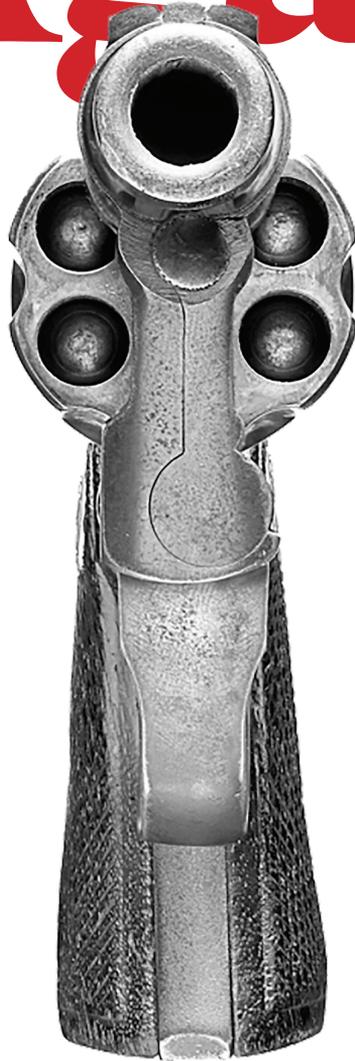


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#Again



POLITICIANS TAKE ACTION TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE, BUT THE PUBLIC WANTS MORE

PHILIPPE H. BUTEAU
Special to The Miami Times

As the bodies pile up in Miami, the activism and voices get louder. Tuesday morning, students at Miami Northwestern Senior High School left their classrooms to walk to Liberty Square public housing project, the place where two of their former classmates were gunned down on Sunday.

The walkout is a response to the ongoing gun violence in the community, the latest that left 17-year-old Kimson Green, a sophomore, and 18-year-old Rickey Dixon, a former student dead.

Emely Batista, a 10th grader at Northwestern, said she was looking for Kimson to walk into her eighth period English class on Monday. He used to visit her classroom, she said.

"I just kept looking at the door and the clock, but I realized that he wasn't going to walk in, that made me just ..." she said, as she broke down into tears.

Kimson and Dixon's shooting deaths came on the heels of the death of 4-year-old Nyla Jones on March 31, shot in front of her mother by her uncle, in the same housing project.

The violence is part of an ongoing pattern in local communities across the county that tears families apart and has elected officials and public volunteers holding conversations on how to stem

SEE GUN 8A



VIEWPOINT

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BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | APRIL 11-17, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

EDITORIAL

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Make it stop!

Lack of regard for humanity seems to be what is driving the lawlessness we are seeing in society. It happens mostly because of the proliferation of guns.

If you want to rob a McDonald's, you walk in, show a gun in your waist and rob the store while other patrons make their orders and servers go about the business of making sandwiches. If we get upset with our loved ones, we fire a shot at her car, killing our 4-year-old niece.

If we can't deal with rejection, we take a semi-automatic weapon and mow down 17 lives, and then walk away. If we want to use people as human targets, we rent a hotel room and shoot up a concert. There's Pulse, Sandy Hook, San Bernardino and so many more.

The one thing these examples have in common: firearms are involved with the deaths. The alleged perpetrators used a weapon or several weapons to carry out the crime against other humans.

So, the National Rifle Association critics are wrong when they say guns don't kill people. Guns do kill people. Guns need operators, but once the gun is in play, it is likely to inflict a fatal wound. That's what they are created to do.

Gun operators need to be reprogrammed to show more responsibility with their gun ownership. Banning guns will not help. The black market and underground sales would make guns even more prolific.

The brain needs to be taken into serious consideration when it comes to stemming gun violence.

Could conflict resolution training work? Perhaps. Conflict resolution training needs to be a priority in schools and workplaces. At the same time, we need to teach how to be tolerant of our difference in opinions and cultures. We talk about tolerance in this country, but it seems like lip service only. Children are exposed to intolerance at young ages. They see intolerance at their Little League games, they see their parents physically hurt each other, and sometimes they are victims of intolerance themselves.

The levels of aggression that people are carrying around, coupled with the access to powerful weapons are the perfect storm for the violence that is escalating in our society. Another key component to curbing the gun violence is mental health support.

Whatever it takes, we have to make the gun violence stop. We cannot legislate it away. But might we be able to educate the violence away?

We should at the very least try.

Still a fight against the gun violence

JASON PIZZO, candidate for Florida Senate, District 38

When the news of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting first broke, my initial instinct was that of a concerned father. I thought of my twin boys, Jack and Julian, and the indescribable feeling that comes with the doubt of your children being safe. However, in the hours that passed, with my boys safely home, I became angry.

In October 2012, when I was an Assistant State Attorney, my car was stolen from the front of my house. While not necessarily uncommon in Miami, the series of events that followed impacted me to this day. When the car was found, it had been used in two armed robberies involving a firearm, and it was totaled following a high-speed chase on Miami Beach. However, I was shocked when I recognized the name of one of the occupants of the car: he was one of my defendants, he'd been in my courtroom just

days earlier.

Here I am, standing in the doorway with my wife and 6-year-old boys, realizing that a 16-year-old kid, whose case I was prosecuting, had come to my home and stolen my car to commit a crime.

I realized that we're focusing on being reactive to crime, not proactive in preventing it. With each unsolved murder that led to no arrests, we were failing hundreds of kids who were growing disillusioned with the rule of law.

As a prosecutor, I worked 100-plus hour weeks, month after month, missing my kids' little league games, school events and family dinners. My boys would eat breakfast while seeing their father on the news at crime scenes, with frustration on my face stemming from yet another kid who was shot, yet another mother I had to console. With a solemn promise to do my best to bring them justice,

“I realized that we're focusing on being reactive to crime, not proactive in preventing it. With each unsolved murder that led to no arrests, we were failing hundreds of kids who were growing disillusioned with the rule of law.”

I preached the virtue of civic engagement to witnesses that could lead to a breakthrough. While many tragic realities were gleaned from those long hours in the streets, so too were many ideas and solutions for our neighborhoods.

I left the State Attorney's Office knowing that I had to pursue and effect a different type of public service - one where the laws under which

I had operated, would have to change to secure our neighborhoods, protect and empower our children, address critical social issues far earlier in a child's life. I ran for State Senate in 2016, with gun violence as a central issue to our campaign. I was outraged that the state legislature would not convene a special session after the Pulse massacre. I had a bittersweet revelation after the last election - the audience most receptive and in need of our ideas were either too young to vote, or underrepresented.

While I am still angry that young lives are continually lost in our neighborhoods, I am beginning to replace that anger with optimism in the enthusiasm of our children who are speaking up, marching out and demanding a change in both the laws and legislators who pose the greatest risk to our greatest assets.



Stephon Clark: Rhythms of tragedy

CHARLES BLOW, New York Times

Stephon Clark is the unarmed Black man, a young father of two boys, who was shot to death two weeks ago in his grandmother's backyard.

The police were investigating a vandalism complaint when they encountered Clark, firing 20 shots at him. According to an independent autopsy commissioned by Clark's family, eight of the bullets found their mark, six of them entering his body through his back. No weapon was found on Clark - only his cellphone.

I try to come to each of these moments with a fresh perspective, but I am undermined and betrayed by having covered too many of them.

I can't escape the reality that there is a ritualization of these traumas in which the shootings serve as catalysts, a lancing of the boil, in which decades of oppression, neglect, desperation and hopelessness finds a venting valve. And what starts as white-hot



Curtis Gordon, center, the uncle of Stephon Clark, speaks at a protest rally in Sacramento on Saturday calling for justice reforms.

rage slowly cools into a dispassionate disappointment in a system that, it is revealed, is operating as designed.

Each protest is undoubtedly about the case at hand, but collectively they are also about communities that feel abused and betrayed in a country that sees them as expendable. It is not a "local matter," as the White House suggested last week, but a national disgrace.

Efforts at policy reform - better training, utilization of body cameras (which the officers in Clark's case suspiciously muted after shooting him), changes in rules of pursuit - can have an effect, but they can't fully remedy this problem.

These shootings keep happening and officers are rarely charged with crimes - and

even more rarely convicted - because what they are doing is legal. That is the true American tragedy.

In the 1989 case of *Graham v. Connor*, the Supreme Court ruled that the Fourth Amendment's "objective reasonableness" standard overrode the amendment's protections "against unreasonable searches and seizures" and even the Fifth Amendment's admonition that no person shall "be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law."

By ruling that an officer's use of force must only meet the "objectively reasonable" standard while allowing that "police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments - in circumstances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving - about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation," the court itself laid the groundwork for the extrajudicial killings by police officers that we keep seeing. This rule



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 must 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.

And again, women get 'maninterrupted'

RENEE GRAHAM, The Boston Globe

To be a woman is to be interrupted.

Correction: To be female is to be interrupted. By the time most girls reach their first day of school, they already know how it feels to be drowned out by a chattering group of boys.

From classrooms to corporate workspace to the chambers of the U.S. Supreme Court, women often find themselves asking a question or making a salient point when a man decides that what he has to say is more important. Maybe she "isn't telling the story the right way," which means his way. Most threatening of all, she may be challenging him in a way he simply can't abide.

There's a word for it: "maninterrupting," a cultural sibling of the equally annoying "mansplaining." And there's even an app for that:

Woman Interrupted, which tracks how many times a man cuts off a woman in a conversation.

Women seethed when Kamala Harris, a former prosecutor who now represents California in the Senate, was forced to end her tough questioning of Attorney General Jeff Sessions during a hearing on possible collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign. When Sessions sputtered, "I'm not able to be rushed this fast. It makes me nervous," John McCain and Richard Burr swooped in quickly to cut Harris off. One might have thought "nervous" was Sessions's safe word.

It was the second time this month Harris was shut down during a Senate hearing. After this latest incident, her colleague Ron Wyden tweeted: "Again [Harris] was doing her job.

She was interrupted for asking tough questions."

Harris was also interrupted because she's a woman.

In a roomful of men, women can find themselves fighting to get a word in edgewise. Both Wyden and Angus King were no less dogged during Sessions' Senate hearing, yet their colleagues felt no need to shut them down as McCain and Burr did to Harris. (That she's a Black woman likely exacerbated tensions for Sessions and many of the men in the chamber.)

Even the Supreme Court's Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Elena Kagan, and Sonia Sotomayor are subjected to similar treatment. According to a recent study, female justices are three times more likely to be interrupted by their male colleagues.

None of this is new. In the New Testament, Mary

Magdalene is the first to see the resurrected Jesus after his crucifixion. She goes to his disciples to spread the good news, but is quickly interrupted and dismissed by these men who refuse to believe her.

Assertive women know all the labels that will be flung our way. Among those that can be printed here are "pushy," "shrill," "loud-mouthed," "hysterical," and if you're Black, "angry." We can't let such words be a deterrent. It's not enough to have a seat at the table; we have to be heard.

Being cut off in one hearing didn't stop Harris from going after Sessions, and it won't hold her back in the next Senate hearing. That's the lesson here. To be a woman, in any setting, is a lesson in persistence. Women will be interrupted, but we won't be silenced.



Reopening a bid for incorporation

A North Central Dade plan may be revisited

ANDREA ROBINSON
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A dormant campaign to incorporate a collection of North Central Miami-Dade neighborhoods may see new life, more than a decade after the county put a halt to the practice of creating new cities.

County commissioners gave the leaders of the North Central Dade Municipal Advisory Committee tentative approval to explore cityhood in a vast swath of the urban core.

Commissioner Jean Monestime, who represents the District 2 neighborhoods and communities, sponsored the legislation, which was approved 8-0 on first reading. The proposal still must go to hearings before the county's Government Operations Committee.



Mack

Mack Samuel, the erstwhile chair of the North Central Dade MAC, said the residents of that area deserve to have a chance to at least discuss the idea. The proposed incorporation area is roughly bounded by Northwest 54th to 135 streets and Interstate 95 and Northwest 37th Avenue.

"This gives us traction to keep it going forward without having started again," Samuel said. "We can continue the study of whether it's financially feasible."

The North Central Dade MAC was one of more than a dozen groups that vied to leave the county in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Neighborhood activists and leaders revolted against decisions by county leaders and wanted to control the decisions in their local communities.

"If you're controlling taxes and land use [concerns], that could fix a myriad of issues in our community," Samuel said, referring to an argument used on the pro-incorporation side. "It's who runs the city that makes the difference."

Some of the neighborhoods in that area include Gladeview, Arcola Lakes and Westview. Those areas also have long been mentioned in rumors of annexation by nearby cities such as Hialeah and Opa-locka.

Several cities successfully incorporated during this period, including Doral, Miami Gardens, Miami Lakes, Pinecrest and Cutler Bay.

In 2007, fearing that wealthy neighborhoods were incorporating and leaving the county with less-affluent communities and a diminished tax base, Miami-Dade placed a moratorium on incorporations.

That decision brought a halt to the MACs that were still researching their proposals, including North Dade. The county lifted the moratorium 2012, but by then the steam for cityhood had dissipated. Monestime's resolution gives Samuel a chance to build up steam.

"Unfortunately, under the timeframe permitted, the North Central Dade MAC did not complete the incorporation study and/or the required public hearings," Monestime said.

His proposal allows the North Central Dade MAC time to complete the incorporation study and hold the required public hearings.

The North Central Dade group will have to reconstitute itself should the county give them the final OK. Many of the members of the original MAC board have died or have moved out of the area.

Doretha Nicholson, a longtime activist, was part of the original group. She has moved further north and doesn't want to be involved this time.

"Our effort was going well, I thought, but we didn't get to

the commission in time to be on the agenda. The county panicked and put a moratorium on incorporations," Nicholson said. "That took the steam out of our North Central movement. It's never gotten that steam back."

Nicholson said there's no excitement from the neighborhoods.

"I don't see the point. There's no community interest. There's nothing from the ground level up," she said.

Samuel said he hopes to bring in other residents who are interested in having local control over the area's finances and land usage. He conceded that he and others will have to educate people on the issue

— which may be a heavy hurdle.

"We'd hoped the millennials would pick up the mantle. Some people I talk to are not willing to invest the time and energy to understand the

bigger picture," Samuel said. "It's finding people, educating them and helping them understand the bigger picture. We're trying to rally a group of people around. I think they're out there."

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OPA LOCKA

City Manager Ed Brown may be booted out

The Opa-locka City Commission will decide if the official stays or leaves

NYAMEKYE DANIEL

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Less than a year after being selected for his position, Opa-locka City Manager Ed Brown's job is on the line for the second time.

Two Opa-locka commissioners are proposing to terminate Brown's contract with the city at an upcoming commission meeting.

The City Commission will vote on Brown's fate at the commission meeting 7 p.m., April 11 at the Shelbony Village Auditorium.

During a heated debate at the March 28 commission meeting over the legality of an adult entertainment business in Opa-locka, Commissioner Timothy Holmes

expressed his dissatisfaction in Brown's assessment of the issue, which has brought the brunt of publicity for the city.

The item was co-sponsored by Commissioner Matthew Pigatt, who has been an avid critic of Brown.

Pigatt first proposed to fire Brown ahead of the Feb. 15 commission meeting. But Brown escaped the hammer as the commission voted 3-1 — Mayor Myra Taylor was absent — to keep him in the post.

Brown has been a long-time volunteer, assistant city manager and interim manager with Opa-locka. He served as interim after Kelvin Brown stepped down in 2015 and in 2017 when Yvette Harrell left.



Opa-locka City Manager Ed Brown speaks at a commission meeting.

It isn't the first time that Brown's employment with the city has hung in the balance.

Brown was also fired from his position as the executive

director of Community Re-development Agency after the board of directors ousted him with a unanimous vote in October 2015.

The vote marked the end

of a battle between Brown, the Commission and then-City Manager Steve Shiver, whose budget provided only \$65,000 for the CRA rather than the requested \$230,000.

Miami Times file photo

As city manager, Brown has to oversee the operations of the financially burdened city and deal with a slew of lawsuits filed by former employees and the city's former waste hauler.

Brown has worked without a contract since his appointment last July with an annual salary of \$112,500.

During a special meeting on Jan. 12, Opa-locka commissioners voted to reject a deal to give Brown a contract.

Under the proposed contract, Brown would be have been entitled to a severance pay not exceeding 20 weeks; an annual base salary of \$137,500; the city's executive insurance package, and the city would pay the amount of premium due for term life insurance in the amount of two times his annual base salary and more.

Former employee wants Opa-locka to pay \$2 million

Patsy Williams is suing the city for her 'unfair' termination in 2017

NYAMEKYE DANIEL

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Ms. Opa-locka is suing the city of Opa-locka for \$2 million.

A former city employee, Patsy Williams said she was discriminated against because of her age, gender and disability.

Williams, Opa-locka's first female sanitation worker, was fired in March 2017, a year shy of retiring from her 29-year civic career. She said she was terminated without

any explanation, according to the lawsuit filed by Williams' attorney April 6.

"Patsy Williams is one of the most-hardworking and loved employees in Opa-locka history, who dedicated her best years to Opa-locka," said her attorney Michael Pizzi. "The way she was thrown out of work is an embarrassment to the city, and this lawsuit will achieve justice for her family."

A week before learning of her dismissal, Williams told *The Miami Times* that the



Patsy Williams

mayor surprised her with a plaque for her historic achievement with the city, which she accepted at a city commission meeting along with family and friends.

She said it was a slap in the face when she learned a week later that her position was eliminated from the budget without warning. Williams said she suffered unfair treatment.

"I gave them my life. I was dedicated to the city, and I was treated like a dog," said Williams, who is affectionately known as Ms. Opa-locka.

According to the lawsuit, Williams, 57, became a favorite with residents who watched her drive heavy equipment vehicles and also sling garbage onto the backs of trucks. While working for the city, she returned to col-

lege and got a bachelor's degree.

With her degree, she was able to rise through the ranks to become a utility billing supervisor by the time she was fired on March 22, 2017.

Williams was one of the only two female employees whose positions were eliminated from the budget. Both women were over 50 years old.

The court documents also state Williams suffered from back and knees problems due to her many years as a sanitation worker and would require worker's compensation benefits as a result.

The lawsuit also alleges

that while she was out on worker's compensation disability, the city's human resources director, Kierra Ward, commented on Williams' condition and stated that she "wanted to get rid" of the employee.

City Manager Vincent Brown could not be reached for comment.

Williams said that she hopes her lawsuit sets an example for other Opa-locka employees.

"I want to let them know that they cannot do a person any kind of way without doing the homework after they have dedicated service to city," she said.



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NORTH MIAMI BEACH 

City's mayor pleads guilty to public corruption charges

Official resigns; must serve house arrest

ANDREA ROBINSON
arobinson@miamitimesonline.com

North Miami Beach Mayor George Vallejo, who was under investigation on public corruption charges for nearly two years, pleaded guilty and has resigned as leader of the North Miami-Dade city.

In an agreement with the Miami-Dade State Attorneys Office, which was announced Tuesday, Vallejo pleaded guilty to one count each of false reporting of political expenditures and of making or authorizing illegal political expenditures. Both counts are misdemeanors.

Investigators uncovered that Vallejo and his wife spent about \$5,000 in campaign contributions on personal items.

The deal required that Vallejo step down immediately from his position. He was sentenced to 18 months of probation, including 90 days under house arrest, and 500 hours of community service. During the probation period, he can't seek or accept appointment to any political position or work for any campaign or serve on a political committee.

Vallejo submitted a two-sentence resignation in an email sent Monday evening to North Miami Beach City Clerk Pamela Latimore: "I am resigning the office of Mayor effective 8 a.m. Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Please confirm receipt of the resignation with a Clerk's office timestamp and return email. Thank you."

The former mayor also wrote an apology to city residents —



Former North Miami Beach Mayor George Vallejo

another plea deal requirement. Vallejo submitted a letter on April 10:

"It has been an honor to serve the residents of North Miami Beach as your Mayor since 2011. As proud as I am of our achievements, I am equally sorry for the events that bring me to court today. I take full responsibility for my actions and apologize to the citizens of North Miami Beach and look forward to putting this matter behind me. I will always have a great love for our City and optimism for its future. Thank you, my friends. May God Bless you," he wrote.

Vallejo was first elected in North Miami Beach in 2011 and re-elected in 2015. His term would have expired in 2019.

However, trouble struck before he could step down.

According to the state attorneys office, the investigation stemmed from financial activities undertaken by a political committee named "Floridians For Progress" ("FFP"), which was created in January 2015 by Vallejo's aunt, Denise Corredor, at his request. Donations

were made to FFP after being personally solicited by Mayor Vallejo.

In May 2015, the treasurer of the FFP wrote a check totaling \$5,000 to an entity called JATC Inc., as payment for "fundraising consulting," according to Vallejo. A subsequent investigation revealed that statement was false.

JATC Inc. was formed in 2014 by Vallejo and his wife, Sandra Shingero, with a longtime friend of Shingero's listed as the sole incorporator and registered agent. Between mid-May and early June 2015, \$5,000 moved from FFP to JATC, and then to Creations Unlimited LLC, a Wyoming corporation formed in 2013 and subsequently purchased by Vallejo and Shingero.

Bank records show that the JATC money received by Creations Unlimited was largely spent on the personal expenses of Vallejo and Shingero, investigators found.

State attorney's officials said that Shingero was not charged because it was Vallejo who personally solicited the funds for Floridians for Progress, directed the payments to JATC, was in elected office and was involved in the re-election campaign.

In 2016, Vallejo revealed in a video posted on social media that he was under criminal investigation by the state attorneys office. On Twitter, he proclaimed his innocence.

"The truth will come out when the process is complete. The investigation has our full cooperation," Vallejo wrote on Twitter.

Editor's note: Ben Kuehne, an attorney for George Vallejo, said the letter sent to North Miami Beach citizens should have been dated April 10 instead of April 6.

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

Business executive program extended

The Jim Moran Institute offers a free training program for business owners, CEOs, and nonprofit leaders. The application for the program has been extended to April 15.

The institute offers two free programs - the Small Business Executive Program and the Nonprofit Ex-

Executive Program.

There is a campus in Broward County and another in Palm Beach County. For more information, contact Courtney Mickens, at mailto:cmickens@jim Moran Institute.fsu.edu or 954-399-2849.

AARP Free Tax Preparation

April 12 marks the last

week for the AARP Free Tax Preparation. It will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the North Miami Public Library, 835 NE 132 Street.

The AARP Foundation offers free tax return preparations for low-and moderate-income taxpayers, especially those ages 60 and older. To locate a site near you, visit <http://aarp.org/tax-aid> or call toll-free number 1-888-AARP-NOW (1-888-227-7669). For information about the event, call the North Miami Public Library at 305-891-5535.

Progressive Officers Club offers academic scholarships

Progressive Officers Club (POC) is comprised of Police and Correctional Officers as well as civilians in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

A historically African-American non-profit organization, the POC has grown and diversified, now having members from various ethnic and racial backgrounds.

POC scholarships of \$1000 will be awarded from our Educational Assistance Award Program.

African-American high school students residing in Miami-Dade and Broward counties who are in good academic standing and will be re-

ceiving a high school diploma during a commencement ceremony for the "Class of 2018" are eligible to apply.

Applicants must have been accepted to an institution of higher learning as a full-time student for the upcoming fall semester (2018).

POC members with graduating high school seniors may also apply for a scholarship from the Roslyn McGruder-Clark Scholarship Fund.

Applications for scholarships can only be requested via mail (letter or postcard) no later than Friday, April 27, 2018 to: Progressive Officers Club, P.O. Box 680398, Miami, FL 33168, Attention: Education Assistance Award Program.

RICK

CONTINUED FROM 5A

He described how a bipartisan group in the Florida Senate was working to expand Medicaid through a bill and Scott promised to support them during his re-election campaign. However, he changed his mind and joined House Republicans who were against it, Brannon said.

Scott announced his candidacy for Nelson's seat on Monday, April 9 - right as Congress resumed session. Nelson won his senate seat over Republicans Connie Mack in 2012 by 1,065,184 votes and Katherine Harris by 1,064,421. Republican Marco Rubio beat Democratic candidates Kendrick B. Meek by 1,552,807 votes in 2010 and Patrick Murphy by 713,103.

Watson, a former Miami Gardens lawmaker and now the representative for Florida's 107th district, said Scott's most recent accomplishment was more of a deception.

Watson accused Scott of putting extremely similar language in the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High

STREET Talk

COMPILED BY JAYDA HALL

If Martin Luther King Jr. were alive today, what do you think he would do about America's gun culture?



JEAN FANOR, 28
North Miami

If MLK were alive today, I'm not sure what he would do about the gun culture, but one thing I do know is that he had a great influence. His ability to bring people together to influence change in the past is incomparable. The fact that gun control is not a Blacks versus whites issue would make it easier to get individuals on the same page. Guns are killing Blacks as well as whites. With the number of mass killings happening in America, I think MLK wouldn't have had an issue rallying the country together to present a strong case to have stricter gun laws. His way would more than likely be by the methods of non-violent protest and marching in Washington, D.C. until change was made.



LACORIA MCNEAR, 24
Miami

For one, I think he would be really disappointed about where the country stands now about guns because of his prior fighting against violence in past years. But I do think he would plan a rally in order to speak on what all is going on because look where we are now? Rallies in the past were huge, but this one would be bigger than before because of all the issues the country currently faces regarding gun violence.



SHAMAR FELIX, 28
Miami Gardens

Based on his past experiences, Martin Luther King Jr. promoted peace and equality because the country was facing violence due to racism. I think he would take that same approach with gun violence today. With him, it would be more than just marching. His mission would be to stand up to promote unity in order for violence to be eliminated.



SAMUEL FLETCHER, 37
Fort Lauderdale

If he were still alive then most likely he would organize a march against gun violence and against the sale of high power guns in the country. He would probably even protest to shut down gun shops in the community, due to him being a non-violence activist.



KEEVIN JONES, 27
Miami Lakes

I think that MLK would rally everyone together, sort of like what's going on now, but it would be more structured. In other words, he would be the leader, and people would be guided by him. I don't think that he would be received by a lot of people since many are gun lovers. So he will receive backlash in return. But overall, he would be able to articulate what he believes the issue is in order for people to stand behind him, versus people all coming together, but still having different opinions.



TAMIAH STAMPLEY, 17
Coconut Creek

Well, most likely he would rally against what's happening today and connect with other organizations with missions that revolve around peace. His protests would be to get guns under control and probably move to even banning them.



To me, that's a deception. You're not really giving communities additional stuff; it's just fluff!

State Rep. Barbara Watson



Gov. Rick Scott



Senator Marco Rubio

conditions for which people who admitted themselves to a mental health facility for treatment and have undergone involuntary examination may be prohibited from purchasing a firearm.

The Marjorie Stoneman Douglas bill that Scott signed on March 9, prohibits someone who has been determined mentally ill or who was committed to a mental health facility from owning or possessing a firearm until "certain relief is obtained."

She said the most meaningful measure to come out of the Parkland bill is the demolition of the freshman building and the money for a new one.

"To me, that's a deception," Watson said. "You're not really giving communities additional stuff; it's just fluff."

Though she supports school safety, Watson said the money in the bill is heading in the wrong direction - more should go toward student learning instead of security guard arming.

"Many of our communities are in need of additional financial support to educate our children for the future. And the idea of putting more guns into a volatile situation is horrible," Watson said. "More guns doesn't solve the issue. If more guns solved a problem, we would have won in Vietnam."

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GUN

CONTINUED FROM 1A

crime and improve school safety.

Tuesday's walkout follows a call out by local political leaders to state and federal leaders to come up with solutions to tackle the senseless gun violence plaguing the neighborhoods.

"Enough is enough with this gun violence," State Rep. Roy Hardemon said in a Facebook Live video on Sunday. "We all have got to come to the table right now, and not next week. The governor needs to know what's happening here."

And in the span of four days, police departments in the county responded to three shootings that killed three and injured three more.

Vice Chairwoman of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners Audrey Edmonson on Monday blamed the deaths on a lack of concern for life that exists within people.

"The Liberty Square shootings over the weekend left two young men dead. Once again, our community suffers because young people do not value life nor see any other means of settling disputes," Edmonson's statement reads. "We must get guns off the street; we must continue our efforts to eradicate the senseless violence, which not only cuts short our young people's lives but keeps a community in fear and in danger. We need the community's help. I urge anyone with any in-

formation to please come forward and help law enforcement catch the perpetrators."

As of April 10, Miami-Dade County Police have opened 22 homicide cases in 2018, and eight of them are from March in the unincorporated parts of the county.

In contrast, gun violence at a Parkland, Florida school left 17 students and teachers dead on Valentine's Day. The shooting by a former student, set off the largest student-led activism since Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee of the 1960s. The students coined the #NeverAgain.

Between March 28 and March 31, police officers in Miami-Dade responded to three shootings:

- An unidentified man got off his bicycle and fired multiple shots that killed 32-year-old Jemuel Tremar Williams near Northwest 32nd Avenue and 208th Terrace in Miami Gardens on March 28.

- Miami-Dade Police Department officers found two men with gunshot wounds at 9:20 a.m. on March 30 at a Valero gas station, at 8926 NW 22nd Ave, in Miami. Demetric Turneasa Chandler, 45, died at the location and the other, shot in the leg, was taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital Ryder Trauma.

- The third shooting on March 31 killed Nyla.

Ronald Willie Jones Jr. pulled out his gun, pointed it at his sister and threatened to shoot her, when an argument they were having escalated, according to a Miami Police arrest affidavit.

When Jones shot at his sister's car, the bullet from his



Photo retrieved from Instagram: Aja Monet

Students from Miami Northwestern Senior High School left their classrooms Tuesday and walked to Liberty Square, in response to the killing on Sunday of two former students.

gun struck Nyla, his niece. She was shot at the intersection of Northwest 13th Court and Northwest 65th Street, also in Liberty Square.

Jones surrendered to Miami Police at the North District Station. However, the man who shot Williams, and the one who shot two men at Northwest 22nd Avenue have yet to be apprehended as of Tuesday. Anyone with information can call the Miami-Dade County Crime Stoppers at 305-471-8477.

While police officers continue their law enforcement work to prevent violence, steps to reduce the numbers of incidents is coming from the demand of local communities.

NEW LAWS

The federal and state response to gun violence are The Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence Act of 2018 and The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act, respectively. The federal law provides money for metal detectors, security

guards, training for everyone in a school, including students, new technology and mental health services. The state bill does as well, bans bump stocks and raises the age limit of gun purchases to 21 from 18.

"I was one of the first co-sponsors," said Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson, D-Miami Gardens of the STOP School Violence Act. "It's so good that even the NRA supports it," Wilson said.

Cities in Florida, however, have to take a few extra steps if they want to determine where and how personal firearms can be used.

Cutler Bay, Pinecrest, South Miami, Coral Gables, Miami Beach, Miami, Miami Gardens, Miramar, Weston, Lauderhill and Pompano Beach are all part of a lawsuit to challenge a state law preventing local lawmakers from enacting their own gun regulation. The suit was filed Monday, April 2 and Miami Gardens Councilwoman Lisa Davis is the sponsor of that city's

resolution to join the lawsuit.

"The No. 1 reason is the safety of our children," Davis said previously. "People carry guns in libraries and public parks and we want to have a change in that."

Wilson and State Rep. Shevrin D. Jones co-hosted a town hall on gun violence and school safety on April 5 in Miami Gardens at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex Auditorium. The panelists included Valencia Gunder, chief executive officer of Make The Homeless SMILE MIAMI; Steve Gallon III, Miami-Dade County Public School Board member; Reverend Dr. Rosalind Osgood, Broward County Public School Board member and Florida Rep. Jared Moskowitz.

Jones, who was born and raised in Miami Gardens, connected Florida's gun law to local communities saying the law was "extremely difficult legislation" for him to watch go through.

"Certain individuals who have been dealing with this issue were not included in that bill," said Jones, who voted for it. "The school district has the opportunity to flag students who have shown patterns to be at risk, and our kids are likelier to be at risk."

Tyrah Amoy Roberts, a junior at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, said this conversation is more than about mass shootings; it's about gun violence.

"Shootings take place every day in communities of color," Roberts said.

Whether it's Overtown, Liberty City or Allapattah, Gallon said shootings make

civilized societies like "the Wild Wild West."

"People are getting shot in broad daylight," Gallon said. "But we don't want to fall down the rabbit hole of saying one situation is worse than another. Gun violence is gun violence."

Wilson wants to have a series of forums because of the complexities of preventing violence and discrimination. "Gun violence is like an octopus," Wilson said. "It has many tentacles because it has many issues and many processes to solve it. You can't do that with one town hall meeting or in one conversation."

The next conversation will talk to the "parents of murderers," Wilson said.

"When a child is born the doctor says, 'it's a boy,'" Wilson said. "Not, 'it's a murderer,' or 'it's a juvenile delinquent.'"

Gunder sympathized with those who rather not hear that someone who murdered with a gun has mental health issues but said more mental health services are needed for prevention.

"People don't want to hear that after a shooting," said Gunder, the godmother of Jada Page. Page is an 8-year-old killed in 2016 during a drive-by while she sat on her porch with her father, waiting to go to the movies. "Nobody better come to me telling me the murderer was mentally ill."

"However, we do know that people with mental illnesses or unchecked trauma is an issue beforehand in a preventive measure."

Miami Times Staff Reporter Jayda Hall contributed to this report.

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THE DOLPHINS AND ROLE MODELS TEAM UP



Dolphins owner Stephen Ross with Role Models at RISE Tailgate event

OWNER LAUNCHES PROGRAMS THAT CAN PREPARE BOYS FOR FUTURE CAREERS

Miami Times Staff Report

The Miami Dolphins and the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project have joined forces to impact the lives of more than 10,000 young boys. The team's owner, Stephen Ross, said he is committed to a long-term partnership, focused on social justice, education and police and youth relations for the boys in the mentoring program.

The 5000 Role Models project was initiated by the Miami-Dade County Public School Board in March 1993. The project's mission is to intervene in the lives of at-risk boys, in order to provide them with alternatives to a life of crime and violence.

Dolphins executives will pave a career path for the young men by offering exclusive fellowship opportunities.

The team's officials will speak at Role Models' events and allow the boys to shadow them during their regular operations. The "Take a Role Model Apprentice to Work Day" event at Hard Rock Stadium, in the fall, will allow the students to get training and experience that would prepare them for sports careers.

The career mentorship will extend to more than just sports.

The team will also provide space for Role Models newspaper editors to house their writing program.

Another cornerstone of the partnership has seen the Dolphins host the 5000 Role Models Police and Youth Conference and a scheduled college academic signing day.

The signing day is an annual event when students accept scholarships to the colleges or universities of their choice surrounded by family



5000 Role Models at RISE Tailgate event



Police and youth interact at Miami Dolphins and 5000 Role Models Conference.

members, high school and college administrators.

The initiative to mend police relations with Black youth has already kicked off.

Held in February, the youth conference featured more than 600 local high school students and law enforcement representatives and gave students a platform to interact with police officers, local elected officials and Dolphins players and executives.

In addition, the team executives will continue preexisting programs with the 5000 Role Models.

They will continue to recognize members at home games as part of the "Role Model of the Game" program and to host Role Models as part of Miami Dolphins Special Teams Community Service Academy presented by the AARP Foundation and give a significant donation to the 5000 Role Models Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Breakfast.

These initiatives will be in collaboration with the Ross Initiative and Sports for Equality. Founded and created by Ross in October 2015, RISE programs have reached more than 30,000 students, coaches and athletic staff at the high school, collegiate and professional level.

INSIDE

Broward Health makes hires of people of color

Several posts are leadership roles

14B



Blacks largely left out of high-paying jobs

The ratio of white-to-Black workers is about 10-to-1 in management, 8-to-1 in computers and mathematics, 12-to-1 in law, and 7-to-1 in education . . .

11B

Little Haiti teens learn the ins and outs of business

11B

Businesses beg for more low-skill visas

Congress leaves administration to decide whether to honor business requests or save jobs for Americans

LAURA MECKLER
Wall Street Journal

Demand for low-skilled worker visas for the summer season which started March 30 is again far outstripping supply, with the Trump administration forced to choose between helping businesses seeking more visas or trying to save those jobs for American workers.

Some lawmakers tried and failed this month to secure an increase in the number of H-2B visas available for this summer as part of a large spending bill. One Senate proposal would have permanently raised the annual cap from 66,000 to 90,000, with no limits for certain jobs in areas affected by disasters. A House version would have increased the annual cap to 132,000.

The White House warned some lawmakers not to kick the decision to the Department of Homeland Security as they did in 2017, congressional aides said. "We did not want the discretion," an

administration official said. Nonetheless, DHS is now under pressure from the business community to provide more visas after the spending bill authorized the department's Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen to offer tens of thousands of extra visas if she sees fit.

A DHS spokeswoman, Katie Waldman, said no decision has been made. "We are currently looking at last year's implementation of the H-2B plus-up to determine how best to proceed this fiscal year," she said.

The H-2B visas, issued for low-skilled, seasonal foreign workers, are typically employed by landscaping companies, Alaskan fisheries, ski resorts and vacation spots, including some of President Donald Trump's properties.

Backers say the program provides needed foreign workers, often in remote locations where Americans are scarce. They say the problem is particularly acute given the current unemployment rate of 4.1 per-



M.Scott Brauer for Wall Street Journal

A Jamaican employee on an H2B visa worked last year at a Massachusetts fudge shop in Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard.

cent, the lowest in a decade.

"We rebranded 8,000 vehicles and put 'now hiring' on everything we own. We cannot get enough workers," said Todd Chambers, chief

marketing officer for BrightView Landscapes, LLC, a large landscaping company that has used H-2B workers for more than a decade. Opponents say business-

es should try harder and raise wages if needed. "We should want the labor market to tighten and employees have to work overtime trying to entice American

workers, especially those who've dropped out of the labor market," said Mark Krikorian of the conservative Center for Immigration Studies.

Black millennials are building mobile apps

Study finds the number is greater than ever before

Black Enterprise

A higher number of small businesses owned by millennials are more likely to build a mobile app to help grow their businesses than other generations.

A new survey by Washington, D.C.-based ratings and review firm Clutch shows that 55 percent of millennial-owned businesses have a mobile app, versus 42 percent of small businesses owned by Gen Xers and 13 percent owned by baby boomers.

Clutch's 2018 Small Business Survey sampled 351 small business owners and managers to learn how small businesses are building and using mobile apps. Clutch asked small business owners which mobile features are most valuable to help support their businesses and goals they had in mind in building the mobile apps.

Small businesses surveyed have between 1 and 500 employees, with 55 percent reporting they have 10 or fewer employees. Roughly 57 percent reported annual revenue of less than \$1 million.

The findings with millennials did not surprise Peter Mezyk, the chief operating officer of Nomtek, a mobile app design and development firm. "By definition, [mobile apps] come more naturally to the people who were immersed in this since they were born," he said.

As such, the trend suggests that small business apps will be more acceptable in the future.

"This is something that will gradually move up across

the demographics," Mezyk stated. "Even people now in their 50s are much more digitally aware than 10 years ago."

Another expert, Woody Zantzing, vice president of business development at WillowTree, Inc., a mobile app development firm, says that the data shows a greater difference in how millennials are using the software in situations that previously required human interaction.

"Millennials are trusting software to solve problems that historically people didn't want to trust software to solve," stated Zantzing. "Like using OpenTable [to make a restaurant reservation]—they don't want to call the restaurant. They want to do it via software."

"People don't want to call their insurance agent," he added. "They just want to take a picture of their crash with their phone and send it off and fill out a form and be done."

Some examples of Black millennial entrepreneurs who have built their businesses and brands around a mobile app include:

- Darren Harris and Quincy Ewell, co-founders of PANN, an app that crowdsources Black news.
- Ofo Ezeugwu, founder and CEO of Whose Your Landlord, an app that lets you search for available apartments or read landlord reviews
- Herb Coakley, founder and CEO of Mystro, a ridesharing app that makes on-demand drivers more money than Lyft or Uber.

Simultaneously, small business owners need to ask them-

selves if they should invest in a mobile app. Mobile apps can boost customer loyalty, brand image and employee efficiency, experts say.

Yet, to help de-

termine if a mobile app will be successful, small business owners need to fully understand the app's goals, its target audience, and the resources needed

to build and keep it. Small businesses must make sure they are building a mobile app for the right reasons.

Nearly 30 percent SEE APPS 15B



OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PLEASE ALL TAKE NOTICE that a Board of Commissioners Meeting of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is scheduled to take place on Wednesday April 18th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the Chapman Partnership located at 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136.

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

#29143

Jason Walker, Executive Director
Omni Redevelopment District
Community Redevelopment Agency

INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that bids will be received on **Wednesday, April 25, 2018 not later than 2:00pm** by Skanska USA Building and Jackson Health System (JHS) for the following project:

Jackson Memorial Hospital – Project C - CEP Upgrades

All bids must be delivered in a sealed envelope to Jackson Memorial Hospital Facilities, Design and Construction Department trailer located at the corner of NW 12th Ave and NW 19th St. Complete address is listed below:

**Jackson Memorial Hospital
Facilities, Design and Construction Department
Attn: Eduardo Pollo
1611 NW 12th Ave
Miami, FL 33136**

There is a mandatory pre-bid walk-thru scheduled on **Friday, April 20, 2018, at 8:30am**. Bid requirements and bid forms, specifications, drawings, and other construction documents will be available on www.skanskacloud.com. Bid packages include:

- Division 02 – Demolition (SBE-C Set-Aside)
- Division 03 – Concrete (SBE-C Set-Aside)
- Division 04 – Masonry (SBE-C Set-Aside)
- Division 26 – Electrical

Skanska is committed to supporting the economic development of certified Miami-Dade County Small Businesses Enterprise – Construction (SBE-C) and Goods and Service (SBE-GC) firms. Miami-Dade County certified SBE-C entities are encouraged to submit bid proposals. All subcontractors interested in bidding this project will need to have gone through Skanska's prequalification process. It can be initiated at: <https://apps.skanska.com/prequalinquiry/>.

All questions can be directed to Eduardo Pollo at eduardo.pollo@skanska.com.

Skanska USA Building Inc., reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals in whole or part and to waive informalities and irregularities.

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. 827381

STORM SEWER CLEANING SERVICES

CLOSING DATE:

2:00 PM, MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2018.

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Tuesday, 4/24/18 at 5:00 PM)

VOLUNTARY Pre-Bid Conference Friday, April 20, 2018 at 9:30 AM Location: Miami Riverside Center (MRC), 444 SW 2nd Ave., 8th Floor North 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.

Emilio T. González, Ph.D.
City Manager



AD NO. 26751

OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners ("Board") of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 18th 2018, at 5:00 p.m., at the Chapman Partnership located at 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136, to consider the award of grant funds to **Camillus House Inc.**, a legal entity authorized to transact business/render services in the State of Florida, for the "Miami Shelter Program."

In accordance with the Board's 2010 Redevelopment Plan ("Plan"), the Board will consider the funding, in an amount not to exceed \$175,000 to underwrite a portion of the costs associated with the "Miami Shelter Program", envisioned to reduce slum and blight.

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

This action is being considered pursuant to Sections 18-85 (a) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended ("Code"). The recommendation and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Sections 18-85 (a), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, and are available as with the scheduled CRA Board meeting of April 18th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m., at the Chapman Partnership located at 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136.

The CRA Board requests all interested parties be present or represented at the meeting, and may be heard with respect to any proposition before the CRA Board, in which the Board may take action. Should any person desire to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, that person shall ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including all testimony and evidence upon which any appeal may be based (F.S. 286.105).

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), not later than five (5) business days prior to the proceeding. TTY users may call (305) 250-5472, not later than five (5) business days prior to the proceeding.

Todd B. Hannon
Clerk of the Board



#29144

BLACKS LARGELY LEFT OUT OF HIGH-PAYING JOBS

ASSOCIATED PRESS ANALYSIS EXAMINE GOVERNMENT DATA THAT FOUND A DISPARITY IN HIRING

BOSTON (AP) — Jonathan Garland's fascination with architecture started early: He spent much of his childhood designing Lego houses and gazing at Boston buildings on rides with his father away from their largely minority neighborhood.

But when Garland looked around at his architectural college, he didn't see many who looked like him — there were few Black faces in classroom seats, and fewer teaching skills or giving lectures.

"If you do something simple like

government data has found that Black workers are chronically underrepresented compared with whites in high-salary jobs in technology, business, life sciences, and architecture and engineering, among other areas. Instead, many Black workers find jobs in low-wage, less-prestigious fields where they're overrepresented, such as food service or preparation, building maintenance and office work, the AP analysis found.

In one of his fi-

nal speeches, King described the "Other America," where unemployment and underemployment created a "fatigue of despair" for Blacks. Despite economic progress for Blacks in areas such as incomes and graduation rates, some experts say many Black Americans remain part of this "Other America" — with little hope of attaining top professional jobs, thanks to systemic yet subtle racism.

The AP analysis found that a white worker had a far better chance than a Black one of holding

a job in the 11 categories with the highest median annual salaries, as listed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The ratio of white-to-Black workers is about 10-to-1 in management, 8-to-1 in computers and mathematics, 12-to-1 in law, and 7-to-1 in education — compared with a ratio of 5.5 white workers for every Black one in all jobs nationally. The top five high-paying fields have a median income range of \$65,000 to \$100,000, compared with \$36,000 for all

SEE JOBS 14B

Architect Jonathan Garland poses for a photo on the construction site of a building he helped design in the Mattapan neighborhood of Boston.



AP Photo/Charles Krupa

Little Haiti teens learn the ins and outs of business

Ninth to 12th graders from Little Haiti got an opportunity to be innovative while learning financial literacy through a grant from the South Florida Chapter of 100 Black Men of America, Inc.

About 25 Students from the after-school care program, Gang Alternative, Inc., endured weeks of training in curriculum such as "Entrepreneurship and Small Business," "The Business Plan" and "Empowered to be Smart" as framework to prepare them for a "Shark Tank" presentation before a panel of judges.

The teens designed a mobile phone app that would help and develop eco-

nomics flow in Haiti. They created a solar-cellular device, dubbed Kreyòl Tonic, which would enable people on the island to have access to technology through solar energy. The product would be developed in Haiti and part of the proceeds would also be channeled back into the country for development.

The judges for the final presentation on March 22, were 100 Black Men's Stephen Hunter Johnson, Cliff Thomas and Opa-locka Commissioner Matthew Pigatt.

The local program was part of a national partnership between 100 Black Men of America and Wells Fargo.



100 Black Men of America, South Florida Chapter

Brewing in the business of beer

Black-woman-owned company partners with Samuel Adams

KANDIA JOHNSON
Black Enterprise

Bev Armstrong is a former biotech executive turned owner of Brazo Fuerte, the first female-owned brewery in Massachusetts. Recently she partnered with Samuel Adams beer — one of the highest-rated beer brands among consumers. We caught up with Armstrong to learn about her journey as well as tips for navigating a mostly white and male-dominated industry.

What inspired you to start brewing beer?
I wanted to solve the problem of not being able

to find full-flavored and refreshing beers that my rugby teammates and I could enjoy for several hours after putting in a "hard day's work" during the game. We also wanted to be able to get up and be productive again the next day! So I started brewing at home because I wanted to make the perfect "post-game" beer, which for me and my colleagues were beers that were full-flavored, sessionable, easy-drinking, and delicious.

What does it mean to have a "sessionable" beer?
Session beers are moderate in alcohol so that you



Bev Armstrong with the founder of Samuel Adams

can enjoy them over an extended session of time and continue to be pleasantly social at the end of the night. They're perfect for the drink-up setting (where you share a beer with your opponents after the game) or professional settings,

where you want to enjoy good conversation and a refreshing "hard-earned" beer with friends or colleagues.

What makes your beer unique?
From a brewing art standpoint, it's very difficult to

SEE BEER 14B

CITY OF MIAMI ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL

Sealed proposals 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:

RFP NO. 830382 MURAL ADVERTISING, MIAMI ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX, EUE SCREEN GEMS STUDIO

CLOSING DATE/TIME: 3:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: 4/30/18 at 5:00 PM)

Detailed specifications for this RFP is available at the City of Miami, Department of Procurement, website www.miamigov.com/procurement or you can email Pearl Bethel, Sr. Procurement Contact Manager pbethel@miamigov.com

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

Emilio T. González, Ph. D.
City Manager

AD NO. 26763





The 2018
Zo's Hoop Law
Champions

LAWYERS DEFEND FOR CHARITY

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING 3-ON-3 TOURNEY BENEFITS OVERTOWN YOUTH CENTER

Miami Times Staff Report

WPLG-10 News Anchor Calvin Hughes played hard. About that everyone agrees.

So did Miami Mayor Francis Suarez.

But the team representing Darfoor Law Firm showed their talents on a different type of court and emerged as the 2018 Zo's Hoop-Law Madness Charity Basketball Tournament champions.

It was a huge victory since Darfoor unseated the defending champions, team players from Eaton & Wolk PL, Harke Clasby & Bushman LLP, Rasco, Klock Perez & Neito and Valasco Law. This collective of local attorneys had won the first three Zo's Hoop Madness.

WSVN-7 Sports Anchor Donovan Campbell was master of ceremonies for the game of 25 teams, about 150 players on March 31 at the Overtown Youth Center.

The 3-on-3 tournament is an idea of board member Candy Sicle, who proposed four years ago to create a fundraiser that would stand out from the traditional "black-tie-attire" gala, while still benefiting the organization. The idea also sparked from the popular March Madness basketball games.

Sicle thought it would be a great idea to have employees of law firms in the community play in order to expose them to the organizations that provide supportive and preventive services to many of the youth they sometimes see or represent in court.

"This is also an opportunity for the youth we serve to see those in the legal field in a different light," Yance Torres said in a statement.

Teams make a suggested donation of at least \$1,500.

"The event has grown over the years, and now attracts over 25 law firms to battle on the court (pun intended), many of them return year after year to compete against their colleagues while supporting the life-changing work happening at the Overtown Youth Center."

Even though the game is purely for entertainment and bragging rights, there is structure and game rules. The single-elimination games happen throughout the day, leaving only two firms to fight for the golden ball, which is a golden basketball trophy that is presented to the champions. Second and third place finishers are recognized and awards are also presented to sponsors.

Miami Heat legend Alonzo Mourning kicked off the morning portion of the day by briefly talking about Overtown Youth Center's mission and the importance of this event. Mourning then take photos with each participating team.

"It just lets me know that there are people in the community, especially our legal community, who care about what we're trying to get accomplished here," he said.

The event has raised \$50,000 and \$75,000 respectively, to directly benefit the in-school, after-school and summer components that serve the children at the Overtown Youth Center. These include preventive, interventional and support services to keep youth engaged in school that include STEM learning, mentoring, career and college exposure, job placement and more.



Photos courtesy of OYC

Players fight for the ball against WPLG-10 News Anchor Calvin Hughes during the 4th Annual Zo's Hoop Law 3-on-3 Charity Basketball Tournament.



Players from the legal and professional communities hit the court during the 4th Annual Zo's Hoop Law 3-on-3 Charity Basketball Tournament.

OFFSHORE ENERGY

By Lieutenant Colonel Dennis O. Frayles
USA (Ret.) Florida Chairman, Vets4Energy

Plays Vital Role in U.S. Security



No one understands the connection between energy security and national security better than the military, and veterans like me strongly support expanding oil and natural gas production, both onshore and offshore. It is a rather easy choice when the options are (1) safely produce oil and natural gas here at home, or (2) defer to hostile and despotic regimes outside the U.S.

There's no question that U.S. oil and natural gas production plays a vital role in enhancing the national security interests of our nation and our allies around the world. The rise of the U.S. as the world's leading producer of oil and natural gas has effectively curtailed the power of countries like Russia and Iran, who heavily rely upon energy as a geopolitical tool. And offshore energy resources are a big part of our success. Providing more than 1 million barrels of oil per day for

the past 20 years, offshore energy is the backbone of a domestic energy revolution that has shaken up global energy markets and helped to drive down prices for homes and businesses.

While we've been producing oil and natural gas in the western and central Gulf of Mexico for decades, 94 percent of federally controlled offshore acreage remains off limits to production. It is vital to our military and national interests that we expand opportunities for exploration and production.

That's just what a proposal from the Interior Department would do. The department's draft proposed leasing program for 2019-2024 opens the door to responsible energy exploration in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic. Government estimates indicate 90 billion barrels of oil and 327 trillion cubic feet of natural gas could be awaiting discovery on the U.S. outer continental shelf

(OCS). Opening additional areas to development could generate hundreds of thousands of jobs and lead to production gains of more than a million barrels of oil equivalent per day - further reducing dependence on overseas energy.

State officials from Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas - where offshore energy exploration actually is allowed - are onboard. These policymakers and their constituents have experienced firsthand the economic growth that energy development brings to communities, and they know that energy operations safely coexist with other industries - and with military activity. As more than 20 members of Congress wrote to the Interior Department, "(The) experience in the Gulf of Mexico over decades clearly demonstrates the compatibility between oil and gas activities and other ocean uses, including military training, tourism, and commercial and recreational fishing - all of which thrive cooperatively in the Gulf."

The key word when it comes to military compatibility is "cooperatively." Under longstanding practice, military leaders control the location and conditions of energy development near its bases, and a long history of coordination with the Department of the Interior ensures that energy activities follow any necessary stipulations. In the central Gulf of Mexico, in close proximity to Texas and Louisiana ports and military bases, 36 percent of leases are located in military use areas, and military activities have been carried out successfully and without conflict.

In a recent letter, Deputy Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan recognized that an expanded offshore energy strategy "is intent on increasing domestic energy production to fortify national security objectives and reduce our dependency on imported energy" adding that the Defense Department "supports the development of national domestic energy resources in concert with enabling military operations, training and testing."



Not only is offshore development compatible with other critical industries and military activity, it is safer than ever. Through joint efforts from industry experts and government regulators, more than 100 industry safety and environmental standards have been created or strengthened since 2010, and the industry launched the Center for Offshore Safety to ensure continual safety improvements.

Our nation has come a long way in advancing our national security interests through the development of U.S. oil and natural gas resources, especially our offshore energy resources. Given the long lead time necessary in offshore development, decisions we make today will determine our energy security 10 years into the future, and beyond. It makes sense to keep as many options on the table as possible. Let's focus on the facts and move forward with policies that enable our energy and military sectors to thrive as the greatest in the world.

The natural gas and oil industry provides a bright future for all Americans. The innovative technologies pioneered by America's natural gas and oil industry are meeting our country's energy needs and producing cleaner energy and reducing industry's environmental footprint. Our air is cleaner than it's been in decades and emissions are at 25-year lows, thanks to increased use of natural gas. That's how we are powering past impossible and soaring toward a cleaner, better tomorrow.

Text ENERGY to 73075 to learn more
Visit us at PowerPastImpossible.org.



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Broward Health makes hires of people of color

Several posts are leadership roles

Miami Times Staff Report

Broward Health has announced multiple new hires of people of color across the organization.

Tiana Blount has been named associate vice president, ambulatory operations, of Broward Health Community Health Services. In this role, Blount will provide oversight of health services, as well as Broward Health Urgent Care and Broward Health Weston.

In addition, **Dr. Aldo Calvo**, a board-certified family medicine physician, has been named Community Health Services' medical director and will manage patient care and quality. Calvo will work closely with Blount, clinical leadership and nearly 30 community health service providers at 10 sites.

"Community health centers are crucial to Broward Health's overall delivery of care," said Broward Health President/CEO Beverly Caspasso. "Ms. Blount and Dr.



David Clarke



Janene John



Romaine Layne



Dr. Aldo Calvo



Tiana Blount

Calvo's leadership will ensure clinical excellence for CHS' [community health services] wide array of comprehensive services."

Blount previously served as director of operations for Broward Health Weston and Broward Health Urgent Care. Blount joined Broward Health in 2013 as director of operations for Broward Health Physician Group. Her most notable accomplishments at the physician group were the re-education and training of operations managers and coordinators for improved charge reconciliation, orthopedic construction planning for the 3T MRI and the

July 2015 opening of the Broward Sheriff's Office clinic. Blount received her bachelor's degree in healthcare administration and long-term care administration, as well as her master's degree in healthcare administration from The Ohio State University.

For nearly 20 years, Calvo has cared for patients at Clinicas de las Americas, which provides comprehensive and culturally competent primary care services to the Latin American community. He earned his medical degree from Nova Southeastern University's College of Osteopathic Medicine in Davie and completed his

residency in family medicine at Broward Health Medical Center. He has also served as assistant clinical professor of the Broward Health/Nova Southeastern University Family Medicine Residency Program for the past 18 years.

"Community Health Services has been a staple in our community for decades," said Dr. Andrew Ta, chief medical officer of Broward Health. "Ms. Blount and Dr. Calvo will continue Broward Health's commitment to service, excellence and delivery of quality, patient-centered care."

David Clark will be joining Broward Health as an

assistant vice president of corporate services. He will have oversight of major construction projects and will also provide overall leadership and accountability for the Construction and Design Department. Clark has more than 15 years of experience as a senior level administrator of capital projects and healthcare programs in both the public and private sectors.

Clark earned his undergraduate degree in architectural and facilities engineering from Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tenn., and his master's degree in business administration from Nova South-

eastern University in Davie. He is currently a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He is a licensed certified general contractor, a LEED accredited professional and a real estate associate.

Janene John has joined Broward Health Coral Springs as chief human resources officer. She is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Broward Health Coral Springs, a 200-bed community hospital providing comprehensive medical and surgical services since 1987. In her role, she provides management

SEE HIRES 15B

BEER

CONTINUED FROM 11B

make a beer with moderate alcohol but with bold and yet approachable flavor. Brazo Fuerte also uses organic grains and, in some beers, incorporates organic and fair-trade ingredients in innovative ways, like green tea, cacao nibs, honey and goji berries. I make the kind of craft beers that have a delicious flavor, that are great with food, and that you can enjoy over a long period without fatiguing your palate. For people who think they don't like beer or for whom the last beer they had

was at a college party, I say try a Brazo Fuerte beer. My Berliner Weisse is particularly great as a substitute for champagne and sparkling wine. It's slightly tart, spritzy, and refreshing, and great whether you're at a professional function or poolside.

Tell us about your collaboration with Samuel Adams?

Several years ago I applied for the Sam Adams Brewing the American Dream Program, which was started by Boston Beer Co. back in 2008 to help food and beverage entrepreneurs. It also provides coaching, educational opportunities and loan funding from Accion, a non-

profit lending organization that provides seed loans for early-stage businesses. Then I applied for and won the Brewing the American Dream Business and Brewing Experience Award for 2017, which only one brewer wins each year.

From the initial speed-coaching sessions, where Sam Adams has their own experts available to provide advice to food and beverage entrepreneurs, to the BTAD Business and Brewing Experience Program, which comes with mentorship, firsthand experience, and coaching, the BTAD Program has been incredibly helpful to get Brazo Fuerte off

the start line and sprinting. I've gotten to work directly with Jim Koch on several occasions and it's really helped shape my business model and refine my brewing.

Founders and brewers in the beer industry have been mostly white and male. How have you been able to navigate a male-dominated industry?

There are definitely chal-

lenges and barriers, but navigating a mostly white and male-dominated industry is not a new thing for me. That's a skill I've built just by being an executive in the business world for a couple of decades.

Within the industry, I've been amazed by how little it matters if you make great beer and have a commitment to quality. I'm committed

to continuing my education about beer and the brewing process. I became a BJCP Certified Beer Judge many years ago and then a Certified Cicerone (the equivalent of a wine sommelier). I've also taken professional brewing courses. Finding great mentors and finding the Brewing the American Dream Program have also been great boosts to my confidence.

JOBS

CONTINUED FROM 11B

occupations nationwide.

Eight years after King's assassination, at the height of turbulent school desegregation, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph from an anti-busing rally at City Hall showed a white man attacking a Black bystander with an American flag.

The young victim was Theodore Landsmark. He's now 71, a lawyer, an architect and director of Northeastern University's Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy.

He said "structural discrimination" is the overarching cause of disproportionate race representation in high-paying fields. Landsmark and others say gains are elusive for myriad reasons: Standardized schools in low-income neighborhoods. White-dominated office cliques. Boardrooms that prefer familiarity to diversity. Discriminatory hiring practices. Companies that claim a lack of qualified candidates but have no programs to train minority talent.

In Atlanta, King's hometown, the proportional representation of Black-to-white workers

is close to even in many fields. Many reasons are cited. Atlanta has historically Black colleges and universities

such as King's alma mater, Morehouse; the first Black mayor, Maynard Jackson, pressed for policies helping Black professionals after his 1973 election; and events like the 1996 Olympics opened doors for entrepreneurs of all races.

OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners ("Board") of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday April 18th 2018, at 5:00 p.m., at the Chapman Partnership located at 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136, to consider the award of grant funds to **Rebuilding Together Miami-Dade Inc.**, a legal entity authorized to transact business/render services in the State of Florida, to provide partial funding for a, "Home Improvement Façade Program."

In accordance with the Board's 2010 Redevelopment Plan ("Plan"), the Board will consider the funding, in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 to underwrite the expenditures and costs associated with the renovation of residential housing units, within the CRA, envisioned to reduce slum and blight.

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

This action is being considered pursuant to Sections 18-85 (a) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended ("Code"). The recommendation and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Sections 18-85 (a), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, and are available as with the scheduled CRA Board meeting of April 18th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m., at the Chapman Partnership located at 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (305) 250-5361 (Voice), not later than five (5) business days prior to the proceeding. TTY users may call (305) 250-5472, not later than five (5) business days prior to the proceeding.



Todd B. Hannon
Clerk of the Board

#29145



THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH NOTICE OF OPENING AND CLOSING OF THE WAITING LIST FOR REBECCA TOWERS NORTH

- The Housing Authority of the City of Miami Beach (HACMB) will accept online pre-applications from 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 23, 2018 until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 for the Rebecca Towers North Waiting List. Rebecca Towers North, 200 Alton Road, Miami Beach, FL, is a building designated for income-eligible elderly persons 62 years of age or older.
- A computer lottery process will randomly select 600 pre-applications. All pre-applications received during this period will be considered as applying at the same time. It does not matter if a pre-application is received on the first day or the last day.
- The Rebecca Towers North Waiting List will close at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2018.

PRE-APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (Please read carefully):

- Pre-applications will ONLY be available for completion online at the following website: <https://miami-beach.apply4housing.com>.

- The HACMB encourages requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities to be made in advance in writing to the Housing Authority of the City of Miami Beach, 200 Alton Road, Asset Management Office, Miami Beach, FL 33139. Requests must be received no later than Friday, April 20, 2018.

Families selected must meet the following guidelines:

- Total Annual Income may not exceed the MAXIMUM Eligible Income Limit Per Household as established by U.S. HUD:

Household size	1 person	2 persons
Annual Income Limit	\$44,100.00	\$50,400.00

- At the time of the actual application process, family eligibility must be further established in accordance with Section 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and any other applicable regulations.

All household members must be 62 years of age or older at the time of Pre-Application submission

- Pre-applications will only be accepted when completed and submitted online.
- Only the 600 randomly selected pre-applications will be notified via USPS regular mail of their placement on the waiting list.
- No telephone calls or walk-ins of pre-applications will be accepted. Applicants may use any computer, tablet or smart phone with internet access to apply, including fee computers at public libraries.
- Only one pre-application per household will be considered throughout the process. Applicants will receive a receipt number as confirmation of the online submission. Any pre-application that is not fully and accurately completed will be disqualified. Any household that submits more than one pre-application for the waiting list will have all pre-applications voided.
- Applicants should note that there is never a fee to apply for any program operated by the HACMB.

The HACMB does not discriminate on the basis of the federally protected classes in the access to admission procedure or employment of its housing programs and activities and provides Equal Housing Opportunity to all.



FOR RENT

Apartments

1215 NW 103 Lane
Two bdrms. \$1,000. Send the contact information to: yer045@aol.com

3040 NW 135 Street
OPA-LOCKA AREA
One bedroom, one bath.
786-325-9000

8475 NE 2 Avenue
One and two bdrms, Section 8
Welcome. 305-754-7776.

ARENA GARDEN

FREE BASIC CABLE AND FREE WATER
Remodeled two, three bedrooms, air, appliances, laundry, gate. From \$725. 305-374-4412

CAPITAL RENTAL AGENCY

LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER
305-642-7080
Overtown, Liberty City, Brownsville, Allapattah, Apartments, Duplexes, Houses. One, Two and Three Bedrooms. Same day approval. Call for specials. 305-642-7080 www.capitalrentalagency.com

GRAND OPENING

NEW ARENA SQUARE
Walking distance to school from \$690. Remodeled one, two, three bedrooms, two baths. Central air, laundry, gated. Office 1023 NW 3 Ave. 305-372-1383

Churches

LIBERTY CITY
Church for rent. (to share). Call 786-380-3209

Condos/Townhouses

CORAL SPRINGS
Remodeled two bedrooms, two baths. 786-301-4388

FOR RENT

MIAMI GARDENS

One bedroom, one bath.
786-301-4388

Duplexes

1129B NW 40 St Upstairs
One bedroom, one bath, freshly renovated, security bars. Section 8 okay. \$920 monthly. 305-778-2613.

21301 NW 37 Avenue
Two bedrooms, one bath, new kitchen, tiled floors, only \$1200 per month, first, last and security. 786-367-0508.

4625 NW 15 Avenue #A
Two bdrms., one bath, air, bars, tiled, \$1350 mthly. Section 8 Ok. 305-490-8284

4625 NW 15 Avenue #B
Three bdrms., two baths, air, \$1750 mthly plus deposit. Section 8 Ok. 305-490-8284

93 Street NW 18 Avenue
Two bedrooms. Section 8 Ok. 305-754-7776

LIBERTY CITY AREA

Two bdrms., one bath, first, last and security. Section 8 Ok. 786-565-2110

Efficiencies

LITTLE HAITI AREA
\$695, water included, 786-286-2540

Furnished Rooms

1341 NW 68 Terrace
55+ Community of Christ. \$500-\$600. All new. Tony. 305-600-8307

83 Street NW 18 Avenue
Clean conv. 305-754-7776

BROWNSVILLE AREA

Furnished. \$175 w/ky. \$700 deposit. 786-320-4825

LIBERTY CITY AREA

\$500 Monthly. \$250 deposit. Proof of income. Mr. Davis 305-343-7429

FOR RENT

MIAMI AREA

Adult living facility plus meal. \$50 a day. Call 786-536-4165.

Houses

295 NW 55 Street
Four bedrooms, two baths. \$1700 monthly
All appliances included.
Section 8 Welcome
Call Joel 786-834-9094

8830 NW 22 Court
Three bedrooms, two baths.
Section 8 Welcome.
786-763-0908

FORECLOSURE

HUNTERS SOLUTION
305-731-3591

MIAMI GARDENS AREA

Spacious three and four bedrooms, two baths, central air, tiled, fenced yard. Plasma TV. No credit check. Section 8 Welcome! Call now 305-834-4440

MERCHANDISE

SHOES FOR SALE

STEPPIN-N-STYLE Miami Shoe Business, located at Father and Son Store, 4701 NW 17th Ave. Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 786-468-5202

FUN, FLIRTY, LOCAL Wom-en!

Call 786-364-7785 Try Free! www.livelines.com

SERVICES

AFFORDABLE TRASH

and Tree Service. Cut, trim and pickup. 954-646-1889.

GENE AND SONS, INC.

Custom-made cabinets for kitchens and bathrooms at affordable prices. 14130 N.W. 22nd Avenue. Call 305-685-3565

SERVICES

GOD'S HELPER

Pressure cleaning, doors and unclog drains. 305-301-5690

FICTITIOUS NAME

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of HELEN'S ETHNIC KNITWEAR located at 16001 NE 9th Avenue in the city of North Miami Beach, Florida 33162, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated this 11th day of April, 2018.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD CALL 305.694.6210

CITY OF MIAMI ADVERTISEMENT FOR INFORMATION TO BID (ITB)

Sealed ITB 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:

ITB NO. 17-18-023 SOUTH BAYSHORE LANE AND FAIRVIEW STREET, D2

CLOSING DATE/TIME: 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 5:00 PM)

A VOLUNTARY pre-bid conference to be held on the following Friday, April 20, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the Miami Riverside Center, 444 SW 2nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33130, on the 6th floor - Large Conference Room.

The purpose of this conference is to allow potential bidders an opportunity to present questions to staff and obtain clarification of the requirements of the ITB document.

Detailed specifications for this ITB document(s), including plan(s), is available by visiting the Office of Capital Improvements (OCI) webpage: www.miamigov.com/CITP/procurementopp.html or email Sr. Procurement Contact Officer Anthony Hanson at AMHansen@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.

Emilio T. González, Ph.D.
City Manager



AD NO. 26764

APPS

CONTINUED FROM 10B

of small businesses surveyed reported they mainly built a mobile app to attract new customers. However, experts say this objective is deluded since most customers don't browse for apps but seek them out for a particular purpose." The more rig-

orously you assess whether to invest or not to invest in a mobile app, the better," Mezyk says. He offered these insights to help entrepreneurs determine if they need an app:

- Reflect on your customer journey and identify current touch points with them that can be enhanced by a mobile app. A touch point is any moment when you communicate and exchange

information with your customers.

- Assess whether a mobile app will truly impact your business. A successful mobile app must have clear goals, such as boosting sales or building customer loyalty.
- Set specific metrics tied to your goals and determine what qualifies as success. For instance, how many customers will redeem a coupon after

you send out a push notification? How many will sign up for your email newsletter via your app? Answering these questions will help you evaluate whether your app is effective.

- Deploy the simplest and cheapest version of the app first.
- If the simple version of the app is on track to meet your success criteria, keep developing it.

HIRES

CONTINUED FROM 14B

of the hospital's recruitment, development and retention program.

Prior to joining Broward Health, John served as human resources director at Memorial Healthcare System, where she directed the human resources department's activities and resources. She has a bachelor's degree from Hampton University in Hampton, Va., and a master's degree from Andersonville Theological Seminary in Camilla, Ga. Additionally, she is a certified senior professional in human resources.

Romaine Layne will be joining Broward Health Imperial Point as associate chief financial officer, where she will manage patient accounting, contracting and expense management. Prior to joining Broward Health, Layne served as controller at North Shore Medical Center, where she was responsible for the hospital's financial operations, production of financial reports, budgeting, forecasting and other financial oversight. Layne has a mas-

ter's degree in accounting from Nova Southeastern University and a bachelor's degree in accounting and business administration from Florida International University.

Netouna Reyes will be joining Broward Health Imperial Point in a dual role as chief operating officer and chief nursing officer. She has 22 years of nursing experience in the acute care setting with specialties in both adult and pediatric medicine. Prior to joining Broward Health, she served as director of nursing at Jackson Health North in Miami, where she oversaw a staff of 120 in the hospital's Emergency Department and managed daily operations to ensure patient safety and quality according to regulatory standards. Prior to that, she served as nurse manager at Homestead Hospital, where she was responsible for a staff of more than 200 in the hospital's Emergency Department and facilitated the implementation of a new care delivery model. Reyes has both a master's degree and a bachelor's degree in nursing from Nova South-

eastern University. She is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Emergency Nurses Association.

"We've been focused on securing top talent with strong leadership skills to fill key leadership positions across the system," said Capasso. "This is an

exciting time of growth at Broward Health. As our system continues to move forward, we welcome these talented and experienced professionals to our team."

The Broward Health system includes Broward Medical Center, Broward Health North, Broward

Imperial Point, Broward Health Springs, Salah Foundation Children's Hospital, Broward Health Weston, Broward Health Community Health Services, Broward Health Physician Group, Broward Health Urgent Care, Broward Health International and Broward Health Foundation.

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Emilio T. González, Ph.D.
City Manager

AD NO. 26764



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY Election Notice

The Miami-Dade County Canvassing Board will convene at the Office of the Supervisor of Elections, 2700 NW 87th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33172. The Canvassing Board is convening on these dates for the May 1, 2018 Special Election.

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY
Wednesday, 4/18/18 10:00 a.m.	1. Logic and Accuracy Test of the touch screen and optical scan voting systems to be used for vote-by-mail, early voting, and precinct ballots
2:00 p.m.	2. Public inspection of vote-by-mail ballots
Thursday, 4/19/18 10:00 a.m. through Tuesday, 5/1/18 to completion	1. Pre-count Logic and Accuracy Test of the optical scan voting systems used for vote-by-mail, provisional, and overseas ballots 2. Approval to commence vote-by-mail ballot opening, processing, and duplication
Canvassing: 10:00 a.m. to completion	3. Canvassing of presumed invalid vote-by-mail ballots (as needed) 4. Vote-by-mail ballot opening and processing (as needed) 5. Duplication of ballots (as needed)
Friday, 4/27/18 Canvassing: 10:00 a.m. to completion	1. Canvassing of presumed invalid vote-by-mail ballots (as needed)
Tuesday, 5/1/18 Canvassing: 4:00 p.m. to completion	1. Canvassing of presumed invalid vote-by-mail ballots (as needed)
7:00 p.m. to completion	2. Tabulation of results 3. Preliminary Election returns (Unofficial) to State, except provisional ballots
Friday, 5/4/18 Canvassing: 10:00 a.m. to completion	1. Provisional ballots canvassing and processing (as needed) 2. Tabulation of results 3. Certification of Unofficial Results, including provisional ballots (Deadline: Saturday, 5/5/18, Noon)
Friday, 5/11/18 Canvassing: 3:00 p.m. to completion	1. Canvassing of overseas vote-by-mail ballots 2. Certification of Official Results, including overseas vote-by-mail ballots (Deadline: Sunday, 5/13/18, Noon) 3. Post-count Logic and Accuracy Test of the optical scan voting systems used for vote-by-mail, provisional, and overseas ballots 4. Race and precinct(s) selection for manual post-election State audit 5. Audit process starts to completion

All proceedings will be open to the public. For a sign language interpreter or other accommodations, please call 305-499-8405 at least five days in advance. In accordance with Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, a person who appeals any decision by the canvassing board with respect to any matter considered at a meeting, he or she will need a record of the proceedings and therefore will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made.

Christina White
Supervisor of Elections
Miami-Dade County, Florida

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





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- Explore advanced safety innovations in the CT6
- Discover the unparalleled capabilities of XT5 and Escalade
- Plus, be among the first to preview the all-new XT4 crossover, available fall 2018

FRIDAY, MAY 4 – SUNDAY, MAY 6
HARD ROCK STADIUM, MIAMI
MULTIPLE DRIVE SESSIONS AVAILABLE

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'AMERICA'S GOT TALENT'S' Sons of Serendip

Musicians offer 'mental and spiritual' healing in Miramar

JAYDA HALL
digital@miamitimesonline.com

What started as a joke about one day singing and performing as a group, turned into a reality for the Sons of Serendip.

The four musicians attended Boston University, all pursuing master's degrees in different subjects from music education to divinity. And when lead vocalist Micah Christian received

a call about potentially being on "America's Got Talent," he joined forces with his three friends to create an audition tape.

They received a call three weeks later after submission — the judges were interested.

After submitting song after song with "little expectation," the judges finally said, "yes" to this group with little experience. They would not only earn fourth place on Season 9 of the show,

but through songs, offer "mental and spiritual" healing to music lovers around the world.

Now, the group seeks to provide that same healing during their first public South Florida performance at 8 p.m. on April 13 at Miramar Cultural Center, 2400 Civic Center Place.

Christian, pianist and guitarist Cordaro Rodriguez, cellist and vocalist Kendall Ramseur and harpist Mason Morton will

perform "50 songs in the Key of Wonder," to celebrate Stevie Wonder and his music.

"What's great about Stevie Wonder is his genius in the music and the lyrics," Christian said. "And using a piano, cello, harp and cajon hand drum to create fresh interpretation of his music is not easy."

The group has performed different styles of music for some **SEE SONS 2C**

Sons of Serendip group from left: Lead vocalist Micah Christian, pianist and guitarist Cordaro Rodriguez, cellist and vocalist Kendall Ramseur and harpist Mason Morton



From blogger to a best-seller

Luvvie Ajayi shares how authenticity is key to the voice of a generation

ASHLEY STONEY
Essence

Luvvie Ajayi is one of the pioneering Black bloggers who, long before social media was critical to boosting a curated following, had a cult following of her blog Awesomely Luvvie — infamous for Scandal recaps told in her authentically Luvvie voice.

"I started blogging in college in 2003," she told ESSENCE. "It wasn't like a big plan. I just started a blog... I had basically an online diary, that's essentially what it was."

Inspired by a journalist who once quoted her without attribution, the fearless and hilarious author decided to capture just why are people

so messy? She penned a book of essays in her 2017 New York Times bestseller, "I'm Judging You: The Do Better Manual." After nine printings, her book was recently re-released in hardcover with a bonus chapter and is currently being developed into a series for television.

ESSENCE: Do you have a moment in time when you said "I love telling stories, this is what I'm called to do?"

Luvvie: For me, writing wasn't a career that felt tangible, and it was one of those things that essentially kind of

“
For me, writing wasn't a career that felt tangible, and it was one of those things that essentially kind of happened by accident.”

happened by accident. The journey to the point where I could call myself a writer was essentially when I had no other excuse to not call myself a writer.

ESSENCE: We want to hear who inspires you, so who are some women that you look up to?

Luvvie: Oprah's of course high on that list. What

Black girl does not look up to Oprah? Because, I mean, just (look at) the work that she's done and the fact that she also built a career and an empire fully on her own... and that she's committed to making the world better. So, Oprah for sure.

I'm a huge fan of Ava DuVernay's because she's essentially created a career out of storytelling. She always said she didn't pick up a camera 'til she was in her 30s, and (it's amazing) to see what she's been able to do in that time. Shonda Rhimes changed television with "Scandal." Single-handedly changed television.

ESSENCE: How do you, Luvvie, hope to make Black history today?

Luvvie: I'm just **SEE AJAYI 2C**



Luvvie Ajayi is an award-winning writer, digital strategist and speaker.

BOOK REVIEW

‘A firecracker sound and King was quiet’

New book peels back the scab on Martin Luther’s murder in Memphis

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER
bookwormsec@yahoo.com

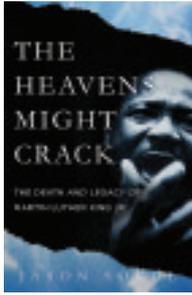
One minute. That’s all it can take to change history. Sixty seconds, as long as an average TV commercial or two. A few blinks of your eyes and nothing is ever the same. And things can keep changing, as you’ll see in the new book “The Heavens Might Crack” by Jason Sokol.

The evening of April 4, 1968, was ordinary, just like many others on the road.

Andrew Young hadn’t kept Martin Luther King Jr. satis-

factorily apprised of a legal situation in Memphis and was on the receiving end of a pillow fight. Later, “Young and [Pastor] James Orange shadowboxed in the parking lot” of Lorraine Hotel and, while preparing for the next event, King wondered if he might want a jacket for the cooling air. And then, a “firecracker” sound and King was quiet ...

By most accounts, King was prepared for his death. He’d discussed it with friends and family, and they knew that loving him would mean losing him. It had been this way for years but, says Sokol, “the



ferent.” White people largely feared and hated King. The FBI told him to “take his own

life.” And yet, King hadn’t once backed down in his ideals.

Shock rolled through the nation following that spring evening. Some wept, and some questioned the need to go on. Others looted, burned, stood against the police in nearly every major city in the country. Many white Americans rejoiced, while Black militancy increased. Gun control, which the Senate had discussed just hours before King’s death, became a political hot-button.

And in the days that followed his assassination, it was feared that King’s legacy would be forgotten.

Instead, it became sullied: says Sokol, “... the historical

King — a courageous dissident who unsettled the powerful — would be replaced by a mythical one.”

Because it has been 50 years since Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, it can be assumed that many Americans today are too young to remember it. “The Heavens Might Crack” serves as a good fill-in for them (and for the not-then-born), as well as a look back for those who can recall with great detail.

But beware — it’s a painful read, not because of how it’s written but because of what’s told. Author Sokol picks the scab off old wounds that may have once seemed healed as he puts current events into reverse-perspective. Readers

might be surprised to see that some issues have softened with age, while others are as sharp today as they were then — and that includes shocking examples of racism, inequality, and violence. He doesn’t stop there, though.

Sokol shows how King’s birthday became a reluctant holiday, and how his legacy leaves us with a “duty” to “make clear the substance of his actual teachings ...”

This is a history book, to be sure, but it also feels quite meditative, making it the perfect read for those who remember and those who can’t. “The Heavens Might Crack” is highly recommended. You’ll be grabbed by it in the first minute.

SONS

CONTINUED FROM 1C

time and soon discovered that Wonder’s music was the most difficult to remake. The musicians, however, wanted to be challenged despite what they knew, according to Christian.

After months of practicing, Sons of Serendip hope listeners will feel like they’re hearing Wonder’s music for the “first time.”

“We want people to leave feeling good and feeling connected with the core of Stevie’s music,” Christian said.

Ramseur said the group

also seeks to promote Black artists in the classical world. Although he and the other musicians started playing these instruments at a young age, he didn’t recognize until college that Morton was just like him — a young Black musician skilled in playing a classical instrument.

“Mason and I were two brothers of color playing instruments that you normally don’t see in the classical world,” he said. “It’s really awesome knowing that I’m not the only one.”

Morton started playing the harp when he was real young, Ramseur recalled. Ramseur grew up in the same neighborhood with Rodriguez, playing the pia-



What’s great about Stevie Wonder is his genius in the music and the lyrics,” Christian said. “And using a piano, cello, harp and cajon hand drum to create fresh interpretation of his music is not easy.”

no as young as 5 years old. The two would get together and compose different styles of music before Ramseur branched off and learned to play the cello in elementary. Christian, on the other hand, began singing at the age of 11.

Christian said although Black musicians in the classical world are not featured much, he knows that they are out there.

“There are young Black artists killing it in the classical world,” he said. “We are just one group of many out there that are doing these kinds of things and doing it well and succeeding.”

And this type of success is one that the Sons of Serendip would never have imag-

ined, according to Ramseur. He said it is difficult in the arts and how “trying to land a job in music is very tough.”

“Each member had their eyes set on different things,” he said. “But in the end, taking this path was a huge blessing for us.”

The musicians will make a stop in South Florida, as part of their tour, which includes performing on April 12 in Tampa.

Come and “set all your stresses and anxieties to the side and enjoy good music,” Ramseur said.

Tickets start at \$35. Visit MiramarCulturalCenter.org or call the box office at 954-602-4500 for more information.

AJAYI

CONTINUED FROM 1C

trying to live out loud. To inspire other people to do the same. I think less about how I’m going to make history and figure out how I can live the best that I can live now. And I think that ultimately can make history. I just want my presence to give somebody else the courage to be exactly who they are and that’s why I share my victories and my falls and my journey, because ultimately I want somebody else to look at me and be like, “Aight, if she can do this then I can do it, too.”

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For the 18th time, Baptist Health South Florida is honored to be on Fortune magazine’s list of “100 Best Companies to Work For,” earning a spot in the top 25 and ranking #1 in the diversity category. Additionally, we are proud to announce that for the eighth consecutive year we are one of only seven companies in the nonprofit healthcare providers category to be recognized as a “World’s Most Ethical Company” by the Ethisphere Institute.



TV REVIEW

'Last O.G.' has a lot of talent, some laughs

But critic says the TV comedy by Jordan Peele still comes up short

HANK STUEVER

Washington Post

TBS's comedy "The Last O.G." (premiering Tuesday) stars Tracy Morgan, the beloved "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" alum who was nearly killed in a 2014 turnpike pileup and then recovered and worked his way back

The combination of these names (Morgan, Peele, Haddish) will certainly arouse the search engines, but "The Last O.G.," which was originally set to debut last fall, lacks the impact and/or the consistent laughs that a viewer might expect. Just beneath its easy jokes, however, it reveals a sweeter theme about a

and expensive restaurants overrun by foodies.

Tray's former girlfriend Shay (Haddish), made the most of the upgrade. She finished college and runs a successful nonprofit charity. She also married an earnest white man, Josh (Ryan Gaul), with whom she's raising her twin son and daughter, Shahzad (Dante Hoagland) and Amira (Taylor Mosby). Tray tracks down Shay at a fundraising cocktail party, where he also

Morgan's knack for playing hilariously sensitive yet determinedly delusional men. Rather than bemoan his existence as an ex-con who lives with other parolees in a half-way house lorded over by a hapless disciplinarian (Cedric the Entertainer), Tray sets about adapting to this strange

new world and finding a way to show Shay that he is worthy to be included in his kids' lives. Tray, who was lauded by inmates for his contraband cooking skills in prison, offers his culinary services at a hip restaurant, which promptly rejects him — but not before stealing his recipe

for a vending-machine candy dessert loaf.

Tray finds better luck working at a chain coffee shop, which is owned by Wavy (Malik Yoba), a former drug dealer from Tray's past life who found a more lucrative career supplying Brooklyn's caffeine addicts.



Tracy Morgan stars in "The Last O.G."

Francisco Roman

to optimal career speed. The show is co-created by Jordan Peele, who recently won a screenwriting Oscar for his wildly entertaining and culturally prescient horror film "Get Out." Finally, it co-stars Tiffany Haddish, a gifted actress and comedian ("Girls Trip") who shot to fame last summer and enveloped the world in her own giddy Haddishosphere.

man who just wants a second chance to do right by those he loves most.

Morgan stars as Tray, a freshly paroled Brooklyn drug dealer who spent the past 15 years in the clink. Upon release, he returns to his home turf to find it shockingly gentrified with the usual telltale signs of Stuff White People Like: luxury baby strollers, high-end boutiques

sees the teenagers and realizes that he is their father. Shay, who cut off contact after Tray went to jail, sternly asks Tray to stay out of their lives. (It's a good — but far from great — role for Haddish, who joined the cast before her career mushroomed. The show barely showcases her talents.)

But here is where "The Last O.G." makes strong use of

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LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

SCHOOL MEETINGS:
■ Miami Northwestern Class of 1968
 2 p.m. every fourth Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-216-6171

■ 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
 6 p.m. every second Monday to plan 50th reunion on June 14-18; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; 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

■ Miami 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 Citizen Advisory Committee
 7 p.m. every second Thursday to discuss general community issues; Northside Police Station; 799 NW 81 St.; Info: Call 786-512-3641

■ 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.

LL Cool J launches classic hip-hop radio on SiriusXM

The rooster will include tracks by Ice Cube, Snoop Dogg and Outkast

JESSICA MCKINNEY
Vibe

With rookies like Tekashi 6ix9ine and Lil Uzi Vert running the charts, it's clear that hip-hop music is moving in a very different direction. Even so, there are still many artists - young and old - who want to pay homage to those classic rap tracks. And now, they will be able to get their daily dose of classic hip-hop, thanks to a new radio channel. LL Cool J launched "Rock the Bells Radio" for SiriusXM on Wednesday, March 27, where fans can listen to all of their favorite O.G.s.

Following the big launch, the recent Kennedy Center honoree hosted an invite-only retro skating party at World on Wheels roller skating rink in Los Angeles. Snoop Dogg, Tiffany Haddish, Kelis, Anthony Anderson, and hip-hop pioneers, Melle Mel, Slick Rick, Dana Dane, and Eric B, were some of the celebrity guests on the invitation list.

"This is an important room," LL told VIBE during the launch party. "These guys mean everything to

this culture."
 "Rock the Bells" radio, which currently airs on channel 43 on SiriusXM, pays homage to the rap classics, through the "lens of current culture." The show will feature an array of hip-hop content, from music and interviews, to in-depth retrospectives curated and presented by LL, as well as other innovators of hip-hop music, including Ice Cube, Stetasonic, Eric B. & Rakim, Snoop Dogg, Outkast, Kool Moe Dee, Public Enemy, A Tribe Called Quest, Ultra-magnetic MCs, Too Short, Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five, Canibus, Wu-Tang Clan, Run-DMC, Brand Nubian, De La Soul, Black Moon and Ice T.

While it has not been confirmed, that classic roster may also include music from the likes of the Notorious B.I.G., Salt-N-Pepa, and LL Cool J himself.
 "It's not about capturing anything, it's about moving forward. It's about showing people an art form in a classic sense. There's no nostalgia in this. It's all through the lens of current culture," LL explained.
 "These guys are too im-



LL COOL J celebrates the launch of his exclusive SiriusXM channel "Rock The Bells Radio" at World on Wheels in Los Angeles.

portant for me to just let the world think that me and Run DMG started rap music," he continued. "That's not reality. I didn't start it. I stood on the shoulders of giants, so I want to make sure that they're respected and celebrated. It's important because if we don't document history it's erased forever."

"Hip-hop has gotten to a point where people are more focussed [on the business side], and it's not a bad thing to do, but being a successful business man has nothing to do with the art form," he added. "You can be talented at capturing and monetizing the art, but that doesn't mean

you're not a great artist if you don't do that. A lot of these guys weren't able to capture certain things financially, but their artistic contribution will last for years."

And the new-school generation isn't being cut out of the conversation, LL encourages anyone who wants to "check out the classics" to listen to the show.

"It ain't about age, it's about a state of mind," he pointed out. "You want to check out the classics we're here, it's that simple. Nobody's pandering, we're in our lane. We're not trying to fake it, this is classic."

Winfrey and Rhimes up for Webbys

Black comedian Amber Ruffin to host the 22nd annual awards in May

Miami Times Press Report

Late Night with Seth Meyers writer and comedian Amber Ruffin is set to host the 22nd annual Webby Awards. Honoring excellence on the internet and celebrating internet culture, the Webby Awards will take place at Cipriani Wall Street in New York on May 14.

Oprah Winfrey, RuPaul, Questlove and Shonda Rhimes are among the talent up for awards this year.

In the best host (podcasts & digital Audio) category Oprah's "SuperSoul Conversations," "RuPaul: What's the Tee with Michelle Visage" and "Questlove Supreme" will face off against each other.

As a first-time host of the ceremony, Ruffin will serve as a cruise director of sorts for the show. She will also keep all the winners in check, making sure they adhere to the Webby Awards' five-word acceptance speech rule.

"I'm so excited to host this year's show!" said Ruffin



Shonda Rhimes and Oprah Winfrey on the set of Oprah's TV show "SuperSoul Conversations."

about her new post. "It'll be surprising, hilarious, and a little embarrassing, just like the internet!"

Ruffin is known for her regular segments on Late Night including "Amber Says What?" and "Jokes Seth Can't Tell." She became the first Black woman to write for a late-night network talk

show in the United States.

"Oprah's Super Soul Conversations" features audio from the television series "Super Soul Sunday." It delivers insight and inspiration from top thinkers, authors, visionaries and spiritual leaders.

Rhimes was nominated for best advertising, media and PR

launch for Dove's Real Beauty Productions. Real Beauty Productions dovetails is part of Dove's pledge to only use "real women," not models in ads, to name them in the ads wherever possible, to eschew digital retouching of their images, and to give them review rights on their images before they are distributed.

Will Bill Cosby get a fair trial? Some don't think so

Judge in sexual assault case allows a juror who thinks Cosby is guilty

STACY M. BROWN
NMPA Newswire special report

Any appearance of fairness and impartiality that Judge Steven O'Neill may have exhibited is out the window, according to those siding with comedian Bill Cosby in his retrial.

After a weekend to ponder the actions of a juror selected to serve on the case, O'Neill decided Monday afternoon to allow the individual to remain on the panel.

public explanation.

"How can that be? The juror said he had already made up his mind that Cosby was guilty," said Rhonda Traylor, a Black woman who said she came to court on Monday to counter planned protests against the comedian.

After being selected to serve as juror No. 11 last week, the man who is white and believed to be in his 40s, reportedly told others on the prospective panel that "I just think [Cosby's] guilty, so we can all be done and get out of here."



Some courtroom observers doubt that Bill Cosby will get a fair trial this time around. Photo taken of Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt (left) leading the comedian into court during his trial last summer at the Montgomery County Courthouse on June 5, 2017 in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

Sporting a dark hair of twists, a pearl necklace and wearing diamond studded earrings, Traylor said she was horrified over a protester who jumped a barrier, stripped off her shirt and bra and ran in front of Cosby.

The protester was identified as Nicolle Rochelle, 39, of Little Falls, N.J. who was charged with disorderly conduct after sheriff's deputies wrestled her to the ground and into a nearby bush. She later contacted other protesters who placed her on a speakerphone, so reporters could hear.

"They said they'd drop the charges, if I don't come back to the courthouse," Rochelle

could be overheard saying. She said also that she had appeared on some episodes of the iconic "Cosby Show" in the early 1990s and noted that Cosby had always been respectful of her, but her outburst was to "show support to the women."

"This is what it's come to," said Traylor, who works in a nearby mail sorting facility. "This isn't about justice, it's about demonstrations and putting on a show. And, I believe things are only going to get worse because more people are beginning to realize that this judge and the prosecutors seem to be working together with the goal of taking Cosby down."



Somber observance of MLK's death

Hundreds attend march, concert at M. Athalie Range Park

ANDREA ROBINSON

arobinson@miamitimeonline.com

They sang, marched and sang some more, all in memory of a man who died 50 years ago. The South Floridians who remembered Martin Luther King Jr. spoke of justice and equality — some of the same themes that resonated in 1968.

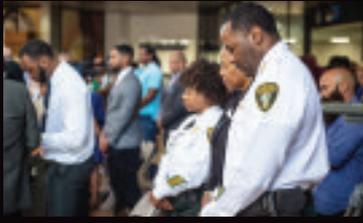
In Miami, a small group of the powerful and parents who pushed toddlers in strollers walked a two-block procession to symbolize the marchers who fueled the national movement that the slain civil rights leader galvanized.

That march was among several South Florida observances held to commemorate the milestone anniversary of King's assassination.

At the city of Miami's official celebration April 4, a bell tolled 39 times — one for each year that King lived. City and county leaders and elected officials joined more than 1,000 people in the annual Reclaim the Dream candle-lighting service and gospel concert at M. Athalie Range Park.

Although the event was for King, who was known as a man of peace, the specter of senseless gun violence hung in the air.

Miami Mayor Francis Suarez said he was committed to ending the carnage, and spoke of the March 31 killing of a 4-year-old Liberty City girl, Nyla Jones. The little girl was shot as she sat in her



mother's car in the Liberty Square housing development.

The alleged gunman is her uncle, Ronald Willie Jones, 24, Jones has been charged with second-degree murder

and attempted third-degree murder.

"Just the other day, I had to comfort a mother. No one should have to go through that," Suarez said. "Let this be a rebirth, a resurrection

love for all that is good. Our best days are ahead of us."

Miami Commission Chairman Keon Hardemon, the host of the event, echoed that sentiment.

"This senseless gun violence

must stop. We want a community where students can walk to school without gun violence," Hardemon said.

The commissioner compared the violence of King's

day with that faced in this country today. "To acknowledge his struggle, we acknowledge our struggle," Hardemon said.

He referenced other high-profile shootings that have grabbed national headlines as part of the nation's struggle: Parkland, Sandy Hook, Las Vegas and Orlando. He also evoked the name of Trayvon Martin, the Miami Gardens teenager who was gunned down in Sanford, Florida in 2012.

Hardemon and Suarez were joined by several dozen men, women and children who were part of the procession into the park. A group of sanitation workers and members of King's Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity sang a chorus of "We Shall Overcome" as they marched the brief route.

Among those walking were young adults from Greater Miami Service Corps, a non-profit agency that provides education and job training for men and women.

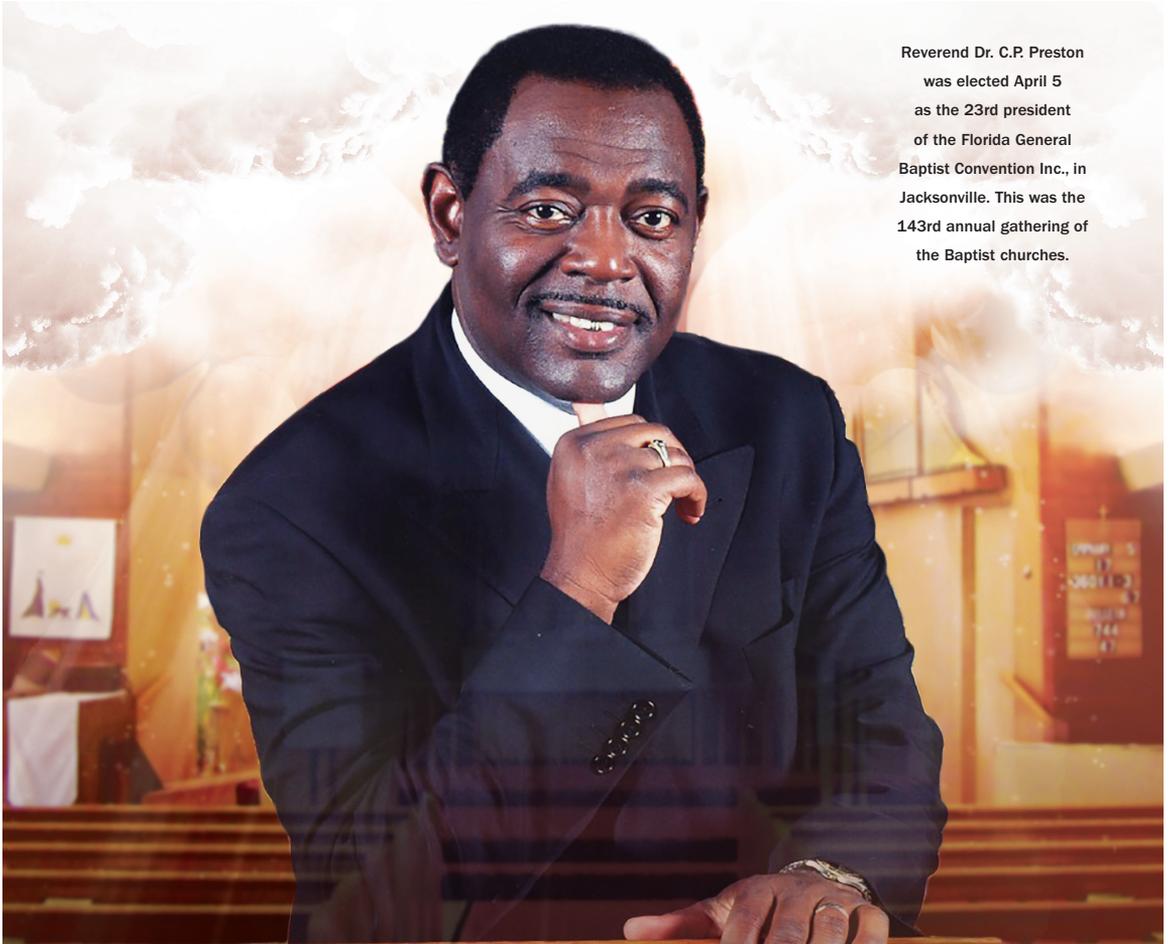
Executive Director Deborah Dorsett said the young people wanted to march. Some of them came from the agency's unit in the South Miami-Dade community of Leisure City.

"It was important that given the fact we were commemorating 50 years" since King's untimely death at the hand of gunman James Earl Ray in Memphis, Dorsett said. "We are standing on the legacy of MLK. They understand."



Hundreds of South Floridians attended a momentous march and candlelight vigil in honor of the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. followed by a gospel concert featuring Shirley Caesar and Kirk Franklin April 4 at M. Athalie Range Park.

Photos courtesy of John Studstill and the city of Miami for the MLK photo collage



Reverend Dr. C.P. Preston was elected April 5 as the 23rd president of the Florida General Baptist Convention Inc., in Jacksonville. This was the 143rd annual gathering of the Baptist churches.

FLORIDA BAPTIST GROUP ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

Reverend Dr. C. P. Preston Jr. took the helm April 5

Miami Times Staff Report

Reverend Dr. C. P. Preston Jr., pastor of Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church, is the new leader of the statewide group of Baptist churches.

Preston was elected April 5 as the 23rd president of the Florida Gen-

eral Baptist Convention Inc., in Jacksonville. This was the 143rd annual gathering of the Baptist churches.

He succeeds Reverend Dr. James B. Sampson, who had served as president since 2007. As the newly elected president, Preston plans to first do

God's will, take the statewide coalition to higher heights and strengthen the partnership with Florida Memorial University. In Preston's first sermon as president on Sunday at Peaceful Zion, his message was based on Psalms 124, and it was entitled "Giving Credit Where

Credit is Due."

Preston previously served as the longstanding moderator and was later appointed moderator emeritus. His new cabinet is comprised of seven vice presidents, nine ministries, a host of auxiliaries and other statewide officers. While

on the campaign trail, Preston held a host of local community events at Peaceful Zion and also traveled along Florida's east coast with his family and parishioners. Other candidates vying for the seat were Reverend Alphonso Jackson Sr. of Second Baptist Church

in Richmond Heights and Dr. Larry G. Mills of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church in Orlando.

The inauguration ceremony for Rev. Preston will be 7 p.m. May 14 at the 93rd Street Community Missionary Baptist Church, located at 2330 NW 93rd St., in Miami.

Spiritually Speaking: Taking it one day at a time

Remember that Jesus has already taken care of the 'eternity thing'

JAMES WASHINGTON
The Dallas Weekly

Today is truly a day that the Lord has made and the more complicated the world gets, the simpler the Word of God is to understand.

Often, and do I mean often, I get reminded of the power and seductive nature of ego, pride and the need to control. Or, should I say the need to be in control? Letting go and letting God is a simple concept to say and dare I say, an easy concept to understand? Yet,

why is it so hard to do?

We all know people who can quote scripture backward and forward, yet have no faith. We know Christian control freaks who must have the last say, and who must be right all the time.

I know I sometimes get caught up in constantly trying to rationalize circumstances in order to explain the events of the day, any day, as if by some miracle of intelligence, I am the authority.

It is more often than not, at these times that if I'm bless-



James Washington

ed and open to receiving the Holy Spirit, that I then get a chance to see the miracles,

the nuances, the essence of my life. I am not in control, never have been, never will be and, it's okay. Giving your life to Christ requires a constant vigil against taking credit or assessing blame. When you focus on service in the name of the Lord, you really do get a chance to see things from a different perspective. You see the service I'm referring to is the selfless kind that neither seeks nor expects reward. The mere act speaks for itself. How much more simple does it have to be? Christ even suggests that God can see into your heart and know your intention. Love God and love your neighbor as you love

yourself. It's so simple, it's incredible. It's so simple that if you're not careful, you'll miss it altogether. I know I have.

Now on this day, or any day that God has made, let's take this simple concept and apply it to a very complex world. Behavior should have parameters. Actions should have purpose. We know they have consequences. Intent should always be uppermost in your mind. Now, let's look back over your yesterday. See how easy it was from the time you got up, until the time you laid down, to succumb to jealousy, pettiness, cruelty, envy and the like? It takes work to be

humble, loving, giving and a source of truth all day, every day. It takes willpower and you know the will I'm talking about.

I believe the calling of every Christian is to try. It's the effort that God expects. It's the intent He wants. If you're first seeking the kingdom of heaven, then that quest should have some direct bearing on what you do today, how you perform, what you say and certainly whom you hang out with. I'm fortunate to have known people I believe were truly angels walking. I really do believe there are saints among us, and we ignore

SEE TIME 8D



The cost of raising a child today is \$233,610 – excluding the cost of college – for a middle-income family, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

CAN YOU AFFORD TO BE A PARENT?

Raising a child costs more than \$233,000, experts say

AIMEE PICCHI
USA TODAY

Four years after getting married — and after a lot of financial planning — Jennie Kennedy and her husband welcomed their baby son into their Spokane, Wash., home.

Kennedy, 34, recalled their discussions before their son was born: “Are we ready? Are we in a good spot? We probably over-thought it because we put off getting pregnant.”

Not quite, Kennedy and her husband took all the right steps before having a child, including putting money aside and analyzing their finances, experts say. Adding a child represents a major financial stress: The cost of raising a child today is \$233,610 — excluding the cost of college — for a middle-income family, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

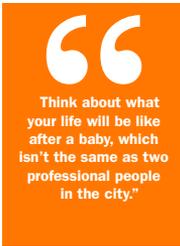
The stakes may be higher for new parents than in previous generations, thanks to a combination of changing demographics and economic pressures.

Women are delaying motherhood, a trend especially pronounced for college-educated women. That means new parents typically have a better financial foothold than in earlier decades, yet it can deliver other challenges, such as a higher rate of fertility problems and tough decisions about balancing work and family.

HOW TO BUDGET FOR BABY

Where to start? First, financial experts recommend socking away six months of living expenses, which will help if a parent wants to take unpaid time off from work or if the family encounters surprises.

Next, get a grip on your budget. Estimate how your expenses might change after the baby arrives. While there will be new expenses — such as higher costs for food, clothing and child care — some couples



“Think about what your life will be like after a baby, which isn't the same as two professional people in the city,” Penta said.

Financial programs such as You Need a Budget or Mint can help would-be parents set up a budget and model expenses after a baby. One of the biggest costs is child care, which can vary considerably depending on your location.

Talking with friends and family who have relied on child care can give a sense of your area's costs, said Kelly Barrow, a wealth management adviser with financial services firm TIAA.

Setting up a health savings account (HSA), available to people with high-deductible health care plans, can also prove helpful, as New York mom Priya Raghavan discovered. She and her husband relied on an HSA to help cover unexpected medical expenses, such as an unplanned hospital visit for their newborn daughter.

“I was surprised because we have good insurance,” Raghavan said.

FERTILITY TREATMENTS AND ADOPTION

With more adults putting off parenthood, some are finding themselves blindsided by

another health expense: fertility treatments. One round of in vitro fertilization (IVF) can set a couple back by \$15,000, and often multiple rounds are required to conceive. Adoption within the U.S. can range from \$15,000 to \$40,000, while international adoptions can cost as much as \$50,000, according to the Child Welfare Information Gateway, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Put some legwork into research, such as what benefits your employer offers and how the fertility industry works, said Kelley Long, a certified financial planner with Financial Finesse, who herself is pursuing IVF treatments.

“If I had to go back and start over, I would do things differently,” she added. “Part of educating yourself is knowing what costs are negotiable,” such as fertility drugs.

HOPE FOR THE BEST, PLAN FOR THE WORST

Lastly, create a will and take out life insurance before the baby arrives, financial experts say.

“Everyone needs a plan, if you have \$100 million or \$150 in your bank account,” said Brown Brother Harriman's Penta. “Take a 50,000-foot view before you have these people in your life who have personalities and needs.”

Saving for a child's college education is another step, although 529 plans are typically opened for a child after their birth because it requires a Social Security number for the beneficiary. Consider asking family members to contribute, rather than buying a new toy or clothing, experts say. College costs rose more than 3 percent last year, outpacing inflation, and the average private college now costs almost \$47,000 annually.

Raghavan said her advice for people who may be thinking of starting a family: “Start saving.”

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 Doriscar
8025 NW Miami Court 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

Prophetess Felicia Hamilton-Parramore
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 Church COGIC
Pastor Dr. Willie Gaines
3257 NW 7th Avenue Circle • 305-335-4389

New Life Christian Center

Rev. Bruce Payne
5728 Washington Street • 786-536-9039

MORAVIAN CHURCH

New Hope Moravian Church
Pastor Gregorio Moody
6001 SW 17th 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

Suicide rate among Black U.S. children has increased

Researchers don't know why, but some speculate racism is issue

PAUL ROGO
Essence

In December 10-year-old Ashawnty Davis committed suicide after falling victim to “bullycide,” choosing to take her life after video of her being bullied was posted on social media.

The number of suicides among Black children has increased dramatically in the last decade, leaving researchers without concrete answers as to the reason for such a sharp increase.

The suicide rate among Black-American kids has gone up by 71 percent, increasing from 86 suicides in 2006 to 147 in 2016, accord-

ing to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Overall, the suicide rate among all U.S. children under 18 was up by 64 percent in the same period.

Although researchers were unable to pinpoint the exact reasons, they speculate that Black children affected by racism are at greater risk. Researchers also pinpointed the fact that suicide is not considered a problem within the Black community, hence hindering any form of prevention efforts, the Chicago Tribune reports.

“If there is a belief that Black children do not kill

themselves, there's no reason to use tools to talk about suicide prevention,” Rhee Walker, a psychology professor at the University of Houston told the Tribune.

Her research of Black-American mental health shows possible links between perceived racism and suicide among Black youths.

“Minorities often don't seek treatment,” said Erlander Turner, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Houston who also studies race and culture. “What we know is that people at risk of suicide often suffer from some mood disorder or depression. If you're not treated for these conditions, the risk is much higher.”

TIME

CONTINUED FROM 7D

them all the time because we're too busy pursuing the world, rather than pursuing God. However, from these living breathing angels, I've learned that the battle is not over until you know you've

already won. The quest is not over until you are born, born again, die and ultimately live forever.”

There's a line in the movie “Gladiator” that says, “What we do in life...echoes in eternity.” It's kind of nice to know that Jesus already took care of that eternity thing. All I have to do is get through this life thing. If truth be told, I

think I've got the easy part. I may not make sense on the surface, but when you stop and think about it, it really is simple. See me. See God. I can do this. I've just got to get this. One day at a time, one hour at a time, one person at a time. Try it, just once, try it.

May God bless and keep you, always.

FAITH CALENDAR

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

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.

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Brownsville

Free musical, open to the public, presented by the ministry's male choir; 7:30 p.m. on April 27; 2799 NW 46th St.

Sistah to Sistah Connection

Women's empowerment meeting; 10 a.m. — noon every second and fourth Saturday; Parkway Professional Building in Miramar. Call 954-260-9348 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.

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.

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church

Food and clothing giveaway every third Saturday. Call 786-277-4150 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; 3 to 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.

DR. HENRI FORD

HAITIAN-BORN SURGEON NAMED
DEAN OF UM MEDICAL SCHOOL

Miami Times Staff Report

The University of Miami has named Dr. Henri R. Ford, a physician executive from Los Angeles, as dean of its Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, effective June 1.

Dr. Ford is a pediatric surgeon who maintains close ties with his native country, Haitian. In 2010 he traveled to Haiti after the earthquake to provide surgical care to children injured in the devastation. Since then, Dr. Ford has returned regularly to provide medical care to its residents. In May 2015, he performed the first successful separation of conjoined twins in Haiti, telling CBS News that it was "extremely gratifying" to be able to perform the operation alongside Haitian surgeons whom he helped to train.

Ford, the son of a preacher, calls it his "dream job."

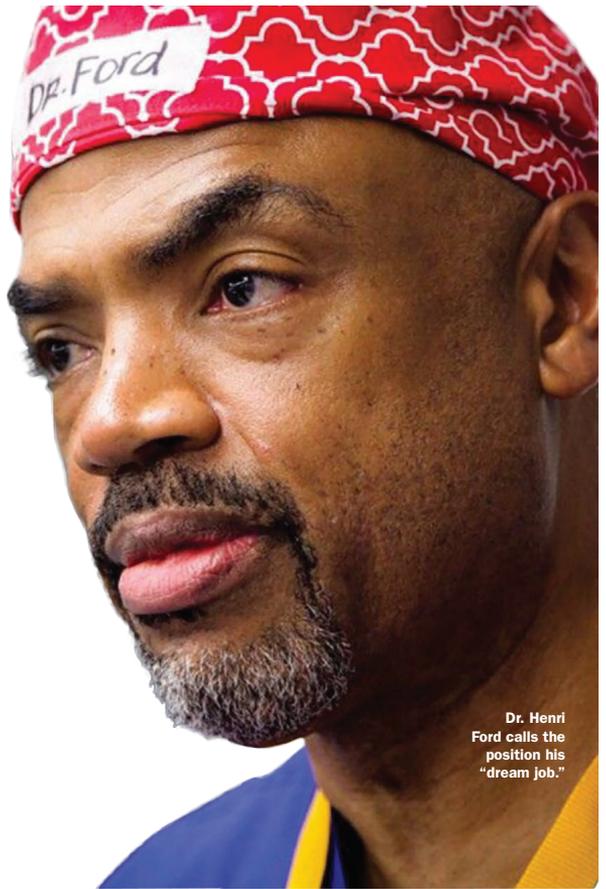
"As I reflect on my journey in American medicine, I feel that I've been preparing all my life to assume what is an incredibly important role for such a time as this," said Ford, who is also professor and vice chair for clinical affairs in the Department of Surgery at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine. "As a physician-scientist, physician-educator and

administrator, I feel that I must establish a culture of excellence in scientific research and promote the translation of discoveries into interventions that will transform lives, build healthier communities and improve global health."

Dr. Ford will move to Miami with his wife, Donna and their two children, Arielle and Alex.

He is currently the senior vice-president and chief of surgery at the Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA), vice-dean of medical education, and professor and vice chair for clinical affairs in the Department of Surgery at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. Dr. Ford was a professor and chief of the Division of Pediatric Surgery and surgeon-in-chief at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine prior to joining CHLA in January 2005.

He is a member of numerous profession-



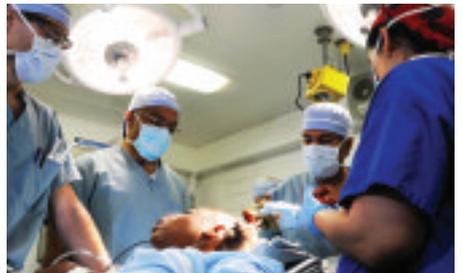
Dr. Henri Ford calls the position his "dream job."



Dr. Henri Ford separated twins Marian and Michelle Dave-Nouche Bernard.

“

I'm very excited about the tremendous opportunity to potentially help Haiti establish a much-needed trauma and critical-care infrastructure."



United States Navy image

Dr. Henri Ford, (second from left), with Sanjay Gupta (third from left) and two U.S. Navy doctors operating on a 12-year-old girl aboard the USS Carl Vinson.

al and scientific societies, including the Surgical Biology Club, the American Surgical Association, the American Physiological Society, the British Association of Pediatric Surgeons, the American Trauma Society, the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the American Pediatric Surgical Association, the Society of University Surgeons, the Shock Society, the Surgical Infections Society, the Society of Black Academic Surgeons and the Association for Academic Surgery.

He received his bachelor's degree

in public and international affairs, cum laude, from Princeton University, and his doctor of medicine, from Harvard Medical School. He also received his master of health degree from the School of Policy, Planning, and Development from University of Southern California.

Ford will be the dean of a medical school that has a long history of providing care in Haiti. In conjunction with Project Medishare, the Miller School and the School of Nursing and Health Studies have brought critical and primary care, medical equipment and training to Haiti.

"I'm very excited about the tremendous opportunity to potentially help Haiti establish a much-needed trauma and critical-care infrastructure so that Haitians don't have to jump on an airplane to come to the U or Jackson Memorial for treatment or simply die in country whenever they sustain significant multi-system trauma, a heart attack, or a critical burn," he said. "And the same also applies to other ... Caribbean and Latin American nations that may potentially benefit from the expertise that is readily available at the Hemispheric University."




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Award for Carol City school leader

Miami Times staff report

Carol City Middle School's Derek Negron was recognized as Assistant Principal of the Year for Miami-Dade County Public Schools at a special ceremony on Thursday at Jungle Island Miami.

Every year, M-DCPS honors its finest school leaders during the ceremony. This is an opportunity to salute outstanding principals and assistant principals in the district. Each winner and runner-up received an award and a cash prize.



Derek Negron, assistant principal of Carol City Middle School since 2016, speaks at Jungle Island Miami.



Photos courtesy of Miami Dade County Public Schools

School Board Member Lawrence Feldman, Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho, School Board Chair Perla Tabares Hantman, Assistant Principal of the Year Derek Negron, School Board members Steve Gallon III, Lubby Navarro, Mari Tere Rojas and Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall.

Negron received \$1,500, a signature ring and personalized clock from Herff Jones, a 55-inch TV from Toyota of North Miami and a special gift basket valued at more than \$1,000.

The assistant principal began his career with M-DCPS as a classroom teacher at Barbara Hawkins Elementary in 2005. He has served as an assistant principal at Carol City Middle School since 2016.

The Principal of the Year winner, Humberto Miret, of Miami Southridge Senior High School, received \$2,500 and a three-year lease to a new car from Toyota of North Miami. Also recognized at the ceremony

was Principal of the Year Runner-up Evonne Alvarez of New World School of the Arts and Assistant Principal of the Year Runner-up Jeffrey Gonzalez of Homestead Senior High School.



Gallon reflects on progress at final town hall

Miami Dade County Public Schools District 1

Steve Gallon III, Miami-Dade Public County Schools board member for District 1, held his last education town hall meeting for the 2017-18 school year on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at North Dade Middle School.

The meeting was attended by community stakeholders, parents, faculty, staff and students from District 1 schools. Gallon provided updates about several District 1 initiatives, as well as approved board items. He also discussed present and upcoming policies, programs, projects and plans for progressing education in the district. Lastly, Gallon presented a review of all dates, times, subject areas and grade levels for the 2018 Florida State Assessment cycle.



10 things to say to your kids today

'Magic' words that will boost their confidence, promote learning and let them know they are loved!

The Children's Trust

Words have tremendous power, and the messages we convey to our children can affect them even more than we realize. Paul Axtell, author of "Ten Powerful Things to Say to Your Kids," shares the positive statements that can bolster a child's ego and instill a profound sense of security.

1. I like you. "This is a different statement from 'I love you,'" says Axtell. "This... says 'I like who you are as a person.'" He encourages parents to use them both.

2. You're a fast learner. Young children love

learning, and they're good at it. Encouraging that desire early on impacts how they'll feel about learning later on in life, emphasizes Axtell, when it can become more of a challenge.

3. Thank you. "Social skills are critical in life, and the best training for tact and grace starts early," stresses the author.

4. How about we agree to... A little diplomacy goes a long way in helping a family work out their dilemmas. "Having agreements in place helps avoid common issues and provides a framework within which to solve problems when they do arise," says Axtell.



ValueLine/ValueLine/Thinkstock

5. Tell me more. Is there anything that shows greater interest on your part when talking with your child? Inviting them to share their thoughts and feelings with you "involves learning to listen," he explains, "which is always a gift because it signals that you care."

6. Let's read. Open a book at bedtime, and you open your child to a world of possibilities. As Axtell notes, reading instills a love of learning - about people, places and ideas - and helps kids build the skills they need to succeed in life.

7. We all make mistakes. Perhaps one of the most empathic statements on the list, this normalizes the underlying message, reassuringly, that no one is perfect. "Dealing with problems and learning from mistakes are vital life skills," says Axtell. "When you have a moment in which you don't live up to your own standards, it's

an opportunity to show your children how to take responsibility for mistakes and move on."

8. I'm sorry. Not an easy one all the time, but invaluable nonetheless. Axtell stresses the importance of learning to catch yourself before you say something you might regret later on.

9. What do you think? Asking your kids for their opinions and feedback in family conversations gives them the space to become more comfortable expressing their ideas. Just as important, he adds, it allows them to develop their ability to make decisions and take responsibility for them.

10. Yes. "While I do think 'no' is... a viable option at times, too often parents are a 'no' waiting to happen," says Axtell. If you create a pattern of 'yes' in your family, you'll find that 'no' doesn't need to be said as often as you think."

Former Morehouse president takes on diversity at Harvard

John Silvanus Wilson plans to lead an initiative that drives inclusion

BRITNI DANIELLE
ESSENCE

John Silvanus Wilson, former president of Morehouse College, will help Harvard University become a more inclusive institution.

Wilson served as president of Morehouse from 2013 to 2017 before leaving to sit on Harvard University's board of overseers. He took a leave of absence from the board to serve as a senior adviser and strategist on the institution's Presidential Task Force for Inclusion and Belonging.

According to Harvard University President Drew Faust, Wilson will "serve as a point person during the presidential transition in bringing the task force report to life and ensuring its enduring impact."

"The assignment is to build a bridge from what the task force is saying to how we are functioning and living at Harvard. Are there things we can do? Are there programs, initiatives, practices, policies, ways of seeing, strategic thinking that we can begin to evidence here at Harvard, all of which begin to qualitatively change the way our students, staff, and faculty — everyone in the Harvard community — experience Harvard?"

He continued: "I think

fundamentally this work is about getting Harvard to fulfill the fuller dimensions of its character pre-eminent. I don't think there's any question that we have capital pre-eminent. I am concerned, the task force is concerned, President Faust is concerned about whether we have developed as much character pre-eminent as we're destined to have."

Wilson is currently writing a book about Harvard alum W.E.B. Du Bois, who talked about feeling "othered" at the university when he attended in the late 19th century. According to Wilson, the aim of the task force will be to make sure others don't have the same experience.

"Du Bois said he benefited enormously from the professors here. And obviously he brought a great mind here in the first place, as do a lot of people today, but he also said he found the culture at Harvard to be reflective of the problematic caste-based culture in the greater society," Wilson said.

"So I believe that the task force that is still looking to address the same kind of qualitative aspects of the Harvard experience that W.E.B. Du Bois pointed to 130 years ago.



John Silvanus Wilson

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Pastor OF THE WEEK



Pastor Eddy Gervais

PRESENTED BY



Pastor Eddy Gervais has a ministry of diverse cultures

He pays attention to the traditions of their homelands

GREGORY W. WRIGHT
g.wwright@hotmail.com

Church congregations are not always made up of one single group of people. For example, at Community Christian Church, Pastor Eddy Gervais ministers to a mixed group of people, many of whom are second- and third-generation Haitian descent, along with Jamaicans, Latinos and Bahamians.

"We have the island mixture," said Pastor Gervais. "Some of our people were raised in their [home] countries, and somewhere raised in Miami. So, all of our services are in English."

But with the diversity of backgrounds and homelands, Gervais is ever so careful and respectful of cultural differences that make

both the people and their native lands unique.

"You have to take culture and traditions into consideration because everybody has their traditions," said Gervais. "So, you just have to learn how to love, which is the common denominator. But there are certain things you cannot say. Codes of dressing for church service may differ from one group to another."

Gervais, who is of Haitian heritage himself, said for example, "In the Haitian community, they are very religious in terms of what they wear. The missionaries taught them in the '60s and the '70s what not to wear. But for millennials, it's more of a 'come as you are.' We are not saying 'come as you are,' but in Haiti, you [wom-

en] cannot go to church in pants. We are not saying that pants are vulgar or anything, it's just that now, women's clothing includes pants. In Haiti, the younger generation cannot look at an older person in the eye. But here, you are taught, if you are going to speak to somebody, you have to look them in the eye. So, you have these little contradictions to be aware of when you go to our country. But when you come here, you have to flip the switch."

Born and raised in the area now known as Little Haiti and a graduate of Miami Edison Senior High School, Pastor Gervais said knowing and understanding traditions helped him in his youth when communicating with his own grandparents,

as he traveled back and forth to Haiti. "Just knowing the things that I could do, and not do, in love," he said.

Under Pastor Gervais, Community Christian Church has joined the Church of God denomination. "We wanted to be under an umbrella, and if something were to happen to me, the church would go on."

The church recently sold its facilities, so at present, services are held at Norland Middle School, which is located at 1235 NW 192 Terrace. Service on Sundays starts at 10:30 a.m. for the 300-member congregation.

The church is still active in community outreach.

"Our homeless ministry did a lot last year," said Gervais. "Every other week,

we fed over 100 homeless persons. After church, we would make sandwiches for them. Last week, a couple of our ministries went to the nursing homes and gave manicures and pedicures. Every quarter, I try to get our ministries to do some kind of outreach in order for their ministries to continue to function in the church. In our prison ministry, we write letters to those incarcerated. We write at least 110 letters every quarter, and we respond back to every prisoner. We have another ministry that works with kids; we try to focus on kids outside the church. We try to do a little of everything, right now we have 17 ministries."

He attended the mission school, Youth With a Mission, where he served in

Romania. "In 1992, I started working for the church, and never stopped, he said with a laugh." He also received his bachelor's degree from Moody Bible Institute and master's degree from St. Thomas University. "My parents came from Haiti to give me these opportunities."

Now at 46, Gervais serves on the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board. He is recognized as the first Black Police Chaplain in the history of the Miami Beach Police Department. "I try to do a lot for the city, try to get myself involved."

Gervais and his wife, Delphine, invite everyone to come worship. "We have an awesome service, make people feel at home, in the love of Christ."

25th pastoral anniversary at 93rd CMBC

The 93rd Street Community Missionary Baptist Church, 2330 NW 93rd Street, Miami, FL, invites the community to come out and join us for our beloved Pastor's 25th Anniversary Celebration.

Weekly services at 7:30 p.m. nightly, as follows: Tuesday, April 17, Rev. Cleophas Hall, Mount Vernon Missionary Baptist Church; Tuesday, May 8, Bishop Randall Holts, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church; Wednesday, May 9, Rev. Tracy L. McCloud, Peace Missionary Baptist Church; Tuesday, May 15, Rev. Doug-



Rev. Dr. Carl Johnson

las Cook, Sr., Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church; Wednesday, May 16, Pastor Jeffrey L. Mack, Second Canaan Missionary Baptist Church; Tuesday, May 22, Rev. Dr. Gaston Smith, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

Finale celebration will take place on Sunday, May 27 at 7:30 a.m. with Mother Helen Jenkins, Saint City Church of God The Apostolic Faith and 11 a.m., Pastor Zachary Royal, St. Mary First Baptist Church.

For more information contact the church at 305-836-0942.

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Presented by Arthur Iglesias, M.D.
Radiation Oncology

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NORTH SHORE
Medical Center

Lincoln Memorial Park clean up April 14

Coral Gables Museum presents hands on History Community Clean Up!

Lincoln Memorial Park is a historic, African-american cemetery that has been in use for nearly 100 years. Due to years of dis-

repair, this historic site is in need of a caring touch by community members. Join us Saturday, April 14th from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at Lincoln Memorial Park, 3001 NW 46 Street, Miami, FL 33142. Please bring your

own rake, gloves and trash bags to put your hands on history. Please join us: our ancestor deserve a beautiful resting place.

For more info contact: malcolm@coralgablesmuseum.org.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Apostolic Revival Center

Services
Wed. Interspersed Prayer 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sun. Eve. 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.
Tue. Bible Class 6:30 a.m.
Thurs. Fellowship 10 a.m.

Evangelist Eric W. Doss

1263 N.W. 67th Street
305-836-4555

New Vision For Christ Ministries

Services
Early Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Rev. Michael D. Scream

13650 N.E. 10th Avenue
305-899-7224

Brownsville Church of Christ

Services
Lord Day Sunday School 9:45am
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Tuesday Night Bible Study 7:30pm
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: cmbc.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
Youth Ministry
Mon.-Fri. 2:45 p.m.

Rev. Charles Lee Dinkins

2171 N.W. 56th Street
305-637-4404

Eric S. George

KENNETH JONES, JR., died March 29. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Greater Ward Chapel A.M.E. Church Hallandale.



JAMES LEON BEVILL, died April 6. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at St. Paul A.M.E. Church Miami.



CLIFFORD HALL, died April 3. Service 2 p.m., Saturday at New Macedonia Baptist Church.



LEREO A. BROWN, died April 3. Service 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 17 in the chapel.



Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

NANCY RAGIN, 95, retired, died April 4 at Palmetto General Hospital. Service 11 a.m., today at St. Paul A.M.E. Church.



JACQUELYNE BRITTS, 51, PTA, died April 3 at Jackson Hospital North. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Pentecostal International.



THOMAS ELLIS WILCOX, 66, associate pastor, died March 30 at Florida Hospital New Smyrna. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



JOHNNIE LEE HATCHER, 70, retired, died April 8 at Kindred Hospital Hollywood. Service 10 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Hadley Davis MLK

FAYDRIANNA MODEST, 10, student, died April 5 at Memorial Hospital West. Service 12 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



HENRIETTA MCDONALD, 83, housekeeper, died April 6 at North Shore Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



WILLIE MILEY, JR., 86, roof-er, died April 2 at North Shore Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Brown's FH

DEREK ARNOLD DAVIS, 60, retired maintenance worker, died March 31 at God Samaritan Medical Center. Service 11 a.m., Thursday at Grace Temple, West Palm Beach, FL.



Gregg L. Mason

PEGGYE B. WILLIAMS, 73, retired teacher, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, died April 4. Survivors include: husband, Joseph Williams; sisters, Betty Williams, Gloria Demps and Ora Perkins; brother, Lonnie Blocker. Viewing 5-9 p.m., family hour 6-8 p.m., Wednesday. Service 12 p.m., Thursday at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Miami Gardens.



URSULA YVETTE LEWIS, 47, telecommunication operator, Broward Sheriff Office, died April 6. Survivors include: parents, Elijah and Delores Lewis; grandmother, Eula Strozier; sister, Brianna Lewis-Screen (Robert); a host of other relatives and friends. Viewing 6-8 p.m., Friday. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Cornerstone Christian Center Church, 450 South State Road 7, Hollywood, FL. Interment: Caballero Rivero Southern.



Wright and Young

THEODORE ROOSEVELT MOORER, 72, school bus operator, died March 31. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Apostolic Revival Temple.



MARIE SHINHOESTER, 67, housewife, died April 7. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at New Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.



DEMETRIC CHANDLER, 45, died March 30. Services were held.



Richardson

PEARL DOWDY BROWN, 62, homemaker, died March 29 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.



MARVIN ANTHONY, 40, forklift driver, died April 1. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



Eternal Rest

REV. MICHAEL W. BAKER, 67, animal control specialist, died April 2 at home. Service 10 a.m., Saturday, at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.



Mitchell

JOHNNIE PEARL NELSON, 60, retired patience care tech., died April 1 at home. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



Range Coconut Grove

WINIFRED DEAN SANDS, 84, homemaker, died April 5 at home. Memorial service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Range

CECIL LOCKHART, 74, retired security guard for Miami International Airport, died March 31. Survivors include his wife, Renadel Lockhart; daughters, Tamara Shakir, Tamica Lloyd, Tangela Lockhart, and Demetris Deshazart; and a host of other relatives and friends. Viewing 4-8 p.m., Friday in the chapel. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church.



PAULETTE BRYANT, 49, disabled, died April 2. Survivors include her mother, Gloria Summerset Boone; sisters, Katina S. Summerset and Kimberly F. Griffin; son, Sylvester D. Bryant III; daughters, Tekeria T. Bryant and Shayne S. Bryant; three grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends. Viewing 4-8 p.m., Friday in the chapel. Service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Dorothy Newton, Elizabeth

DOROTHY NEWTON, 73, retired educator for Miami Dade County Public Schools, died April 4. Survivors include her daughters, Vania Bredy and Skanda Newton; sons, Christopher Newton, Wendell Newton, Jr., and Clement McKenzie; brother, Phillip McKenzie; sister-in-law, Thelma Newton; aunt, Patsy Mae Knowles; six grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends. Viewing 4-8 p.m., Friday in the chapel. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Church of The Incarnation.



Trinity

AMANDA RILES, 57, died April 3 at Jackson Health System. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church.



WILVER BRADSHAW, 45, died April 3 at home. Service 1 p.m., Sunday at Ebenezer Seventh Day Adventist Church.



Hall Ferguson Hewitt

RICHARD BENNETT, 74, retired mail carrier, died March 11 at home. Services were held.



AJ Manuel

WILLIE POWE AKA "BIG WILLIE", 85, master plasterer, died April 5 at Memorial Hospital. Viewing 6-9 p.m., Friday at A.J. Manuel Funeral Home, 2328 N. Dixie Highway, Hollywood, FL. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at Hallandale Church of Christ.



VIEW YOUR OBITUARIES ONLINE AT

WWW.MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM



In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



JOHN WESLEY WILLIAMS, SR.
05/12/31 - 04/14/06

Twelve years have gone by and the pain is still there. We love and miss you so much. Love, Barbara and children.

Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,



RALPH CARR, JR.
04/12/1993 - 09/15/2017

Happy birthday, baby boy. I miss you so much. Your Mom

Colin Mayers, Barbadian official in Miami dies at 75

TONY BEST
NationNews Barbados



Colin Mayers

Barbados' Consul-General in Miami, Colin Mayers, died Friday morning at his South Florida home.

His sudden passing was confirmed by relatives in Brooklyn and by the Barbados Consulate-General in New York.

Mayers, an aircraft pilot by profession became Barbados' Consul-General in 2008 shortly after the Democratic Labor Party's election victory and served until his death. He had previously headed the office in 1994.

The Consulate-General in Florida's largest city is responsible consular affairs in several states in America's south, ranging from Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and North Carolina to Louisiana, Mississippi, Kentucky and Texas.

His unexpected death came shortly after he was made Dean of the international consular corps in Miami, succeeding Kent Hippolyta, St Lucia's Consul-General in Florida, the home of Barbados' second largest concentration of nationals in the U.S. after New York.

"Colin was a highly respected, committed and popular representative of our country," said Donna Hunte-Cox, Barbados' Consul-General in New York. "He loved his job, enjoyed what he did, and made his presence felt in a very positive way. He was a successful consul-general."

"He is perhaps the first consul-general and head of a Barbados mission to die in office. He was always willing to help and work alongside his colleagues. On behalf of the

consul-general, the Barbadian community and my own family I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to the Mayers family."

Evelyn Greaves, a former cabinet minister in Barbados who later became the country's top diplomat in Canada, said in a tribute to Mayers "Fran, my wife, and I regret the sudden passing of Colin Mayers who was a stalwart in the Barbadian community here in Florida.

He was a most helpful, empathetic and devoted person in the execution of his duty as Consul-General. I had the distinction of working with him in the publication of the book celebrating Barbadians in the United States of America. This was one of his signature legacies. His wife and family will no doubt greatly miss a gentleman, father and husband."

Sir Henry Fraser, a retired professor of the University of the West Indies, agreed with Greaves, describing Mayers as an "energetic consul general" who was "very supportive of my work in promoting the historical connection and tourist potential of the Barbados Carolina settlement connection and of our honorary consul, my friend Rhoda Green in Charleston."

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



ALBERT E. ROLLE, M.D., F.A.C.S.
08/03/1935 - 04/12/2012

Six years ago, you left us with a beautiful legacy and precious memories. Rest in peace, Your Family

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



ROBERT M. ELLINGTON, JR. AKA "LIL ROB"
03/01/1994 - 04/12/2016

Remembering my grandson, A voiced has been hushed, A tongue has been stilled And yet, my heart is filled with joy.

For I am remembering a little boy who would sometimes laugh and sometimes cry and sometimes we would wonder why.

I loved him as much as a Grandma could, And taught him as only a Grandma should. But there was one who loved him more.

I guess I didn't really know - That he was sent to make me smile and bring me joy for a little while.

Then one day he had to go I think I know the reason why -

He said he loved us very much, but it was time for him to die.

He fought a good battle, He stood the test. And one day I will tell the rest.

Of how he made his Grandma a fond farewell. Mable D. Mitchell, the Mitchell and Ellington families.

In Memoriam: Celebrate a Life

Memorialize and celebrate a loved one on the pages of The Miami Times.

For more information, call **305-694-6210**

Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,



LISA STUART WALKER
04/10/1965 - 05/02/2014

We love and miss you. The family.

Obituaries are due 4:30 p.m., Tuesday Call 305-694-6210