expected to hold such protests, particularly at high schools. Miami-Dade County Public Schools sent parents notices that also said students are not permitted to leave campus and "behavior that disrupts school operations or threatened the safety and order of our schools will not be tolerated."

It also came as students, educators and parents from across the country head to Washington, D.C., on March 24 for a national March For Our Lives rally that is organized by the students with help from their parents and school alumni.

Organizers of the Liberty Square dialogue call it a bridging of two communities. They said it was the idea of the Stoneman Douglas students. Since the Feb. 14 shooting, those teenagers have used a rallying cry #NeverAgain to demand change. They converged upon Tallahassee to ask lawmakers unsuccessfully to ban the AR-15, the assault weapon allegedly used by gunman Nikolaus Cruz in the killings. They also held a national town hall meeting televised by CNN at the BB&T Center. U.S. Senators Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson attended that meeting, as did U.S. Rep. Ted

SEE WOKE 4A

U.S. Virgin Islands progress slow but steady

Government says visiting the islands is a way to help with their recovery

CAROLYN GUNISS
cguniss@miamitimesonline.com

Six months after back-to-back Category 5 storms pummeled the U.S. Virgin Islands, its leaders have put the response to the territory's devastation into perspective.

The U.S. territory had headed on hits from both Hurricanes Irma and Maria last September, leaving the islands of St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John in shambles.

But the storms continued to Puerto Rico, with Maria causing unprecedented damage and then to mainland U.S., tearing apart and flooding Florida and Texas among areas. Weeks after the storm, many on the islands felt forgotten.

U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism Ambassador Beverly Nicholson-Doty said because the hurricanes sandwiched so many other issues, attention to her islands'



Miami Times photo/Carolyn Guniss

U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. Kenneth Mapp and Beverly Nicholson-Doty, the islands tourism ambassador, visited South Florida to sell the territory and its cruise industry.

100,000 or so residents was slow to start.

"The truth is that because it happened so close together, we got hit on the 6th of September and then got hit again the 12th, and then Puerto Rico got hit, and there are so many more millions of people in Puerto Rico than in the U.S. Virgin Islands, so it kinda got the focus," she said. "Then Irma hitting here; I think overall it had been a challenging year for natural di-

sasters. But I think that one of the things that we have been able to see is the resilience of our people. For us, every day gets a little bit better than the day before. Sometimes it is difficult for us to see the magnitude of the progress that has been made."

There has been progress. The port is accepting cruise ships, but the business had been declining and has fallen even more.

"However, the reality we are facing is that cruise

SEE ISLANDS 5A



Anita's last song at JITG

1C



Today 70°

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VIEWPOINT

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

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EDITORIAL

Voting, that's doing it for yourself

In December, with breath held, Americans and the world watched to see whether accused Republican child molester Roy Moore from Alabama would be elected to the Senate.

The nation collectively exhaled when Democrat Doug Jones eked out a victory. After exit poll analyses, it became clear why Jones won: Black women showed up at the polls.

Indeed the data show that 98 percent of Black women and 93 percent of Black men voted for Jones.

Shortly after the election, the #blackwomen trended on Twitter as Americans thanked them for turning up at the polls.

"The Daily Show's" correspondent Dulce Sloan said this in response to the hoopla: "Yes! We've been through so much. And you're welcome, white people. But let's be honest, we didn't do it for you; we did it for ourselves."

Fast-forward to days after the horrific mass shooting that left 17 children and adults dead, and as many injured. The grieving families and survivors made the people who were supposed to protect them know that they will be judging them with their votes. The networks played the soundbites over and over as if the families were saying something unique.

Voting is not a new phenom to anyone in American society. Americans vote for their high school class president and the homecoming king and queen. Later, you may vote in your religious institutions, your sorority or your union at work. Voting for elected representatives should be as expected as voting for the class president.

Already, local elections are underway for 2018 in Miami-Dade County. Several municipalities have elections in March, April and May, and in May there is an election for a state representative for District 114, Miami Gardens, and other cities will hold elections in August.

Then there will be general elections, encompassing national, state — including choosing a governor — and school board elections. Special items such as felons right restoration will be on the ballot Nov. 6. If you or your voting-age children aren't registered to vote, now is the time.

The Roy Moore defeat orchestrated by Black women and men sent a signal that Black Votes Matter. If it were up to the white folks, Moore could have been elected, with all the unresolved allegations.

Do not give up your chance to be a part of a movement that could result in the #blackpeople trending, because you came out in droves and affected the change you want and need.

You must vote if you want to do it for yourselves.

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The NRA is losing the gun fight

JOY-ANN REID, *The Daily Beast*

The NRA is losing the public debate over guns. And they're panicking because of it. There's no other way to interpret the frantic behavior of America's blood-soaked gun lobby.

The more than 100-year-old organization once represented sportsmen and marksmen. But after switching sides on the individual right to bear arms in the post-Black Panthers era of the late 1970s, it now solely represents the interests of gun manufacturers, who apparently provide the bulk of the NRA's financing, which they use to keep the politicians whose elections they bankroll via PAC spending under heavy manners, including the president of the United States. They have to, knowing that the moment a few slip out of their control, the NRA could lose out to even more extreme gun groups purtifying the culture to their right.

But with gun sales declining and no Black bogeyman in the White House to drive fire-arms hoarding in red states, the group has resorted to rank extremism to keep them-



Photo: Ben Garver, Associated Press

Jessica Snow and Kara Wagner, seniors at Pittsfield (Mass.) High School, advocate for school safety last week in response to the school shooting in Parkland, Fla.

selves in the conversation; churning out bizarre videos that warn of looming threats of urban collapse, hordes of brown people storming the hinterlands, and of course Antifa! ... while urging their followers to strap up and prepare for civil war. Their latest opus, from Cruella de Ville stand-in Dana Loesch uses a draining hourglass to seemingly threaten disobedient members of the media

by name (including yours truly) with the ominous message that our collective "time is up," stealing the phrase coined by women fighting against sexual abuse in the workplace. Loesch does not specify what happens to us at our appointed hour of doom, though she attempted to clean up the fallout from the video, which one Parkland father who lost his daughter in the Valentine's Day massacre

at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, likened to the productions of ISIS, by saying that what "happens" when the sand drains out is that her online show comes on.

The Stoneman Douglas students reacted to Loesch's snarling take in precisely the way that should worry the NRA most: not with terror but with ridicule, in the form of a parody video featuring MSD survivor Sarah Chadwick that quickly went viral, garnering the attention of outlets like The Mary Sue and Teen Vogue.

Message to the NRA: The kids aren't afraid of you. Nor are they impressed by your lame never-quite-viral video campaigns. And unlike adults who spend most of their time at work or in the case of Republican and some Democratic lawmakers, cowering in the legislative cloakroom hoping the NRA lobbyists won't get them, the kids have phones and sarcasm on lock, and they can do this all day. Loesch and her equally lame friends will never beat teenagers at the social media game.

Trump's budget hurts poor families

REP. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND, *Congressional Black Caucus*

If you want to know how a president feels about your community, then all you need to do is look at his or her budget, because it reflects their values—both what they value and what they don't. If you look at President Trump's FY 2019 budget, it's clear that he doesn't value low-income and Black and Brown communities. That's because he cut programs that these communities disproportionately rely on, including the Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program (food stamp program), Medicaid, the Low-Income Heating Assistance Program, and Community Development Block Grants, which provide funding for projects and programs—affordable housing, anti-poverty programs, and infrastructure development—that inner city and rural communities need to survive.

Trump's proposal will cut the food stamp program, which serves close to 44 million Americans, 26 percent of which are Black. In addition to proposing to cut the program by \$213 billion, which would leave 4 million low-income people without these benefits, Trump is proposing to prevent families from choosing what type of food they buy for themselves. He wants to send these families Blue Apron-style boxes of perishable and non-perishable food items, including items produced by American farmers.

It is demeaning and disrespectful, because it's based on a notion that low-income people can't and shouldn't think for themselves. Under this proposal, SNAP beneficiaries wouldn't be able to decide what they want to eat, including culturally appropriate foods for their family,

and they wouldn't know what foods they were getting, preventing them from planning meals for their family.

Additionally, there are logistical problems with the proposal. Families may not have a car and be unable to pick up the box of food at the designated location in their community. Also, severe weather events may prevent families from getting food on

time, leaving them hungry for days or weeks at a time. On top of that, providing an over-abundance of fresh perishable foods to families where parents work two and three jobs and may not have time to cook them, may make a bad situation worse. These concerns and others make it unlikely that this plan will save the federal government \$130 billion over 10 years as predicted.

Trump's budget would also insufficiently invest in our nation's infrastructure, while also cutting grants that fund infrastructure development at the state and local level. He proposes to invest \$200 billion in repairing America's roads and bridges even though there's trillions of dollars of infrastructure work to be done across the country, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers.

CARTOON CORNER



The Miami Times welcomes and encourages letters on 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.

The worst people in the White House

CHARLES BLOW, *The New York Times*

Early last Tuesday morning, Donald Trump tweeted:

"The new Fake News narrative is that there is CHAOS in the White House. Wrong! People will always come & go, and I want strong dialogue before making a final decision. I will have some people that I want to change (always seeking perfection). There is no Chaos, only great Energy!" Lies. Of course, the White House is in chaos. It's just that Trump has lived his whole life in a state of chaos, so it feels perfectly normal to him. The only energy around Trump is a vortex of complicity and incompetence.

Furthermore, it should be clear to us all at this point that Trump's public relations approach to dealing with unfavorable news is simply to rush to the nearest microphone — or log into Twitter — and say

that the exact opposite is true, even when his statement is an easily provable lie.

Being right is never the point; retaliation is the point.

Later in the day, during a news conference with the prime minister of Sweden, Trump continued on this point, saying:

"The White House has tremendous energy. It has tremendous spirit. It is a great place to be working. Many, many people want every single job. You know, I read where, oh gee, maybe people don't want to work for Trump, and believe me, everybody wants to work in the White House. They all want a piece of that Oval Office. They want a piece of the West Wing. And not only in terms of it looks great on their résumé; it's just a great place to work. It's got tremendous energy."

Then Trump lurches into emperor mode, discussing how much he enjoys the gladiator-style blood sport of the administration he has:

"It's tough. I like conflict. I like having two people with different points of view, and I certainly have that. And then I make a decision. But I like watching it, I like seeing it and I think it's the best way to go."

Trump ended by boasting that "I have a choice of anybody." He continued, "I could take any position in the White House, and I'll have a choice of the 10 top people having to do with that position. Everybody wants to be there."

That, again, is just a lie. Reporters covering this White House have been writing for months that people have trepidations about joining this

White House.

Part of that is due to the extraordinary level of turnover in this administration.

As the Brookings senior fellow Kathryn Dunn Tenpas put it in an analysis of Trump's White House turnover compared to his five predecessors:

"Trump's turnover is record-setting, more than triple that of Obama and double that of Reagan. In looking at why Trump has experienced such high turnover, I argue he has valued loyalty over qualifications and suffered from a White House that has functioned in a chaotic manner."

Trump is the worst boss who hires the worst people: People who confess to crimes, are secretly operating as foreign agents, allegedly beat their wives and have absolutely no expertise in the area in which they work.

LOCAL 

Judge calls foul—then retracts in North Miami

Former police commander adds his firing to civil lawsuit against city

NYAMEKYE DANIEL
ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com

Lawyers for a former North Miami police officer upgraded his multimillion-dollar federal civil suit against North Miami on March 12.

Fired Cmdr. Emile Hollant, with the assistance of his lawyers, changed his federal whistleblower and civil rights complaint to include his December firing.

The attempt was originally struck down by a federal judge on March 6.

On Monday, U.S. District Court Judge Robert N. Scola Jr. changed course and granted Hollant's request to add his termination to his list of complaints.

"We are very pleased that the court has permitted us to amend the complaint to add the charge that the city outrageously fired Cmdr. Hollant after he filed his lawsuit," Michael Pizzi, one of Hollant's lawyer, said. "We fully expect to receive justice in this case, especially with the amended lawsuit."



Former North Miami Police Cmdr. Emile Hollant

Hollant was terminated on Dec. 8, 2017, three weeks after he filed a Nov.17 lawsuit against the city, the city manager, Larry Spring, Police Chief Larry Juriga, Councilman Scott Galvin and Internal Affairs Sgt. Diana Roman. The original complaint seeks \$10 million in damages and ac-

cuses the defendants of defamation, denial of due process and violation of Hollant's civil rights, among other claims.

Hollant was placed on administrative leave with no pay June 14, 2017 after he was accused of providing misleading information to investigators about the shooting of an unarmed Black man.

Charles Kinsey, a behavioral therapist, was monitoring an autistic patient when he was shot by North Miami police SWAT officer Jonathan Aledda.

Aledda said that he mistook the patient's plastic toy for a gun, according to a police report.

Hollant, the commander

on the scene, said he walked away to retrieve his binoculars from his patrol car to get a clearer view of the object in the patient's hand when the shots were fired, according to the lawsuit filed. However, two other officers told internal affairs that Hollant was at the scene at the time.

But three weeks later, the state cleared Hollant of all wrongdoing; however, he remained on administrative leave but with pay until his December firing.

One of Hollant's lawyers, Benedict Kuehne, said that Hollant's firing is illegal, referring it to as a "bad faith" and that it adds more damage to a veteran officer's career

after he was wrongfully accused.

"The city has added insult to injury and terminated a selfless public servant who provided public service for 20 years," he said. "We plan to expose the city and its scheming practices..."

However, U.S. District Court Judge Robert N. Scola Jr. had dismissed the amended complaint March 6, because Hollant, did not get the defendants' or court's consent before filing and the document was incomplete and illegal.

Pizzi said the judge found the document was illegal "because of a computer glitch."

NATIONAL 

Kamala Harris wins NNPA's 2018 Newsmaker award

Senator and leaders to be honored during year's Black Press Week

WASHINGTON, D.C. — (NNPA Newswire) — The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) will honor U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris with the 2018 Newsmaker of the Year Award during the NNPA's 2018 Black Press Week. The Newsmaker event will take place at 7 p.m. March 14 the Rayburn House Office Building.

"The Honorable Kamala Harris, the second African-American woman and first South Asian-American senator in U.S. history, is an outstanding choice for the NNPA's 2018 Newsmaker of

in America.

"When John B. Russwurm and Samuel E. Cornish printed that first issue of Freedom's Journal, they sought to empower Black people to determine their own destiny and to define themselves," said Leavell. "How iconic, that in 2018, our theme still rings true: 'Publishing Truth to Empower.'"

Black Press Week will also feature sessions on business development, education reform and sickle cell disease. Outstanding leaders in the Black community will be honored during the Torch



Photo: Business Wire

The NNPA will honor Senator Kamala Harris with the NNPA's 2018 Newsmaker of the Year Award during Black Press Week.

the Year Award," said Dorothy Leavell, the chairwoman of the NNPA and publisher of the *Crusader* Newspapers in Chicago and Gary, Ind.

The NNPA will also celebrate the senator's efforts to raise wages for working people, reform the criminal justice system and expand healthcare access for all Americans.

"In all of my years of covering news in our community, Senator Harris has been one of the smartest, most fearless, steadfast and caring politicians that I have come to know," said Amelia Ashley-Ward, the new NNPA Foundation chair and publisher of the San Francisco Sun-Reporter. "She has a lot to offer the world ... we are so fortunate to have her advocating on our behalf."

The theme of this year's Black Press Week is "Celebrating 191 Years of the Black Press of America: Publishing Truth to Empower." Black publishers, media professionals, civil rights leaders and lawmakers from across the country usually attend the annual event, taking place March 14-16. On Friday, March 16, Democratic strategist and author Donna Brazile will deliver a keynote address on the state of the Black Press

Awards Dinner.

The Torch Award recipients are Dr. Amos Brown, the pastor of the San Francisco Third Baptist Church; Rep. Barbara Jean Lee (D-Calif.); and James "Jim" Farmer, a senior consultant for General Motors.

Ken Barrett, the global chief diversity officer for General Motors, said that Farmer dedicated his career to transforming the automotive industry through diversity and community service.

"I am proud of the invaluable support Jim continues to provide GM and he is truly most-deserving of this prestigious honor," said Barrett.

NNPA Chairwoman Leavell agreed.

"The NNPA Foundation ... has chosen some of the most outstanding leaders and trailblazers in the Black community to receive Torch Awards, this year," said Leavell.

Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA, said "the Black Press Week convenes at a time of profound opportunity and responsibility to ensure a record turnout for Black-American voters in the upcoming midterm elections across the nation," making reference to a new strategic alliance between the NNPA and the NAACP.

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studying world history, our textbooks omits African history," said Kimberly Grant-Sanon, a teacher with 17 years under her belt.

'STUDENTS DON'T KNOW MUCH'

Grant-Sanon teaches 11th and 12th graders history at Boyd Anderson High School, a predominantly Black school in Lauderdale Lakes. While at that school, Grant-Sanon has witnessed a few events that have frustrated her.

"[Students] don't know much," she said. "If you go through the Sunshine State Standards, those things in regards to African history or African-American history are very surface and superficial."

Florida's Sunshine State Standards, now called Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, are measures that students must live up to by the end of each grade level. The Next Generation Sunshine State Standards are a step above the previous standards to ensure that students are college and career ready.

Within the Florida statutes, it's law for public schools to include facets of Black history.

"It's mandated to infuse African-American history in K-12 existing curriculum. It's interdisciplinary, so it's used in language arts and oth-

er subjects," said Sherrilyn Scott, Miami-Dade County Public School's supervisor of the department of social sciences.

Scott said when teachers teach world history, Black history is already in it. Teachers also receive pacing guides to ensure that all of the standards within the Sunshine State Standards are met and to make sure that teachers stay on the proper pace, Scott said.

However, according to Grant-Sanon's experience, some teachers may not be following those standards.

Grant-Sanon said Black history is an elective within public schools. At her school, the students petitioned to have the class offered.

"What we've had to do to get Black history classes at my school, for years the student body has had to petition," she said.

SURVEY SAYS

This issue spreads beyond Florida's borders. A national survey done by the Southern Poverty Law Center in February showed that a thorough knowledge of Black history is lacking in schools.

The survey showed that high school seniors have trouble with some of the most basic questions about slavery. For example, only 8 percent of high school seniors who were surveyed could identify slavery as the central cause of the Civil War. Textbooks inadequately cover the subject,



Jim Crow Inspired character in the musical "Last Jimmy"

Photo Courtesy of Artist Management

said 58 percent of teachers. Furthermore, the textbook the Southern Poverty Law Center considered to be the best on the subject received a score of 70 percent against their rubric of what should be included in the study of American slavery. The average score was 46 percent.

In January, the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) of Public School 118, The Maurice Sendak Community School, in Brooklyn, used pictures of performers in blackface to promote a school fundraiser. The PTA's president came under fire along allegations that the school has deeper racial problems that it needs to ad-

dress. The New York Daily News reported that it was sent a copy of a letter written by a community member to the Education Department. In the letter, the writer sent a copy of the Facebook post with "horrid pictures of black face," which was put together by the "all-white PTA executive board."

According to the Daily News, the post was deleted on Jan. 21 after news of the images got out to the community.

Efforts in Florida have been implemented to encourage the teaching of Black history and cultural awareness among teachers.

Florida's Commissioner of Education's African Ameri-

can History Task Force is an advocate for implementing the teaching of the history of African peoples and the contributions of African-Americans to society.

United Teachers of Dade offers cultural sensitivity training to the teachers who are part of the union.

"We try to address racial discrimination because we don't want to see that happen in any of our schools," said Carla Hernandez-Mats, president of the teacher's union.

"We have trainings on cultural sensitivity, and we have trainings on institutional racism to try to avoid these things from happening. We want students to feel safe,

we want students to feel respected in their schools, and we know that when we embrace their diversity, we are truly able to connect with a child."

Despite efforts made, Grant-Sanon believes the teaching of Black history has to get better. In her report, the Southern Poverty Law Center outlines solutions to the problem.

"When you look at the amount of African contribution, it pales in amount to how much European history is covered," Grant-Sanon said.

THE DUTCH BLACK FACE

White people have painting their faces black in the Netherlands since the 19th century when they celebrate the Sinterklaasavond holiday, on Dec. 5.

The Netherlands, considered to be one of the most-progressive countries, has many people upset with this Christmas tradition. The Dutch color their faces black, their lips red and wear curly wigs to play Zwarte Piet, a sidekick to Saint Nicholas.

But in 2015, the United Nations declared it was a "vestige of slavery." Major cities such as Amsterdam and The Hague either redded Zwarte Piet's image or gotten rid of him to avoid accusations of slavery. However, according to The Guardian, in a survey of 272 of the 388 Dutch municipalities, 239 said they would stick with the traditional image as late as 2017.

WOKE

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Deutch, who represents that area.

Miami-Dade activist Valencia Gunder said the Stoneman Douglas students have developed a playbook that has lessons for Miami-Dade students and adults.

"These people are changing laws, holding everybody accountable who could have stopped or prevented that murder. They have a zero-tolerance attitude ... from parents, school teachers, principal and city officials," Gunder said. "With us, it's never like that."

Organizers are expanding upon the new alliance during Spring Break. More than 50 students, mostly Black, will travel to Washington, D.C., to participate in the March 24 event to rally and speak out against gun violence and the effects on young people. Some of the Miami-Dade students are expected to speak at the March for Life event to denounce senseless gun violence that goes unabated in inner-city neighborhoods.

Their trip is coordinated by several community organizations, including Inner City Alumni for Responsible Education (ICARE), the Miami-Dade NAACP, Power U and the Dream Defenders.

William "D.C." Clark of ICARE said the Parkland cause is a natural fit for Black teenagers.

"We support the students for taking a stand on gun violence. We thought about students in our community who face gun violence on a regular basis," Clark said. "It's not an affront to Parkland. No one should have to go through the horrors they went through. There's never an outpouring when it comes to our kids facing gun violence on a daily basis."

Clark said this is a way to expand the narrative on the violence. "We realize gun violence is gun violence, in schools and in our community. We started brainstorming and decided to send a busload of inner-city students to the march," he said.

"The horrific nature of the killings and social media fueled interest in the Parkland



Rose Jean Paul

case. Several of the students have gained millions of followers on Twitter, where they first converged to share their outrage shortly after the shooting.

Observers say that unlike in the case of mass shootings at Pulse Nightclub in 2016 or last year in Las Vegas, the students' constant barrage of tweets and retweets about banning assault weapons have kept their story fresh even as the national media headlines have subsided.

But the students also have modified their message to embrace a wider universe of victims and survivors.

On March 11, the students tweeted a fundraising appeal for the national march: "And we don't want it to be about us. We want it to be about all of the survivors — the schools and families who had to come before us — as well as honoring the innocent lives lost. The kids in Chicago, Detroit, Baltimore and other cities who live through a siege of gun violence EVERY DAY. The students around the country who don't want it to happen to them next."

That appeal accompanied a Tweet that said: "For this to really be #NeverAgain, we all have to stand together. Students, businesses, survivors, elected officials, leaders. We invite everyone to participate in our movement."

Rose, a student government leader at Miami Central, said students actively discuss the Parkland shooting and gun violence in their community. But those discussions may not always get onto social media.

"We have those discussions all the time. We're always trying to educate the community on gun violence," said Rose. Unlike her Parkland counter-

parts, Rose prefers Instagram and Snapchat to reach people.

Also, she and other Black students are mindful about what messages get on social media, and how that could impact their post-secondary education plans.

"There's a lot of things we want to speak out about. We have to look out for our reputation," Rose said. "You don't want to give colleges the wrong idea. We try to be careful about what we put out there. People use what you say against you."

Taina Senatus, 17, and a Central High junior, said she learned of the shooting on Snapchat. Her first thought was "oh, another mass shooting. I didn't realize it was in South Florida," Taina said. "When I got home, I saw kids; it was my age. They had dreams and plans for the future. That hit home harder."

Ruban Roberts, president of the Miami-Dade NAACP, said bringing together the two groups of students is the main thing.

"There is a mobilization that is so important," Roberts said. "Instead of looking at why one group is different ... find a common interest and mobilize."

But the differences exist. Both students and adults acknowledge that gun violence in Black communities often gets little attention from media and policymakers beyond the first day.

Another difference is through fundraising. The Miami group is still trying to raise \$15,000 to bring 48 youth and seven adults on the bus trip through GoFundMe.

By contrast, GoFundMe communications director emailed an appeal March 13 on behalf of Mobilizing MSD Alumni, a group of more than 11,500 alumni of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The group formed after the mass shooting to support current students and faculty and advocate for change.

That group wants to raise an unspecified amount to help 700 students, teachers and chaperones get to the march.

"Flights have been arranged, but there are additional costs to support the full trip, including buses for ground transportation, food, rentals, lodging and more. As of this time, we are estimating a minimum of

\$50K to cover the remaining trip expenses, and the total could exceed \$75K," the message read.

Rose, the Central High junior, said she's "woke" and eager to raise her voice and

bring about change in our neighborhood.

"The rally is a way to get involved ... and have a voice on a topic that's dear to our hearts — gun control," she said. "We want legislation

that prevents Parkland from happening again. It's never too late to talk about gun violence. We live with it every day. I see it every day. It doesn't make the news, but it happens."

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LOCAL

Poinciana funding awaits Rick Scott's signature

State Rep. Roy Hardemon's pet project makes budget short list

ANDREA ROBINSON
arobinson@miamitimesonline.com

Miami-Dade County Black state lawmakers hailed some successes as they returned home from a legislative session that was eclipsed by the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

Rep. Roy Hardemon of Miami may have been the happiest member of the local

delegation. A bill that would allocate an estimated \$2 million for Poinciana Industrial Park made the list of projects that are under review by Gov. Rick Scott.

Lawmakers wrapped up their session on Sunday, after House members voted to approve an \$88.7 billion budget. The spending plan is on Scott's desk, awaiting his signature.

Hardemon, D-Liberty City, wants to designate the funding for the Poinciana Industrial Park Intermodal project. On Friday, Hardemon urged district residents to call Scott and ask him to let the funding remain in the budget.

"We're asking people to call and remind [Scott] that we need jobs," Hardemon said. "It's in [the budget]. If the governor doesn't veto it, we get started on Poinciana."

This is the second time Hardemon has attempted to get funds to develop the large



Rep. Roy Hardemon

tract near Liberty City. The first bill for funding toward the transportation center for trucking and shipping interests went nowhere, he said.

"It didn't make it through committee last year," Hardemon said. "I asked for \$25 million, and we got \$2 million. I'm grateful for this. So far the governor's staff is on board."

South Miami-Dade Rep. Kionne McGhee also hailed a couple of bills. One would give \$3 million to Farm Share, which gives food to low-income families by working

in conjunction with Florida farmers. The second will provide services for children with incarcerated parents.

But McGhee, the incoming House Democratic leader, said one of his triumphs of the session was the passage of bill to erect a Slavery Memorial on the state Capitol grounds to recognize the "injustice, cruelty, brutality and inhumanity of slavery in the United States."

State Reps. Barbara Watson

SEE BUDGET 6A

BROWARD

Nikolas Cruz to face the death penalty for killing

Runcie orders review of services provided to Broward school shooter

CURT ANDERSON
Associated Press

The former student charged with killing 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School last month will face the death penalty, prosecutors said Tuesday.

Nikolas Cruz, 19, is scheduled for formal arraignment Wednesday on a 34-count indictment, including 17 first-degree murder charges. Cruz's attorneys have said he would plead guilty if the death penalty was not pursued in the Valentine's Day massacre.

The office of Broward County State Attorney Michael Satz filed the formal notice of its intentions Tuesday. The action by prosecutors Tuesday does not necessarily mean a plea deal will not be reached.

The only other penalty option for Cruz is life in prison with no possibility of parole. Broward County Public Defender Howard Finkelstein, whose office is representing Cruz, has said there were so many warning signs that Cruz was mentally un-

stable and potentially violent, and that the death penalty might be going too far. Finkelstein said Cruz would likely plead guilty if prosecutors opt not to seek the death penalty.

"Because that's what this case is about. Not, did he do it? Not, should he go free? Should he live or should he die," Finkelstein told The Associated Press last month.

Finkelstein's office didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Meanwhile, a student who is credited with saving the lives of 20 students by attempting to close and lock a classroom door during the attack was improving at a hospital. Anthony Borges, 15, was shot five times. Weeks after being shot, he fell critically ill of an intestinal infection. After surgeries, his condition was upgraded to fair, his attorney and the hospital said.

His intestinal area has been sealed off, and he is breathing on his own after being taken off a ventilator, family attorney Alex Arreaza said.

Borges' family has filed notice that they will sue Florida



Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie

authorities to seek money to cover the cost of his recovery.

The Broward school district plans to conduct an independent review of what went wrong with the education plan for Nikolas Cruz and what steps should be taken to better serve students with behaviors that could be warning signs of danger.

Superintendent Robert Runcie said March 6 that the district will pay Collaborative Educational Network, a Tallahassee consulting firm, \$60,000 to conduct the review. He said it will be done "with both transparency and a sense of urgency." It will begin immediately and be completed by June, he said.

"We cannot undo the heartbreak this attack has caused in the community, but we can try to understand the conditions that led to such acts in hopes of avoiding them in the future," Runcie said.

Runcie wouldn't comment on any specific ways the district may have failed Cruz.

"The reason why we're doing an independent, comprehensive assessment is I don't want to sit here and speculate what may or may not have been done," he said. "Otherwise, we wouldn't even need to have a review."

Runcie has said that when Cruz turned 18, he revoked his consent for the mental health and other services guaranteed to him under the Individuals with Disabilities Act. That prevented the district from placing him back in a school for students with emotional and behavioral disabilities, he said.

Cruz was initially allowed to stay at Stoneman Douglas but was later transferred to a program that offered few, if any, mental health services.

Some special education experts told the South Florida Sun Sentinel that the district shirked its responsibility and should have looked for other ways to help him.

They said that could include getting him psychiatric help under the Baker Act, offering regular access to counseling, allowing him to stay at Stoneman Douglas but trying to improve his behavior, or trying to persuade him to attend a school suited for him.

Some experts acknowledged it can be difficult to serve an adult student who doesn't want help, but they said the district probably failed to properly help him when he was much younger and showing behavioral problems and expressing an interest in guns.

"This didn't suddenly happen just because he reached a certain age," said Pete Wright, a Virginia lawyer who specializes in federal

law related to special education. "This type of thing shows itself for many, many years. The seeds are there, the signs are there in the second, third, fourth grade that he's depressed or having aggressive behavior. Unless the pattern is reversed, there can be horrible complications in the future."

Runcie said that while he was still waiting on information, he hasn't seen any evidence that the district failed to contact law enforcement when it had information of possible criminal behavior involving Cruz.

Curt Anderson reported this story for the Associated Press and Scott Travis for The Sun Sentinel.

The Miami Times contributed to this story.

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

Spring Arts Workshop

The annual African Heritage Cultural Arts Center's 2018 Spring Arts Workshop is currently open for enrollment. Offered during Miami-Dade County Public School's spring break, the program includes music, dance, drama and visual arts classes taught by professional instructors. The program is for youth ages 5 to 16.

Classes will be taught weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Avenue. Early drop off begins at 7:30 a.m. with the last pickup at 6 p.m. Tuition for the program is \$50 and a \$12 registration fee is required, which provides students the option to enroll in other arts programs offered at the center.

For more information, call 305-638-6771.

Community Yard Sale

Miami Gardens will host a community yard sale from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25 at the Center for Family and Child Enrichment, 1825 Lincoln Street. Proceeds will help provide community-based care services to nearly 1,000 children.

To reserve your space, visit cmgardensales2018.eventbrite.com.

Jessie Trice Community Health System receives top honors

The Jessie Trice Community Health System (JTCHS) has been named a "Health Center Quality Leader" by the U.S. Health and Human Services' Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA).

"We are committed to providing quality health care services to all in the South Florida community," said Annie Neasman, president and CEO of JTCHS. "This recognition is a tremendous honor for us, and we are delighted to be among the top in the

nation for delivering effective, proven and affordable health care services to our patients."

According to JTCHS, a letter sent to Neasman from an HRSA administrator stated, "As a Health Care Quality Leader, Jessie Trice Community Health System achieved the best overall clinical performance among all health centers, placing in the top 30 percent of the adjusted quartile rankings for Clinical Quality Measures."

Women Lead With L.O.V.E

North Miami will host an event titled "Women Lead With L.O.V.E." at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 17 at the North Miami Public Library, 835 NE 132 Street. The event will feature a conversation and panel discussion with female leaders within the community. They will discuss their paths to success, challenges they have faced, and the obstacles they continue to overcome. The event is free and open to all ages. Refreshments will be available. For more information, call L.O.V.E. at 786-463-5683.

Effort made to improve police protection in South Dade

The Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners passed legislation directing the mayor to evaluate the long-term policing strategies for South Dade.

The resolution addresses the tremendous population growth in South Dade communities and is aimed to ensure that the Miami-Dade Police Department has the resources it needs to provide adequate public safety.

The department has identified several areas in need, including new stations to replace the current South District that is deteriorating, the growth in West Kendall where concentrated resources are needed and to provide rural residents and businesses more focused police protection.

ISLANDS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

ship traffic has not fully stabilized," Nicholson-Doty said in recent Senate hearings. "Combined with the pre-storm reduction in calls, it is anticipated that we will see a 20-to-30 percent year-over decrease in cruise arrivals in 2018."

That's why a delegation from her department, as well as U.S. Virgin Islands Gov. Kenneth Mapp, came to South Florida to attend Seatrade Cruise Global March 5-8 in Fort Lauderdale.

Nicholson-Doty said availability of airline flights are causing prices for travel to be a bit higher. While all airlines have returned, some routes are still scaled down.

She assured expats at a reception March 3 in Miami that her department was working on getting more flights to the islands and encouraged them to come home for Carnival, which kicks off March 31 and runs through April 28.

She warned that if you plan to have the same vacation you had in the U.S. Virgin Islands, that expectation is not realistic.

"We have gone from a majority tourism industry to a majority construction industry in the U.S. Virgin Islands," she said. "We have hotels still waiting on their insurance payouts, so it's a slow but deliberate process."

She said hosts through



Billions sound like a lot of money and it is but billions in the Virgin Islands can go a very long way as we spend the way we should and invest the money the way we plan to."

Gov. Kenneth Mapp

Airbnb, the online short-term rental site, has been providing lodgings for some guests.

Gov. Mapp, who is up for re-election, said support turned around after members of Congress and representatives from other federal departments visited the island in November.

"The hurricanes have done all that they are going to do and with the tremendous support we have gotten from the Trump administration and the federal government and Congress, we really have an opportunity here to fix the Virgin Islands and invest in its infrastructure and grow its economy and invest in our people, so we are very excited about," Mapp said.

The U.S. Virgin Islands has been struggling financially since the down-swing in the economy. "So investing in the infrastructure, we didn't have resources, we didn't do that. The storms came and really wrecked havoc and by a lot of the folks from the federal government and Congress coming through and seeing for themselves realized that just trying to repair hurricane damage,

the broken infrastructure didn't make a whole lot of sense," Mapp said.

President Trump's budget passed Feb. 9 allocates about \$7.5 billion to the territory.

"Billions sound like a lot of money and it is, but billions in the Virgin Islands can go a very long way as we spend the way we should and invest the money the way we plan to," Mapp said. "We had asked about \$7.5 billion all in to make a lot of repairs and the way Congress has structured the language in the law and the work we have been doing with the Trump administration gives us access to more if we need it. What we need to do is to get our plan in place the right way, and now we are beginning to access those dollars, to grow schools, hospitals, homes."

Eleven schools were severely damaged and closed, and the territory plans to reconstruct six of them. The two main hospitals were severely damaged and still need to be repaired. Depending on who you ask, between 1 and 10 percent of the islands are still need of power.

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LOCAL 

Drivers Club gets nod from county heads

Leaders hail early involvement of Black professionals, companies

ANDREA ROBINSON
arobinson@miamitimesonline.com

Two years after an ambitious plan for a movie studio in Northwest Miami-Dade fell apart, county officials appear to have found the right sutor — an \$85-million automobile club and driving track that will be built on land near Miami Gardens. The agreement also calls for the placement of a community center and a new, Northwest Miami-Dade Government Center.

And neighbors in the surrounding area are more than happy. They say it will bring services that haven't existed in their part of unincorporated Northwest Miami-Dade.

Black leaders hail the deal.



Miami-Dade County Commissioner
Barbara J. Jordan, District 1

The South American businessman behind the project already has hired architect Ron Frazier and Black-owned Messam Construction Co. as a sign that it is committed to hiring Black people. Frazier will identify architects to work on different aspects of the project.

They are "already demonstrating a commitment to the Black community," said County Commissioner Barbara Jordan, in whose District 1 the project will sit.

A leader of the activist group the Unrepresented People's Positive Action Council (UP-PAC) agreed.

"We see this as good for the community," said Francis Rago, an executive board member.

Miami-Dade commissioners gave final approval to a proposal that gives a long-term lease to a South American businessman to construct

“

This is going to be a great economic engine for the area while providing a substantial amount of jobs and benefits to the local community.”

the project on a 140-acre county-owned parcel at 20000 NW 47th Ave., just west of Miami Gardens.

The unanimous vote by county commissioners March 6 gives developer Carlos de Narváez the go-ahead to bring Drivers Club Miami to South Florida. District 1 Commissioner Barbara Jordan sponsored the legislation.

The businessman, and his company 13 Pista LLC, will lease the land from the county for a minimum of \$33 million over the initial 30 years.

The 16,000-square-foot community center will include a library, swimming pool and recreational programming. The 15,500-square-foot government center — funded using \$7.5 million from the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond — will house various county agencies. There will also be a children's driving and cycling course, a public bicycle course and improvements made to the existing fire station.

The property has long been highly coveted by developers. Jordan said that when she was first elected to the board, several housing developers approached county leaders with ideas.

"We had a revolving door of developers who were coming in wanting to develop the property, primarily housing," Jordan said. "We took the initiative to have planning meetings [with residents] to get feedback on how to develop."

She said that at one community meeting, the auditorium was packed with residents from District 1, nearby District 13 and residents of a mobile home community that abuts the property.



Rendering courtesy of Drivers Club Miami

Rendering of the proposed Drivers Club Miami

"There were these beautiful renderings," she said. The audience wasn't having it.

"They tore us up," she said.

In 2014, the county courted a Guatemalan businessman who wanted the site for a mega movie studio and production company. The deal fell through when Chinese investors in the project backed away.

The centerpiece of the latest project is a closed 3-mile driving course for owners of antique and luxury, high-performance automobiles. Such vehicles are popular and regularly seen in the region's tony neighborhoods. Members have access to a 6,000-square-foot building with sports facilities and a garage that holds up to 200 cars.

The agreement also calls for the developer to provide new facilities for three community organizations, cur-

rently located on the property: His House, Center for Families & Child Enrichment and ARC of South Florida.

The county and the developer's representatives also reached an agreement on a community benefits package that includes on-site vocational training for public school students interested in the automobile industry, job training for area residents, as well as a partnership with Florida Memorial University to establish a long-term scholarship fund and internship program.

"[Developer] Carlos de Narváez was extremely generous during negotiations," Jordan said. "He went above and beyond to ensure that the community benefits agreement was one that the county and community could be proud of."

Frazier said his role is to

ensure "there is Black involvement in terms of architecture, engineering and construction" for the community components of the site, including the community center, regional county office and the relocation and construction of new facilities for the three social service agencies. He said having this level of Black participation this early is different. He credited local attorney Al Dotson, whose company worked with the developer to meet with local community groups, Florida Memorial University leaders and Miami-Dade County Public Schools representatives.

"Blacks usually come on much later. What Al was able to do is to bring people on early to shape the benefits package," Frazier said. "You have very credible people involved on the front end."

County officials estimate the project will generate 2,400 direct and indirect jobs and \$224 million in annual economic impact.

"This is going to be a great economic engine for the area while providing a substantial amount of jobs and benefits to the local community," Jordan said.

Residents who live next door to the site said the benefits package will enhance Northwest Miami-Dade.

"I approve of this project 110 percent. There's nothing for the kids to do over here," said Carol Feiler, president of the Royal County Homeowners Association.

She added that having the bike path, community center and the government center is a huge deal. "There's nothing out here. Absolutely nothing. We could not have asked for a better project."

BUDGET

CONTINUED FROM 5A

and Cynthia Stafford took particular issue with the \$400 million gun bill that passed in response to the massacre of 17 students and teachers at Parkland High School.

The bill raises the minimum age to purchase a gun from 18 to 21. It also provides \$69 million for mental health assistance at schools.

"It's ironic to me that we're able to come up with \$400 million to fund this," said Stafford, who voted against the bill. She said the bill had some things she liked, such as funding for mental health and the increase in the minimum age.

"It was an improvement but we could have done more. I do not support guns being brought on our school campuses," Stafford said.

Watson said she wanted a ban on assault weapons, which was advocated by the Stoneman Douglas students. The GOP-dominated Legislature did not consider. She said she fears the topic will not gain any traction next year.

"It took us 28 years and a tragic situation in which 17 lives were lost to have a conversation on gun reform.



Cynthia Stafford

I don't see it coming back unless there's another tragic situation," Watson said. "I don't see that happening. I see the glass as empty. There was nothing in that bill that helped anybody. None of what the children asked for."

Stafford said the gun debate showed a great divide that exists as it relates to color. All members of the Legislative Black Caucus voted against the bill. "We know what guns do in our community," Stafford said.

"My heart goes out to the parents in Parkland, but my heart also goes out to the parents of murdered kids in Liberty City. They deal with this on a daily basis," she said. "I understand about Parkland. But we didn't have this same kind of response about the shootings in our neighborhoods."

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SECTION **B**



BlackTech co-founders Derick Pearson and Felecia Hatcher-Pearson, Best Tyme co-founders Jilela and Jamie Hemmings.

Blacktech Week takes on SXSW

LOCAL TECHIES RUBBED ELBOWS WITH OTHER INDUSTRY HEADS, GIANTS

Miami Times Staff Report

Several delegates from South Florida traveled to the South by Southwest Conference and Festivals in Austin, Texas, last week.

Blacktech Week was one of them, making SXSW the first stop on its 10-city tour around the U.S.

SXSW, a conference that hosts the convergence of film, music and tech indus-

tries, started on March 9 and ends on March 19.

Ryan Hall, the program manager for Code Fever, the producers of Blacktech Week, said the SXSW conference proved itself well worth all of the hype.

The first weekend was filled with connections and inspiration, said Hall.

"This is one of my favorite conferences to check out and the highlight of my year,"

said Hall. "At SXSW, you'll find yourself surrounded by a global community of creators and innovators."

Industry luminaries graced the ballroom stages of the Austin Convention Center.

There were sessions led by people such as Melinda Gates, co-founder of Microsoft; Elon Musk, CEO of SpaceX; Luvvie Ajayi, *New York Times* best-seller; Ira Glass, radio host and produc-

er of "This American Life;" Michael Dell, CEO of Dell; Hollywood director, Spike Lee; and Barry Jenkins, director of "Moonlight."

In addition, there were mentorship sessions, breakout workshops and panels on topics from branding, to blockchain and Episodic TV. Hall called the conference a five-star information buffet.

"I found myself surrounded

SEE SXSW 10B



Tech companies from across the globe traveled to Austin, Texas to attend the South by Southwest Conference and Festivals March 9-19.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING MATTERS

DANIELLA PIERRE

Elected officials can make a positive difference in market

Trying to speed up affordable housing solutions in South Florida is like trying to accelerate on I-95 during a rush-hour traffic jam. Just when you think you're making headway and given the green light, there's a lot of congestion and detours.

But there's an elected official who is trying to rev up and put creative housing solutions in the fast lane in the city of Miami. And that is none other than Vice Chairman and Commissioner Ken Russell because "the gap between what people earn and the cost of living is worse than anywhere in the country," said Russell.

That's why on March 1, Commissioner Russell held an informational workshop to discuss the best ways to implement affordable housing in Miami and bond fund-



Pierre

it drives up housing costs and "pushes ownership out of reach for many." And while these foreign investors and developers keep getting approved to build in the city, what they end up building is by no means affordable or meets the hous-



Miami Mayor Francis Suarez

ing demands of people who live here now.

WHAT WE NEED TO GET STARTED

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez has the support of all the city's commissioners, and voters approved the "forever bond," some which will be used to address the housing crisis. However, we cannot take forever to build the housing that our market needs.

"The affordable housing crisis in the city of Miami is greater than ever," said Russell. That's why the elected officials must take action now and devise a plan that is inclusive of all residents and incomes. And for that plan to be truly sustainable, it must include mixed-income homeownership and introduce homeownership as a viable and affordable option, too.

The city must also attract and retain developers who understand how to build in our housing market and are interested in community development, not just profits. One solution being considered includes the rehab of

SEE PIERRE 10B



Commissioner Ken Russell

Many stakeholders and local non-profits attended the all-day workshop. More residents might have been in attendance to give their input if the workshop wasn't held during the workday.

Ned Murray from Florida International University's Metropolitan Center gave a statistical overview on the current challenges in the housing market. Murray also discussed the external factors of the housing market such as foreign investments. While the investments help the city's tax base and those who are selling their homes,

Richest Black American gives half his worth

Robert Smith is committed to helping other Blacks and women

NATHAN VARDI
Forbes

Every year around Thanksgiving and Christmas, billionaire Robert Smith and his wife, Hope Dworaczky, invite a group of 30 former foster children to their Colorado ranch to spend the holidays with their family. The gesture is rooted in Smith's days at Cornell University, where he met a former foster kid who was looking for a place to stay on campus during winter break because she had aged out of the foster

care system.

"The girl made it to Cornell, and yet here she was without anyone to look out for her and no place to go for the holidays," Smith recalls. "That always stuck in my mind."

Sensitive to the difficulties of those who can be marginalized, Smith, who is an engineer by training, has designed an ambitious philanthropic program that emphasizes diversity and equal opportunity. With a net worth of \$4.4 billion, Smith, 55, is now the nation's richest Black Amer-

“

I will never forget that my path was paved by my parents, grandparents and generations of African-Americans whose names I will never know.”

ican, and he is focused on channeling his wealth to build on-ramps, particularly for Blacks and women.

"I will never forget that my path was paved by my parents, grandparents and generations of African-Americans whose names I will never know," Smith wrote in an unpublished statement when he became the first Black American to sign the Giving Pledge, committing to contribute half of his net worth to philanthropic causes during his lifetime. "We will only grasp the staggering potential of our time if we create onramps that empower ALL people

SEE SMITH 10B



When workers can't afford to be sick

One quarter of Americans are without paid sick leave

JASMINE HARDY
Howard University
News Service

WASHINGTON — It's a quandary. You are too sick to go to work, but you can't afford to stay home. If you do, you won't get paid for that day, and you desperately need every dime you earn. Even worse, not going to work could get you fired.

That's the dilemma for more than 35 million American workers who do not have paid sick leave. That's one of every four employees in America is without paid sick leave. Consequently, they simply cannot afford to be sick.

They are the lowest earning workers and are disproportionately Black and Latino. Almost half of all service workers, America's lowest paid wage sector, do not get paid sick leave, whereas 89 percent of management positions get the benefit.

Starbucks, the giant coffee retailer with 27,000 stores in 75 countries and more than 300,000 employ-

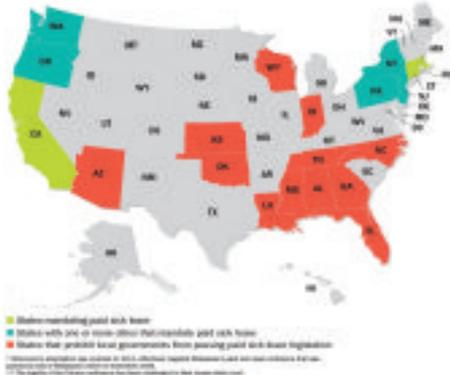
ees, shed light on the issue recently when it announced in January it would begin giving all its workers paid sick leave. Starbucks CEO Kevin Johnson said the announcement was part of a long-term effort to boost employee compensation.

"I am extremely proud to share that in the past four years, Starbucks has made an investment of nearly \$800 million in employee compensation and benefits, a testament to our belief in our people and the role they play in creating the Starbucks Experience," Johnson said.

U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee praised Starbucks for its efforts.

"I commend Starbucks for understanding the value of offering their employees the benefits needed to live healthy, productive lives," Lee said. "It is unfair for workers to have to choose between their income or caring for a sick child or elderly parent, especially low-income families struggling every day to make ends meet."

Starbucks, the giant coffee retailer with 27,000 stores in 75 countries and more than 300,000 employ-



Tabitha Edmond, a barista at a Starbucks in the Columbia Heights area of Washington, said she fully appreciates the benefits Starbucks has always offered its employees.

"Starbucks has always had great benefits," Edmond, 22, said. "They're just getting better."

Before Starbucks, however, Edmond said she worked at Shoe City in the District of Columbia. Working for the company "felt like slavery," she said. "They didn't have paid sick

leave and asked for way too much."

Starbucks is the latest major company to announce it is extending paid sick leave to its employees.

Chipotle started giving its hourly employees paid sick leave back in 2015, along with paid vacation. In addition, Maryland this month passed a law that requires companies to allow workers to earn paid sick time.

Full-time employees would be able to take a full day off after working for six weeks.

The U.S. is the only developed country that does not require paid sick leave, according to National Public Radio. The decision on whether a company will allow employees paid sick leave is usually up to the discretion of the company, though 10 states require businesses pay employees up to seven days a year if they can't report to work for illness.

California Sen. Kamala Harris, a Democrat, would like to see the federal government require paid

sick leave on a federal level, her office said.

"Sen. Harris is encouraged by companies choosing to invest in their workers by providing paid sick leave and believes that we need to enact paid family and sick leave nationwide to ensure that all working families across the country have this protection," her press secretary, Tyrone Gayle, said in an email.

Verona Winston is one of those workers without paid sick leave.

Winston just turned 66 years old and says her retire-

ment is not enough to pay her bills, so she had to take a part-time job at McDonald's in Washington. She's been there for the past three years.

Luckily, she said, she's only been sick once and even then she only missed one day. Some days, however, Winston said, she is in so much pain it is difficult to walk. On those days, she said, she has no choice but to come into work.

"I have arthritis in my knee, but I still go to work because I can't afford to stay home," she said. "SEE SICK 10B

Home Depot to donate \$50M to train construction workers

Retailing company makes effort to curb the severe trade shortage in America

PAUL DAVIDSON
USA TODAY

Home Depot announced Thursday that it will donate \$50 million to train 20,000 people as construction workers over the next decade, helping efforts to ease a dire shortage that's curtailing home building and driving up house prices.

The Home Builders Institute, the industry's education arm, will use the money from the Home Depot Foundation to train veterans and U.S. Army soldiers who will soon be returning to civilian life, high school students and disadvantaged youth.

"It's important that we support the trades," Home Depot CEO Craig Menear said in an interview. "Not only do we sell product to professionals like plumbers and electricians," but the company also partners with service providers that install kitchen flooring, hot water heaters and other equipment in consumers' homes.

Focus on veterans
Sales at the nation's largest home-improvement retailer are dampened if contractors and partners can't find enough workers to undertake projects. Sales to plumbers and other tradespeople comprise 40 percent of the company's revenue, Menear said.

The initiative, he said, also builds on the company's donation of \$250 million through 2020 to provide housing to veterans. Soldiers and veterans will make up about 15,000 of the 20,000 construction workers turned out by the training program.

They could make a noticeable dent in a big problem. There were 158,000 job openings in construction in December, up from 140,000 a year earlier. Eighty-four percent of contractors surveyed by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and Wells Fargo in December cited availability of workers and cost as their most significant problems last year, along with rising materials prices.

Labor crunch
Residential construction employment fell by 1.5 million during the housing crash, and payrolls have risen by just 786,000 since the recovery began in 2011. Many workers left the industry for oil, factory and trucking jobs during the meltdown. Meanwhile, Baby Boomers are retiring from the field in droves, and there aren't nearly enough replacements coming out of high schools, which have placed less emphasis on vocational education in recent years.

age is taking a toll. About 900,000 single-family houses are expected to be built this year, but there's demand for nearly 1.3 million, said Robert



Home Depot CEO Craig Menear

Dietz, chief economist of NAHB.

The labor crunch leads the obstacles to closing that gap, including rising materials prices, the limited availability of land and onerous regulations. As a result of SEE DONATE 10B

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

General Meeting

N.W. 79th Street Community Redevelopment Agency

The N.W. 79th Street Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) will conduct a **general meeting** on **March 21, 2018** at 6:30pm at the Arcola Lakes Library located at 8240 NW 7th Avenue, Miami Florida 33150.

If you have questions or need additional information please call (305) 375-5143. For sign language interpreter services, call (305) 375-5143, at least five (5) business days in advance

For legal ads online, go to <http://legalads.miamidade.gov>

CITY OF MIAMI
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Miami City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, FL 33133 for the following:

IFB NO. 828381 CLEAN YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

CLOSING DATE/TIME: 2:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Monday, March 26, 2018 at 3:00 PM)

Detailed specifications for this bid is available at the City of Miami, Department of Procurement, website www.miamigov.com/procurement or email Procurement Contact Officer Victoria Giraldo at victoriagiraldo@miamigov.com

THIS BID SOLICITATION IS SUBJECT TO THE "CONE OF SILENCE" IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY OF MIAMI CODE SECTION 18-74 ORDINANCE NO.12271.

Ad No. 26761
Emilio T. González, Ph.D.
City Manager

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA
PLANNING, ZONING AND APPEALS BOARD

In compliance with Section 62-16 of the Miami City Code, as amended, the City Commission of the City of Miami, not earlier than thirty (30) days from this day, will consider the appointment of members to the City of Miami Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board. Specific qualifications and eligibility requirements are set forth in Section 62-16 of the Miami City Code and require that members must be electors of the City of Miami. Applicants must possess the knowledge, experience, mature judgment, background, ability and desire to act in the public interest. Individuals representing the various social, demographic and economic elements of the city are encouraged to apply.

Public, professional, or citizen organizations within the area having interest in and knowledge of the planning and plan implementation process are encouraged and solicited to submit to the Office of City Clerk, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133, a completed nomination form indicating the name, address and qualifications of persons for consideration as prospective appointees to the Planning, Zoning and Appeals Board. Application forms are available from the Office of City Clerk and the City Clerk's website (http://miamigov.com/city_clerk/Pages/Board/Board.asp).

For due consideration by the City Commission, all nominations from the public must be received by **Monday, April 16, 2018, at 4:00 PM**. The names and qualifications of persons submitted to the City Clerk, together with any names and qualifications submitted by members of the Commission, will be available for public review on Thursday, April 19, 2018, in the City Clerk's Office or online at the City Clerk's website (http://miamigov.com/city_clerk/Pages/Board/Board.asp). The City Commission will consider making said appointments at the City Commission meeting presently scheduled for May 10, 2018.

#29132
Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the City Commission of the City of Miami, Florida on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at 9:00 A.M. at City Hall, located at 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133 for the purpose of granting the following:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A GRANT OF EASEMENT ("EASEMENT"), TO BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC, D/B/A AT&T FLORIDA ("AT&T"), A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, FOR A PERPETUAL, NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY TEN (10) FEET WIDE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT CITY HALL, 3500 PAN AMERICAN DRIVE, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33133, FOLIO NUMBER 01-4122-002-0010, FOR AT&T TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, MAINTAIN, ADD AND/OR REMOVE SUCH SYSTEMS OF COMMUNICATION, FACILITIES, STAND-BY GENERATORS AND ASSOCIATED FUEL SUPPLY SYSTEMS AS A MEANS OF PROVIDING UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE DURING COMMERCIAL POWER OUTAGES, WITH ALL WIRING, CABLE, OR CONDUITS TO BE PLACED UNDERGROUND, WITH THE RIGHT TO RECONSTRUCT, IMPROVE, CHANGE THE VOLTAGE AND REMOVE SUCH FACILITIES OR ANY OF THEM WITHIN THE EASEMENT, WITH FULL RIGHT OF INGRESS THERETO AND EGRESS THEREFROM; FURTHER CONTAINING A REVERTER PROVISION IF THE EASEMENT IS ABANDONED OR DISCONTINUED.

The Miami City Commission requests all interested parties be present or represented at the meeting and may be heard with respect to any proposition before the City Commission in which the City Commission may take action. Should any person desire to appeal any decision of the City Commission with respect to any matter to be 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.

#29131
Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk



THE NEW

SAMSUNG GALAXY

HOW THE S9 STACKS UP TO IPHONE, 8, PIXEL

SAMSUNG GALAXY S9 SPECS

Dimensions: 147.7 x 68.7 x 8.5 mm

Weight: 163g

Screen size: 5.8-inch

CPU: Snapdragon 845 / Exynos 9810

RAM: 4GB

Storage: 64GB

Camera: 12MP rear, 8MP front

Battery: 3,000mAh

BRETT MOLINA
USA Today

This week, the iPhone X has a new competitor.

On March 16, Samsung launches the Galaxy S9 and S9+, the new flagship Android handsets from the South Korean electronics giant.

The smartphones are available at all four major U.S. carriers: AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile and Verizon.

It's a great time to shop for a smartphone, with several options available including Apple's iPhone and Google's Pixel line.

How does the S9 and S9+ compare to premium rivals such as the iPhone X, iPhone 8 and 8 Plus, and Google's Pixel 2? Let's break it down:

SIZE

The Galaxy S9 screen clocks in at 5.8 inches, the same size as the iPhone X, and considerably larg-

er than the iPhone 8 (4.7 inches) and Pixel 2 (5 inches).

The S9+ features a 6.2-inch screen, on par with the Pixel 2 XL (6 inches) and bigger than the 5.5-inch display on an iPhone 8 Plus.

And although the screen takes up the majority of the real estate on the hardware, it remains similar in size to rival devices.

CAMERA

Although the S9 is comparable to an iPhone X in design, its camera specs line up more closely with the iPhone 8. It boasts a 12-megapixel rear camera with optical image stabilization, 8X digital zoom, and features like Motion Photo and augmented reality emoji (one feature only iPhone X utilizes).

The S9+ sports a dual camera system, featuring wide-angle and telephoto systems, similar to the

8 Plus and X. According to DxOMark, which rates DSLR and smartphone cameras, the S9+ earns a 99 ranking, ahead of the Pixel 2 (98) and iPhone X (97).

BATTERY LIFE

Samsung claims the S9 will offer up to 14 hours of battery life if you use the internet on Wi-Fi, with a slight drop-off if you are surfing via network. You also get up to 16 hours of video playback.

For the S9+, you can watch video up to 18 hours and surf the web up to 15 hours while using Wi-Fi. That's better by roughly an hour or two compared to all iPhone models.

Google does not provide specifics on battery life for the Pixel 2 models, other than it gets seven hours of life off a 15-minute charge.

Both Samsung and Apple offer wireless charging and "fast charging," while Google only features

wired charging.

OPERATING SYSTEM

Pixel and Galaxy S9 models run on Android 8.0, the latest version of Google's mobile operating software. Pixel provides the closest thing to a pure Google Android experience, while Samsung sprinkles in its own features such as the Bixby voice assistant and Samsung Pay. The iPhone runs on iOS 11.

PRICE

If you want a great smartphone on a budget, the Pixel 2 is the least expensive starting at \$649, followed by the iPhone 8 at \$699. The Galaxy S9 sits in the middle starting at \$720, while the S9+ starts at \$840, pricier than the iPhone 8 Plus but a hair cheaper than the Pixel 2 XL. The iPhone X wears the most expensive smartphone crown, with its \$999 price tag.

SMITH

CONTINUED FROM 7B

to participate, regardless of background, country of origin, religious practice, gender, or color of skin."

Smith's day job as CEO of Vista Equity Partners, a private equity firm with \$31 billion under management that invests exclusively in software, keeps him busy. But he is devoting more time to his non-business works. He is chairman of Carnegie Hall and the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights organization, where he has gotten involved in specific projects like helping pretrial detainees who cannot afford to pay bail.

These public roles are not always easy. "Successful African Americans become targets of racism," says Ibram Kendi, a leading scholar of racism in America who is close to Smith. "It takes courage for Robert, who is as successful a businessman as anyone in America, to stand in the public light."

Smith's philanthropic efforts have come in two forms. He has made direct personal contributions, like the \$20 million he committed to the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington D.C., supporting a digitization program to preserve the family



Lonnie Bunch, the director of the National African American Museum of History and Culture

histories of all Black Americans as well as community outreach. He recently gave \$2.5 million to the Prostate Cancer Foundation to focus research on Black men and aid veterans who are battling prostate cancer.

Smith is also president of Fund II Foundation, which was established in 2014 to grant to public charities the assets of a reserve established when Vista's first private equity fund was founded in 2000. The purpose of the reserve was to secure a contingent liability for Vista's first investor, but once any liability was satisfied any remaining assets in the reserve was slated for charitable purposes.

Fund II Foundation has fancy monuments; we need housing.

To help get housing started, Commissioner Russell has also "pushed for the Omni Community Redevelopment Agency to allocate an additional \$100 million toward affordable housing as well."

Between the "forever bond" and the additional dollars being allocated

made big gifts, like a \$27 million donation to Susan G. Komen for breast cancer research and awareness and \$50 million to UNCF, the minority education organization. Its most high-profile contribution was a \$50 million commitment it made together with Smith personally to improve the representation of women and minorities in scientific research at Cornell University's College of Engineering.

For Smith, it's his Lincoln Hills Colorado ranch that seems to bring the most joy. When Smith was young, his family vacationed at Lincoln Hills, one of the first resorts where Blacks could rent cabins. Over the years its condition deteriorated.

Smith bought the ranch and refurbished it. He developed a summer program there for some 5,000 inner-city kids.

For Lonnie Bunch, the director of the National African American Museum of History and Culture, Smith represents a new generation of Black corporate leadership, following the likes of Ken Chenault and Richard Parsons.

"It is a new generation that understands technology. They are not American Express or Time Warner, and what I love is they have a freedom to be themselves," says Bunch. "Robert is part of a generation that can be proud to be a successful businessperson."

one of our last chances to rebuild Miami.

Are you priced-out of living in South Florida? Got a suggestion or idea on how to implement the affordable housing in the City of Miami? Let's hear about it! Share your story, interest or solution today.

Contact Daniella Pierre to affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com.

PIERRE

CONTINUED FROM 7B

historic housing stock. To preserve this type of housing in the city is great. But after it's rehabbed, it ought to be fully functional and affordable to live in, not just something to look at and admire. We don't need

SICK

CONTINUED FROM 8B

have to do what I have to do and just deal with it while trying not to think about it."

Winston lives in Silver Spring, Md. Both of her daughters are adults. She is a widow. Her primary concern is taking care of herself and her health, she said. She said she was sick recently and needed a pneumonia shot. She got the shot, but still went to work.

"They see you sick, and they still don't care," she said.

According to USA Today, the top 10 largest employers in the U.S. include Walmart, Yum! Brands, McDonald's, IBM, United Parcel Service, Target, Kroger, Home Depot, Hewlett Packard and General Motors. Only three out of all 10 of these companies offer all their employees paid sick leave.

Georgetown University economist Mary Anne Bronson said one reason companies might hesitate to give employees paid sick leave is because they believe workers will abuse the right.

"If you give them all sick leave, employees might take sick leave when they're not really sick," Bronson said.

According to research by Cornell University economist Nicolas Zie-

barth, it is in companies' best interest to allow paid sick leave. For one, Ziebarth said, it reduces the spread of contagious diseases, like colds and the flu, which has a positive effect on the productivity of a company.

Bronson agrees. "If you go to work sick and get all your coworkers sick, it decreases productivity," she said. "In general, having at least some amount of sick leave has positive effects on labor supply and that's good for everybody."

Additionally, researchers from

Cleveland State University and Florida Atlantic University have found a link between psychological distress and the lack of paid sick leave for American workers ages 18 to 64.

"What we know is that workers who lack paid sick leave are more likely to experience psychological distress, and it can come to a point where it can be disabling for the worker," said Patricia Stoddard-Dare, lead author of the study and professor at Cleveland State University.

"Workers with no paid sick leave are

also less likely to seek healthcare, not just for themselves, but for their family members. That's troubling because it's not just their healthcare at this point, but it's the healthcare of their families."

While paid sick leave remains an issue for many Americans, the trend shows a gradual decline in the number of workers without it. The number of workers without paid sick leave has declined from 50 percent 25 years ago, 39 percent 10 years ago, 33 percent in 2014 and 29 percent today.

DONATE

CONTINUED FROM 8B

low housing supplies, existing-home sales fell for the second straight month in January and the median sales price was up 5.8 percent annually to \$240,500.

The program is one of several

SXSW

CONTINUED FROM 7B

by dishes of some of the best content curated from around the globe. I could only get disappointed knowing that I would be unable to devour every interesting session I came across in the endless schedule," he said.

The Blacktech Week team represented Miami in full force at Tech.Co and Kauffman Foundation's American Cities House on

efforts to create a bigger pipeline of new construction workers across the country. With the value of a college degree increasingly being questioned, high schools are starting to revive vocational education classes. HBI has licensed its curriculum to 36 high schools the past two years and another 40 are strongly considering signing on, Courson said.

Saturday, March 10. The team spread the message of Miami's startup community alongside a crew of Miami organizations such as Venture Cafe Miami and The New Tropic.

Blacktech Week representatives also hosted a session with Digital Undivided on Venture Capital solutions for startups, and co-founder Hestia Hatcher-Pearson hosted Rooftop Talks with Maurice Wilkins of the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative and judged one of SXSW's pitch competitions.

CITY OF MIAMI ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Miami City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, FL 33133 for the following:

IFB NO. 816382 CITYWIDE CANAL CLEANING SERVICES

CLOSING DATE: 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Wednesday, 3/21/18 at 5:00 PM)

VOLUNTARY Pre-Bid Conference Friday, March 16, 2018 at 10:00 AM Location: Miami Riverside Center (MRC), 444 SW 2nd Ave., 6th Floor South Conference Room, Miami, Florida, 33130.

Detailed specifications for this IFB are available at the City of Miami, Department of Procurement, website at: www.miamigov.com/procurement Telephone No. 305-416-1912.

THIS SOLICITATION IS SUBJECT TO THE "CONE OF SILENCE" IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY OF MIAMI CODE SECTION 18-74 ORDINANCE NO.12271.

AD NO. 26750

Emilio T. González, Ph.D.
City Manager



CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF VACANCIES ON THE HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION BOARD

In accordance with Section 62-27 of the Miami City Code, as amended, no appointment shall be made by the City Commission to membership on the Historic and Environmental Preservation (HEP) Board until the City Clerk has given notice of the vacancy in a newspaper of general circulation in the City at least 30 days' prior to the making of an appointment.

It is intended that members and alternate members of the HEP Board be persons of knowledge, experience, mature judgment, and background; having ability and desire to act in the public interest; and representing, insofar as may be possible, the various special professional training, experience, and interests required to make informed and equitable decisions concerning preservation and protection of the physical environment. **Additionally, Board members must either be permanent residents of the City of Miami, work or maintain a business in the City of Miami, or own real property in the City of Miami.**

Board members must be appointed according to the following qualifications:

- One member shall be an architect registered in the State.
- One member shall be a landscape architect registered in the State.
- One member shall be a historian or architectural historian qualified by means of education or experience and having demonstrated knowledge and interest in county history or architectural history.
- One member shall be an architect or architectural historian having demonstrated knowledge and experience in architectural restoration and historic preservation.
- One member shall be an experienced real estate broker licensed by the State.
- One member shall be a person experienced in the field of business and finance or law.
- Three members shall be citizens with demonstrated knowledge and interest in the historic and architectural heritage of the City and/or conservation of the natural environment, and may also qualify under any of the above categories.
- One alternate member shall qualify under one of the above categories.

Public, professional, or citizen organizations having interest in and knowledge of historic and/or environmental preservation are encouraged and solicited to submit to the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida, 33133, a completed nomination form indicating the name, address and qualifications of persons for consideration as prospective appointees to the HEP Board. Application forms are available in the City Clerk's Office and online at the City Clerk's website (http://miamigov.com/city_clerk/Pages/Board/Board.asp).

All nominations from the public must be received by Monday, April 16, 2018 at 4:00 PM. Applications from the public received by the deadline will be given due consideration by the City Commission. The names and qualifications of persons submitted by the public to the City Clerk will be available for review on Thursday, April 19, 2018, in the City Clerk's Office or online at the City Clerk's website (http://miamigov.com/city_clerk/Pages/Board/Board.asp).

The City Commission will consider making appointments to the HEP Board at the City Commission meeting presently scheduled for May 10, 2018. For additional information on the application process please contact Nicole Ewan, Assistant City Clerk, at newan@miamigov.com or 305-250-5347.

#29133

Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk



City of Miami Notice of Solicitation

ITB No.: 17-18-019

Title: Grove Park Roadway and Water Main Improvements – D3
ITB Due Date Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Voluntary Pre-Bid Conference

City of Miami

444 SW 2nd Avenue, 6th Floor South Conference Room
Miami, Florida 33130
Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 10:00 AM.

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Friday, March 23, 2018 at 5:00 PM)

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Miami City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, FL 33133

For additional information, please contact Anthony Rolle at 305-416-1914 or visit our Procurement Opportunities webpage at: <http://www.miamigov.com/MiamiCapital/NewBidsandProposals.html>

THIS SOLICITATION IS SUBJECT TO THE "CONE OF SILENCE" IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 18-74 OF THE CITY CODE.

DP# 29642

Emilio T. González, City Manager



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Miamitech company gets its moment

Kairos specializes in advances like facial recognition, cryptocurrency

MARK ALBERTSON
Silicon Angle

Unlike a number of companies operating in either the cryptocurrency field or facial recognition space, Kairos Inc. is not exactly new. The artificial intelligence firm has built a specialty over the past six years in identifying faces from videos, photos and even the real-world with significant speed and accuracy.
 "We can find one person in a billion in about one-third of a second, and we're about 99.8 or 99.9 percent sure they

are who we think they are," said Brian Brackeen, founder and chief executive officer at Kairos. "It's really all about who someone is and verifying their identity."
 Brackeen visited by the set of theCUBE, SiliconANGLE Media's mobile live streaming studio, and spoke with host Dave Vellante (@dvevlante) at the Polycon18 event in The Bahamas. They discussed use cases for facial recognition, a blockchain-based identity verification project, and the company's recent security token offering.



Brian Brackeen
 USED BY RETAILERS AND MOVIE PRODUCERS
 Despite the technology's high accuracy rate,

the facial recognition solution developed by Kairos (named after the Greek term for a most opportune

moment) is not designed to be a full identification spy tool. The company's clients include retailers who track age, gender and ethnicity of store customers, and movie producers who want to read the emotions of an audience. The clients still can't easily match a name with the image generated by Kairos.
 "We're actually one of the first anonymous facial recognition companies in the world," Brackeen said.
 The company has also been working on an identity verification project supported by the blockchain. The concept would allow a user's anonymous, secure facial version to be used for

financial transactions.
 "Only this face can unlock this transaction, and I can do the same thing from the other side," Brackeen explained. "I will only accept [digital currency] from this face. It changes everything."
 Kairos has dived fully into the cryptocurrency world by issuing its own security token with a pre-initial coin offering round already closed. "We said let's do this the right way; let's create a security token that's completely SEC compliant," said Brackeen, who saw the token sale as a good way to raise capital while still providing a benefit for investors. "You don't lose any equity, but you gain liquidity."

Black buying power is at 1.2 trillion dollars

Niesen report says that we are shaping markets with spending

ELLEN MCGIRT
Fortune

A new report from Nielsen on the current buying power of consumers of color offers a fascinating look at how we're spending our money. For one, we seem to be eating a lot of vegetables.

For another, we're shaping markets.
 In the March 15 report Black Dollars Matter: The Sales Impact of Black Consumers, the message is clear: While Black Americans make up just 14 percent of the population, we are responsible for some \$1.2 trillion in purchases annually. Further, consumers of color are showing an outsized influence in several key consumer categories and are increasingly demanding that businesses do and be better.
 In some cases, Black consumers make up over 50 percent of overall spending, such as the category of dry grains and vegetables. But other categories are stand-outs as well, like baby food (42.76 percent) personal soap and bath needs (41.64 percent) and air fresheners and deodorizers (38.29 percent).
 But the big takeaway is the willingness of smart brands to respond to the needs and feedback of Black shoppers.
 "Our research shows that

“
Our research shows that Black consumer choices have a 'cool factor' that has created a halo effect, influencing not just consumers of color but the mainstream as well.”



Black consumer choices have a 'cool factor' that has created a halo effect, influencing not just consumers of color but the mainstream as well," says Cheryl Grace, Senior Vice President of U.S. Strategic Community Alliances and Consumer Engagement, Nielsen. "These figures show that investment by multinational conglomerates in R&D to develop

products and marketing that appeal to diverse consumers is, indeed, paying off handsomely."
 But don't try to play if you're not ready.
 Nielsen's research shows that 38 percent of Blacks between the ages of 18 and 34 and 41 percent of those aged 35 or older expect the brands they buy to support social causes, outpacing the total

population by 4 percent and 15 percent, respectively. The data also shows that once Black-themed products are leaving the "ethnic" aisle and finding a wider audience. But the process can be fraught, as charismatic Shea Moisture founder Richelieu Dennis discovered last year when a poorly conceived video advertisement rankled their core customers.

Andrew McCaskill, Nielsen's Senior Vice President, Global Communications and Multicultural Marketing, and long-time diversity advocate, breaks it down. "With 43 percent of the 75 million Millennials in the U.S. identifying as African American, Hispanic or Asian, if a brand doesn't have a multicultural strategy, it doesn't have a growth strategy," he says.



Florence Family Photography

Athletes ages from 3 to 82 years old compete at the Jesse Holt Invitational Track Meet in Moore Park on March 3.



In an undated photo, the late Jesse Holt is seen with young medal winners at a track meet.

JESSE HOLT'S LEGACY remembered at Moore Park

Coach saved young athletes from the crumble of the inner city

NYAMEKYE DANIEL
ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com

In 1961, Jesse Holt became the first Black-American athlete allowed to compete against whites in Miami, during times of strict segregation.

His first Amateur Athletic Union Track and Field competition was held at Allapattah's Moore Park, where his performance propelled him to higher ranks.

Holt went on to be the first Black athlete selected for the Miami News All Star Track Team that same year.

Family, friends and athletes came together at the Jesse

Holt Invitational Track Meet, named in his honor, on Saturday, March 3, when the office of Miami Mayor Francis Suarez and Miami Commission Chairman Keon Hardemon officially declared it as Jesse Holt Jr. Day. They also announced that the very same track where Holt made history four decades ago in Moore Park, will be dedicated and renamed in his honor. The legend's son, Alan Holt, spoke at the ceremony.

Clocking 9.5 seconds and ranking fifth in the country in the 100 and 220 meters while attending Gambling University, Jesse Holt was a sports magnate in Miami's inner-city.

The Overtown native excelled in both football and track and field at Booker T. Washington High School.

More than a decade later, Holt decided to return to Moore Park, but this time to pass the baton to a new generation of athletes.

Holt founded the Miami Northwest Express Track Club in 1976, an organization dedicated to helping Miami's inner-city youth develop character, perspective and confidence through track and field and his mentorship.

For 40 years, Holt along with his team of volunteer coaches, have rescued countless lives and families,

produced high school and college graduates, business owners, social workers, law enforcement officers, professional athletes, Olympians, affiliated track programs and youth coaches.

Miami Northwest Express Track Club has played a role in the Olympic success of Ber-shawn "Batman" Jackson, who won a bronze medal in the 2008 Summer Olympics.

Miami Dolphins cornerback Brandon Harris and Willis McGahee also evolved from the track club.

Holt's race ended Oct. 16, 2016 when he died, but his legacy will continue through the renamed Moore Park.

Tiger comes roaring back

Woods looks closer than ever on course to winning again

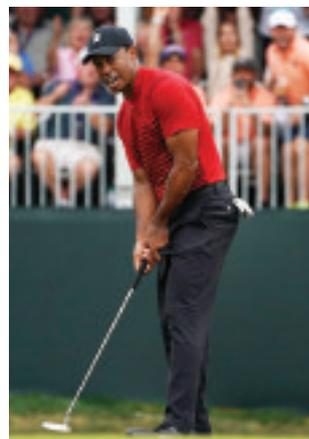
PALM HARBOR, Fla. (AP) — The red shirt didn't have a collar. His head doesn't have quite as much hair. His lower spine has been fused. Everything else about Tiger Woods is starting to look familiar.

For the first time since the late summer of 2013, Woods worked the fans into a frenzy on the weekend and kept them on their toes right to the very end. He wound up one shot — one putt — short to Paul Casey in the Valspar Championship. He broke par all four rounds and tied for second, the first time he had done either of those since the start of the FedEx Cup playoffs in August 2013.

All that did was turn attention to this week at Bay Hill, where Woods has won eight times and twice ended long victory droughts.

He won the Arnold Palmer Invitational in 2009 for his first victory after reconstructive knee surgery. He won there again in 2012 for his first victory since the scandal in his personal life, followed by various leg injuries.

"It's going to be good for me to get back,"



AP Photo/Mike Carlson

Tiger Woods plays his shot from the second tee during the final round of the Valspar Championship golf tournament Sunday, March 11, 2018, in Palm Harbor, Fla.

Woods said. "I've had some great memories there."

Woods, who opened with a two-putt birdie to briefly share the lead, had gone 15 consecutive holes without a birdie and needed to finish birdie-birdie to catch Casey. His tee shot on the par-3 17th was long, rolling out some 45 feet away.

From the time the ball left his club, there was something inevitable about the putt. Woods posed, waiting for the grain in the green to take over, and it did at just the right time. The ball moved left and dropped into the cup, setting off more pandemonium.

Brandt Snedeker, playing with Woods, just smiled. Casey even got caught up in the emotion that swept over Innisbrook for four days.

"I loved his putt on 17. That was amazing," Casey said. "I thought he was going to hole the one on 18."

Maybe next time.

Tornadoes sweep 7U division championship

The Overtown Tornadoes, pictured here with the head coach, Antwan Ezell won the 7 and under division basketball national championship beating The Miami Generals. The team ended the season with a record of 12-0 and as tournament champs.



Photos courtesy of Antwan Ezell

IN GOOD TASTE

Lifestyles
Entertainment
Culture
Food
Arts

SECTION **C**

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

RICKEY SMILEY DISHES ON HOSTING JITG

Comedian says concerts that celebrate diversity are important

MICAELA HOOD
Special to The Miami Times

Comedian and radio personality Rickey Smiley won't accept any frowns when he hosts the 13th annual Jazz in the Gardens Festival March 17 and 18 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens.

In fact, he expects to see fans out of their seats "getting turned up, dancing, singing and having a good time."

The "Stand by Your Truth: And Then Run for Your Life!" author who is the official emcee of the festival for the fourth year, spoke with *The Miami Times* about his favorite headliner and why he thinks concerts that support diversity are so important.

MT: What is your favorite part about hosting Jazz of the Gardens?

RS: Walking on stage and seeing all

of the people, the food trucks and all the old players with the old school cologne: the Lagerfeld cologne, the Perry Ellis cologne, the Joop cologne. And they have on matching outfits that come in a package where the pants match the shirt. And meeting all the performers backstage.

MT: Which artists are you most excited about this year?

RS: I'm looking forward to seeing Anita Baker perform. [Baker] was a really a big hit back in my high school era. She was like our Beyoncé. I'm [also] looking forward to seeing Salt-N-Pepa, because that's my high school era. I'm really, really excited about that.

MT: Lastly, in today's political climate why are festivals such as Jazz in the Gardens, which celebrate diversity, so vital to the community?

RS: It's really important because

SEE JITG 6C



WHAT TO KNOW
BEFORE YOU
GO TO

Jazz IN THE GARDENS

MICAELA HOOD
Special to The Miami Times

It's that time of year again when the weather starts to warm up and soul, funk and R&B returns to South Florida.

The Jazz in the Gardens concert - now in its 13th year - will feature headliners such as Anita Baker, Chaka Khan, Fantasia, Smokey Robinson, Salt-N-Pepa, Trick Daddy and Kid 'n Play.

Sadly for her fans, this will be Grammy-winner Baker's ("Rap-

ture," "Giving You the Best that I Got") last time performing at the festival as part of her farewell tour.

Earlier this year, the sultry songstress announced she was retiring.

"Such a pleasure to accept your invitation to headline the Festival this year, I am Humbled. A beautiful way to Celebrate, my farewell concert series."

SEE JAZZ 6C



**Fantasia
Barrino**



**Avery
Sunshine**



**Trick
Daddy**



**Chaka
Khan**



**Walter
Beasley**



**Smokey
Robinson**



Jamal Cyrus, Africanismus, 2017



Jamal Cyrus, Pride Frieze - Jerry White's Record Shop, 2018

Photos courtesy of Inman Gallery

Jamal Cyrus considers Afro-Atlantic thru art

Artist was selected for the next Art Basel's BMW Art Journey exhibit

Miami Times Staff Report

Jamal Cyrus has been selected as the next BMW Art Journey winner. An international jury selected him unanimously from a shortlist of three artists whose works were exhibited in the Positions sector at last year's Art Basel show in Miami Beach.

The notion of the Afro-Atlantic provides the conceptual underpinning for Cyrus' journey. It is, in his own words, "an intercontinental and multinational geography describing the circulation of ideas between Africa, Europe and the Americas."

Inspired in part by Paul Gilroy's writings from the early 1990s, Cyrus aims to

examine the many diverse cultural hybrids that have emerged through protracted interaction between the continents. Such cultural hybrids – molded by forces of conquest, colonization, slavery, industry, migration and philosophy – can be apprehended in the cultural centers Cyrus plans to visit. These include, among others, the Elmina Castle in Accra, Ghana; the Theatre Champs-Elysees in Paris, France; Brixton's Electric Avenue in London, England; the Alhambra in Granada, Spain; and Congo Square in New Orleans.

Launched in 2015, the BMW Art Journey is a collaboration between Art Ba-



Photo courtesy Tang Teaching Museum

Artist Jamal Cyrus, left, speaks with Skidmore College students Rachel Rosenfeld '18 and Ariel Saloman '19 about his work in the exhibition *Other Side: Art, Object, Self*, at the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College, November 3, 2017.

sel and the car maker, created to recognize and support emerging artists worldwide.

Cyrus was born in 1973 in Houston, Texas, where he still lives and works. He received his master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 2008. Cyrus' work draws on the languages of collage, assemblage and the cultural politics embedded within Black American music and culture. At Art Basel in Miami Beach 2017, Cyrus presented "STANDARDZENBLUZ II", a project whose imagery is sampled from concert posters, record covers, Jet Magazine and the interior of a record store in Tokyo. Cyrus' solo and group exhibitions include Inman Gallery, Houston, MOCA Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, Detroit, and ICA

SEE ART 6C

MADE TO CRAVE
PREPARED FRESH ALL DAY LONG.

PUBLIX DELI
HOT & SPICY CHICKEN WINGS

Publix
WHERE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE

THE SOCIAL WHIRL

VENNDA-REI GIBSON | VENNDAL43@GMAIL.COM

In this 2018 Women's History Month, we continue to celebrate and recognize the contributions that women have made. We honor women in our community, the organizations where they serve and or have served, ordinary women who do or have done extraordinary things.

On Saturday, March 17, as a part of a month-long celebration of the accomplishments of women from all walks of life, the **Beta Tau Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.** will honor women throughout South Florida for their service, leadership and contributions to champion social justice for women in public service and business. For 72 years, the chapter has held this Annual Finer Womanhood Community Fellowship Awards Luncheon. This year's theme is: "Nevertheless She Persisted: Zetas Honoring Women Who Have Fought All Forms of Discrimination." The honorees include: Congresswoman **Debbie Wasserman-Schultz**; Broward County Commissioner **Barbara Sharief**; **Beatrice Louissaint**; **Nancy Dawkins**; **Jo Marie Payton**; **Carole Ann Taylor**; and **Dr. Kitty Oliver**. The Finer Womanhood Awards Luncheon will take place at the beautiful InterContinental in Doral. In the company of women, we find inspiration and nourishment for our spirits. And so it was that 12 members



12 members of Just Us traveled together for a 'Girls' Trip,' to Washington to visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

of **Just Us** traveled together for a 'Girls' Trip,' to Washington to visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The trip, coordinated by **Just Us** member **Cecelia Hunter**, included **Shirley Archie**, **Emma Burnside**, **Camille Carroll-Perry**, **Juanita Miller**, **Carolyn Blake**, president, **Patsy Graham**, **LaVonne Moore**, **Luretha Lucky**, **Sharon Shackelford**, **Cherryll Silas** and **Vennnda-Rei Gibson**.

This trip was a wonderful pause on the journey, and we had a chance to share some 'Girl' talk and nostalgia. Museums are places where the past can be revisited, places where we learn, places where we remember. Museums contain exhibits that bring laughter and oftentimes tears, as we remember the events in our history. We left for D.C. on Tuesday morning, March

6, and upon returning on Friday evening, we knew that this journey had afforded us an opportunity to rejuvenate, connect and find inspiration.

This Lenten season, the Joint Lenten Series of Services celebrated 50 years. This series of worship services were established and sponsored by the congregations from **Christ Episcopal Church** in Coconut Grove; Episcopal Church of the **Holy Family** in Miami Gardens; Episcopal Church of the **Ascension** in Richmond Heights; Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Liberty City; The Historic Saint **Agnes'** Episcopal Church in Overtown and the Episcopal Church of the **Transfiguration** in Opa-locka. On Sunday, the services were held at Church



Burnett

of the **Transfiguration** and Rector. **Father Terrence A. Taylor** invited his Yale classmate, **The Rev. Joan Cooper Burnett** to be the guest preacher. **Burnett** is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches, U.S., who serves as Protestant Chaplain at York Correctional Institution, a maximum-security prison in Connecticut. It is the only facility for female offenders. **Burnett** is also the founder and leader of **G-GIRLS Inc.**, a faith-based nonprofit agency formed to foster healthy development and enrich the lives of teen girls and young women.

The Joint Lenten Services are always mini-reunions when members of the participating congregations worship together and



Jack and Jill of America Miami Chapter, held its Chapter Teen Leadership meeting that included a social activity in Miami Lakes, Painting with a Twist.

enjoy fellowship following worship. There was uplifting music and **Burnett** delivered a powerful sermon. Worshipers also had the opportunity to fellowship with the Rev. "**Bobbie**" **Knowles**, the new rector of the Church of the Incarnation. An afternoon well-spent, indeed.

Also on Sunday, **Jack and Jill of America Miami Chapter**, held its Chapter Teen Leadership meeting that included a social activity in Miami Lakes, Painting with a Twist. The teens enjoyed and had fun with their foray into the creative arts.

Community Women in Action, another faith-based group dedicated to enriching lives through service, is planning a day trip to Fort Myers on Saturday, April 11 for a day of fun, fellowship and shopping, which will include a matinee and lunch at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater. Member **Robin Moncur** invites you to join them on this day.

Graceful Voices captured the stories and experiences of the Bahamian and African-American women who were born in the **MacFarlane Homestead**

and the Golden Gate Community neighborhoods. These were families who forged lifelong friendships and developed a passion for their community. They released a beautiful documentary, which featured women whose families were a part of these communities and their history and stories. The women who represented generations are: **Judith Johnson**, **Leona H. Cooper**, **Leona Cooper Baker**, **Edwina Prime**, **Connie Hamm**, **Antoinette Price**, **Francina Berry**, **Mozelle Aguilarr** and **Beverly Gibson**.

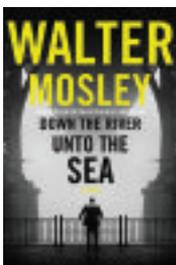
Sharing more with you, I'd like to tell you that **Clara Kelly McCoy** celebrated her 92nd birthday on March 6. It is remarkable to see her with her smile always, gracious and beautiful-ordinary women who have done extraordinary things.

This month has been such a journey, in the company of women. Blessings in all of the people and places along the way. Celebrations and legacies. Our stories, our journey as we Live, Love, Pray, Laugh, Sing and Dance in the Whirl. And, we are forever grateful for these Blessings.

BOOK REVIEW

'Down the River Unto the Sea' is another page-turning thriller

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER
bookwormsc@yahoo.com



Something's wrong. It may look just fine, but you know better. Call it intuition, call it plain-as-day, but there's something off, something not-quite-right about a situation, and it's gotten under your skin. You can't ignore it, and you can't let it be. As in the new novel, "Down the River Unto the Sea" by Walter Mosley, it's time to set things right.

The last thing Joe King Oliver needed was that letter.

Joe was already skittish and uneasy in his own skin, and he certainly didn't trust very readily. That's what happens when you're wrongly accused of a crime, but you spend 90 days in Riker's anyway, in solitary confinement, listening to other men scream, waiting to be killed. Yes, though that all happened more than a decade ago, it still simmered in Joe Oliver's soul.

But that letter. It came from a woman who wrote that her name was Beatrice, but she was Nathali Malcolm once, long ago, when she was coerced into setting him up. When her lies and accusations sent an innocent man to prison.

Through the years, Joe couldn't figure out why it happened, let alone who'd done it. He left Riker's broken, with a lost marriage, a lost NYPD job... just lost. Weeks after his release, his only friend stepped in quietly and helped Joe with a private investigation business, and that's where Joe was when he read the letter.

He didn't want revenge - not completely, anyhow - but he did want his name cleared. This letter could do that, just as it could stir up a thousand

bad dreams. So when a beautiful woman came to his office with a suitcase full of money and a story of an activist who was railroaded straight to jail for a double-cop-homicide, the time seemed right to fix a few wrongs.

But the more Joe looked at his case and that of the activist, the more he saw similarities he couldn't ignore. In solving one injustice, could he solve another? And was it safer to trust a real demon, than to live with the demons in his life?

Here's the thing I love best about Walter Mosley novels: the main characters are solid. You feel like you could lean on them all day, and they'd never budge.

That's Joe King Oliver, and that's "Down the River Unto

the Sea."

And yet, there's wiggle room in this book: Mosley doesn't destroy readers' fun by telling who done it in this noir whodunit. Instead, we're allowed the same dawning realization that Mosley's Joe has, and that just sharpens the gasping you'll do while reading. Add a swirl of street-darkness, a few soulless characters and some clueless ones, a bit of pure evil, and you'll be turning pages far, far into the night.

This is one of those books that leaves you a little breathless - not only while you're reading, but once the back cover's closed, too. For anyone who loves hard-bitten PI thrillers, reading "Down the River Unto the Sea" couldn't be more right.



FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Founders' Day Celebration

"We Have Come This Far by Faith"
On a Mission to Service Since 1829

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018
10:00 A.M.

Susie C. Holley Religious Center
15845 N.W. 42nd Avenue
Miami Gardens, Florida 33054

Castell Vaughn Bryant, Ed.D., Interim President

FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY
A PROMISE. A FUTURE.

Celebrating 50 Years in Miami



Clive's Cafe in Little Haiti is one of best Black-owned restaurants in the country according to Travel Noire. Pictured, rice & peas steamed veggies and plantains.



Gatlin's BBQ in Houston is known for its spare ribs.



Shirley Mae's Cafe has been a Smoketown, Kentucky landmark for the past 30 years.



Then-Senator Barack Obama visits the Dooky Chase's Restaurant in New Orleans while campaigning in 2008, pictured here, with Leah Chase, the owner.

Best Black restaurants in the South

CLIVE'S CAFE JAMAICAN AND CARIBBEAN RESTAURANT IN MIAMI TOPS THE LIST FOR FLORIDA

Travel Noire

Travel Noire set out to find the best Black-owned restaurants in every state across America, including restaurants that were founded generations ago, and many that have opened recently.

Here are the best Black-owned restaurants in the South:

ALABAMA

Yo' Mama's Restaurant – Birmingham

Known for fried and grilled seafood, this restaurant has won awards for having the best lunch in Birmingham.

ARKANSAS

Jones Bar-B-Q Diner – Marianna

One of the most famous restaurants in Arkansas, the tiny BBQ joint won a James Beard Award in 2012 and dates back to 1910. Many believe it may be one of the oldest Black-owned restaurants in the country, and when it comes to BBQ, it's definitely one of the best.

FLORIDA

Clive's Café – Miami

This Jamaican and Caribbean restaurant was in the Wynwood neighborhood for nearly 40 years before mov-

ing to Little Haiti. You won't find better conch, jerk pork and oxtail in Miami.

GEORGIA

Editor's Pick: Busy Bee – Atlanta

It's pretty much impossible to pick just one restaurant in Georgia, but Busy Bee runs through my veins, and I dream about the banana pudding.

KENTUCKY

Shirley Mae's Café – Louisville

Shirley Mae's isn't just a restaurant; it's a cultural institution. Housed in a

three-story building located in Louisville's historically Black neighborhood called Smoketown, Shirley Mae Beard has been serving locals, visitors and celebrities for three decades.

LOUISIANA

Dooky Chase's Restaurant – New Orleans

Like Georgia, it's impossible to narrow it down to just one restaurant in Louisiana. Dooky Chase opened its doors in 1941, and despite a two-year absence after Hurricane Katrina, it has been a beloved soul food staple ever since.

MISSISSIPPI

Alma Jean's Southern Kookin – Senatobia

Mississippi is home to some of the best Black-owned soul food restaurants in the country, and Alma Jean's has amassed a cult following thanks to dishes like the fried okra and smothered chicken.

NORTH CAROLINA

SALTBOX Seafood Joint – Durham

Simple and seasonal, the seafood at this tiny eatery is as fresh as it gets, with catches like perch, flounder and trout served with sides like fried veggies and slaw salad.

OKLAHOMA

Off The Hook Seafood – Multiple Locations

The husband and wife duo behind this restaurant first started with a food truck before setting up shop at two locations. Here you'll find treats like lobster grilled cheese, gumbo and soft shell crab po' boy sandwiches, and that's just the beginning.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Rodney Scott's BBQ – Charleston

A year after opening his Charleston eatery, Rodney Scott is a James Beard

SEE SOUTH 6C

It's easy: Here's how to plan a movie-theme trip

Find, visit and enjoy those places where your favorite films were made

SHIVANI VORA
The New York Times

get," she said. Here are her tips to get started.

CHOOSE YOUR DESTINATION

If there's a movie you love, you can find out where it was filmed by looking at the credits at the end of the film or by going online to The Internet Movie Database, also known as IMDb, which often lists filming locations. Once you know the locale, you can start planning your trip.

Or, consider doing what Tillson often does when deciding on where to vacation: pick a spot you're interested in visiting, and find out what movies have been filmed there. Then, plan an itinerary based around a film that you've seen and liked. "It's fun to sometimes let a destination determine the movie you're going to live rather than the other way around," Tillson said.

There are even some books available on movies shot in certain destinations such as The Hawaii Movie and Tele-



vision Book and New York: The Movie Lover's Guide. Do an online search for more options.

GET IN THE MOOD

Before you head to your destination, be sure to watch

the movie again. It not only reminds you of identifiable spots to look out for during your trip, but it also adds to the excitement of your upcoming exploration.

If the movie is based on a book, considering reading

the book, too. It may have details about the locale that the movie doesn't touch on. Also, books often have scenes that don't make it into the movie adaptations, which gives you a deeper view of the destination. Tillson also recommended downloading the movie's soundtrack or score, and listening to it throughout your trip.

BOOK A THEMED TRIP

Some travel companies sell set itineraries focused on popular movies. Luxury tour operator Zicasso, for example, has an eight-day trip to Ireland inspired by "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" and Wild Frontiers has an 11-day trip to India inspired by "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel." Tillson suggested doing a web search or checking with a travel agent to find out about such trips.

SEE MOVIE 6C

LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT:

■ Wednesday, March 14

Practice & Process: A Conversation with Arts. Black

Join R+D / Mobile Studio artists and Arts.Black for a free discussion about art from the Black perspective.

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.; Locust Projects, 3852 North Miami Ave.

■ Thursday, March 15

Smart N' Up Black Male Youth Summit III (Liberty City Edition)

The free summit will focus on the unique needs of young Black males in America and abroad and provide tools to inner-city males to make better decisions in life.

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.; Charles Hadley Park - Samuel K. Johnson Youth Center.; 4920 NW 12th Ave.

■ Friday, March 16

Pot O' Gold St. Pat's Dinner Dance

Dance the night away after an Irish dinner in Pembroke Pines. There will be prizes given away for the best St. Pat's costumes.

5:30 p.m.-9 p.m., reservations required; The Carl Shechter Southwest Focal Point Community

Center Campus, 301 NW 103rd Ave.; Cost: dinner is \$10.00 per person, paid in advance; dancing is free; Info: 954-450-6888

■ Women's Impact Conference

In honor of Women's History Month, and in conjunction with the Jazz in the Gardens music festival, the City of Miami Gardens presents the Women's Impact Luncheon. Attendees will be entertained and engaged as distinguished guest speakers deliver expertise on how to create a happy, healthy, spiritual and centered existence.

11 a.m.-2 p.m.; FIU Kovens Conference Center, 3000 NE 151st St.; Cost: \$50

■ Saturday, March 17

Ballet Etudes of South Florida Master Class

Ballet Etudes of South Florida will host a ballet technique master dance class for intermediate/advanced dancers ages 12 and up of all backgrounds to gain a better understanding of ballet as the foundation of all dance.

10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; Miramar Cultural Center Theater, 2400 Civic Center Place; Cost: \$15

■ Jazz in the Gardens

Jazz in the Gardens music festival returns to Miami Gardens with artists like Chaka Khan, Anita Baker and Fantasia gracing the stage. Iconic soul legend Smokey Robinson will make his first ever Jazz in the Gardens appearance, along with gospel sensation Tasha Cobbs Leonard, R&B legend Joe and Trombone Shorty.

4 p.m.-11 p.m.; Hard Rock Stadium; 347 Don Shula Drive; Cost: \$69 - \$222

■ Youth Music Festival

The City of Miami Beach and Rhythm Foundation are proud to invite residents to the 2nd annual youth music festival. There will be a special performance by the city's headliner spam allstars.

5 p.m. – 10 p.m.; North Beach Bandshell Stage, 7275 Collins Ave.

■ Sunday, March 18

NMB Bike 305 Ciclovía
The City of North Miami Beach, in conjunction with Miami-Dade County's BIKE305, brings Ciclovía, a free, fun and healthy way to explore the beauty of South Florida by bicycle. The event will feature health information booths, vendors, giveaways, healthy food and free bike lessons for children.

1 p.m. - 5 p.m.; North Miami Beach City Hall, 17011 NE 19th Ave.; Registration begins at 12:30 p.m.

■ Jazz in the Gardens

Back by popular demand are The Jazz in the Gardens All Stars with this year's lineup including Pieces of a Dream, Walter Beasley and Avery Sun-

shine. The first JITG Loves the 90's portion of the festival will take place Sunday night and will feature Salt n' Pepa, Kid n Play, Trick Daddy and Biz Markie.

4 p.m.-11 p.m.; Hard Rock Stadium; 347 Don Shula Drive; Cost: \$69 - \$222

SCHOOL MEETINGS:

■ Miami Northwestern Class of 1968

2 p.m. every fourth Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-218-6171

■ Miami Northwestern Class of 1973

4 p.m. every third Sunday; location TBA; Info: Call 786-877-1176 or email msoguns@aol.com

■ Miami Jackson Class of 1968

Time TBA, every second Monday to plan 50th reunion on June 14-18; VFW located at 11911 W. Dixie Hwy.; Info: Call 305-336-7663

■ Miami Carol City Class of 1968

4 p.m. every fourth Sunday to plan 50th reunion on Sept. 14-16; location TBA; Info: Call 305-494-6265

■ George Washington Carver High School Class of 1966

Noon every second Saturday; 1234 NW 79th St.; Info: Call 305-300-7630

■ Northwestern Class of 1962

3 p.m. every second Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call

305-681-3330

■ Booker T. Washington Class of 1967

4 – 6 p.m. every third Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-333-7128

■ Miami Northwestern Class of 1961

Noon every second Tuesday; YET Center, 7090 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-696-1154

■ Miami Jackson Class of 1971

2:30 p.m. every first Saturday; YET Center, 7090 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 786-285-2533

■ Miami Northwestern Class of 1959

10:30 a.m. every third Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 786-897-2646

■ Booker T. Washington Class of 1959

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. every first Tuesday; Golden Corral Buffet, 9045 Pines Blvd.; Info: Call 305-989-0994

ASSOCIATION/CHAPTER MEETINGS:

■ The Miami Central High Alumni Association

7 p.m. every second and fourth Wednesday; Miami Central Senior High School library, 1781 NW 95th St.; Info: Call 305-370-4825

■ The George Washington Carver Alumni Association

12:30 p.m. every third Wednesday; Community Center in Coconut Grove, 220 Florida Ave. (near

US1); Info: Call 954-248-6946

■ The Miami-Dade Chapter of Bethune-Cookman University

6:30 p.m. every second Thursday; Omega Center, 15600 NW 42nd Ave.

■ Tennessee State Alumni Association/ Miami-Dade Chapter

9 a.m. every third Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-336-4287

■ The Morris Brown College Miami-Dade/Broward Alumni Association

9:30 a.m. every third Saturday; North Shore Medical Center, 100 NW 95th St., Room C; Info: Call 786-356-4412

■ Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

10 a.m. every second Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-439-5426.

CLASSES:

■ Women in Transition of South Florida

Class: Free computer lessons for women; time, date and location TBA; Info: Call 786-477-8548

■ Inner City Children's Touring Dance

Class: free introductory classical ballet workshops for girls ages 6-8 and 9-12; Time and date TBA; 1350 N.W. 50th Street; Info: Call 305-758-1577 or visit www.childrendance.net
The deadline for the Lifestyle Calendar is on or before 2 p.m. Fridays.

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- Ongoing training at no cost



JAZZ

CONTINUED FROM 1C

Baker, 60, wrote on her Twitter account in January.

So whether you're a seasoned attendee, or it's your first time at the concert, here are some helpful hacks to make the most of the two-day festival.

WHAT TO WEAR

Jazz in the Gardens is known to be a fashion event, especially for the ladies. But even without the summer humidity wreaking havoc on your hair, it's still going to be hot. If you plan on being in the sun all day, bring a hat. And ladies, please for the sake of your feet, leave your Louboutin heels at home. You can still look cute in a long maxi dress paired with trendy flats Plus, you'll get more dancing in — minus the bunions. For the men, we suggest a nice pair of linens with a short-sleeve, button-down shirt. And, of course, don't forget to pack SPF and sunglasses.

Even with the melanin, you still need to protect your skin.

WHAT TO BRING

For those who bought general admission tickets, you'll be standing on your feet all day. But as most veterans of the concert know, it's much more enjoyable if you bring a lawn chair, blanket and a small rain umbrella. Please, do not put plastic bags on your hair; pack a colorful rain poncho instead. Large beach umbrellas are not allowed, nor is food or alcohol.

WHERE TO LOUNGE

AARP, one of the sponsors of the Jazz in the Gardens, will have a lounge set up on the grounds where concert-goers can take a break from the heat, take a seat on a comfy couch and recharge their cell phones. All you need is to present your AARP card upon entry.

LEAVE THE CAR AT HOME

Parking at the venue costs \$25 per vehicle or \$20 for SunPass holders. But first-time Uber riders can use the code HITTHEROAD for a free ride either back or forth to the concert. And honestly, if you plan on drinking, save yourself from a possible DUI and hitch a ride home.



WHAT TO EAT

Besides the old school tunes, one of the best parts of the concert is the food.

Attendees can enjoy island fare such as Jamaican jerk chicken, Trinidadian curry roti, Cuban croquetas and sandwiches. For vegans, there will also be organic options for purchase.

One of the most popular dishes is the conch salad tossed in a fresh pineapple by Miami chef, Keith Reid. Reid's

signature dish is so popular he's known to have long lines at his food station, so plan on going early if you want a taste.

WHAT TO DRINK

They'll be plenty of beer and alcohol to purchase, but why not freshen up your taste buds after you've devoured all that spicy food with a daiquiri, smoothie (or like we do in Miami) a pineapple paired with a straw. It's going to be a long, eventful day, so remember to



drink water and stay hydrated. You wouldn't want to pass out and miss your favorite act.

CARRY CASH

Leave your credit card behind and bring cash instead just in case you can't find it at ATM. This year, Macy's will have its own pop-up shop and merchandisers will be on hand selling African clothing and jewelry, artist memorabilia and Jazz in the Gardens merchandise.

IF YOU GO

Jazz in the Gardens, Hard Rock Stadium, 347 Don Shula Dr., Miami Gardens.

When: 4 p.m. Saturday, March 17; and 4 p.m. Sunday, March 18

Tickets: Two-day package, \$96 to \$155; single day, \$69 to \$86. Platinum, prime and reserved tickets come with assigned seating. For information and a seating chart, go to www.jazzinthegardens.com

ART

CONTINUED FROM 2C

Institute of Contemporary Art Philadelphia, Philadelphia.

At each location, Cyrus will record interviews with artists, musicians, historians and philosophers who engage the creative traditions of the Afro-Atlantic. "The journey promises to be a transformational process involving travel, dialogue, collective imagination and intuitive response that will allow new ideas to surface in my work," Cyrus said.

Art Basel and BMW will collaborate with the artist to document the journey and



Jamal Cyrus, *The Black Messiah*, Live at the Troubadour, 2008.

Jamal Cyrus, Kennedy King Kennedy, 2015



Photos courtesy of Inan Gallery

share it with a broader public through print publications, online and social media.

The international experts awarding Jamal Cyrus' journey proposal were Massi-

miliano Gioni, Artistic Director, New Museum, New York City; Gabi Ngcobo, Curator, Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Berlin; Victoria Noorthoorn, Director, Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires; Philip Tinari, Director, Ullens Centre for Contemporary Art, Beijing; and Susanne Pfeffer, Director, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt.

The five-member jury, in its joint statement, lauded the depth and detail of Jamal Cyrus' proposal:

"Jamal Cyrus' BMW Art Journey delineates an imaginary geography that transforms relations of power and imposed hierarchies," the

five-member jury stated after its unanimous decision. "His journey combines elements of directed research and open-ended discovery, all within a deeply considered theoretical framework. His project struck us as a profound and sincere search for an understanding of the self, through the artistic lens of an individual who never forgets his role as a teacher, and who therefore foresees the multiplying effect of his experience. Cyrus' BMW Art Journey will expand and amplify a practice that has already brought much to the conversation around culture, history and identity in the United States."

SOUTH

CONTINUED FROM 4C

finalist, and at the helm of one of the most influential restaurants in South Carolina. The restaurant's design is mid-century modern, the BBQ is made on-site, and Rodney, even with all of the nationwide attention, has continued to keep his focus on the food.

TENNESSEE Prince's Hot Chicken – Nashville

The birthplace of hot chicken, nothing on earth can prepare you for the flavors coming out of this Nashville staple.

TEXAS
Green Seed Vegan and Gatlin's BBQ – Houston
Houston's Green Seed Vegan, Matti Merrell and Rodney Perry have made raw and

vegan food sumptuous, accessible and enjoyable for people who would never dream of going vegan.

But this is Texas, and there's no way I could leave off the legendary Gaitlin's in Houston. The brisket and spare ribs there are in a league of their own.

VIRGINIA Mango Mangeaux – Hampton

The owners of this restaur-

ant appeared on an episode of "Shark Tank" where they introduced the world to their mango preserves.

WEST VIRGINIA
Sumthin' Good Soul Food – South Charleston
Sumthin' Good hasn't been open long, but the soul food restaurant has already found a loyal following that's devoted to owner Denise Jones and her cooking.

MOVIE

CONTINUED FROM 4C

Also, in some destinations, local tour operators and hotels sell movie-themed tours. For instance, The St. Regis Princeville Resort offers a tour that includes a private helicopter ride to Manawaipuna Falls, made famous in "Jurassic Park," and an ATV tour of filming locations of movies such as "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "Pirates of the Caribbean." Lunch is even included. The cost is \$5,674 for two adults.

A more affordable option, in Rome, is the four-hour "Roman Holiday" themed excursion from HR Tours,

where travelers ride a Vespa with a driver and see all the sites from the movie; the cost is 170 euros per person.

HANG WHERE THE MOVIE CREW DID

When they're not working, movie crews enjoy hitting local bars and casual restaurants that serve tasty local cuisine, Tilson said.

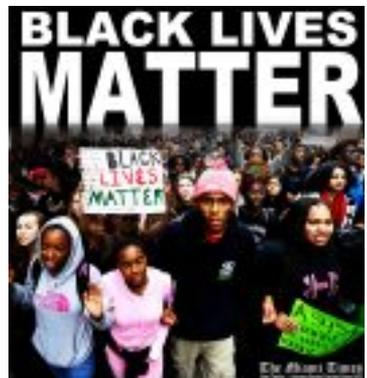
Find out where the behind-the-scenes staff of your film spent their time by asking your destination's tourist board or your hotel's concierge, and check out a few of the spots. "It's another way to get entrenched in the film and spend time in bars and restaurants that you wouldn't normally think to hit," she said.

JITG

CONTINUED FROM 1C

everybody is on either one side or the other. To get people mixed up where they can develop friendships and relationships and to get people to talk, that's

so important [especially] when it comes to situations where people are celebrating diversity. I support diversity because we all live in this country together and everybody shouldn't be with their own race all the time. Mix it up. Make new friends; and get outside of [your] box.



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THE MIAMI TIMES | MARCH 14 | WWW.MIAMIHERALD.COM

The cost of school safety

10D



HEALTH

To cut weight: Lose the diet, find a lifestyle



9D

THE REV. DR. POWELL HELPS BELIEVERS FOCUS ON THEIR FAITH; DEATH OF HER PARENTS DREW HER CLOSER TO GOD, ENCOURAGED HER TO BECOME A KINGDOM BUILDER 11D

UNION OF PASTORS: 'HARDER TIME GETTING TO CHURCH'



Mary Matthews

The Rev. Dr. James Bush II listens as other religious leaders and Transport Worker Union leaders discuss the state of Miami-Dade's transit service.

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

The leaders of the Transport Workers Union Local 291 had dire news for both pastors and churchgoers who use the Miami-Dade public transit system to get to and from their houses of worship: "They are going to have a harder time getting to church," said Pedro Flores, executive vice president of Local 291, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

In a meeting, billed as a "Call to Action," an assembly of union executives and local pastors met on Thursday, March 1, at the Greater

SEE UNION 8D



Bishop James Adams and Pastor John F. White II at a March 1 meeting between local church leaders and the local chapter of the Transport Workers Union.

Groups seek a new path for youth

Wants to combat gun violence with mentors and counselors

JULIANA ACCIOLY
Special to The Miami Times

Some were motivated, open to change. Others were angry, frustrated. A group of 20 people came together last Thursday for the Youth Violence and Education Solutions Town Hall to seek solutions and to vent.

The session, held at Tribe Co-Work Space and Urban Innovation Lab in Overtown, was led by Starex Smith, co-founder of the Hungry Black Man blog and vice president of Blacktech Week.

It targeted people of ages 21 and up because the aim was to sit down with the "elders" of the community, said Sashay Burns, an instructor at Code Fever, the producers of Blacktech Week. "We wanted professionals to come up with new ideas and lay a path for the younger generations," she explained.

There was much debate on ways to end violence in the Black community, how to deal with the real motivations behind the violence and programs to prevent it. Media portrayal, the issue of a lack of mentoring in schools and mental health, surfaced as some of the underlying causes.

"People don't realize, but if they participate with violence at any level - "listening to music, watching movies that portray it, whatever it is - then you are part of violence," said an attendee.

Emily Bellamy, a litigation associate and community mentor, said that "kids don't talk to professors any longer, and that's a real problem. For the past 14 years, I've been listening to what young girls and boys can't share with their parents."

In response, Smith said he's been advocating for the county to direct funds for counselors trained in cultural intelligence to be available to meet with students, before and after classes.

"The state and school budget need to reflect our issues," he said. "For you to take a life, for a young adult to take a life, something is drastically wrong. People need to have someone to go to and talk about what that is."

While that's still not in place, he said he's partnering

SEE PATH 8D

Kids, it's time to show your talent and dream

BIG



Whether it's singing, rapping, dancing, playing an instrument or performing spoken word, youth can audition for the annual Young Talent Big Dreams competition.

Photos courtesy of Gregory Reed

COUNTYWIDE AUDITIONS IN MUSIC, DANCE, SPOKEN WORD ONGOING

Miami Times Staff Report

A talent show for youth ages 8-17 that is modeled after reality TV shows is accepting auditions that could lead to performing arts scholarships, cash and even national recognition.

Each year, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre and The Children's Trust team up to present the free competition, Young Talent Big Dreams. The countywide competition kicked off preliminary auditions on Jan. 21, which will continue through April 8, at four different theaters.

Barbara S. Stein, executive producing director of Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre said last summer, the 2017 competition winner, Angelina Green, was featured on NBC's "America's Got Talent."

"It is so rewarding to see our wonderful YTBID All-Stars rise to stardom after watching them first perform on their stage."

“

It is so rewarding to see our wonderful YTBID All-Stars rise to stardom after watching them first perform on their stage.”

perform on our stages," Stein said.

Contestants audition for up to one minute as individuals or groups in categories such as pop/rock/rap vocals, musical theatre/jazz standards/classical vocals, dance, musical instrument, original spoken word, original vocal and/or instrumental and band/vocal group. Participation in Young Talent Big Dreams requires parental consent.

Preregister at www.actorsplayhouse.org, and then come out to audition, Saturday, March 24, from 1-5 p.m. at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave., Miami FL, 33142

Semi-finals take place April 21-22, with final competition on April 28. There will be a maximum of nine winners and one grand prize winner, who will receive a free trip to attend the live Teen Choice Awards, courtesy of WSVN 7News, plus

SEE BIG 8D



Mary Matthews

Bus Operator Richard Ingram Sr. speaks at the Greater New Bethel A.M.E. Church in Overtown, to discuss the state of public transportation in Miami-Dade County.

UNION

CONTINUED FROM 7D

New Bethel A.M.E. Church in Overtown, to discuss the state of public transportation in Miami-Dade County.

Flores told the gathered group of ministers that the union's negotiations with Miami-Dade County will have an impact on the churches, and communities like Overtown, Liberty City, Little Haiti and Little Havana.

"We have been negotiating with the county for three years and have got nothing," said Flores. "The proposals from the mayor is insulting and embarrassing."

The reason for the decrease in public transportation services, the union says, is the systematic cut in services and elimination of jobs. The blame, for the decrease in services, the union places solely at the feet of Mayor Carlos Gimenez, yet another chapter in the ongoing public feud between the Miami chapter of TWU and Gimenez.

Last month, the local branch compiled and released statistics to dispute Gimenez claims that the transportation issues were due to the workers' absenteeism.

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

In a letter to the pastors, dated March 8, the union accused Gimenez of being on a crusade to dismantle the county's critically needed public transit system, which he called the "lifeblood of our community."

Flores went on to further point out that many of the congregations and constit-

“

We have been negotiating with the county for three years and have got nothing," said Flores. "The proposals from the mayor is insulting and embarrassing."

"We should try to support the union's efforts to make sure that the majority of the riders who look like us are not forsaken and forgotten," Dunn of Faith Community Baptist Church said.

Pastor Omar Valdez is associate pastor of Christ the Only Hope Church in West Miami. A retired transit worker himself, Valdez in his 42-year career with the transit department went from a starting position of a helper, rising in rank to rail technician before he retired. He also was a member of the Transit Union Local 291 during his career in transit.

"Most of the pastors were aware of the traffic congestion in Miami-Dade County," said Valdez. "But the meeting really gave them the inside information on what is really happening in the transit department, and how important transit is to our communities. I personally will be contacting our area county commissioner."

The Rev. John F. White II is senior pastor at Immanuel Temple A.M.E. in Pembroke Pines. Although located in Broward County, White said he was deeply concerned about the state of the Miami-Dade County transit system.

"We have a large number of our congregation who either live in Dade County or who work for the transit department. "I thought the meeting was informative," said White. "I am also deeply concerned about where this country is going when it comes to labor and livable wages. If all the jobs are outsourced, what happens to the people and their families who used to have those good jobs?"

Mayor Gimenez's office did not respond to questions submitted by *The Miami Times*.

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 Harsh
 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 Dorisarc
 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
 Prophess 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

BIG

CONTINUED FROM 7D

\$500 in cash.

"The level of talent in Miami-Dade is staggering - I'm blown away by these kids every year," says James R. Haj, president and CEO of The Children's Trust. "Involvement in the performing arts has such a positive impact on children's lives, and it's very gratifying to be a part of that."

Remaining audition dates:
 Saturday, March 24, 2018, 1-5 p.m. at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave., Miami, FL 33142;
 Saturday, April 7, 2018, 1-6 p.m. at the Miracle Theatre, 280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, FL 33134; and Sunday, April 8, 2018, 3-7 p.m. at the Miracle Theatre, 280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, FL 33134.



Photos courtesy of Gregory Reed

Whether it's singing, rapping, dancing, playing an instrument or performing spoken word, youth can audition for the annual Young Talent Big Dreams competition.

PATH

CONTINUED FROM 7D

with churches on programs, so that kids can have access to some form of mentoring and social services.

Tracey Bowen Bell a higher education advisor, offered a reality check. "We have to stop and ask ourselves: Am I truly identifying with the Black community? Mostly, if it's not part our day-to-day reality, we just get removed from issues that are not touching us. We watch what's unfolding on social media, but we're often more interested

in what's for dinner than in what we can actually do to create a change."

Smith also placed some of the burden on Black citizens. "We are the saviors of our communities, and our communities don't humanize themselves. Black people don't realize that they have to help other Black people."

"I am mad at us," he said, his voice rising. "We don't care."

The evening closed with donations for families in need and a pledge of a continued series of free meetings. Smith also called on the group to take an extra step and dedicate some of

their personal time to visit homes, lead neighborhood campaigns and mentor the youth, even if only through Skype or Facebook. "Twenty minutes of your time every week, for a year, that could make a real difference in someone else's life."

Brook Weller, a real estate broker in Broward County told the group that she was "one of those people who sat on the couch, watched television and browsed through social media to get familiar with the issues in our community."

"But I realized that at some point you have to get off the couch and jump right in," Weller said.

FAITH CALENDAR

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

■ **Northside SDA Church**
 Community Health Fair; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. on March 24. Call 305-613-0994 for more details.

■ **Sistah to Sistah Connection**
 Women's empowerment

meeting; 10 a.m. - noon on every second and fourth Saturday; Parkway Professional Building in Miramar. Call 954-260-9348 for more details.

■ **Greater New Bethel Baptist Church**
 Provides behavioral health,

intervention and treatment services for Black men at risk for HIV or substance abuse disorders. Call 305-627-0396 for more details.

■ **Northside SDA Church**
 Food giveaway; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on March 24. Call 305-

613-0994 for more details

■ **The Elks Historical Business and Conference Center**
 Gospel Kickback with entertainment and fine dining; noon - 6 p.m. every Sunday. Call 305-224-1890 for more details

■ **Metropolitan A.M.E. Church**
 Food and clothing giveaway; every third Saturday. Call 786-277-4150 for more details.

■ **Zion Hope Missionary Baptist Church**
 Food and clothing

distribution; 4 p.m. every Wednesday. Call 786-541-3687 for more details.

■ **First Haitian Church of God**
 Food drive; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday. Call 786-362-1804 for more details

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

■ **Florida Independent Restoration Ministries**
 Prayer for families dealing

with drugs and alcohol. Call 800-208-2924 ext. 102 or prayer line, ext. 104.

■ **Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church**
 Bereavement sharing groups; 003 - 4 p.m. every Second Sunday. Call 305-634-2993 for more details

■ **MEC Ministries**
 Provides healing services; 7:30 p.m. every fourth Friday. Call 305-693-1534 for more details.

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

Midwife helped birth hundreds of babies

Florida Black woman who played doctor to mothers gets honored

TROY MOON

Pensacola News Journal

PENSACOLA — Her name was Missouri.

But everyone knew her as “Bama.”

And it was into Missouri “Bama” Holley’s loving hands that hundreds of baby boys and girls were first delivered into this world.

The daughter of Alabama slaves, Holley was a midwife, and sometimes had to play doctor, to hundreds of families in the more rural parts of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties from the 1920s

until her death in 1970.

Holley was celebrated last month with an exhibit at the Molino Mid-County Historical Society Museum in the old Molino schoolhouse.

“We didn’t have doctors around here,” said Robert Kennedy of Molino, who was delivered by Holley at his grandparents’ house near Jay 67 years ago. “It was 25 to 30 miles anywhere you wanted to go those days.”

His mother went into labor at his grandparents’ house, and Kennedy’s father went out to bring back Holley, who was already well ac-

“We didn’t have doctors around here,” said Robert Kennedy of Molino, who was delivered by Holley at his grandparents’ house near Jay 67 years ago. It was 25 to 30 miles anywhere you wanted to go those days.”

quainted with the family. “She had already delivered five of my brothers and sisters,” he said.

The small exhibit featured the only photograph of Holley that local historians know of — a gauzy hazy scene showing Holley holding a baby, and surrounded by other children, all their faces a blur of history and mystery.

“Her parents were slaves, we figured that out,” said Richard Nicholson, a member of the Molino Mid-Town Historical Society. “Somewhere down the line, she passed a test to be a midwife. She probably delivered most of the babies in these areas—white babies and Black babies. It didn’t matter.”

Holley delivered Betty Pippins, 87, of Molino. Her husband, too.

And when she had pain and trouble walking after giving birth to a doctor-assisted delivery, her family members said “Go get Bama.”

Holley examined her, and told Pippins she had a blood clot and needed to go to a hospital. Doctors at the hospital examined her and “that’s what it was.”

“She just wasn’t a midwife,” said Barbara Hendrix, a historical society member. “If a person needed a doctor sometimes, they’d get Bama.”

Bama didn’t deliver Hendrix when she was born in

1932, but she did assist the doctor who did.

“He was a quack,” Hendrix said of the long-gone doctor. “My mother said she did more than he did.”

Holley died Feb. 13, 1970, at the age of 92. She lived in Barth, north of Molino, and is buried at the White Lily Baptist Church Cemetery in Barth.

“She meant a lot to this community and other communities nearby,” Nicholson said. “And we wanted to spotlight the midwives in Escambia because there were a lot of Black midwives bringing a lot of white babies into the world, so we wanted to honor her and all the midwives.”



TO CUT WEIGHT: LOSE THE DIET, FIND A LIFESTYLE

Healthy eating, exercise, not fasting and dieting, remain your best bets to dropping pounds, as this writer discovered many decades ago

JANE E. BRODY
The New York Times

When *The New York Times* hired me to write about science and health 52 years ago, I was 40 pounds overweight. I’d spent the previous three years watching my weight rise as I hopped from one diet to the next in a futile attempt to shed the pounds most recently gained.

No amount of exercise, and

I did plenty of it, could compensate for how much I ate when I abandoned the latest weight loss scheme. I had become a living example of the adage: A diet is something one goes on to go off.

Even daylong fasting failed me. When I finally ate supper, I couldn’t stop eating until I fell asleep, and sometimes awoke the next morning with partly chewed food in my mouth. I had dieted myself

into a binge-eating disorder, and that really scared me. Clearly, something had to change.

I finally regained control when I stopped dieting. I decided that if I was going to be fat, at least I could be healthy. I made a plan to eat three nutritious, satisfying meals every day with one small snack, which helped me overcome the temptation to binge in response to deprivation.

“No one can give up eating. Rather, one has to learn a better — and permanent — way to handle food.”

Much to my surprise, a month later I had lost 10 pounds — eating! Eating good food, that is, and plenty of it. I continued the regimen without difficulty because it was not a diet. It was a way to live and a healthy one at that. And I continued to lose, about two pounds a month.

Two years later, all the excess weight was gone. I never gained it back and never again went on a diet. (Even with a twin pregnancy, I gained only 36 pounds and lost them all when my sons were born at 6 pounds 13 ounces each.)

The greatest challenge to lasting weight loss, especially for someone like me with

a food addiction, is the fact that no one can give up eating. Rather, one has to learn a better — and permanent — way to handle food.

I eat everything I want, in moderation. My meals — mostly homemade — are heavily loaded with vegetables, and I choose calorie-controlled snacks like popcorn at 35 calories a cup, a graham cracker at 59 calories for two squares, and ice cream (really ice milk) at 100 to 150 calories a half cup. No seconds!

My weight maintenance secrets are simple: I read nutrition labels before I buy

SEE DIET 11D

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Miami-Dade Public Schools Board Member Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall along with President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Greater Miami, T. Willard Fair surrounded by students and parents at a town hall meeting March 8 at William H. Turner Technical Arts High School.

The cost of school safety

\$20 million deficit faced if Scott's bill implemented in Dade County

NYAMEKYE DANIEL

ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com

With the Valentine's Day school shooting still lingering over his head, Gov. Rick Scott signed a bill that promises safer Florida schools on March 9. But even before the paperwork could reach the governor's desk, educators and parents wondered what the bill would mean for schools in Miami-Dade County.

School safety was the trending topic as a few hundred parents, students and educators gathered in the auditorium of William H. Turner Technical Arts High School on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "The View of District 2," a town hall meeting spearheaded by the area's board member, Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall.

Earlier that day, a seventh-grade student at District 2's Brownville Middle School was found with a pellet gun, which caused a stir in the community.

Some parents came to the meeting to find out what the then-pending legislation would mean for student safety while others wanted information about alternative solutions.

"I would like you to provide the pros and cons of teachers carrying guns?" One parent asked, "What would be the ramifications of the teachers snapping, losing their minds in the classroom?"

However, the law does not allow arming of instructional personnel, and the school district and law enforcement would have to agree on how it will be implemented, said Irisa Mendez-Cartaya, who oversees the school district's office of intergovernmental affairs.

Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho has said that he does not plan to arm "any education professional in our schools."

Dubbed the "Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act," the bill beefs up security and mental health services at schools, allows trained



Photos courtesy Elijah Ambrose

Miami-Dade Public Schools Board Member Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall urged parents to stay involved and students to "say something if they see something" at a March 8 District 2 town hall meeting.

staff to carry handguns and makes major changes to gun regulation.

District officials believe restorative justice practices — a program implemented in January 2017 — is a powerful tool already being used that can reduce school violence, said Linda Amica-Roberts, the program's administrative director.

Restorative justice started as an alternative to suspensions. Instead of just punishing students, teachers or counselors would speak to students to find out the root of bad behavior. The practice has now evolved into a solution for bullying. It opens a gateway to communication between the students and teachers, helps reduce the red flags in potentially violent students and creates a direct and open line for students to report issues to adults, she said.

"What happens most often is the kids that people don't usually have a connection or relationship with, the most troubled kids, those are the ones that typically don't know who to go to for healthy relationships," she said. "If we could build those relationships and let them know they can come to us and let us know that there is a gun over there."

Amica-Roberts said the

practice is being used at Brownville Middle and as a result, before the student could get into a classroom, administrators were alerted.

Tawana Akins, who leads the Math department at Holmes Elementary School, wanted to know when the practice, which is being used at five middle schools and 17 success centers, would be extended to elementary schools. Regina Davis, a grandparent and leader of a parent group, said she was thankful for the practice.

"Thank you for having restorative justice in our community. ... people present don't realize it was one of our middle schools who is doing restorative justice that said something today, so we ought to be grateful for restorative justices," she said.

"On the other hand, the 'Marjory Stoneman Douglas' measure will ensure that a school resource officer is assigned to every school and more mental health services are offered.

It also imposes stricter regulations on gun purchases such as raising the permitted age to 21 and adding a three-day waiting period.

However, Ron Steiger, the chief financial officer for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, said that the new

safety measure is going to cost the district and taxpayers millions.

Even though the state is disbursing \$97.5 million for the officers and another \$69 million for mental health, the county will fall short by \$20.7 million because of its size and need.

Steiger said the funds are allocated based on the average need of every county, regardless of the size. With MDCPS being the largest school district in the state, that rule leaves the district in arrears.

"We [MDCPS] are the average. So all they are doing is taking state funds, which a lot of it comes from us, and giving it to other districts," he said.

In addition to the funding compression, Steiger said there is an overall imbalance in the schools' budget from prior financial requirements.

According to Steiger, the total amount of state and local funding received for the 2018-19 school year is \$12.6 million, including the safety increase, which is only 0.4 percent. Yet, the projected increases caused by the bill, employee benefits and utilities rolled into other expenses leaves the school district with a deficit of \$20.7 million.



Raising can-do kids

Optimism can be taught!



Wavebreakmedia/Stock/Thinkstock

The Children's Trust

Role modeling techniques and go-to resources can help parents transform little pessimists into bright-eyed optimists. "Children mimic their parents' emotions as early as 6 days old; it's one of the primary ways they learn and grow," says Christine Carter, Ph.D., author of *Raising Happiness: 10 Simple Steps for More Joyful Kids and Happier Parents*. "This is why parents who explain things

the challenges that likely lie ahead," says Carter. "This makes us feel hopeful about the future." So foster a sense of adventure in your child but make sure that any challenge they seek is developmentally appropriate, to avoid repeated failure and a growing sense of helplessness.

Praise effort over ability. Recognizing when your child invests energy and hard work — whether or not it pays off — validates their willingness to move out of their comfort zone in hopes of a positive outcome. "Optimistic praise points to the causes of good things as likely to occur again and is specific to the person being praised," Carter explains.

Point out the positives. Cue kids to share the good things that happened to them during the day. "Ask them what went well and why," says Carter. Helping them see how or why certain situations unfolded in their favor reinforces the fact that they had a sense of control



Digital Vision/Photodisc/Thinkstock

optimistically tend to have kids who mimic [that]. To help foster a more hopeful attitude in your child, follow Carter's simple strategies:

Be open with affection. According to researchers at the University of Pennsylvania, children with demonstrative, caring parents are more hopeful, notes Carter. "No surprises here — parental affection and care is essential for kids to develop trust in the world. When kids have a secure base in their parents, they tend to believe the world is a good place."

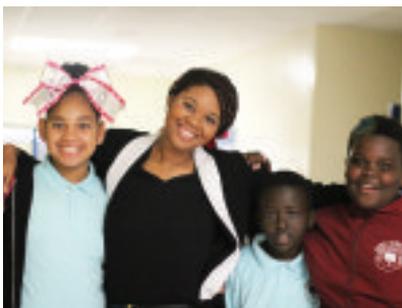
Encourage taking risks. "When we make mistakes and learn from them, we also learn that we can overcome

in the outcome, which further develops an optimistic outlook. For those times when things don't go as planned, help them find the bright side. "Looking for the silver lining is not superficial... but a decision to replace bad feelings with good ones," stresses Carter.

Turn things around. Gratitude goes hand-in-hand with a "glass-as-half-full" disposition. "Encouraging kids to look for reasons to feel grateful for unpleasant events or difficult relationships teaches growth and promotes change," says Carter. "The experience can often result in a shift in perception, from a pessimistic viewpoint to a more positive one."

Boarding school finds new home

The SEED School of Miami, South Florida's first public college-preparatory boarding school, has established its permanent home at 1901 NW 127th St. adjacent to Carrie P. Meek Westview K-8 Center. The existing academic building has the capacity to serve 400 students in grades 6-12 who will be educated at SEED Miami by the 2020-2021 school year, and construction has begun on the dormitory buildings, which will be situated on the northern border of the property. Forty-six percent of SEED Miami students and families are residents of District 2 and enjoy the close proximity of the school's new campus, which allows for greater family involvement and participation in campus activities. SEED Miami is now accepting rising sixth- and ninth-grade student applications for the fall of 2018. More information about the school's program can be found at www.miami.seedschool.org



Photos courtesy of The SEED Foundation

Pastor OF THE WEEK



Rev. Cheryl Powell

PRESENTED BY



Miracles made daily.

Reverend Dr. Cheryl Powell helps believers focus on faith

Death of her parents drew her closer to the pulpit

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

The Rev. Dr. Cheryl Powell, and the Kingdom Builders Worship Center, help believers focus their faith, using the motto, "We live, we learn, we grow."

Growing up in Pahokee,

Florida, the call to the ministry was not very far.

"Mom and Dad were pastors," said Powell. "I was reared in the faith and just fell in love with it. I had my own epiphany and heart for souls, just watching my mom and dad from the backseat, just loving people

and preaching His Gospel. So, I guess I just adopted the love for people and seeing people come to God. So, I feel like I'm living the legacy of my parents."

It was the death of her parents that helped Powell to get to know God more. Their deaths "allowed me

to get through the difficult moments and allowed me to share my faith with others," she said.

Sharing her faith includes the Kingdom Builders Ministry, which she started 10 years ago. Today, the congregation has grown to 150 members. The ministry is located at 2450 N. Powerline Road, in Pompano Beach.

Powell will bring her message of faith to the Greater Miami area. She will be a guest speaker at the 12th Annual Women's Conference, Queendom Authority, taking place March 22 - 24 at Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, located at 698 NW 47th Terrace and the Sandrell Rivers Theater, located at 6101 NW Seventh Ave. Powell will be a part of the worship service on Thursday, March 22 from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Baptist church.

What has surprised Powell most about being in the ministry, she said, is "being able to reach people across the board."

"I think most people who are called to ministry are men, and with me, being a woman, being able to have an anointing and influence to reach females, males and children has been a difficult

task, but very favorable," she said.

Coincidentally, Powell said, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is right around the corner from her house. While politicians, local governments, media pundit and law enforcement, all have spoken out against the carnage, very little comment has come from the churches.

The outspoken Powell did not shy away from answering the unspoken question of faith that surely resonates through the minds and hearts of believers and non-believers alike: "Where was God on that fateful day, and the guardian angels entrusted to protect the innocent?"

"The reality is," Powell began, "this is not our home; we are just pilgrims passing through. You had great men of God, throughout Biblical times, who were martyred, killed for the faith, but we know that death is the actual door to life. The enemy is the prince of the air [of this world], so I don't think that God allowed it [the Stoneman Douglas tragedy], or caused it. I just think the enemy is the prince of the air, but as long as we are sealed in The Blood, that's just another opportunity for

the soul to make it to Heaven.

"In this world, we are going to have tragedy," Powell continued.

She then relayed a story of how one of her church members left church the previous week driving a van full of children picked up from a shelter, and the entire van flipped over four times.

"Blessed be to God, that nobody died in this accident. God spared their lives, but the accident still happened. So, just because you are in church does not mean you will avoid tragedy or sickness, but it helps you to have the peace that all things are going to work out, still, for our good."

About the tragedy at the school, Powell said, "It could have been our church. It could have been another church. We have seen churches around America who have had shooters come in. But we do know that God doesn't cause these things, but the enemy, he comes to kill and destroy. And we just have to make sure our hearts are in right standing for whenever God calls our names, or whenever those moments come in our lives."

DIET

CONTINUED FROM 9D

anything in a package. I practice portion control, and I exercise and weigh myself every day to stay within a two-pound range appropriate for my height. If the number on the scale begins to creep up, I may walk, bike or swim a little more and eat a little less for a few days.

In a recent issue of JAMA, Dr. Eve Guth, internist at the Jesse Brown Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Chicago, basically endorsed my approach. She wrote: "Successful long-term calorie reduction is most likely to result when patients decide for themselves which dietary changes to make and when. Essential to any effort is a clear understanding that dietary change is a slow process that requires ongoing vigilance" which, she admitted, "is not a popular concept in a world now accustomed to immediate results."

Perhaps no one knows this better than Angelica Divinagracia, a fitness specialist in Los Angeles who at 53 still looks as good or better than she did as head cheerleader at U.C.L.A. In a posting mid-January on Facebook, she wrote, "The diet and nutrition business is a billion dollar industry because it's designed for failure. When the diet ends, which ultimately it will, you go right back to where you were. Then you start another..."

Divinagracia said, "I don't believe in diets or any par-



ticular products. I believe in learning how to create a healthy lifestyle, and the formula is simple." The most salient points of her well-practiced advice are these: 1) Stop eating crap, 2) Eat good food that is real, not processed, 3) Avoid drinking your calories, 4) Know what one serving is and do not eat more than that in a sitting, 5) Move your butt every day — even just walking is better than being a couch potato, and 6) Stop making excuses.

Guth warns against numerous pitfalls, like being swayed by package claims of "low fat" or "low carbohydrate" instead of reading the facts on the nutrition label. "These foods do not necessarily have fewer total calories than the original version of the food," she wrote, because sugar is

often used to compensate for flavor lost, for example, when fat is reduced. Fruit juice may be fat-free but it is not low in calories because it contains large amounts of sugar, she noted.

She also urges closer attention to add-ons and condiments. "A beef patty has definite food value but after adding a large bun, dressing and extra cheese, the total calories (535) will far exceed the caloric content of the meat, pickle and tomato (240)," she wrote, adding that using butter, margarine or mayonnaise on a sandwich adds far more calories than mustard.

I don't count calories, but I have a working knowledge of the approximate calories in nearly everything I eat. If you need to lose weight, I urge you to download a com-

"I don't believe in diets or any particular products. I believe in learning how to create a healthy lifestyle, and the formula is simple."

prehensive calorie chart of common foods to help you make substitutions that will cut about 500 calories from your daily diet. You can do the same with an exercise chart, keeping in mind that the caloric cost of any activity depends on how strenuously you do it and how much you weigh.

Although most of the Jan. 16 issue of JAMA is devoted to studies of bariatric surgery, which offers the best route to permanent weight loss for some people, Dr. Guth pointed out that surgery is likely to fail too "if a patient is unwilling to make appropriate changes in food choices."

She like me, endorses Michael Pollan's diet mantra: "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants." And like me, she notes that slow, steady weight loss suggests that you've made sustainable changes in your diet and exercise habits that can become second nature and last a lifetime.

Free health fair and groceries March 24

Many South Floridians experience life threatening illnesses which are not detected for lengthy periods of time. This may be for various reasons. The most common includes the individual's inability to financially afford a visit to a physician's office, no health insurance, and in some cases, a lack of knowledge on recommended timeframes for specific medical tests/screenings.

If you have not visited a physician's office for an extended period or you wish to learn more about your health, take advantage of this opportunity, at no cost to you. Simply visit the upcoming Community Health Fair, sponsored by the Northside Seventh-Day Adventist Church at 1769 NW 119 Street, Miami, on March 24, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

A substantial number of medical exams, screenings, consultations and a wealth of information will be provided, at no cost. These in-

clude: 3-D Mammograms for breast cancer, and testing for hypertension, HIV, Hepatitis C, STDs and diabetes. Podiatry/foot care, eye, and dental exams will also be offered, and much more.

A large team of physicians, nurses and other medical personnel will participate from the following organizations: The University of Miami Medical School, Florida International University Medical School, Nova University Dental School, Barry University Podiatry School, Dept of Veteran Affairs (Conducting Stand Downs for Homeless Veterans), etc.

Child care will be available for children who accompany family members.

An additional bonus will be provided for the first 500 attendees. Free groceries will be distributed at the same location, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. We hope to see you soon at the Community Health Fair.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

Apostolic Revival Center
Services
Wed. Intensive 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.
Rev. Dr. Gilbert 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.
Sun.-Sat. Class 6:30 a.m.
Thurs. Fellowship 10 a.m.
Evanagelistic 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. Scream
13650 N.E. 10th Avenue
305-899-7224

Brownsville Church of Christ
Services
Lord Day Sunday School 9:45am
Sunday Evening Worship 11 a.m.
Tuesday Night Bible Study 7:30p
Thurs. Mon. Bible Class 10 a.m.
Min. Harrell L. Henton
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) 254-188C
305-685-3700
Fax: 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 9 a.m.
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

Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

GLORIA HEASTIE, 75, RN, died March 8 at Boca Care Center. Service 11 a.m., Sunday at Mt. Pisgah SDA Church.



RICHARD S. OLSON, 46, laborer, died March 4 at Jackson Hospital North. Service 2 p.m., Friday in the chapel.



MINISTER GEORGE R. MCGEE, 83, died March 10 at home. Viewing Memorial Service 3-7:45 p.m. at Greater Harvest Baptist Church, 2310 NW 58 St., Miami. The Celebration of Life service 1 p.m., Saturday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 740 NW 58 St., Miami.



CAROLYN MCCULLOUGH, 73, retired, died March 12 at Palmetto General Hospital. She was a sheriff with the Metro Dade Police Department for 30 years. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Upper Room Assembly of God.



Wright and Young

JUNE BROWN WIMBERLY, 65, counselor, died March 5. Service 11 a.m., Friday at New Birth Baptist Church.



CHARLES DONALDSON, SR., 55

custodian, died March 6. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



HYMON BROWNLEE, 71

laborer, died March 1. Service 3:30 p.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



THEDFORD JOHNSON, JR., 76

supervisor, died March 12. Survivors: wife, Cheryl Kelly Johnson; son, Thedford Johnson, III; daughters, Keisha Odom, Kellie D. Johnson; three grandchildren, Eutyclus Rolle, III, Mason Rolle, Keshona Odom. Service 2 p.m., Saturday at Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church.



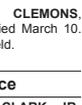
MUSLIM BROTHER ALTON C. MCCALL, 66

died March 5 at Jackson North. Services were held Sunday, March 11 at Wright and Young Funeral Home.



GEORGE CLEMONS, 72

educator, died March 10. Services were held.



Grace

WILLIE LEE CLARK, JR., 52, laborer, died February 24. Services were held.



LULA MAE COLEBROOK, 85, sales representative, died March 6. Services were held.

Richardson

DERRICK BLAKE, JR. aka "CHUCK", 25, student, died March 6. Service 9 a.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



MRS. TANGULA PINDER, 47, homemaker, died February 28. Service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



MRS. BEAUFORD, 60

executive director, died February 10. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at St. Agnes Episcopal Church.



MRS. TANGELA HUNT, 58, mail handler, died March 3. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.



Range Homestead

ROBERT LEE LODGE, 63, head custodian, died March 5 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Covenant Missionary Baptist Church.

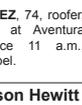


Trinity

TARI INGRAHAM, 25, journeyman, died March 5. Service 2 p.m., Saturday at New Birth Baptist Church.



BASIL MENDEZ, 74, roofer, died March 3 at Aventura Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Sunday in the chapel.



Hall Ferguson Hewitt

WILLIAM W. COOPER, JR., 70, professional bus operator, died March 8 at Lakewood Ranch Medical Center. Service 1:30 p.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Baptist Church. Missionary



Prasser-Kieczka Wisconsin

FAITH G. JONES, 39, died February 4. Memorial service 11 a.m., Saturday at St. Paul AME Church, Miami.



Nakia Ingraham

MELVINA FRANCIS, 82, died February 18. Final rites in Jamaica.

TERRY SIMMONS, 48, died February 28. Service 10:30 a.m., Friday at Central Missionary Baptist Church.

RICHARD BENNY, 59, died March 6. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Holy Sacrament Episcopal Church

M.A. Hall

PEGGY GREEN, 82, elementary teacher, died March 11 at Aventura Plaza Rehabilitation Center. Litany Service 10 a.m., Friday at The Church of Incarnation. Liturgy Service of Resurrection 10 a.m., Saturday at the church.



Manker

DELOUISE LYONS, 57, school bus aide, died March 4. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at House of God Miracle Revival.



JOE JACKSON, 70, died March 7 at University of Miami Medical Center. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Believers Life Ministries.

Mitchell

REVEREND ALBERT JONES, 77, retired pastor, died March 8. Memorial and public viewing 5-8 p.m., Friday at New Mt. Calvary. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at 93rd Street Community Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, make donations "in memory of Rev. Albert Jones" to the Oscar Thomas Foundation, 877-986-7227. Proceeds will be used for Parkinson's research and inner city youth horticulture programs.



Haugbrooks - GA

ROY EUGENE PRESTON, 61, died March 6 in Atlanta, GA. Services were held.



Jay's

CURTIS GEDDIS, 57, died March 12. Arrangements are incomplete.



Royal

JOHNNIE JONES, 68, retired mail carrier, died March 7 at Miami V.A. Medical Center. Service 12 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Range

JEAN GERARD CHARLES, 64, construction laborer, died March 5. Service 11 a.m., Friday in the chapel.

Card of Thanks

The family of the late,



In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



SENATOR LARCENIA J. BULLARD
07/21/1947 - 03/16/2013

Loving mother, wife, grandmother and community servant will always be remembered and loved. Your family, former Rep. Ed Bullard, Sen. Dwight Bullard, Edwina Simms and Vincent Brooker.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



ELDER TYRONE SLOCUM
12/28/1959 - 03/16/2012

Our Angel - we miss you. We love you always. It's all good. Love your wife and family.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



WILLIE BRASWELL
08/23/1952 - 03/09/2013

To some you are forgotten. To some you are of the past. But to us, the ones who loved and lost you, your memories will always last. Your Jean, Felicia, Colleen, Keon, Fabian, Tasha, Tyrone, the Pinkneys and the grandkids. Missing you dearly.

Floyd Carter Sr. Tuskegee Airman, NYPD vet, dies

THOMAS TRACY
New York Daily News

Floyd Carter Sr., one of the last of the Tuskegee Airmen, dedicated his life to serving his country and his city.

The decorated veteran of three wars and 27 years with the NYPD died March 8 at age 95, leaving a long legacy as a groundbreaking hero pilot and a city police detective.

Carter, who simultaneously rose through the ranks of the U.S. Air Force Services

and supplies into South Vietnam. His NYPD duties included work as a bodyguard for visiting heads of state, and Carter spent time with Cuban leader Fidel Castro and Soviet head Nikita Khrushchev, recalled his son Floyd Jr.

He earned a half-dozen citations for his outstanding police work, and survived a number of shootouts with armed bandits. The Yorktown, Va., native joined the Army Air Corps in



Floyd Carter Sr. (seen in 2012) died Thursday at age 95.

and the police, was honored in 2007 with the Congressional Gold Medal by President Bush for breaking the color barrier in Tuskegee.

"We mourn the loss of a true American hero," read a tweet from the 47th Precinct in his adopted home of the Bronx. "Our community & nation has lost a giant."

Carter rose to the rank of Air Force lieutenant colonel years after joining the group of Black-American pilots at Tuskegee University.

He met his wife Atherine there, where the Alabama native was working as part of an all-female repair crew.

Carter wooed his bride-to-be on several dates in his plane, and they were married at the air base in 1945.

In 2012, Carter joined "Star Wars" filmmaker George Lucas for a screening of his film "Red Tails" about the Tuskegee Airmen — the first Black aviators in the U.S. military, trained in Alabama as a segregated unit.

In addition to serving during World War II, Carter flew during the Korean and Vietnam wars and led the first squadron of supply-laden planes into Berlin during the famed Cold War airlift of 1948-49.

During the Tet Offensive,

1944, and was commissioned a year later as a 2nd lt. bombardier navigator.

In 1946, he received his pilot wings and transferred a year later to the Air Force Reserves. By the end of his tenure in 1974, he was commander of the 732nd Military Airlift Squadron at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey.

Carter joined the NYPD in 1953, earned his detective's gold shield within three years, and retired in 1980.

He once recalled talking politics with Castro, and believed the federal government needed to open a dialogue with the bearded Communist.

Oddly enough, Carter was called up for active duty during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

Carter remained active into his 90s, serving in November 2015 as the grand marshal of the annual Veterans Day Parade in the Bronx. He was honored by ex-Congressman Charles Rangel in 2005 with a proclamation for his lifelong achievements.

Carter was survived by his wife of more than seven decades and their two children, Floyd Jr. and Rozalind, along with grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral arrangements were not yet finalized.

Craig Mack, rapper on Bad Boy label, dies

NICOLE HENSLEY
New York Daily News

Craig Mack, the New York rapper who found fame on Diddy's Bad Boy label, has died at age 46, his producer confirmed to the Daily News.

Mack, who launched to hip-hop acclaim with the best-selling summer hit "Flava in Ya Ear" in 1994, died of heart failure at a hospital near his Walterboro, S.C., home Monday. "God bless my friend. He was a good friend of mine," said Alvin Toney, who produced Mack's albums "Project: Funk Da World" and "Get Down Remix."

Toney visited Mack last week at the Overcomer Ministry church in Walterboro to film a documentary about the retired rhymist and his deci-

sion to pass on fame for a life of deep religious conviction.

"Nobody got to understand his story," Toney said. "I wanted the world to know the talent he had. It was something I wanted people to enjoy, but it was cut short because he was very religious and wanted to go to church."

Toney said Mack then told him that he had been ill for some time.

"He was prepared for whatever comes, to go home to the Lord," Toney said. "He was prepared to do that. He wasn't scared. He was ready."

Mack is survived by a wife and two children, both adults, Toney said. Mack's death rocked the

biggest names of New York hip-hop, Brooklyn's DJ Scratch.

Scratch remembered Mack as the hardworking roadie who helped set up and break down his turntables on tours.

"I cannot believe this dude is gone," said DJ Scratch, the stage name for George Spivey. "He just reached out a couple of weeks ago for me to speak on his documentary about his life."

"Rest In Peace Lil Bro," he wrote in an Instagram post. Like Mack, "Just A Friend" rapper Biz Markie got his start on Long Island.

"R.I.P TO MY MAIN MAN CRAIG MACK ANOTHER GREAT ONE GONE," he wrote.



Mack