

# The Miami Times

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## IS HELP ON THE WAY?



### House speaker: Gun violence might make lawmakers' special session

ANDREA ROBINSON AND JAYDA HALL  
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Florida's House speaker on Monday said the carnage in Liberty City may become a topic for state lawmakers if there is a special session in Tallahassee next month.

Richard Corcoran met in a closed-door session with Black legislators, local elected officials and community activists at the Miami Police substation in Liberty City.

Their ask: funds from the state to help decrease crime, add jobs to inner-city areas and provide counseling for students and parents who have been stressed out by the constant gun violence.

Legislative leaders are mulling over whether to call a special session to deal with gambling issues that were left unresolved in the regular session. Corcoran said there's a "70 percent chance" a session would happen. **SEE HELP 6A**

In this April 11 photo, students from Miami Northwestern Senior High School walked onto the school's track field for prayer.

Miami Times photo/Jayda Hall

## Police take drivers' seat in traffic stop

Residents are urged to 'follow commands,' the officials say

JAYDA HALL  
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A Miami Gardens motorman pulls over a tan GMC Terrain on Saturday afternoon.

Officer Byron Johnson approaches the vehicle. Old-school music blasted from the SUV's speakers. Johnson raises his voice above the noise and orders city resident James Stroman to turn it down.

"Both hands on the steering wheel. Where are you going so fast today?" said Officer Johnson.

"I'm trying to get there. I am trying to get home," Stroman said.

Stroman couldn't remember his address when asked where he lived.

"Are you alright?" Johnson asked.

"Mr. Stroman ... have you been drinking anything today? I smell a[n] odor of alcoholic beverage," Johnson said.

Stroman stared into space for two seconds before he opened his mouth to respond.

**SEE COPS 3A**

City of Miami Police Officer Walter Byars is read his citation by Miami Gardens Officer Kimberly McDonald.

Miami Times photo/Jayda Hall



## Opa-locka strip club sues; manager fired

Court will solve the latest in the mystery of adult business, Klub 24

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Klub 24 owners backed away from their position to resolve peacefully a dispute they have with the city of Opa-locka.

An attorney for B & G Holdings Inc. and B & G Opa Land Holdings LLC, operators of the 24-hour adult entertainment business, filed a lawsuit against the city, demanding it reopen their nightclub it shuttered Friday evening.

Attorney Raven Liberty filed the complaint on Monday in Miami-Dade County Circuit Court asking a judge to not only reopen the business but to extend its occupancy certificate, which is set to expire Friday, April 20.

Liberty said owners Gregg Berger and Philip Gori tried to end the three-month dispute peacefully. Now, Opa-locka, the employees of Klub 24 and former City Manager Ed Brown are the latest casualties in ongoing battle over the club's legality.

"We have employers that



A cease-and-desist letter on the front of Klub 24 dated Friday, April 13.

don't know how they are going to pay their rent, or how they are going to feed their kids," she said. "The owners don't want a dispute; they just want to get back to business

**SEE CLUB 4A**

Denied flying lessons because he was Black, he made history

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# VIEWPOINT

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BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | APRIL 18-24, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

## EDITORIAL

### Action on gun violence needed now

This past week, community leaders, law enforcement and activists came together to walk, chant and pray about the gun violence that holds some of our communities of color in Miami-Dade hostage.

In the latest spate of violence, the area in focus is Liberty Square, a federal housing project, administered by Miami-Dade County and policed by the city of Miami. During a police-led peace walk, the mayors of Miami-Dade and Miami walked with the residents of Liberty Square, pledging to keep families safe. The police chiefs of Miami-Dade and Miami say that they are working together to eradicate crime, and they patrolled themselves on the back because gun violence isn't as bad as it used to be. Miami-Dade Police Director Juan Perez said that efforts to work with federal agencies are already underway and are working. Miami Police Chief Jorge Colina said police can't solve crime alone. Tell that to the mother whose child is sprawled dead on the concrete in the neighborhood in which she reared him. That's not enough effort for her.

At the start of the Liberty Square Rising redevelopment project, Miami-Dade County spent \$500,000 on cameras and enhanced security at Liberty Square. They told us that criminals could not shoot out the cameras. If the cameras are working, why is it that those who are wrecking havoc in the community aren't swiftly apprehended? And if the cameras aren't working, why not?

Mayor Carlos Giménez's \$310 million redevelopment of Liberty Square is underway. When Liberty Square Rising was announced January 2015, the Editorial Board of *The Miami Times* said if security was not first addressed, the redevelopment would be equal to adding lipstick to a pig. It seems that prediction might be holding true.

It is not enough that every time children die, people in suits walk in the streets and smile for the cameras and make pledges. It is not enough that people in suits sit in a room, hatching out plans to seek millions of dollars to help alleviate crime. Those millions could have relocated all those families to a safer place for them to live.

That House Speaker Richard Corcoran has to wrap community violence in pork to be heard in a special session is telling. When Parkland children died — a Black Swan of an event that albeit is getting more common — emotional items were added and passed.

But gun violence against children of the inner city has been a way of life in recent years. The ages keep getting younger and younger, too. In December it was a 2-year-old. Last month it was a 4-year-old.

Then comes the handwringing, calls for a cease fire, curfews and the national guard.

None of that usually happens.

Still our children die.

No more meetings, no more walks. We must hold police accountable to police the neighborhoods.

We must hold the mayors accountable that the technology that taxpayers pay for is operable and in use.

Action to cure gun violence is needed from the state house and city and county halls — now.

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## Scott should comply on voting rights

SENATOR PERRY THURSTON JR., District 33 Chair of the Florida Legislative Black Caucus



Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Cabinet have a chance to right a wrong of their own making. They can — and should — comply with a court order to create a reasonable process to restore voting rights to ex-prisoners.

U.S. District Judge Mark Warner ordered the state to develop a new method of deciding when and how convicted felons can regain their voting rights. The ruling gives the Florida Cabinet one month to create a new clemency process that consists of standards, not whims. In the words made famous by the Governor himself, it's time to 'get to work.'

Given our state leaders' track record, it's fortunate that Florida voters can go to the polls this November and approve the felony voter-rights restoration amendment. This change to the state constitution should protect a felon's rights from the fickleness of the Florida Cabinet that seven years ago dismantled what had been the makings of a legitimate clemency process and replace it with an administrative beg-a-thon.

Florida is now one of only three states that impose lifetime disenfranchisement for people with felony convictions. The only way a convicted felon can regain his or her voting rights in Florida is to apply to the state Office of Executive Clemency and pray their application is granted — a rare outcome, according to state figures.

Under Gov. Scott, only 2,488 applications for restoration of civil rights have been granted, a drastic drop from his two Republican predecessors. Former Gov. Jeb Bush restored the rights of 73,508 from 1999-2007. Former Gov. Charlie Crist, who instituted automatic restoration of voting rights for nonviolent felons, restored 155,315 between 2007 and 2011.

Contrast Florida's restrictive process to those of other states, where tough on crime policies give way to common

num five-year waiting period before individuals could start the application process.

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sense criminal justice.

Convicted felons in Indiana, Illinois, Montana and Utah regain their voting rights automatically once they are released from prison. In New York, Colorado and California, voting rights are automatically restored after release from prison and discharge from parole. There is no need to restore voting rights to ex-prisoners in Vermont and Maine as those states have no disenfranchisement for people with criminal convictions.

As a tool of voter suppression, felony disenfranchisement has no equal. More than 6 million Americans are unable to vote because of past criminal convictions and many of them have successfully made the transition from prison to being productive members of society.

It should be an easy call for Scott and members of the Florida Cabinet to change the process to automatically restore voting rights after prisoners have served time.

**“**  
The Sunshine State can end this blatant practice. Our state leaders should take the lead, do the right thing by complying with the federal court and come up with a credible voter restoration process for felons.  
**”**

## Trump has played all his supporters

EUGENE ROBINSON, *The Washington Post*



President Trump's most urgent political problem doesn't involve Robert S. Mueller III, Stormy Daniels, Vladimir Putin or the hundreds of thousands of voters who marched for gun control. Rather, it's that his die-hard supporters might be starting to realize how thoroughly he has played them for suckers.

On immigration, the issue that most viscerally connects the president with his thur-far-loyal base, Trump got basically nothing in the \$1.3 trillion spending bill he signed Friday.

The vaunted "big, beautiful wall" he pledges to build along the 2,000-mile border with Mexico? Trump got 25 miles' worth of new wall, along with eight miles of new fencing. And the bill specifies that none of this tiny increment can be built using any of the prototype de-

signs Trump so ostentatiously showed off.

The threatened punishment for "sanctuary cities" that show compassion for undocumented immigrants? Not in there. The money to hire 1,000 new Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents? Trump got enough for just 100, with the proviso that they all be administrative and support personnel working in offices, not in the field. The 20 percent increase in funding for detention centers that Trump asked for? Congress not only refused to authorize an extra penny but also went so far as to rebuke ICE for overspending its current detention budget.

The results sent conservative pundit Ann Coulter into paroxysms on Twitter, flying uncontrollably into all-caps mode. One tweet read simply: "CONGRATULATIONS,

PRESIDENT SCHUMER!"

Coulter referred, of course, to Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.), and indeed this spending bill in many ways reflected Democratic spending priorities more than Republican. Think of it this way: If I told you that the president just signed spending legislation that funds Planned Parenthood but not a border wall, you might wonder for a moment if Barack Obama were still president and this whole ridiculous Donald Trump thing had been just a long, profoundly disturbing dream.

Sadly, it's real. But aside from his business-friendly tax cut and deregulation policies, Trump has offered little more than symbolic crumbs to his red-meat base. As Coulter wrote in a column: "If you're a Trump voter, you're scratching your head

wondering what happened to those campaign promises that set him apart from every other Republican."

Trump obviously didn't actually mean much of the crazy stuff he said during his campaign, but his racism and xenophobia did seem sincere. On immigration, it's probably the sheer incompetence of the Trump White House that has caused the president to go back on his word.

On the question of national security, Trump drew cheers at his rallies when he blasted prior administrations for mirroring us in long-running wars that had drained the country of trillions of dollars without making us any safer. He promised an "America first" foreign policy that ended abroad at nation-building attempts and instead focused resources and attention on domestic concerns.

## U.S. ignores the Fair Housing Act

WALTER F. MONDALE, *Co-author of the Fair Housing Act of 1968*



Fifty years ago on April 11, Congress enacted the Fair Housing Act, the last of the three great civil rights laws of the 1960s. Along with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act, it was an attempt by Congress to translate the movement led by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others into enduring statute. But it also has the more dubious distinction of being the most contested, most ignored and, at times, most misunderstood of those laws.

For most of the 20th century, an array of forces worked to divide American communities into Black and white quarters. Some involved explicit discrimination, including racial redlining in federal mortgage insurance, and real estate covenants that restricted home buyers by race. But some were more subtle, like the steering by real estate

agents of racial minorities into certain neighborhoods, biased lending and underwriting, and the concentration of low-income housing in low-income neighborhoods.

Then, on April 4, 1968, Dr. King was assassinated. The assassination dislodged the stalled housing bill from the House Rules Committee, and one week later the Fair Housing Act was signed into law.

The act has survived long enough to witness a curious debate over its intent. Some scholars have suggested that its functions can be divided into "anti-discrimination" and "integration," with the two goals working at cross purposes. At times, critics suggest the law's integration aims should be sidelined in favor of colorblind enforcement measures that stamp out racial discrimination but do not serve the larger purpose of defeating systemic

**“**  
Yet the Trump administration has sought to delay enforcement of the 2015 HUD integration rules by as much as seven years. Ben Carson, the HUD secretary, has referred to these rules — essential to the act he is supposed to safeguard — as "mandated social engineering."  
**”**

segregation.

To the law's drafters, these ideas were not in conflict. The law was informed by the history of segregation, in which individual discrimination was a manifestation of a wider societal rift.

In private housing markets, where Congress's authority

is indirect, the law does what it can: forbids discrimination and segregation. Prohibitions include discrimination in the sale or rental of housing, racially targeted advertising for housing and discriminatory real estate transactions.

Today, new research shows even more clearly than in 1968 that where you live matters. We know that growing up in an integrated community provides children with a better chance to graduate from high school, attend college, get and keep good jobs, earn a higher income and pass on wealth to subsequent generations.

Yet the Trump administration has sought to delay enforcement of the 2015 HUD integration rules by as much as seven years. Ben Carson, the HUD secretary, has referred to these rules — essential to the act he is supposed to safeguard — as "mandated social engineering."

### 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.

# COPS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

The pullover soon turned into a DUI stop. Stroman failed his sobriety test and was led away in handcuffs.

Dozens of people near the scene applauded as they watched.

They were witnessing a mock DUI stop, as part of a safety demonstration to inform them of the do's and don'ts in the event of a traffic stop by an officer.

Sponsored by Miami Gardens Councilman David Williams Jr. and the Miami Gardens Police Department, the workshop featured six potential traffic stops.

Some residents like Stroman volunteered their vehicles, while others watched and took notes.

The demonstration at Mount Hermon AME Church involved law enforcement from municipalities, including Hialeah, Miami, Miramar and Miami-Dade.

After each demonstration, officers would explain the reason for each stop, describe to residents what should or shouldn't have been done by the volunteers and defend why officers respond in the manner they do.

"Whenever you get stopped, it's the officer's scene," Hialeah Sergeant Karen Smith said. "Everyone has rights, but expressing your rights is not going to make the situation any better. We're both strangers trying to get something done."

Deputy Director Melba Pearson of American Civil Liberties Union of Florida agrees.

"You have rights, but you have to think about the context you are in," Pearson said. "You aren't the one with power at the moment of a traffic stop. It's better to comply and tell your side of the story in court."

And while some may get pulled over for drunk driving, there are times where drivers may be stopped for driving a car that matches a specific description.

During one of the demonstrations, there was a scenario where a car was stolen in Broward County. The vehicle was never taken out of the system, so officers didn't know that it was already returned to its rightful owner.

"And this is not the time to be difficult and ask a lot of questions," said Smith. "We didn't know, and we will find out at the end. But you have to comply."

Pearson also recommended that it's better to "use a calm voice" and inform the officer of every move you make

during a traffic stop. "We are in this heightened state where there are a host of officers in fear of the communities they are policing," she said. "So we need to be aware of that in order to survive the encounter."

Miami-Dade resident Angela Hopkins participated in one of the traffic stops. And although it wasn't real, "I was nervous," she said.

"People tend to be nervous, but there was really nothing to be nervous about," Hopkins said. "The nervousness was just because it's a police officer, but we have to become a little more comfortable knowing that the police officers just want to make sure laws are being followed. That's their job."

### OFFICERS SHARED THESE TIPS WITH RESIDENTS

#### Do's

-Comply to orders given by officers.

-Keep your hands on the steering wheel. If you are a passenger, keep your hands open and on your lap. Keep your movement limited.

-Turn on the light inside of your car if it is dark outside.

-Present good attitude and behavior.

-Stay in your seat, and remain patient.

#### Don'ts

-Do not reach for items anywhere in the vehicle on your own unless ordered to do so.

-Do not speed up when first asked to pull over by an officer.

-Do not use your occupation or title to get out of a ticket.

-Do not get out of the car unless ordered to do so.

-Do not put your hands on any police officers.

### THINGS TO NOTE

-You do not have to sign a citation. But signing it doesn't mean you are guilty.

"If you want to discuss a ticket, it's easier to do in court or at a police station," said Walter Byars, a Miami Police officer who is a part of the Juvenile Assistance and Mentoring program. "Both of those places have nice A/C."

"If you're being pulled over by an unmarked car, don't speed up or take off. If you're not sure, slow down, get in the right-hand lane and call police," Smith said. "Dispatchers can send units quick."

"When you sign for your driver's license, there is something that reads 'operation of a motor vehicle constitutes consent to any sobriety test required by law.' If you refuse to take the tests, officers will make record of it, which will then be sent to the Department of Motor Vehicles. The DMV will suspend your license for six months. 'You would be able to request a hearing, but not a trial and no right to an attorney,'" said Tamara Gray, assistant public defender of the Miami-Dade County Public Defender's office.

"Take a walk around your car: Ensure that your tag is in place and not expired, check to see if all your lights are working, and take your car to a tint dealership to verify if your tints are at the legal percentage if you purchased your vehicle from someone else."



Miami Gardens Police Officer Byron Johnson appears on his motorcycle during a traffic stop demonstration.

Miami Times photos/Jayda Hall

# STREET Talk

COMPILED BY JAYDA HALL

## If you could choose, which historic Black figure would you give a holiday to and why?



IMANI SPENCE, 23  
Miami Gardens

I wouldn't hesitate to choose the Obamas. Typically, holidays are for one individual. But in unity, Barack and Michelle Obama are a force to be reckoned with. They both represent overcoming obstacles that have been suppressed in today's society. Being united as an impactful and committed couple has inspired various individuals worldwide and continues to show the reason why we, as Blacks, are feared in higher positions.



RACHELLE CHARLTON, 42  
Pembroke Pines

I would give a day to Maya Angelou. She's always inspired me with her writings, her poetry and her dedication. The way she reflects herself as a Black woman, you didn't find that a lot in the time that she was here. Not to mention the way she could put her thoughts and the things she believed into writing and word, I admire that about her. She deserves a day.



MELISSA RICHARDS, 29  
Miami Gardens

I would pick Misty Copeland simply because she did something that not many other Black people have done so far. She became the first Black principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre. She set the bar high for people who would follow in her footsteps and gave them the opportunity to see somebody like them in the public figure.



CHANEL MATHIEU, 29  
Miramar

The Black figure I would give a holiday to is Thurgood Marshall. As the first Black Supreme Court Justice on the Supreme Court, he has truly paved the way for Black attorneys that followed him, such as myself. He's also responsible for the verdict in Brown v. Board of Education, the case that ended racial segregation in public schools.



MACDONALD PAYOUTE, 26  
Miami Gardens

I would have to say Barack Obama because he's the country's first African-American president ever. In my day and age, that is a big accomplishment. I was able to witness him break a barrier by doing something that many were either afraid to do or thought was impossible to achieve.



ANTHONY HUGHES, 38  
Pembroke Pines

I would give the Black Panther party a holiday simply because they were actually doing what they had set out to do, which was to improve the Black community, help the Black community and create programs to build up the community and not tear it down. One of the things they did was help feed single mothers and their kids in the predominantly Black neighborhoods in the 1960s.



Miami Gardens resident James Stroman smiles as he is carried away in handcuffs by Miami Gardens Police Officer Byron Johnson during a mock DUI stop.



Miami Gardens Police Officer Byron Johnson conducts a mock sobriety test with Miami Gardens resident James Stroman.

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Deadline: Thursday, May 3

The Miami Times

# CLUB

CONTINUED FROM 1A

and keep their employees employed."

But work stopped at about 3:35 p.m. on Friday, as the general manager of Klub 24 prepared his staff for the happy-hour rush. He was met with a cease-and-desist letter from an Opa-locka city official.

Giovanni Acajosi said before he could figure out for himself what the letter meant for he and the other estimated 100 employees, he was told by Opa-locka Police Chief James Dobson that everyone had to leave the premises.

After speaking to Chief Dobson Friday, Acajosi asked the DJ to turn off the music. Then he cleared the building - not before he issued refunds to patrons.

He then explained to employees what happened.

Some of them waiting outside for rides.

On Tuesday, he said employees were calling for their paychecks.

Before the police's chief's visit, newly appointed Opa-locka City Manager Newell Daughtrey said Friday he ordered the letter to be hand-delivered to the club.

"I followed the instructions of the City Commission and stopped them from operating," said Newell.

Newell is referring to a March 28 vote by the Opa-locka Commission. Commissioners Timothy Holmes, Matthew Pigatt and Joseph Kelley voted to close the business.

Commissioners wanted to know how the club was issued a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy on Jan.17, without special approval from the Commission and Planning Council. City Attorney Vincent Brown told commissioners the adult entertainment business was an illegal operation prior to the vote.

"In light of an improperly issued Certificate of Occupancy, a prohibition against adult entertainment within the City, violation of several ordinances pertaining to time and manner of operation, an improperly issued license and failure by Klub 24 to pursue the proper avenues of approval after being informed multiple times to do so, I am of the opinion that Klub 24 is NOT permitted to operate an "adult entertainment" business within the City of Opa-Locka at this time," the city attorney wrote in a Feb. 12 memo.

However, as city manager, Ed Brown argued the laws changed in 2016 and 2015 respectively regarding hours of operation and nudity. He said since the Temporary Certificate Occupancy was already issued, in order to avoid a lawsuit, it would be best to give the operators an opportunity to resolve any issues.

After the vote, Ed Brown did not act on the resolution to close the club instead he met with the owners on April 2. He was ousted from his seat and replaced by Daughtrey at the April 11 commission meeting after another 3-2 vote.

Attorney Liberty said the owners made clear to city attorney, city manager, building director and a state oversight inspector at the April 2 meeting their willingness to get the missing approvals.

According to Liberty, the Commission does not have the right to regulate the business and the resolution to close the business is not quite valid.

Court documents filed by Liberty said that the resolution should be overturned since it was not approved by "Florida Governor's office."

In June 2016, Gov. Rick Scott assigned a financial oversight board to Opa-locka after the city accumulated millions of dollars in debt, which means the Inspector General must review any decision that will financially impact the city.

In an April 6 email, Eric Miller, chief IG, said the resolution to close Klub 24 is still under review. Miller said regardless of the status, Opa-locka has the "right and responsibility to enforce federal, state and local



The front door of the Klub 24 is chained and locked after Opa-locka police officials empty the club in response to a cease-and-desist order issued by the city manager.

law within its jurisdiction." The property and the building are owned by Gori and Bergner who, according to the lawsuit make an estimated \$50,000 per day from the club.

Liberty also said that the city ordinance used by the city attorney in his recommendation for closing the club is also at issue.

She told *The Miami Times* that the city's law prohibiting nudity was replaced in 2015 and by doing so will be a violation of state law.

City Attorney Vincent Brown could not be reached for comment.

Every day general manag-

er Acajosi said he has been getting calls from concerned patrons about the club's status. But a copy of the cease-and-desist letter was still taped to the door Tuesday, the club shuttered with chains.

"We weren't given any notice that the club was going to close until 45 minutes before," said Acajosi, who has worked for the corporation who owns the business for six years. "I am dealing with 100 people that don't know where they're going to go or what they're going to do next, for half of them, this is their only job."

# NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

## FARM SHARE

District 109 State Rep. Cynthia Stafford and Pastor Dwayne Richardson are partnering with Farm Share to present community members with a food distribution. The distribution will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 21 at Greater Love Full Baptist Church, 18200 NW 22nd Avenue in Miami Gardens. Supplies will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. For more information on the event, call 305-953-3086.

ing "Grants"/Grants for organizations." Some of the programs have deadlines of April 26, April 27, May 1 and May 9. Grant guidelines can also be requested by calling the Department of Cultural Affairs at 305-375-4634, or via email at culture@miamidade.gov.

## Torch Run for Special Olympics

The North Miami Police Department SWAT Team and Special Olympian Athletes will lead the way in a 1.5 mile run. Everyone is invited to participate in this event.

Participants will start the race promptly at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18 at the North Miami Police Department, 700 NE 124 Street. The run will end at Publix, 12800 Biscayne Blvd. Buses will return runners to the North Miami Police Department after the run. Registration is \$20 and only cash is accepted. A t-shirt is included with registration. To register, contact Officer Ray De Jesus, Jr., from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the North Miami Police Department, or by calling 786-236-7699.

## Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs Grants

The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs recently released guidelines and deadline schedules for the fiscal year 2018 to 2019 spring cycle of arts and cultural grants programs. These programs are available to Miami-Dade County based nonprofit cultural groups. Guidelines containing information regarding eligibility requirements, funding requests and program criteria can be downloaded at www.miamidadearts.org by click-

## North Miami Beach Farmers and Artisanal Market

Come get inspired and support everything local at the North Miami Beach Farmers and Artisanal Market. The market will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 22 at 16499 NE 19th Ave. The North Miami Beach Farmers and Artisanal market embraces the cultural diversity of North Miami Beach and will feature fresh locally sourced produce, locally prepared food, locally produced jewelry, housewares, clothes, crafts, art, essential oils, natural skincare and much more.

There will also be activities for children and adults, as well as live entertainment. For more information, please email info@wynwoodfarmersmarket.com

## Mobile Youth

### Employment Registration

The City of Miami Gardens Summer Youth Employment Program is rolling around for another year. Those interested can register online, or at the mobile unit from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 21 at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex, 3000 NW 199th St. This program is a partnership with the City of Miami Gardens and CareerSource South Florida. For more information, call 305-594-7615.



Miami City Commission Chairman  
Keon Hardemon  
Southeast Overtown/Park West  
Community Redevelopment Agency



# SUMMER YOUTH TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT

WE ARE LOOKING FOR HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE INTERNS AGES 14-21 INTERESTED IN

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RESUME, COVER LETTER, GRADES

Eligibility: Overtown Youth residing in the SEOPW area or attending Booker T. Washington High School. A very limited number of youth will be selected from the City of Miami District 5. Selected applicants will be interviewed prior to acceptance.







In this April 11 photo, students from Miami Northwestern Senior High School walked back to class after meeting on the school's track field for prayer.

# HELP

CONTINUED FROM 1A

In a special session, South Florida lawmakers can "put real details forward as to what they'd like to see done," Corcoran said as he left the meeting.

Even if the session doesn't pan out, Corcoran said he would support a request to access funding from a state-wide jobs-growth fund that could help with bringing employment to the area.

The Florida Jobs Growth Grant Fund provides dollars for public infrastructure projects such as transportation and utilities needed to support economic development. The fund includes workforce training to give residents transferable skills they can use for other jobs.

Miami, specifically the Liberty Square community, has been wracked by gun violence over the last month. The shootings have left three people dead, including 4-year-old Nyla Jones. In the most recent shooting, two teenagers — 17-year-old Kimson Green and 18-year-old Rickey Dixon — were fatally wounded in an afternoon drive-by shooting on April 8. Two other Black males were seriously injured.



House Speaker Richard Corcoran and community activist Tangela Sears



House Speaker Richard Corcoran, Senator Daphne Campbell and State Rep. Roy Hardemon



Miami Commissioner Keon Hardemon makes a point at the meeting with House Speaker Richard Corcoran.

tending were Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert and Miami Commissioner Keon Hardemon, as well as about a dozen community activists.

### MONEY FROM SCOTT

The meeting with Corcoran comes days after Miami-Dade legislative leaders announced plans to ask Gov. Rick Scott to send financial and human service resources to Miami to combat the gun violence that has rocked Liberty Square and other places.

Activist Tangela Sears, who participated in the meeting with Corcoran, called on the state to add cameras on the perimeter of Liberty Square and other areas of Liberty City.

Sears, the founder of the group Parents of Murdered Kids, said bringing employment opportunities is part of the answer, but more needs to be done about the violence.

"Some of these thugs out here don't care about jobs. We have an infection in our community," Sears said. "We can't just ignore that. There are no consequences."

### PEACE WALK AND WALK OUTS

Last Wednesday, Miami Police Chief Jorge Colina led a peace walk through the area to decry the violence. Students at nearby Miami Northwestern High School staged two peaceful walkouts to show their frustration and call for change.

Northwestern students walked out onto the school's track field on April 11 in solidarity for prayer after Kimson and Dixon were killed in Liberty Square. On April 10, the students left their classrooms to walk to Liberty Square and place flowers and balloons at the home of Kimson, who was a sophomore at the school.

The meeting with House speaker Corcoran was at the request of state Rep. Shevrin Jones, a Democrat from West Park. Jones said that in light of the response of the Legislature after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, he wanted Tallahassee to place similar attention on Black neighborhoods.

After the session ended, "I said I would reach out to leadership to let them know we have a crisis in our community," Jones said. "I hope they would respond to our community the way they responded to Parkland."

Jones said the needs of the Black community must be on the agenda.

"We don't want to be left outside the call for what will be addressed in the special session. The least we can do is put our agenda on the table. People are dying in our communities."

Among those at the meeting were Reps. Roy Hardemon and Barbara Watson, and Sen. Daphne Campbell, all of Miami. Also at-

# WORD ON THE STREET

## Who is the real snitch?

BRIAN DENNIS

The word snitch is defined as a person who tells on his comrades who had all participated in the planning of and doing something illegal from the very beginning until the end.

Back in December, former Opa-locka City Manager Ed Brown submitted an editorial to The Miami Times calling me a snitch, and that I was the head of a criminal empire for more than 20 years.

I've never had a co-defendant in any of my cases and, if I were the head of a criminal empire, I would be in prison under the RICO [Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations] Act. You wouldn't be reading this column.

Now let's deal with the snitch who once occupied the city manager's office. When Dante Starks had Brown fired from the Opa-locka CRA he was hurt. Could it be that was when he began to reveal all the dirty little secrets that were going on in and around city hall by forwarding emails and taking documents?

In January, members of the commission found out that Brown was a double agent, because he provided information for articles written about Mayor Myra Taylor, Starks and others while trying to manipulate the commission into giving him a contract. I believe Brown was playing both sides. He wanted to get fired so that he could walk away with a boatload of money like Steve Shiver and other previous managers did who had iron-clad city contracts.

A few months ago, the ma-

nipulative city manager left me a voicemail asking me to sit down with him and not publicly spar with him because he knew that I had gotten word of Klub 24 coming to the city. But when we met, I never brought up Klub 24. While the former city manager worried about me bringing up the strip club in the Word on the Street column or in front of the City Commission, it was people such as Alvin Burke, Natasha English Ervin and Chris Roberts who started talking about Klub 24.

The investors in Klub 24 should be demanding their bag (money) back from those who promised them that it would be easy to open up a strip club in Opa-locka. What a lot of people failed to realize is that had anyone gotten hurt in the club the city was liable. If the mayor doesn't know why I didn't take the job with the city when she offered it to me, she will know now. If Ed Brown were snitching on you all, what would he have done for me? Thank God for integrity.

It was touching to see the Academy Award-winning speech that the mayor gave on behalf of the city manager. In reality she could care less about the former city manager who she know has been snitching on the team. Everyone knows that everything has to go through the city manager's office. But he acted as if he didn't know what was going on by throwing members of the staff under the bus when his fingerprints are all over the steering wheel.

I close with the words of Ervin: "Dennis, if the Trinity stays together, our city will be cleaned up."



## NOW

### COMPREHENSIVE STROKE CENTER

at North Shore Medical Center

**A Higher Level of Stroke Care**

With some of the latest technology in healthcare, we have redesigned North Shore Medical Center to provide a higher level of care with **confidence**. Part of the redesign includes our **commitment** to constantly improve the medical care and services we provide to our community.

**WHAT DOES A COMPREHENSIVE STROKE CENTER MEAN FOR OUR COMMUNITY?**

By becoming a Comprehensive Stroke Center, North Shore Medical Center will now be able to provide advanced stroke treatment without having to transport the patient outside of the area. Approximately 1.9 million neurons die each minute when stroke is left untreated. Time is critical when someone is having a stroke, and faster treatment may result in less brain cell loss for a better recovery and less disability.



**At North Shore Medical Center, your health is our priority.**

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Medical Center

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# BUSINESS

Finance  
Technology  
Classifieds  
Money  
Small Business  
Startups

SECTION **B**

THE MIAMI HERALD APRIL 18-24, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM



**Young Jamaicans take home tons of gold at CARIFTA**

12B



**Google's powerhouse talks career evolution**

8B

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP CONVENES TASK FORCE TO STUDY U.S. POSTAL SERVICE 11B



President Lyndon Johnson signed the Fair Housing Act on April 11, 1968.

## FAIR HOUSING ACT 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Lyndon B. Johnson Library

**Under most Republican White Houses, enforcement of the 1968 anti-discrimination law has weakened**

**J. BRIAN CHARLES**  
Governing

Fifty years after passage of the Fair Housing Act – a law intended to end housing discrimination and increase homeownership among minorities – key enforcement provisions of it are being dismantled by the federal government.



Carson

Efforts to enforce the landmark law, which was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on April 11, 1968, have ebbed and flowed over the

**“**  
In 1968, only 41.1 percent of Black Americans owned homes compared to 65.9 percent of whites. In 2018, almost the same exact percentage of Black Americans, 41.2 percent, own homes. White homeownership has ticked up 5.2 percent in the same period.  
**”**

past five decades. Democratic presidents have tended to direct more resources toward enforcing it and have put greater emphasis on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's role in desegregating cities. Republican administrations, meanwhile, have routinely scaled back those efforts.

But as the Fair Housing Act turns 50, many experts say HUD's recent actions, under the direction of Secretary Ben Carson, represent a new level of attempts to undo the legislation.

Under Carson and President Donald Trump, HUD has decisively pared back its

**SEE ACT 10B**



Protestors demand equal housing access and other civil rights at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963.

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING MATTERS

DANIELLA PIERRE, [affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com](mailto:affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com)

#### MDC talks housing plan

The college life experience could get a bit more livable and convenient for students of Miami Dade College if the city of Miami's proposal for housing options at the his-

toric Olympia Theater in Downtown gets adopted. The resolution was sponsored by Vice Chair Ken Russell last week, and he received unanimous support from all commissioners on the dais.

Now we await final approval from Mayor Francis Suarez, Miami Dade College President Eduardo J. Padron and the MDC's governing Board of Trustees. This is what I call an excellent mix of not only public-private partnerships, but novelty,



Pierre

culture and inventive affordable living. Every commissioner of Miami-Dade County needs to take and read several pages from the books of Miami's commission.

Their mindset, along with the mayor, are progressive and pioneering, especially as it relates to establishing housing within their city. I know community stakeholders would support this because the concept of offering affordable housing to students at Miami Dade

College came up earlier this year during Radical Partners #100GreatIdeas week-long housing affordability campaign. In addition, a recent survey from Temple University and the Wisconsin HOPE Lab “found more than a third of college students can't always afford to eat or have stable housing.” So should the resolution get adopted, it would help decrease housing insecurity, couch surfing and perhaps close gaps in retention. Affordable housing options would be a very big help

for commuter, foster youth, international and even first-time-in-college students. Once the final phases of the partnership are determined, I know students will be anxiously waiting to move in.

**Live, Study, Graduate.**  
When staff and students of Miami Dade College at the North Campus were completely shocked. Suze Guillaume, an academic advisor, said: “It would be the best of both worlds.” Benjamin Paul, a career specialist chimed in saying, “Where would the

**SEE MDC 10B**

## TECHNOLOGY

## Google's powerhouse talks career evolution

Valeisha Butterfield Jones reflects on her journey to global executive

ASHLEY STONEY  
Essence

Valeisha Butterfield Jones is the global head of women and Black community engagement at Google. Her powerhouse title reflects her passion-driven career trajectory that has included working for Obama for America, RUSH Communications and HBO.

As a woman with an impressive resume in entertainment and advocacy, she has a penchant for giving back through the Women in Entertainment Empowerment Network (WEEN) that she co-founded 11 years ago. Essence spoke with Valeisha to learn more about how she's inspired and how she prioritizes being a role model for

others through her work.

**Essence:** Your background is so impressive and has run the gamut. What advice do you have for women hoping to pivot to different careers? What made your resume and skill set transferable no matter where you landed?

**Valeisha:** My biggest piece of advice is to constantly evolve and reinvent yourself. In a world of scale, measurability and impact, we have to be innovative and constantly upskill ourselves to remain relevant and marketable in the changing global and digital economy. You never want to be left without a seat when the music stops.

**Essence:** What piece of advice do you have for mompreneurs, and do you believe in work/life balance while



Valeisha Butterfield Jones is the global head of women and Black community engagement for Google.

raising a family?

**Valeisha:** Balance is a myth. The best advice I can give is to allow room for error, remove any mommy guilt and don't be afraid to create a village of family, friends and professional support to help you along the way. Also, don't be afraid to say "no." When the work becomes too intense and you need to pour into your children more, give yourself the room because we won't get this time with our children back. Finally, take care of yourself and be sure to put you and your health first.

**Essence:** You have an incredible personal brand. How important is it for women to brand ourselves and what are some steps every woman should take to do so?

**Valeisha:** When my career started, I wanted to be behind the scenes. I was painfully shy and lacked confidence,

so I hid behind my work ethic until a mentor told me the importance of building my personal brand. My firm belief is that our work will speak for us, so first set a rock-solid foundation built on your talent, skills and ability to deliver results. From there, the external opportunities will come, so be very strategic in what you accept and the narrative that you allow to be shaped around your journey.

**Essence:** Who are five women you look up to?

**Valeisha:** Representative Jean Farmer Butterfield (my mom), First Lady Michelle Obama, Bonita Stewart (Google), Rosalind Hudnell (Intel) and Michelle Ebanks (Essence).

**Essence:** How do you hope to make Black history today?

**Valeisha:** Changing the face of tech to represent more women of color.

## Silicon Valley struggling to hire Black workers

Tech giant Intel's diversity report shows low rates

The Grio

Silicon Valley tech giant Intel released its 2017 annual report on diversity last week, and while the company is reportedly ahead of its overall workforce goals, it's still struggling to hire, retain and promote Black talent.

According to Fortune Magazine, Black Americans make up just 4 percent of the Intel workforce, while White workers accounted for 48 percent of Intel's U.S. employees last year. Asian workers made up 39 percent; Latino employees were 9 percent. Only Native Americans were at a lower rate, at just 0.7 percent of the total workforce.

Women make up just 27 percent of their U.S. workforce,

which is actually an increase of 0.8 percent since 2016. These numbers are not good enough.

"If you do not intentionally include, you will unintentionally exclude," Barbara Whye, Intel's chief diversity and inclusion officer said.

"We set goals, we measure, we achieve our goals. Just like any other business initiative," she said. "And we're having these conversations with our CEO Brian Krzanich on a monthly basis, just talking about the progress."

## THE COMPANY'S PLAN

In 2015, the company pledged to reach full representation in its workforce by 2020 and committed \$300 million toward that goal.

At the time of the



Legend Burge, the chair of Howard University's computer science department. Intel's logo is pictured during preparations at the CeBit computer fair, which will open its doors to the public on March 20, at the fairground in Hanover, Germany.

pledge, Intel identified that this gap was made up of 2,300 employees. Since then it has shrunk to 376 people, and the company is on track to reach full representa-

tion by this year, two years early. Along with the employee representation milestone, Intel is also on-track to meet their supplier diversity goal of

spending \$1 billion with minority- or women-owned businesses by 2020. Last year, the company spent \$650 million with diverse suppliers.

"We strive for leadership parity because if you achieve your leadership progression goals, knowing

that the research supports that diverse managers actually hire diverse employ-

ees, it drives your ability to sustain the results." Whye said. "So that's a very important metric for us."

## Tech firm makes Fortune 500 and \$10B

World Wide Technology is one of the most thriving

JEFFREY MCKINNEY  
Black Enterprise

Information technology systems integrator World Wide Technology, the long-standing, largest Black-owned business in the nation, is showing no signs of losing its crown. In fact, the Maryland Heights, Missouri-based company well known as WWT just recently achieved a colossal milestone by reporting 2017 revenues of \$10.4 billion.

The growth came after WWT drew near to topping the \$10 billion level with revenues of \$9.3 billion in 2016, making it No. 1 on the 2017 BE 100s Industrial/Services Companies list. WWT, the biggest company on the BE 100s for the past decade, was founded in 1990 by its chairman David Steward.

To put the company's meteoric rise in perspective, it had 4,600 employees last year. In contrast, the company in 2007 posted revenues of \$3.3 billion with 1,205 employees.

Further, World Wide Technology Inc. recently moved into its new global headquarters in Maryland Heights' Westport Plaza, a \$95-million joint re-development project WWT is involved with. The seven-story facility spans 208,000 square feet. It has a 300-seat auditorium with a 51-foot by 12-foot LED screen, one of the largest in North America.

WWT offers hardware and software products and services to large public and private customers globally in various sectors. WWT was No. 30 on a recent



David Steward is chairman and founder of World Wide Technology, Inc.

Forbes ranking of America's largest private companies. The company has partnerships with 3,000 manufacturers worldwide and is one of the nation's top Cisco Systems partners. WWT has steadily grown by providing e-business solutions, ERP and Java expertise, document management and conversion

SEE FIRM 11B

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

## Public Notice

Notice is hereby given of the following temporary polling place changes. These changes have been made by the Supervisor of Elections pursuant to Section 101.71, Florida Statutes.

Precinct Number	New Location
823.0	Dr. Edward L. Whigham Elementary School 21545 SW 87 Ave
843.0/843.1/843.2	Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church 11591 SW 220 St
844.0	Word and Worship Center 8601 SW 199 St

Christina White  
Supervisor of Elections  
Miami-Dade County, Florida

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

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

## Notice of Special Election

Pursuant to Miami-Dade County Resolution No. R-113-16 adopted on February 6, 2016, by the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County, Florida, notice is hereby given of a Special Election on May 1, 2018, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters residing in the proposed district, for their approval or disapproval, the following proposal:

**Annexation to the City of Florida City**

Shall the area within the general boundaries described below, as more particularly shown on the map enclosed hereinwith, be annexed to the City of Florida City?

Northeast boundary: SW 252 Street  
 Easternmost boundary: SW 186 Avenue  
 Southernmost boundary: SW 302 Street  
 Westernmost boundary: SW 192 Avenue

Yes   
 No

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**  
Office of the Supervisor of Elections

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters residing within the proposed areas who will be eligible to vote Yes or No for the proposal. All marked ballots must be received by the Miami-Dade County Supervisor of Elections by 7:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

This special election will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Miami-Dade County and other applicable provisions of general law relating to special elections.

Christina White  
Supervisor of Elections  
Miami-Dade County, Florida

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

The annual event has produced some of the top athletes in the world

*Miami Times Staff Report*

The CARIFTA Games wrapped up on April 2 at the Thomas Robinson Stadium in the Bahamas with Jamaica on top in track and field.

Jamaica took home 82 medals, 44 of which were gold, Bahamas was second place with 35 medals, six gold and third place was Trinidad and Tobago with 17 medals, four gold.

CARIFTA is an annual sports competition between the Caribbean islands for athletes 18 and under.

First held 1972 in Barbados, the competition mainly includes track and field events. The 2018 track and field games were held from March 30 to April 2 and featured 500 of the best junior athletes from 26 countries.

The Bahamas has hosted the games seven times before in 1976, 1978, 1981, 1984, 1992, 2002 and 2013.

CARIFTA was created to enhance relations between the English-speaking countries of the Caribbean after the dissolution of the West Indies Federation, but the CARIFTA Games took that idea a step further, including the French and Dutch Antilles in the annual junior track and field championship competition.

The games are usually held over the course of three days and during the period of Easter when more than 150 separate competitions are held for both boys and girls — Under 17 and Under 20 divisions.

Some of the biggest names in athletics today were at one point contestants in this competition.

One such name is the greatest athlete of our time and perhaps one of the best in history, Usain Bolt who participated in this event back in 2003 at 16 years old. He won in the sprinting competitions that year.

Bolt still holds the record on 200 meters in the category of Under 20.

Until 2007, Usain Bolt held the record on 200 meters for the category of Under 17. However, in 2007, Jamaican sprinter, Dexter Lee broke his record and wrote his name in the history of

# CARIFTA gold for Jamaica



Teams from 26 Caribbean countries participate in the CARIFTA Games in the Bahamas. Jamaica, the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago won the most medals.



Jamaica took home 82 medals, 44 of which were gold, Bahamas was second place with 35 medals, six gold and third place was Trinidad and Tobago with 17 medals, four gold.



this event and the history of the world's athletics.

Another world and Olympic champion that in his early age participated in these games is Darrel Brown of Trinidad and Tobago who back in 2003 competed in sprinting events against Bolt.

Bolt's 16-year CARIFTA record in the boys' Under 17 400 meter was smashed on March 31 as Kyle Gayle won Barbados' first gold medal of CARIFTA 2018.

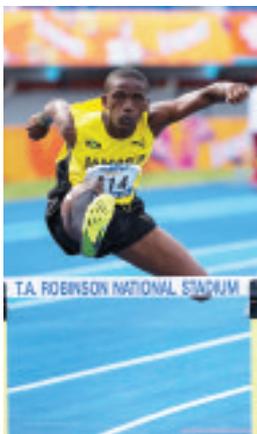
Other names include Alleyne Francique and Kirani James from Grenada, Obadele Thompson from the Bahamas as well as Odane Skeen from Jamaica.

The category of girls also includes some of the world's best athletes. One such name is Veronica Campbell-Brown from Jamaica who today is one of the biggest sprinters in the entire world. Other names include Kim Collins from St. Kitts-Nevis and Pauline Davis-Thomson from the Bahamas.

Throughout the history of this event, Jamaica proved to be the most successful country with 1,641 medals.

The games did not end there.

There is also an aquatics leg of CARIFTA. The swimming competitions for CARIFTA took place in Jamaica from March 15 to April 4. The final results have yet to be announced, but it was a special year for the Haitian swim team who, for the first time, made it to the final round.



# ACT

CONTINUED FROM 7B

role as the primary legal advocate for the Fair Housing Act. Carson instructed HUD officials to delete the words "inclusive" and "free from discrimination" from the agency's website. HUD recently settled a case in Houston under terms that at least one former official says does nothing to end residential discrimination in the city. And the agency terminated an investigation into Facebook for alleged discriminatory housing advertising practices. Carson has also delayed a requirement, established under the Obama administration, that local governments must create detailed plans to integrate racially divided neighborhoods. And HUD has put an indefinite hold on secretary-initiated housing cases, which historically have been seen as a critical tool in fighting systemic housing discrimination.

Advocates see the moves as a rollback of progress that had been made, particularly under the Obama administration.

"We had these important fair housing advances that were years in the making — carefully constructed rules on fair housing that were suspended with a memo from the administration," says Philip Tegeler, president of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council. Enforcement has been another matter. "The principle that you shouldn't discriminate in housing, that's a pretty widely held belief, and it's widely supported that we shouldn't have policies that we segregate families by race," Tegeler says. "However, to effectuate those goals requires substantial changes to the status quo. There are issues like local exclusionary zoning that have a lot of local support."

To some degree, federal resources for enforcing the act have tended to shift with political winds.

In the 1990s, Bill Clinton tapped former San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros to overhaul HUD and double the department's efforts to enforce the Fair Housing Act and address racial segregation.

housing advocates say is an uneven legal landscape that varies greatly from state to state.

## A HISTORY OF POOR ENFORCEMENT

The Fair Housing Act was the last major civil rights achievement of President Johnson's administration. It came in the wake of a series of riots in Detroit, Los Angeles and Newark, N.J., and after the assassination of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. It also followed the famed Kerner Commission report on race, which detailed the disparity in homeownership between Black-Americans and white Americans and blamed racism as the main culprit behind the riots. The Fair Housing Act aimed to reverse the pattern of residential segregation and do so through enforcement actions when necessary.

Support for the basic principles of the Fair Housing Act has historically been bipartisan, according to Tegeler, the president of the Poverty and Race Research Action Council. Enforcement has been another matter.

"When you go back and forth every eight years about whether you are going to enforce the law or how you are going to fund HUD, of course you are not going to make any progress," says Scott at the Equal Rights Center.

That's borne out in the data, which suggests that not much has changed in the past 50 years in terms of housing segregation. The Kerner Commission report was updated this year to mark its 50th anniversary. Despite efforts to better include mi-

Cisneros did make some strides in that effort. For example, he sent in federal marshals after a town in Texas had refused to allow Black residents into an all-white public housing development—the first time in history that HUD had taken over a local housing authority for civil rights violations. But Cisneros' efforts were clipped after Congress slashed the agency's budget following the 1994 GOP takeover.

Former President Barack Obama called for increasing HUD funding by 19 percent over his predecessor, George W. Bush.

In many ways, then, the efforts to step back Fair Housing enforcement under President Trump are par for the course under a Republican administration. Still, the vacillating approaches to the law have made it hard to make inroads in integrating housing, advocates say.

In 1968, only 41.1 percent of Black Americans owned homes compared to 65.9 percent of whites. In 2018, almost the same exact percentage of Black Americans, 41.2 percent, own homes. White homeownership has ticked up 5.2 percent in the same period.



Clergymen and nuns join demonstrators in a march around City Hall Sept. 16, 1967.

Credit: Milwaukee Sentinel

norities and especially Black Americans in the broader housing market, one metric has remained stubbornly low: homeownership.

In 1968, only 41.1 percent of Black Americans owned homes compared to 65.9 percent of whites. In 2018, almost the same exact percentage of Black Americans, 41.2 percent, own homes. White homeownership has ticked up 5.2 percent in the same period.

## A NEW ERA OF UNDOING

Although the Trump administration isn't the first to change HUD priorities, housing experts say the agency's current posture represents a new era.

From the time of Trump's inauguration in January to October 2017 (the most recent data available), HUD took legal action in five discrimination cases, and all but one had been initiated before Trump took office. In contrast, HUD under Obama took legal action in 26 discrimination cases in his first year in office, and HUD under George W. Bush processed an average of 25 cases per year in his second term. (Data were not available prior to 2004.)

In the waning years of the Obama administration, HUD adopted what it called an Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule, which forced agencies receiving HUD-funded community block

grants to complete a federal fair housing assessment in order to receive funding. Cities and counties were required to examine residential racial segregation and concentration of poverty.

But under Trump and Carson, HUD has delayed implementing that requirement until at least 2020. Carson has referred to the plans laid during the Obama administration as social engineering and questioned how inclusionary housing would impact an existing community.

"The rule would fundamentally change the nature of some

communities from primarily single-family to largely apartment-based areas by encouraging municipalities to strike down housing ordinances that have no overtly (or even intended) discriminatory purpose — including race-neutral zoning restrictions on lot sizes and limits on multi-unit dwellings, all in the name of promoting diversity," Carson wrote in The Washington Times shortly after the rule's adoption.

Carson's op-ed in 2015 seems to have presaged his actions as HUD secretary. Few in the hous-

ing community have been surprised by HUD's actions over the past 15 months, but they nonetheless have registered their disappointment at what they see as a large-scale unwinding of policies related to the 50-year-old Fair Housing Act.

Delaying the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule, says Tegeler at the Poverty and Race Research Action Council, is something of a slap in the face.

"To be suspending that near the anniversary year of the law," he says, "speaks to how politics is trumping policy here."

## Request for Proposal This Request for Proposal (RFP) supersedes the RFP issued on March 14, 2018

The South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB), the Local Workforce Development Board for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, is soliciting a Request for Proposal (RFP) for:

### Workforce Services

The RFP will be released on or about April 10, 2018, and will be posted on the SFWIB website at [www.careersourcesfl.com](http://www.careersourcesfl.com). Additionally the RFP will be available for pick up at the SFWIB Corporate Office, Suite 500, Receptionist Desk, 7300 Corporate Center Drive, Miami, FL 33126.

An Offeror's Conference is scheduled for Friday, May 4, 2018, at 3:00p.m., at the SFWIB Corporate office Suite 500, Conference Room 2. Proposals must be submitted no later than 1:00p.m. Monday, May 25, 2018. Proposals not received by that deadline will not be accepted.

Please direct all procedural inquiries, including questions regarding the format of the Offeror's conference and the Public Review Forum to Cheri Kavehersi via e-mail at [Cheri.Kavehersi@careersourcesfl.com](mailto:Cheri.Kavehersi@careersourcesfl.com).

CareerSource South Florida is an Equal Opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.

# MDC

CONTINUED FROM 7B

housing be? Over half of our students are living below the poverty line; housing is a real concern in this community and it remains to be seen how an on-campus housing alternative will impact the students at Miami Dade College.

Students on their way to class shout-ed "party time," and "hope it happens soon," after hearing about the idea of housing. As the largest and most diverse college in the nation, this would be one of the institution's historic achievements since it began offering baccalaureate degrees back in 2001.

## Who gets to live there?

While housing options for students are a great idea, funding for such options aren't clear. The resolution that was passed doesn't mention funding. One way they could offset the cost to sustain affordable

housing could be to reinvestigate programming at the theater.

That's why it would be beneficial for the community and the students to have input about who gets to live there, where the students will actually park their cars and how much the rental rates would be. Far too often when it comes to "new" projects and ideas, the development happens and what gets developed doesn't meet the needs, price range, or the expectation of people. So to keep this from happening, we must keep watch of the commission meetings, the college's board of trustees meetings, speak up, recommend what we need and let our concerns be heard.

Are you a student of Miami Dade College faced with unaffordable housing options? Share your story or solution today! For more information, please contact Daniella Pierre at [affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com](mailto:affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com).

## 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. 774382 CITYWIDE ROOF CLEANING SERVICES AT VARIOUS CITY OF MIAMI BUILDINGS

CLOSING DATE/TIME: 1:00 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Friday, May 4, 2018 at 4:00 PM)

**VOLUNTARY Pre-Bid/Pre-Proposal Conference: Friday, April 27, 2018 at 10:00 AM; Location: City of Miami Building (MRC) 444 SW 2nd Ave., Miami, FL 33130, 6th floor South Conference Room**

Detailed specifications for this bid are available at the City of Miami, Department of Procurement, website at [www.miamigov.com/procurement](http://www.miamigov.com/procurement) or contact the Procurement Contract Officer Teresa Soto at [tsoto@miamigov.com](mailto:tsoto@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. 26766

## 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. 708382 OEM & AFTERMARKET VEHICLE PARTS, SERVICES, AND REPAIRS FOR CITY VEHICLES

CLOSING DATE/TIME: 2:00 PM, MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Monday, April 30, 2018 at 3:00 PM)

Detailed specifications for this bid is available at the City of Miami, Department of Procurement, website [www.miamigov.com/procurement](http://www.miamigov.com/procurement) or email Sr. Procurement Contact Officer Eduardo Falcon at [efalcon@miamigov.com](mailto:efalcon@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. 26765

## 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. The Canvassing Board is convening on these dates for the Annexation to the City of Florida City Special Election (Mail Ballot) to be held on May 1, 2018.

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY
Thursday, 4/26/18 10:00 a.m.	1. Logic and Accuracy Test of the optical scan voting systems to be used for vote-by-mail ballots
Monday, 4/30/18 10:00 a.m.	1. Pre-count Logic and Accuracy Test of the optical scan voting systems to be used for vote-by-mail ballots 2. Vote-by-mail ballots opening and processing (as needed) 3. Duplication of ballots (as needed)
Tuesday, 5/1/18 3:00 p.m.	1. Vote-by-mail ballots opening and processing 2. Duplication of ballots (as needed)
7:00 p.m.	3. Tabulation of results 4. Unofficial results
Friday, 5/4/18 Canvassing: 10:30 a.m. to completion	1. Canvassing of presumed invalid vote-by-mail ballots 2. Tabulation of results completed 3. Certification of Official results by the County Canvassing Board 4. Post-count Logic and Accuracy Test of the optical scan voting systems used for vote-by-mail ballots 5. Manual post-election 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://legalslads.miamidade.gov>



<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>Apartments</b></p> <p><b>1215 NW 1030 Lane</b> Two bedrooms, \$1,000. Send the contact information to: <a href="mailto:jen45@aol.com">jen45@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>3040 NW 135 Street OPA-LOCKA AREA</b> One bedroom, one bath. 786-325-8000</p> <p><b>7 Avenue and 60 Street</b> Two bedrooms, \$1000. One bdrm., \$900 305-588-0817</p> <p><b>8475 NE 2 Avenue</b> One and two bdrms, Section 8 Welcome, 305-754-7776.</p> <p><b>ARENA GARDEN</b></p> <p>FREE BASIC CABLE AND FREE WATER. Remodeled two, three bedrooms, air, appliances, laundry, gate. From \$725. 305-374-4412</p> <p><b>CAPITAL RENTAL AGENCY</b> 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 <a href="http://www.capitalrentalagency.com">www.capitalrentalagency.com</a></p>	<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>GRAND OPENING NEW ARENA SQUARE</b> 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</p> <p><b>Duplexes</b></p> <p><b>21301 NW 37 Avenue</b> Two bedrooms, one bath, new kitchen, tiled floors, only \$1200 per month, first, last and security. 786-267-0508.</p> <p><b>4625 NW 15 Avenue #A</b> Two bdrms., one bath, air, bars, tiled, \$1350 monthly. Section 8 Ok. 305-490-9284</p> <p><b>4625 NW 15 Avenue #B</b> Three bdrms., two baths, air, \$1750 mthly plus deposit. Section 8 Ok. 305-490-9284</p> <p><b>7910 NW 12 Court</b> Two and three bedrooms, two baths, tile, carpet, fenced, central air, laundry room, water included. Section 8 Welcome. \$1700 305-389-4011</p> <p><b>LIBERTY CITY AREA</b> Two bdrms., one bath, first, last and security. Section 8 Ok. 786-565-2110</p> <p><b>CLASSIFIED DEADLINE</b> 4 P.M., TUESDAY</p>	<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>Efficiencies</b></p> <p><b>LITTLE HATTI AREA</b> \$695, water included, 786-286-2540</p> <p><b>Furnished Rooms</b></p> <p><b>13377 NW 30 Avenue</b> \$110 weekly, free utilities, kitchen, bath, one person. 305-987-9710 or 786-897-8371</p> <p><b>1341 NW 68 Terrace</b> \$5+ Community of Christ. \$500-\$600. All new. Tony, 305-600-8307</p> <p><b>2493 NW 91 Street</b> \$450 monthly, first, last and security to move in. Call 305-691-2703 or 305-570-9260</p> <p><b>83 Street NW 18 Avenue</b> Clean room. 305-754-7776</p> <p><b>MIAMI AREA</b> Adult living facility plus meal. \$50 a day. Call 786-536-4165.</p> <p><b>New Beginning Outreach</b> Share a room. Open dorm. \$15 a day. 786-443-7306</p> <p><b>Houses</b></p> <p><b>14410 NW 21 Court</b> Two bedrooms, one bath. Air. 305-420-5032</p>	<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p><b>MIAMI GARDENS AREA</b> Three bedrooms, two baths, \$1800 monthly. No credit needed. 786-571-4914</p> <p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>Houses</b></p> <p>****ATTENTION**** Now You Can Own Your Own Home Today With Free Cash Grants UP TO \$65,000 First Time Buyers Need HELP??? 305-892-8315 House of Homes Realty</p> <p><b>SPECIAL PROGRAM</b> First time home buyers. Free money. Call 786-571-4914</p> <p><b>EMPLOYMENT</b></p> <p><b>JET SKI WATER SPORT HELPER</b> Must know how to swim very well. Conscientious and familiar with riding a jet ski. Pays \$100 a day, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 786-780-7792.</p> <p><b>CLASSIFIED DEADLINE</b> 4 P.M., TUESDAY</p>	<p><b>EMPLOYMENT</b></p> <p><b>IN HOUSE SALES REP</b> Highly motivated, professional individuals for fact based newspaper. Must type 45 wpm, well organized and computer literate with excellent oral and writing skills. Must have a minimum of an AA or AS degree. Email resume along with salary history to: <a href="mailto:hr@miamitimesonline.com">hr@miamitimesonline.com</a> The Miami Times</p> <p><b>ROUTE DRIVERS</b> We are seeking drivers to deliver newspaper to retail outlets in Broward and Miami Dade. Wednesday Only You must be available between the hours of 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. Must have reliable, insured vehicle and current Driver License. Apply in person at: The Miami Times, 2525 NW 54th Street</p> <p><b>MISCELLANEOUS</b></p> <p>Looking for Andre L. Stringfield. Please Contact: 786-899-7490 with any info. published by Saura Merritt.</p> <p><b>CLASSIFIED DEADLINE</b> 4 P.M., TUESDAY</p>	<p><b>MISCELLANEOUS</b></p> <p>DVR Copy of Toys of Hollywood, June 2017 Commercial, \$100, 786-817-1454.</p> <p><b>MERCHANDISE</b></p> <p><b>SHOES FOR SALE</b> STEEPEN-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</p> <p><b>PERSONALS</b></p> <p><b>FUN, FLIRTY, LOCAL Women!</b> Call 786-364-7785 Try Free! <a href="http://www.livelines.com">www.livelines.com</a></p> <p><b>SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>GENE AND SONS, INC.</b> Custom-made cabinets for kitchens and bathrooms at affordable prices. 14139 N.W. 22nd Avenue. 305-685-3565</p> <p><b>GOD'S HELPER</b> Pressure cleaning, doors and unclog drains. 305-801-5690</p> <p><b>PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE</b> 305-694-6210</p>
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## Trump convenes task force to study U.S. Postal Service

Presidents says carrier 'must be restructured to prevent a bailout'

WASHINGTON (AP) — After weeks of railing against online shopping giant Amazon, President Donald Trump signed an executive order Thursday creating a task force to study the United States Postal Service.

In the surprise move, Trump said that USPS is on "an unsustainable financial path" and "must be restructured to prevent a taxpayer-funded bailout."

The task force will be assigned to study factors in-

cluding USPS's pricing in the package delivery market and will have 120 days to submit a report with recommendations.

The order does not specifically mention Amazon or its owner, Jeff Bezos. But Trump has been criticizing the company for months, accusing it of not paying its fair share of taxes, harming the postal service, and putting brick-and-mortar stores out of business.

Trump has also gone after Bezos personally and accused



President Donald Trump has assigned a task force to review the status of the United States Postal Service to see if it can withstand against Amazon.

The Washington Post, which he owns, of being Amazon's "chief lobbyist."

"Only fools, or worse, are saying that our money losing Post Office makes money with Amazon. THEY LOSE A FORTUNE," he tweeted earlier this month, declaring: "This will be changed."

The U.S. Postal Service has indeed lost money for years, but package delivery has actually been a bright spot for the service.

Boosted by e-commerce, the postal service has enjoyed double-digit revenue increases from delivering packages. That just hasn't been enough

to offset pension and health care costs as well as declines in first-class letters and marketing mail, which together make up more than two-thirds of postal revenue.

Still, Trump's claim the service could be charging more may not be entirely far-fetched. A 2017 analysis by Citigroup concluded that the postal service, which does not use taxpayer money for its operations, was charging below market rates as a whole on parcels. Still, federal regulators have reviewed the Amazon contract with the postal service each year, and deemed it to be profitable.

## Vistra CEO SBA's minority-owned business person of the year

Florida owner of marketing company will be recognized for work, community action

**ADE DAMOLA AGBOOLA**  
Black Enterprise

Brian Butler, the chief executive of Vistra Communications, LLC, has been named the 2018 Small Business Administration's minority-owned small business person of the year in the state of Florida and South Florida District.

"I am proud to accept this award from the SBA on behalf of Vistra and all of the work done by our growing team. I am fortunate to do what I love day to day, which involves providing quality service, focusing on client re-

lationships, and supporting our ongoing community involvement," said Butler.

Excerpts from Butler's 2016 interview with *Vetpreneur Magazine*:

**THE INCEPTION:**

In 2007, during the recession that saw thousands of businesses around the country fold, Butler took a bold step and launched his company, remaining a solo owner until he hired his first employee in 2010 after securing the company's first government contract. Even then, his business didn't take off for another two or three years,

he said.

**THE TURNING POINT:**

Butler left behind a successful two-decades-long career as Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army and relocated to Florida at 30 years, Dr. Maurer Butler, and their children. In fact, he'd been offered a promotion to the rank of Colonel before he left military. Butler had commanded troops in combat, led large, complex organizations, and traveled to nearly 70 countries. He'd served as the spokesman for the Army secretary in the Pentagon, on the per-



Brian Butler

sonal staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and in the director-level position on the Homeland Security Council.

Despite his tremendous experience to launch a business, his friends and family expressed concerns about the timing of the endeavor. But what he lacked in timing, Butler said he made up for in "careful planning, controlled spending, and

a hefty dose of good, old-fashioned hard work."

**THE BREAKTHROUGH:**

The Butlers said they started small. Their first clients were local businesses and local nonprofits. Three years later, they would receive their first government contract. But for the first five years, Butler explained, they weren't meeting

their financial goals. They kept their heads down, tweaked their plan and grew organically.

For a long time, the Butlers didn't take a paycheck, choosing to pay others to help them grow the business. "Given the economy, we knew we were really lucky to still be around," he said. "We operated with a lot of fiscal responsibility, took on no loans and used what little dollars we had."

Vistra provides integrated marketing and communications to a wide range of clientele, from small

businesses, non-profits, government and corporate clients. In 2014, the company grew its revenues by 282 percent, and another 108 percent in 2015, according to *Vetpreneur*, a magazine that covers veteran entrepreneurs.

This January, Vistra announced the acquisition of Marketing Associates USA, a Tampa-based, award-winning, creative marketing, promotional and branding agency specializing in a broad range of proven marketing strategies and services for major corporations. His

agency now consists of 70 team members with multiple locations in Tampa and Northern Florida.

Butler will be recognized for his efforts, accomplishments, and work ethic in leading and sustaining a thriving business and for his numerous, ongoing contributions to the community. He will be honored alongside eight other South Florida Small Business Week Awards Winners at the Government Small Business Conference on May 4 at the Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore.

## FIRM

CONTINUED FROM 8B

services, and systems networking to both commercial and government entities.

Steward and his team used acquisitions to grow and become one of the largest businesses in the St. Louis area. One deal came in 2015 when WWT acquired Asynchron, a local company that offers software and mobile app development services. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports.

The client mix has

evolved since it started 28 years ago, shifting from being just a government contractor to serving businesses. World Wide Technology CEO James Kavanaugh told *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch* three years ago that the government accounts for 15 percent of WWT's business.

He says the largest portion of business comes from large Fortune 500 commercial customers. Kavanaugh added that the second largest amount comes from telecommunications and service providers.

Steward started

WWT after working for the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company and as an account executive with Federal Express. He credits much of the firm's early success to the U.S. Small Business Administration. WWT became certified in 1992 to participate in the SBA 8(a) program. Its revenues grew to \$400 million by the time the firm graduated from the 8(a) program in 1999. "The SBA helped us in that transition to grow the business and taught us how to compete as a large business," Steward told *Black Enterprise*.

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY Notice of Special Election**

Pursuant to Miami-Dade County Resolution No. R-290-18, adopted on April 4, 2018, by the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County, Florida, notice is hereby given of a Special Election on May 22, 2018, with a Special Run-Off Election, if necessary, on June 19, 2018, to fill the vacancy in the Board of County Commissioners, District 5. All qualified electors of Miami-Dade County Commission District 5 shall be entitled to vote for the Commission District 5 vacancy election.

The polls shall be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on the day of the special election. This special election shall be conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of general law relating to special election and the provisions of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter.

Christina White  
Supervisor of Elections  
Miami-Dade County, Florida

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

**Public Notice**

Public Comments on the FY 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

The public is being notified that the Miami-Dade County FY 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the Community Development, Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Programs will be available for review and comments from April 23, 2018 through May 7, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at: Miami-Dade Department of Public Housing and Community Development, located at 771 NW 1st Court, 14th Floor, Miami, Florida 33136. You may also review the CAPER online at: <http://www.miamidade.gov/ceaper/>. Comments may be submitted in writing until May 7, 2018 to:

Ms. Michael Liu, Director  
Miami-Dade County  
Department of Public Housing and Community Development  
771 NW 1st Court, 14th Floor  
Miami, Florida 33136  
[CommunityDevelopment@miamidade.gov](mailto:CommunityDevelopment@miamidade.gov)

CMDC does not discriminate based on race, sex, color, religion, marital status, national origin, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, pregnancy or childbirth or the process to, admission to, or employment in housing programs on activities if you need language assistance or materials in accessible format, for this event call (305) 468-1133 at least five days in advance. (305) 777-3333 users may contact the Florida State Director at 888-683-8777.

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# IN GOOD TASTE

Lifestyles  
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SECTION **C**

THE MIAMI TIMES | APRIL 18-24, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

INSIDE



With refreshing ingredients, this crunchy Vietnamese-style chicken sandwich makes a perfect lunch treat for hot sticky days

**chic** | AND VERY COOL  
sandwiches

4C

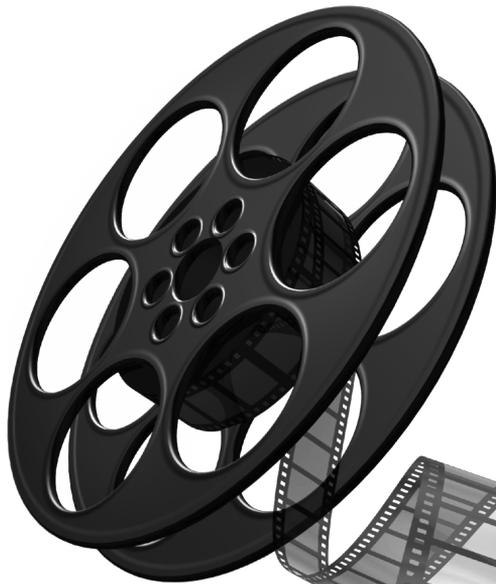


2C

The 49th annual New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

What to know before you go

From Victim to Victor: The story of a rape survivor, Miami-Dade County's Resource for Victims of Sexual Assault 3C



## Who is the next Barry Jenkins?

YOUNG BLACK FILMMAKERS MAKE THEIR MARK

JANIAH ADAMS  
jadams@miamitimesonline.com

Just a year after Miami-native Barry Jenkins directed the film "Moonlight" and won the best picture award at the Oscars, young Black filmmakers are rising in the city. With the help of free programs and a lot of support from their families, it may not be too soon to start wondering when the next Barry Jenkins will appear.

Already on the map is Aaron Johnson, a 17-year-old who recently won a major award for his movie, "Lost," which places him on the road behind Jenkins. The film depicts the journey of a young man in Miami named Job, who lost his family in a tragic car accident in middle school.

Aaron said he was the youngest award recipient this year at the London International Film Festival and the youngest Black recipient.

Aaron comes from a family of talent - his 20-year-old brother Dontrell is an international R&B singer, and his 12-year-old brother is an entrepreneur. So it makes sense that Aaron started making films at 9 and established his own production company at 12.

He takes no credit for where he is today. He said the credit belongs to his family.

"They definitely instill many morals and values into me being a young

SEE FILM 6C



1. 1st Take students spend time listening to guidance from actors, directors and producers.
2. 1st Take students edit their own short films for a premiere at the end of spring break.
3. Aaron Johnson works on the set of His film with crew members.
4. Elijah Wells with students on the red carpet at Elijah Wells Youth Indie Film Festival in Overtown.



“

I made history, which I was told from the festival.”

Aaron Johnson

# The 49th annual New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival



Frankie Beverly & Maze will be among the performers at 2018 New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

What to know before you go

**CLEVELAND BRYANT JR.**  
*Special To The Miami Times*

While all the coveted and limited number of VIP tickets were sold out long ago, there are still general admission tickets available for the annual New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, known affectionately as Jazz Fest, set to open next weekend, on April 27.

What began as a celebration of jazz and the rich Louisiana regional music heritage has ballooned into a two-week smorgasbord of all kinds of

music, succulent foods and arts and crafts. Last year nearly half a million people crossed the entry gates at the Fairgrounds Race Track in the Gentilly Neighborhood in New Orleans where Jazz Fest is held.

The list of headliners include but is not limited to the following: Preservation Hall Jazz Band, LL Cool J, Savion Glover, Dianne Reeves, Lionel Richie, Anita Baker, Archie Shepp, Smokey Robinson, Charlie Wilson, Trombone Shorty, Frankie Beverly & Maze, Toots & The May-

tals, Steel Pulse, Jimmy Buffet, Bonnie Raitt, Buddy Guy, Terrence Blanchard, Charles Lloyd, George Benson, Nicholas Payton, Jon Batiste and Sting. Aretha Franklin was scheduled to perform, but had to cancel due to poor health. Rod Stewart replaced her on the program.

Planning to go? Here's what you need to know.

**WHAT:** Jazz Fest, is a festive, 10-day musical, visual and cultural buffet of a feast during which more than 3,000 musicians and singers, several hundred cooks and craftspeople host more than 450,000 festivalgoers every year. Music is showcased on several outdoor stages and in several huge tents.

**WHO:** There is lots of jazz, both contemporary and traditional, especially in the Jazz Tent. At the same time, there's the rich musical heritage of New Orleans and Louisiana, and it is celebrated throughout Jazz Fest. Hence the word "heritage" in the festival's title. Then there are the headliners from other musical genres, which make for a heaping helping of musical gumbo with something for everyone's musical palette. The musical offerings at Jazz Fest encompass jazz, zydeco, Cajun, rock, rap, country, gospel, bluegrass, blues, R&B, African, Caribbean, reggae and Latin.

**WHEN:** Gates open at 11 a.m. and the music starts minutes later and lasts until dusk, about 7 p.m. The opening three-day weekend this year is April 27, 28 and 29. The

following four-day second weekend is from May 3, 4, 5 and 6.

**WHERE:** Fairgrounds Race Track and Slots, 1751 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70119

**HOW:** Advance purchase, single-day tickets are \$70 through April 26. Tickets at the gate are \$80. Tickets for children (aged 2-10) are \$5 and are available only at the gate. Children under two years old are admitted free. Single-day tickets to Jazz Fest are sold by specific weekend, and each ticket is valid for one day's attendance.

**HOTELS and TRAVEL:** There are several officially sanctioned Jazz Fest packages at preferential rates for visitors at a number of New Orleans hotels. It's a bit late to book accommodations at most of the choice locations with the best prices, as they historically sell out, but Airbnb and VRBO are good sources

of alternative housing. The New Orleans Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau is a useful resource for travelers and can be reached at 800-672-6124 or 504-566-5003, or online at [neworleanscvb.com](http://neworleanscvb.com). The official Jazz Fest website is [www.nojazzfest.com](http://www.nojazzfest.com).

**CULINARY DELIGHTS:** It is difficult to just say "food" when talking about the numerous dishes for which New Orleans (and Louisiana) is known. One trick though is to eat early in the day in order to avoid the long lines, which invariably get longer as the day marches toward sunset. In addition to the wide variety of dishes and desserts and drinks offered, there are two cooking stages at the Fair

Grounds Grandstand where chefs and cooks demonstrate their skills and offer samples.

**CRAFTS & MARKETPLACES:** At the Contemporary Crafts Marketplace, festivalgoers can find nationally recognized artists selling handcrafted original jewelry, pottery, clothing, accessories, paintings, photography and much more. You will find both ancient and modern crafts from around the African Diaspora at the Congo Square and African Marketplace. At the Louisiana Marketplace, shoppers will find historical, traditional and contemporary artworks, jewelry, woven baskets, photographs, furniture and an assortment of artwork.



Wanda Rouzan is one of New Orleans' best known divas; her musical career spans 50 years and counting.



This is Sunday Dinner. It's when we all come together to enjoy really good food. And each other. Get recipes at [publix.com/sunday-dinners](http://publix.com/sunday-dinners).

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# Women's HEALTH ISSUES

THE MIAMI TIMES | APRIL 2018



## Lasagna

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 4 clove fresh, minced garlic or 4 tsp. jarred, minced garlic
- 1 small onion (chopped)
- 1 1/2 cups fresh, chopped kale (about 3 leaves), cut into bite-size pieces, stems discarded OR
- 1 1/2 cups frozen spinach (thawed)
- 3 cups fresh spinach (stems discarded, packed tightly)
- 2 1/2 cups eggplant or summer squash, (about 1 small eggplant or 2 squash), cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 1/2 cups tomatoes (diced) OR
- 14.5 ounces canned, no-salt-added tomatoes (diced)
- 1 pound extra-lean, ground beef or turkey, 95% lean or more
- 2, 1/4 cups white mushrooms (sliced)
- 1 cup low-sodium, or no-salt-added cannellini beans (drained, rinsed)
- 3/4 teaspoon black pepper (divided use)
- 2 teaspoons dried, salt-free herbs, Italian blend, divided use
- 1/2 cup low-moisture, part-skim mozzarella (shredded)
- 1 1/2 teaspoons crushed red pepper
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup low-fat ricotta cheese
- 9 whole-grain sheets lasagna noodles
- 1 tablespoon no-salt-added tomato paste
- 8 ounces canned, no salt added tomato sauce

### DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350° F.
2. Cook lasagna noodles according to package directions; omitting salt, butter and oil.
3. In a saucepan, heat oil. Add garlic and onion and cook over medium heat for about 4 minutes. Add kale (or spinach), tomatoes and eggplant (or squash) and pepper and cook 3 minutes. Turn up heat to medium-high, add ground beef or turkey and cook until meat browns slightly and liquid is absorbed. Add mushrooms, beans, vinegar, tomato paste, and tomato sauce. Stir in red pepper flakes, 1 teaspoon dried herbs, 1/2 teaspoon of pepper. Simmer for 15 to 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.
4. Mix together mozzarella and 1 teaspoon dried herbs.
5. In a 9 x 13 ovenproof dish, place 3 lasagna sheets, one third of lasagna filling, and half of ricotta in small clumps. Repeat placing the lasagna sheets, filling and ricotta step. Top with 3 more lasagna sheets, remaining filling and top with mozzarella mixture. Bake for 30 minutes.

Source: American Heart Association

## FROM VICTIM TO VICTOR: The story of a rape survivor

TRANIKA "SHAWN" DUFRESNE

On August 4, 2015, I was raped. I found myself being a victim of sexual assault by someone that I know, and feeling paralyzed immediately after the incident occurred. I confronted my perpetrator and he denied the heinous crime that he committed against me. In fact, he told me that I was, "tripping" and that he never had an issue with someone not willing to have sex with him except for me. Unfortunately, it wasn't the first time that I've experienced such sexual trauma. The first molestation

SEE STORY 5C

### Miami-Dade County's Resource for Victims of Sexual Assault

The Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center at Jackson Memorial Hospital is available to help survivors in the healing process. The only comprehensive rape treatment center in Miami-Dade County, the center is also one of the few rape treatment centers nationwide to provide an all-inclusive approach to the care and treatment of victims of sexual assault – ages 12 years and older.

The medical professionals who work there provide highly

SEE VICTIMS 5C



## 40-year commitment to victims

This year, Jackson Health System is celebrating its centennial – and its historic mission to provide the highest quality medical care to all members of our community.

When Jackson Health System opened its doors in 1918, it had 13 beds and a handful of employees. Today, Jackson is one of the nation's largest health systems with more than 2,100 beds and more than 12,000 employees.

A lot has changed since Jackson's humble beginnings, but its commitment to the health and wellbeing of the community has remained the same.

For more than 40 years, more

SEE JHS 5C



Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment was established in 1974. It treats victims of sexual assault whether the crime is reported to police or not.

## Unconditional love: Wife donates kidney to husband

Abel and Gabriela Valdes have experienced many milestones together: they began dating at 17, married years later, and now live in Kendall with three beautiful children. But wedding vows aren't just words for this couple: when Abel became critically ill, Gabriela did not hesitate to help her husband.

Abel was diagnosed with chronic renal failure, known as chronic kidney disease (CKD) – a condition characterized by a gradual loss of kidney function over time and retention of fluid. At the same time, Gabriela was pregnant with their third son.

In 2016, Abel began dialysis,

and was placed on the national transplant waiting list.

But his health continued to deteriorate. Abel was admitted multiple times to the hospital for fluid retention and in October 2017, he had open-heart surgery due to the strain that dialysis had on his body.

Seeking a better quality of life, the family was referred to physicians at Miami Transplant Institute (MTI), a unique affiliation between Jackson Health System and UHealth – University of Miami Health System at Jackson Memorial Medical Center, to learn about the Living Donor Kidney Program, spearhead-



Gabriela Valdes donated a lifesaving kidney to her husband, Abel Valdes, at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Here, the couple is photographed with their three children.

ed by UHealth's Giselle Guerra, MD.

"It is the heart and soul of the kidney program because it generates the best results," Dr. Guerra said. "The patients do not have to linger on a waiting list; and it shortens the amount of time a patient needs to be on dialysis because they can be transplanted at any point with a living donor."

Gabriela, although a nurse at a local hospital, was shocked to learn about this alternative and how if she was potentially a match, she could be the one to save her better half.

"I didn't think it was an op-

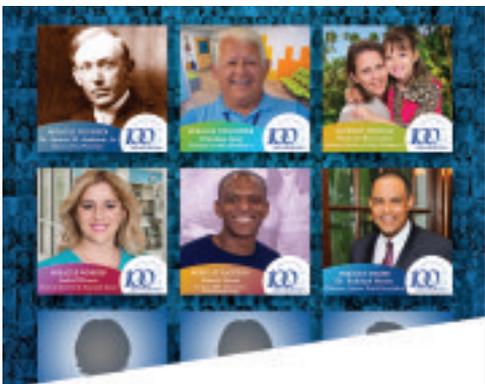
tion for me to be a donor," she said. "I didn't think I could do it – especially when I was not related to him."

Gabriela, 36, and Abel, 38, were confident that they had come to the right place. Lab results came in, and it was determined that she was in fact a perfect match, and the couple decided to embark on this transplant journey together.

"I really didn't want her to do it because I was scared for her," Abel said. "But I am thankful to her that I would have the opportunity to watch my kids grow up and continue our family adventures."

The surgery happened on

SEE LOVE 5C



## CELEBRATE THE MIRACLES

In 100 years, we've seen it all. Patients who have battled heavily and overcome great odds. Researchers making breakthroughs in innovations and treatments. Physicians and staff that devote their life's work to healing and saving lives. Individuals who are dedicated to raising funds and awareness. Yet, we're still impressed by the astonishing miracles that continue to take place at Jackson Health System.

It is through these collective efforts and your support that we have been able to teach this love around us. Together, we celebrate the miracles that have made a world of difference.

To join the celebration, add your photo to our Jackson Miracles Mosaic at [CenturyOfMiracles.org](http://CenturyOfMiracles.org).





With refreshing ingredients, this crunchy Vietnamese-style chicken sandwich makes a perfect lunch treat for hot sticky days

# chic sandwiches

AND VERY COOL

## ENGLISH TEA CUCUMBER SANDWICH

"A refreshing and delicious sandwich. Depending on the way you cut the bread, these can be made as appetizers or a simple lunch time sandwich."

### INGREDIENTS

1 cucumber, peeled and thinly sliced  
1 (8 ounce) packaged cream cheese, softened  
1/4 cup mayonnaise  
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder  
1/4 teaspoon onion salt  
1 dash Worcestershire sauce  
1 (1 pound) loaf sliced bread, crusts removed  
1 pinch lemon pepper (optional)

### DIRECTIONS

**Set 1:** Place cucumber slices between 2 paper towels set in a colander. Allow liquid to drain, about 10 minutes.  
**Set 2:** Mix cream cheese, mayonnaise, garlic powder, onion salt, and Worcestershire sauce in a bowl until smooth.  
**Set 3:** Spread cream cheese mixture evenly on one side of each bread slice.  
**Set 4:** Divide cucumber slices over half of the bread slices; sprinkle lemon pepper on cucumber.  
**Set 5:** Stack the other half of the bread slices with spread sides down over the cucumber slices to make sandwiches.

## FIVE-SPICE CHICKEN AND CUCUMBER BANH MI

### INGREDIENTS

3/4 cup (165g) caster sugar  
3/4 cup (185ml) white vinegar  
3 carrots, cut into thin matchsticks or grated  
900g skinless chicken thigh fillets  
1/2 cup (150g) whole-egg mayonnaise  
2 baguettes, cut into thirds, split  
2 long red chillies, seeds removed, cut into thin strips  
1 telegraph cucumber, thinly sliced into ribbons (a mandoline is ideal)  
1/2 red onion, very thinly sliced  
1/2 cup coriander leaves

### MARINADE

1/4 cup (60ml) soy sauce  
5 garlic cloves, finely chopped  
4 eschalots, finely chopped  
2 tablespoons fish sauce  
1 tablespoon caster sugar  
4 coriander stalks, bruised  
2 teaspoons five-spice powder  
Select all ingredients

### DIRECTIONS

**Step 1:** Combine sugar, vinegar and 1/2 teaspoon salt in a bowl, stirring until sugar and salt dissolve. Add carrots and toss to coat. Stand at room temperature for at least 2 hours or overnight. Drain.  
**Step 2:** Meanwhile, combine all the marinade ingredients together in a large bowl with 1 teaspoon black pepper. Add chicken, turning to coat. Cover and marinate in the fridge for 1 1/2 hours, turning frequently.  
**Step 3:** Lightly oil a barbecue or chargrill and preheat to medium-high. Remove chicken from marinade and grill, in batches, for 6-8 minutes, turning, until cooked through. Slice on an angle and keep warm.  
**Step 4:** Spread mayonnaise on bottom half of baguettes, then fill with carrot, chilli, cucumber, chicken, onion and coriander. Serve immediately.



**TRY GREENWISE BREAD!**

100% whole grain wheat. No artificial colors, flavors, or preservatives. Only in the Bakery.

**Publix**

MAKE SHOPPING A PLEASURE

# LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF  
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### ■ The Charmettes, Inc. Miami-Dade County Chapter

9 a.m. on April 28 will be the "Spring Fling" awards breakfast to acknowledge the accomplishments of humanitarians and other outstanding citizens in the community; The Rusty Pelican, 3201 Rickenbacker Causeway; Info: Call 786-617-8556

### ■ The M Ensemble Company

8 p.m. on Thursdays – Saturdays until May 6 The M Ensemble will showcase "God's Trombones," The Sandrell Rivers Theater at Audrey M. Edmonson Transit Village, 6101 NW 7th Ave.; Info: Call 786-320-5986 or 305-200-5043; Tickets may also be purchased on-line at [www.theensemble.com](http://www.theensemble.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 305-218-6171

■ **Miami Northwestern Class of 1973**  
4 p.m. every third Sunday; location TBA; Info: Call 786-877-1176 or email [msofguns@aol.com](mailto:msofguns@aol.com)

■ **Miami Jackson Class of 1968**  
6 p.m. every second Monday to every 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 81st 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](http://www.childrendance.net)

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



Photo by Armando Rodriguez/Miami-Dade County

## 'Black Panther' cast member is praised by county official

Audrey M. Edmonson, vice chairwoman of Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners, presented a proclamation to star in the blockbuster "Black Panther" movie, Sope Aluko, at the Miami-Dade County Commission meeting on April 10. Aluko, a Miami-Dade resident, received the award to celebrate her work in the newest Marvel Comic

movie phenomenon. The movie has surpassed box office sales and continues to shatter records as it vaulted past "Titanic" to become the third highest-grossing film of all time.

"We are proud of her acting, but what is so very special about Sope is her genuine humility," Edmonson said. "The first weekend 'Black Panther' premiered

all across this county, our community partners sponsored kids and chaperones of all ages to view the movie. There were bus loads from Liberty City, and as far North as Miami Gardens and as far South as South Dade being transported to various theaters.

"But what was deemed an already thrilling field trip, became even more spe-

cial. After the credits of the movie ran, but before the children left the theaters, in popped Sope Aluko to greet the kids and tell them about her experience in the movie as well encouraging them to keep reaching and pushing toward their dreams.

"We're so proud that she is a Miami-Dade County resident and we wish her continued success."

## STORY

CONTINUED FROM 3C

occurred when I was a child. I arrived home angry, confused, and in tears with what happened. I sat in the driveway in my car in utter shock and disbelief that he didn't know that me yelling "no," "stop," and "get off me" meant that I didn't welcome his advances.

I searched the internet on my cellphone for answers, mainly looking for someone to help him understand that he violated me. As I searched I came across the hotline number for the Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center (RTC) at Jackson Memorial Hospital. I dialed the number in hopes of getting him help, not fully accepting that I was, yet again, a victim of rape.

One of the counselors answered my call and she helped me realize that the person who raped me was

fully aware of his actions. Furthermore, she urged me to come into the center to get examined and to start counseling. She was kind, patient, a great listener, and an encourager. If it were not for her I would not have had the courage to go to RTC. After 20 minutes and three phone calls, she finally convinced me to accept the help that they were offering.

When I arrived to the center, it was after midnight. The counselors were not present but the advocates were. The advocates handled me with care as I was nervous being there. I blamed myself for what occurred when I was raped, and they told me that it was not my fault. I was informed about the services offered at the center, and I was relieved that it was free.

Moreover, the advocates stood by my side as the nurse practitioner examined me. They also helped me face my fear of needles as the nurse drew my blood. They never judged me through the whole

process. The advocates were extremely compassionate during my darkest hour. I was grateful. I left the facility feeling safe and understood.

A few days later, I began my first day of counseling. I didn't know what to expect. Surprisingly, it was everything that I needed: a listening ear, compassion, and sound advice. My counseling sessions marked the beginning of my healing process. Every week for a year and a half, I looked forward to my sessions. It helped me find my center when I felt emotionally off balanced. I was able to fully uncover, without fear of being judged, my experiences of sexual battery.

I'm sincerely thankful for the Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center and its outstanding staff. This center is the reason why I am still zealous about life. This center held my hand as I conquered depression. This center is the reason why I regained the power that I

felt was taken from me and learned how to set proper boundaries.

Now, I've created a docu-series, "This is...Rape! Survivors Speak on Molestation and Rape," to share my story and the stories of other survivors. It will be shown every Wednesday this month on Facebook and YouTube. Furthermore, I co-created a photography exhibit with Leroy McDowell of Ruach Studios, showcasing the emotions and resilience of survivors at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 30th at: Church of the Open Door (6001 NW 8th Ave. Miami, Florida 33127)

It is my hope to end rape culture and encourage survivors to end their silence.

Yes, I was raped; however, thanks to Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center, I am no longer a victim, but a victor!

*Tranika "Shawn" Dufresne is a media personality and aspiring media mogul who uses her platform to entertain and educate the masses.*

## JHS

CONTINUED FROM 3C

than 70,000 sexual assault victims have been helped at the Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center (RTC).

The RTC was established in 1974, the first of its kind in the United States to integrate psychological and physical medical attention. It is named after women's rights activist and Florida Women's Hall of



Fame inductee, Roxy O'Neal Bolton, who died in May 2017.

"Jackson Memorial Hospital is like a lighthouse at sea to ships," Bolton said in 2015. "Ships look out towards a lighthouse for direction, and that is what the center is to

victims of assault."

It was Roxy Bolton's proposal to create a rape treatment center that was approved by the Metro-Dade Commission. One month later, the center opened in Jackson Memorial's radiation therapy area. The first victim to be treated walked in during the ribbon cutting ceremony, according to the center's director at that time.

Today, the RTC cares for victims of sexual assault, free of charge, regardless of

whether the crime is reported to police. The center provides emotional and medical support – in a completely confidential setting – 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is nationally renowned for providing comprehensive care. Services include a confidential 24-hour helpline, forensic evidence collection and preventive treatments, advocacy, support groups, and therapy.

To learn more about Jackson's rich history, visit [CenturyOfMiracles.org](http://CenturyOfMiracles.org)

## LOVE

CONTINUED FROM 3C

March 20 at Jackson Memorial Hospital, and was led by transplant surgeons Gaetano Ciancio, MD, MBA, FACS, MTT's chief medical officer and director of

the kidney and kidney-pancreas transplant programs, and Mahmoud Morsi, MD, CPHQ, abdominal transplant surgeon, along with a multidisciplinary team.

"We felt like it was surreal – we just went with the flow and held hands pre-surgery," Gabriela said. "Once we were finally able to see each

other again, it was such a relief and joyous moment."

The couple has since gone home to be reunited with their family and look forward to targeting their bucket list of travel destinations: the Grand Canyon and New York City.

Gabriela, Abel, and their children – one girl and two

boys – shared their story of unconditional love during a press conference at Jackson to educate the community on the importance of becoming a donor as part of April's National Donate Life Month.

"There's nothing I can do to hold up to that," Abel said. "I'm very grateful to her."

## VICTIMS

CONTINUED FROM 3C

specialized care after a rape has occurred.

The team, which in-

cludes victim advocates, assists survivors by providing them with the resources to assist in the healing process, including support and crisis intervention, and short-term counseling services are offered by

licensed clinicians.

All staff is sensitively trained to work with victims of sexual assault.

The center's services are at no cost to the survivor and are completely confidential regardless of police

involvement or reporting status.

For more information, call the confidential helpline at 305-585-7273 or visit [jacksonhealth.org](http://jacksonhealth.org).

Help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

# THE SOCIAL WHIRL

VENNDA-REI GIBSON | VENNDA43@GMAIL.COM

Celebrations in April continue. **Karen Bullard-Jordan** made her 60th birthday celebration on "Island Affair" as family and friends gathered "across the water" in Nassau, Bahamas. The weekend birthday festivities began Friday, April 13 at **Frankie Going Bananas**, located at the popular Fish Fry locale. The birthday celebration was held on Saturday at the Atlantis Hotel on Paradise Island. It was an all-white affair, and it was **Junkanoo** time indeed. The birthday celebration continued on Sunday with worship services at Holy Trinity Anglican Church - Stapleton Gardens.

The **Historic Hampton House Community Trust Inc.** remains true to its mission by documenting the glorious past of the Hampton House in our community. Accordingly, they are extending an invitation to our community, friends and family to the opening of their new exhibit, entitled: **Social Center of the South: The Past and Present of the Historic Hampton House**, on Saturday, April 28 at 6 p.m. Please mark your calendars.

The exhibit was produced by participants of the Historic Hampton House's new music and history mentorship program, the Brownsville Unity Music Project (BUMP), which represents a strategic partnership between Florida International University's Department of History and University of Miami's **Shalala Music Reach Program**. The exhibit

tells the story of the Hampton House from its heyday in the 1950s and '60s to its rebirth more than 40 years later as a community cultural center. The project is supported by The Historic Hampton House Community Trust, Florida International University, BUMP (Brownsville Unity Music Project), The Knight Foundation and The Children's Trust. The event is free and open to the public.

This is an important documentation of our history for all of us in the community, and historic lessons for those who weren't born when the Hampton House was in its heyday; and for those not yet born.

As I previously shared last week, I was the speaker at the Celebration of the Elders service at the Church of the Ascension on Sunday, April 8. I'd like to follow up and share some history of the Church of the Ascension in Richmond Heights, one of our historic Black communities in South Florida. The Church of the Ascension grew from a humble idea of 15 laypeople, along with the Reverend **Roderick Ward** from St. Cyprians Episcopal Church in Homestead. They met in the home of Mr. & Mrs. **Frank King**, on May 9, 1965, for the purpose of "planting" an Episcopal church in the Richmond Heights area. A few days later, on Sunday, May 30, 25 people attended the first worship service at **Tot's Towne Kindergarten**, founded by **Thelma Aranha**. That service was held so close to the pastoral



Church of the Ascension

feast day, "The Day of the Ascension," it was decided to name the church, The Church of the Ascension. The word ascension means rising up or being lifted up and it has inspired the culture of the church even to this day.

Ascension has since grown into a large multicultural congregation, comprising of people from the Bahamas, West Indies, Africa, and Central, South and North America, making it a mixture of diverse cultures and traditions. The Church of the Ascension is 53 years strong, having celebrated its Golden Jubilee on May 14, 2015. As membership increased it became necessary to provide additional facilities. Construction on a new sanctuary was completed in May 1981 and was consecrated a month later on Sunday, June 14, 1981.

Following worship service on Sunday, a reception and program were held in the **Miriam Dean Pratt Community Center**,

the center named in memory of Reverend **Miriam Dean Pratt** (deacon), who was one of the founders. She was very active in the Richmond Heights community, created many ministries within the church, and touched many lives and sadly lost her life in the act of serving God and people in His church. Sunday's program participants were some very talented youth from the parish and community with Jessica Harris as master of ceremonies. **Isabella Capo** delivered an uplifting opening prayer with the occasion given by **Jada Wooden** and **Jordan Herndon** and a reading from the scriptures by **Sofia Woodberry**. The program was entertaining and inspiring with a reading of **Langston Hughes'** poem "Mother to Son" by **Evelyn Alfred** and **Adon Alfred**, with omissions from the audience; piano selections from **Jennise Joseph** and **Brianna Allen**. "Still I Rise" by **Maya Ange-**

lou was read beautifully by **Mikayla St. Claire**. **Howard Shirley** ended the program with a moving solo tribute from the elders to the youth, by singing "Lean on Me." It made for a wonderful Sunday filled with much gratitude.

It was a celebration as the women of the Miami Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority welcomed 65 new members and presented them at the DoubleTree by Hilton Miami Airport Hotel & Convention Center on Saturday afternoon to an overflowing crowd of sorority members, family and friends. Congratulations to these new members of the Greek community: **Karen Love**,

**Sheerie Edwards**, **Lewis-Johnson-Williams**, **Telena McGhee**, **Raven King**, **Staci Nicole Doss**, **Myeshia Bryant**, **Cycloria Rivers**, **Rashonda Anderson**, **Chanah Woods**, **Angel Lewis**, **Nadelyn Harris**, **Tiffany Nelson**, **Vernell Patterson**, **Alaine Sharpe**, **Ashley Hall**, **Christins Roye**, **Shonte Williams**, **Dr. April Thompson-Williams**, **Christhase Elise Moss**, **Cheryl Coleman**, **Takeena Sturrrup**, **Lakeisha Morris-Moreau**, **Angela Stagers Washington**, **Lukecia Thomas-Coakley**, **Tamia Spells**, **Lynise White**, **Gia Davis Smith**, **Emelda Wallace**, **Randi Cheatham-Johnson**, **Di-  
onne Brown**, **Elvire Lorcuce**, **Stacy Santos**, **Linda Hodges Holloway**, **Arlena Williams**, **Shayna Jefferson**, **Natalie Williams**, **Adrienne Burrows**, **Traniece Lawrence**, **Adrienne Bethel**, **Cheryl Smith-Rotibi**, **Patricia Fairclough-Stagers**, **An-**



Jordan

**gelisha Tanechie Davis**, **Tori Anderson**, **Kafayat Adegbenro**, **Benoushkah Dominique Joseph**, **Chandale Williams**, **Ericka Green**, **Erlin Evans**, **Gobert, Brandyss Howard**

**Ashley Reid**, **Annyln Allen-Braddy**, **Tara Johnson**, **Karen Reid**, **Sybrina Fulton**, **Sharmaine Payne**, **Kala Jones**, **Christa Dotson Dean**, **Danelle Juste**, **Karen Tynes**, **JoAnn Guyton**, **Tiffany Sholtz**, **Montoya Jackson**, **Chelsea Kickingstallionsims** and **Tracy Wilson Mourning**.

On the horizon is the 32nd Annual Scholarship Banquet presented by The **King of Clubs Greater Miami Inc.** a philanthropic, a volunteer-orientated organization and one of the oldest social clubs in Miami. Each year they give out three scholarships in the amount of \$1,000, per person, to Black graduating seniors in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools System. The banquet this year will be held at the Doubletree Grand Hotel on May 6.

Family and classmates just heard of the death of **Origen Colebrook**, a member of the pioneer Miami Colebrook family. **Colebrook** lived in Fort Pierce, where he taught and coached in the **St. Lucie County Public School System**. His class of 1958 Northwestern members were certainly saddened to hear this news. The class is preparing for their 60th reunion this year.

*Life is indeed a journey with detours, stops and many roads travelled. Let dots connect as we Live, Pray, Love, Laugh, Sing and Dance in the Whirl. Blessings always.*

## FILM

CONTINUED FROM 1C

and being a businessman and entrepreneur," he said. "That's just my family. I can't take no credit for where I am today. It's because of my family."

Aaron sees himself in three to five years being in a place where he worked very hard to get. As for next year, he envisions himself on the very stage Jenkins stood on at the Oscars.

Although Jenkins did not have a large interest in making films growing up, these students are preparing themselves well in advance to show that Miami is rich in talented filmmakers.

Elijah Wells, a Miami-native, has been toying with cameras since he was 10 years old. Since then, the 20-year-old has won at the American Black Film Festival twice in a row and had one of his films was shown at the White House with the opportunity to meet President Barack Obama. Wells currently studies filmmaking at the New York Film Academy.

Like Aaron, Wells gives much credit to his parents.

"The main two people is my mom and dad because they really sacrificed a lot for me," he said. "Spending so much money for my little short films and music videos."

Wells is appreciative of Jenkins' work.

"He really opened up the door for Miami filmmakers," he said. "So I appreciate him for creating the film on such a heavy topic where many African-Americans didn't want to talk about."



Elijah Wells with students on the red carpet at Youth Indie Film Festival in Overtown.

Photo courtesy of Elijah Wells

### FILMMAKERS IN TRAINING

While Aaron and Wells have strong family backing, other young filmmakers struggle with confidence.

At Ist Take Youth Program, a free program put on by Florida Film House during spring break, many students, including many of Haitian descent, learn all aspects of filmmaking.

Paul Antoine, team leader and acting coach for the students, said they try to immerse them into the process of making a film. Antoine said Florida Film House is making a film this summer and hopes to use some of the students to be on the film set.

"We basically teach them to go from the script to the screen ... they actually do the scriptwriting," Antoine

said. "They go and scout locations, they do the film, and they select their actors ... select who's going to be their sound engineer. Then, they break into teams and then they move forward, and from there, on the final day, we have a premiere."

Antoine said one of the challenges the program faces is dealing with Haitian students who aren't confident in their films because of the language barrier.

"They can barely speak English," Antoine said. "So, it's a challenge for them because they felt that, 'listen, man, I can't speak English, so I don't know how my film is gonna come out.'"

Despite this challenge, Antoine said last year, those same students had one of the best films.

"I always tell them, listen,

it's competitive. At the same time, if you do your best work, that's what matters," he said.

Rood Pierre, a 19-year-old student from Haiti, said Ist Take helped him to learn the skills necessary to work be-

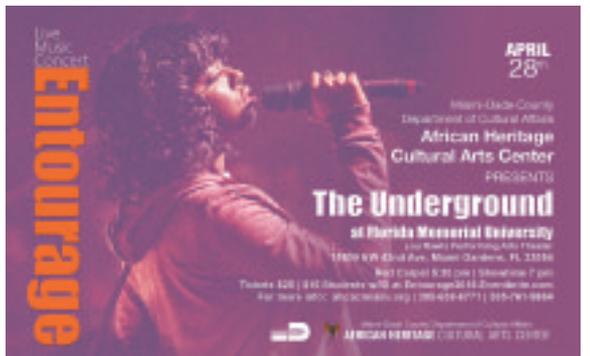
hind and in front of the camera. Now, he's starting his own team production.

"[Ist Take] helped me a lot," Pierre said. "Without it, maybe I wouldn't have something to do with my life. I wanted to be on TV. How could I have done it without Ist Take? So, thank God they are here for us."

Ist Take's youngest student is 9-year-old Preston Antoine. Preston co-produced his own short film during spring break about being yourself and dealing with peer pressure, along with 14-year-old Wesley Wray, the second youngest student in the program. Wesley was the lead actor in the film.

Preston said the program has taught him about teamwork.

"It also helps me be like a better actor because sometimes I always smile on the scene, and it makes sure I'm serious," he said. "It also helps me learn. Our director, he's a good director, and then I always stay by him, so I can learn how to be a director in the future."





Eugene May, 95, poses with his 1951 Chrome Swift Global Aircraft at the Gibson County Airport in Milan, Tennessee on April 7.

Photo: GAIL BAILEY/The Jackson Sun

## Denied flying lessons because he was Black, he made history

### Eugene May learned to fly at Coffey School of Aeronautics

BRITNEY L. JACKSON  
*The Jackson Sun*

JACKSON, Tenn. (AP) — As a young boy, Eugene May, 95, dreamed of flying airplanes. In the early 1940s, he went to McKellar-Sipes Regional Airport in Jackson, hoping to get the flying lessons he'd always wanted.

"I wanted to fly more than birds fly," May said.

To May's disappointment, he was denied because he's Black, and advised to

seek lessons up North, as no one in the state would teach him — so he did.

The first stop was St. Louis, where he was denied again. Then there was renewed hope when May saw an advertisement in a magazine for a flight school outside Chicago. He moved to Gary, Indiana, and finally gained acceptance at the Coffey School of Aeronautics with Cornelius Coffey and Willa Brown.

"Nothing is handed to you on a silver platter," May said. "You've got to put some kind of effort in to get there."

Just like everything else, work is required to get what you want, May explained. His determination to fly couldn't be stopped with a few nays. In 1948, he finally earned his wings.

During the 1940s, aspiring Black pilots were limited to where they could receive flying lessons — with some even leaving the country to learn.

Cornelius Coffey, the first Black American to establish an aeronautical school in the U.S., and Willa Brown, the first Black

SEE MAY 8D



The Jackson Sun via AP Gail Bailey



Britney Jackson/The Jackson Sun via AP

(left) In an April 7, 2018 photo, Eugene May, of Jackson, Tennessee, earned his private pilot's license in 1948 and purchased his own 1951 Chrome Swift Global Aircraft in 1963. May was made an honorary member of the Memphis Black-hawks Aviation Association after they learned of his flying accomplishments.

(above) In an April 7, 2018 photo, Eugene May, of Jackson, Tenn., earned his private pilot's license in 1948 and purchased his own 1951 Chrome Swift Global Aircraft in 1963, seen at the Gibson County Airport in Milan, Tenn.

Ashley Yates, a Black Lives Matter organizer and activist, has shared candid depictions on social media of the toll of her work.

Christie Hemmi Klok for The New York Times



## The quiet casualties of the movement for Black lives

### The mental and emotional hardship of activism and the resulting stress, depression

JOHN ELIGON  
*New York Times*

I have spent plenty of time over the past few years talking with Black Lives Matter activists about their work. The conversations are usually about things like systems and policies,

strategies for winning change and the path forward. In these moments, just as when we see them taking to the streets in protest, activists come off as strong and resolute, unflappable and resilient.

But there is a quieter reality of activism: the mental and emotional hardship of the work, and the resulting stress and depression that sometimes make it difficult to even get out of bed.

Though this is not often talked about in the open, it is evident to anyone paying close

SEE LIVES 8D



Photo courtesy of Armando Rodriguez/Miami-Dade County

At center, Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson, Bianca Alexandria Casher and Ebony Dunn are surrounded by Mayor Carlos Gimenez and Commissioners Rebecca Sosa, Barbara J. Jordan, Dennis C. Moss, José "Pepe" Díaz, Jean Monestime, Sally A. Heyman, Daniella Levine-Cava and Joe A. Martinez.

## Black history essay nets a four-year scholarship

Bianca Alexandria Casher, an eighth-grader in the Cambridge Program at Miami Lakes Middle School, won a statewide essay contest, and gets a reward of a four-year scholarship. Bianca entered the Florida Pre-Paid College Foundation essay contest to mark Black History Month, and made history. She was recognized April 10 by the Miami-Dade County Commissioners at its regular meeting.

Bianca is Vice Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson's granddaughter, and the daughter of Ebony Dunn, principal of COPE North.

"Bianca is the only middle school student in the whole state of Florida to win this scholarship," Edmonson said. "I want to let her and everyone know how proud I am of her. She is my darling and proud and joy and I hope that she will continue being as smart and bright and studious as ever."

## MAY

CONTINUED FROM 7D

American woman to earn a commercial pilot's license, are "superheroes," Memphis Blackhawk Aviation Association member and retired air traffic controller Thelma Rudd said.

"They were teaching Black people how to fly, and they were good flyers," Rudd said.

Coffey and Brown married in 1939 and co-founded the Cornelius Coffey School of Aeronautics, which was the only non-university aviation program to be part of the Civilian Pilot Training Program, according to blackpast.org. Their efforts helped integrate Black people into the aviation industry.

After earning her private and commercial pilot's licenses, Brown taught hundreds of men and women how to fly, many of which became members of the Tuskegee Airmen, the site states. "He had pictures with him with Cornelius Coffey and Willa Brown in Chicago," Rudd said.

Unfortunately, May's photos and other memorabilia were destroyed with his house in a 2008 tornado that swept through Jackson.

In December 2017, May was made an honorary member of the Memphis Blackhawks Aviation Association after they learned of his flying accomplishments via Morris Fair.

In 1955, a classmate of Fair's talked about his pilot-dad. Sixty-two years later, when



Photo: Brittney Jackson/The Jackson Sun

**Eugene May, 95, helps move his 1951 Chrome Swift Global aircraft into a hangar at the Gibson County Airport in Milan, Tennessee on April 7, 2018.**

they met at their retirement home, Fair learned that pilot was May.

When the Memphis Blackhawks were hosting an event at Fair's church, he told them he knew a Black pilot who was flying before the Tuskegee Airmen, and they were soon connected with him.

"For the 95 years that he's been here, and flying for over 50 years - that's amazing," Memphis Blackhawks President Morris Brown said. "The Blackhawks definitely like to honor him for doing so, and we're glad that we got a chance to know him."

May was determined to fly simply because he wanted to. He wasn't looking to be a commercial pilot or for status, he was just following his dream; he just wanted to fly.

His story is an inspiration to anyone faced with an obstacle, Rudd said.

"I hope these young people really understand what that means, and learn to not always accept no," she added. In 1963, May bought a

1951 Chrome Swift Global Aircraft that he now keeps parked at the Gibson County Airport in Milan.

Due to health conditions, he hasn't been able to fly for about two years - but he has made numerous trips from California to New York and has participated in many air shows over the years.

May is nominated for The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, the Federal Aviation Association's most prestigious award. The Master Pilot Award is for a pilot who has exhibited aviation skill and professionalism for at least 50 years.

"I think it's an honor-essentially for him to be a private pilot - just because of the expense that it takes to keep flying an airplane for 50 years," Rudd said.

With only an eighth-grade education, earning a pilot's license in the '40s as a Black man, and going more than 50 years with a clean flight record, is quite an accomplishment.

## 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 Center 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 127th Avenue • 305-273-4047

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

### ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

## LIVES

CONTINUED FROM 7D

“

I have to make clear just how invisible some of the most heinous violence we experience is.”

attention. Over the past two years at least five prominent activists have died. Two of them were suicides. One was from a heart attack at age 27. The other two were homicides, which speaks to the pressures of activism, too — the work they do often antagonizes the police, and so many are wary of turning to the state for protection.

We decided to explore this topic after Muhiyyidin Moye, an activist in Charleston, was fatally shot in New Orleans last month. What led activists to die young, and how were those deaths affecting people in the movement?

I knew right away that reporting out this story would be challenging. Activists are often wary of sharing with mainstream news outlets, feeling that they have been burned in the past and their messages have been twisted. One activist even expressed concern that my article would sow divisions within the movement. And talking about mental health is not easy or comfortable for many people to begin with.

One of the first people to whom I reached out was Ashley Yates. I had developed a relationship with her since her days as an activist in Ferguson, Mo., after the police killing of Michael Brown. Yates didn't hold back with me: She has already been open on social media about her struggles within the

movement and had a very public falling out with its leaders.

Yates had also written about how she was affected by the hospitalization of Erica Garner, the 27-year-old daughter of Eric Garner. Garner had a heart attack last year and later died; while she was in a coma, Yates shared an image on Instagram of a text message exchange in which Yates encouraged Garner to not be bothered by people talking negatively about her on social media.

“I have to make clear just how invisible some of the most heinous violence we experience is.” Yates wrote in the Instagram post in December. “How we are often left alone on the front lines grown cold because media and figureheads move on to the next hot story.”

I asked Yates, who moved to Oakland a couple of years back to work as an activist full time, if she ever had the urge to just say forget it, and take her college degree and go into a traditional profession. Of course she did, she told me, especially when you see someone dropping dead at 27 of a heart attack.

“It's absolutely scary,” said Yates, 32. “It's enough to make you want to quit.”

But more than just reflecting on the difficulties of activism and the trauma that comes with it, Yates ventured into another area that I had not thought about: self-care. As it turns out, taking care of yourself is a big issue in the present movement, unlike in times past. There are trained “healers” in communities who run workshops and do private counseling for activists. Yates started seeing a therapist about a year ago. She also talked about the things that seem small but can make a big difference for her: going to the ocean, putting her toes in sand, remembering to eat, taking time to talk with her friends about things that have nothing to do with activism. Some of these might seem obvious, but for those immersed in the work, that's not always the case.

## FAITH CALENDAR

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

### ■ 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 46<sup>th</sup> St.

### ■ 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.

### ■ 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.

### ■ Metropolitan A.M.E. Church

Food and clothing giveaway every third Saturday. Call 786-277-4150 for more details.

### ■ Zion Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Food and clothing distribution; 4 p.m. every

Wednesday. Call 786-541-3687 for more details.

### ■ First Haitian Church of God

Food drive; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday. Call 786-362-1804 for more details.

### ■ New Day N Christ Deliverance Ministry

Free mind, body and soul self-improvement and Zumba fitness classes. Call 305-691-0018 for more details.

### ■ Florida Independent Restoration Ministries

Prayer for families dealing

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

### ■ Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church

Bereavement sharing groups; 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.

## Knowing the difference between the ophthalmologist and the optometrist can save your vision

**CURTIS BUNN**  
*Urban News Service*

Tears flow from the nearly sightless eyes of Marilyn Rumph. At 49, she is losing her ability to read, drive and watch her children grow up. A few years ago, she had two working eyes and ambitions for the future. Today, she struggles to see.

Just the thought of it makes her cry. Her condition, she believes, could have been prevented.

A confluence of circumstances led the Palm Beach, native to this dark, unfortunate place: she says she was ignored, mistreated and misdiagnosed by the one eye-care specialist that she had trusted.

It is a place an increasing number of Blacks are finding themselves these days. The National Eye Institute says Black-Americans are more prone to certain eye conditions than other Americans and the number of low vision cases in the Black community could double by 2030. Add to that, the growing numbers of Black people reaching retirement age, and the community could see record numbers of eye problems.

At stake are billions of dollars of insurance, Medicaid and Medicare payments, which will flow to one group of professionals or the other — optometrists or ophthalmologists.

To win some of that money, optometrists are demanding legal changes to allow them to do the work once reserved for medical doctors — without getting the training or supervision of medical doctors.

Some optometrists want to perform eye surgeries, prescribe drugs and otherwise take the place of medical doctors. Some states, including Florida and Kentucky, are considering measures that will vastly expand the role of optometrists, without necessarily telling the public that they are not actual medical doctors. That may save the state and federal government tens of millions of dollars per year since the non-doctors bill at a lower rate than doctors, critics say, but many patients could lose their eyesight in the bargain.

### The Optometrist

Political Action Committee, a Florida lobby group, has spent as much as \$400,000 urging politicians to pass a bill giving optometrists most of the privileges of doctors. The bill was adopted by Florida's lower house and is scheduled for a vote in the state Senate's Health and Welfare committee in the coming weeks.

Rumph's case cuts right to the center of the controversy between optometrists and ophthalmologists. Many patients cannot tell the difference and sometimes falsely believe that optometrists are medical doctors. In fact, optometrists do not go to medical school or pass medical doctor state board license exams. Instead, they earn PhDs in eye care.

Rumph said she trusted the expertise of her long-time optometrist, who could not explain her painful eye or blurred vision. He prescribed new eyeglasses, she said.

She got fed up and went to a second optometrist, who recommended she see an ophthalmologist. An ophthalmologist diagnosed her with two detached retinas. By then, it was too late to save her vision.

One retina was so severely damaged that it could not be corrected with surgery. The other was repaired, but Rumph's vision is far from clear, she said.

At issue was the difference between the eye-care professionals. An optometrist is a vision professional, not a medical doctor. Once known as an optician, as explained by the College of Optometrists, he is "trained to examine the eyes to detect defects in vision, signs of injury, ocular diseases or abnormality and problems with general health, such as high blood pressure or diabetes. They make a health assessment, offer clinical advice, prescribe spectacles or contact lenses and refer patients to further treatment." He does not perform surgeries.

An ophthalmologist is a medical doctor who is trained to perform eye exams, diagnose and treat disease, prescribe medications and perform eye surgery. They also write prescriptions for eyeglasses and contact lenses.

In Rumph's case, her optometrist — with whom she had been a patient since 1992 — ignored her concerns and did not refer her to an ophthalmologist. Instead, he increased the strength in her prescription glasses, she said.

In severe cases like Rumph's, medical training can be the deciding factor. Even in Rumph's case, the first optometrist missed her condition entirely and, while, the second optometrist correctly diagnosed a detached retina in one eye... he failed to notice it in her other eye.

The ophthalmologist determined that vision in one eye was 90 percent gone. But, he thought, with the careful surgery, he could save the other eye.

With his surgical skills, he was able to restore her eyesight in one eye. Even then, she said, her vision is often marred by blurriness.

# the problem

Optometrists are demanding legal changes to allow them to do the work once reserved for medical doctors — without getting the training or supervision of medical doctors.



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The Adrienne Arsh Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County Inc./Photos by eyeworksproduction.com

## Students get to test flight drones

Scientific discovery came alive with the the Adrienne Arsh Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County's STEAM-focused program, Kitty Hawk, on April 9.

A select group of seventh-graders competed in an obstacle course and brought their drones to life under the guidance of Airbus/ATR America's engineers.

For 12 weeks, groups gathered at Hialeah Gardens Middle School, Allapattah Branch Library and South Miami Middle School to work with engineers from Boeing and Airbus/ATR Americas to get hands-on experience on aircraft fundamentals from design to creation.

As the program comes to an end this month, they met with their teams to discuss what they have learned after several weeks of instruction and competed in an obstacle course and flight battle.

Kitty Hawk is part of the Arsh Center's Learning Through the Arts, which is offered free-of-charge to Miami seventh graders and integrates the arts into science, technology, engineering and math subjects.



## Teachers can help reduce mental problems

Study finds services blended into academic instruction impactful

Miami Times Staff Report

School-based mental health services delivered by teachers and staff can significantly reduce mental health problems in elementary-aged children, according to a new study by researchers at FIU's Center for Children and Families.

The implications are significant considering approximately 30 to 40 percent of youth in the U.S. will be diagnosed with at least one mental health disorder by adolescence.

"More than half of children in the U.S. who receive mental health care receive those mental health services in a school setting, which makes educators frontline mental health providers for affected children," added the study's senior author, Jonathan Comer, professor and director of the Mental Health Interventions and Technology (MINT) Program at FIU's Center for Children and Families. "Our findings are encouraging in showing how — with sufficient training and support — mental health services can

“

**Our findings are encouraging in showing how — with sufficient training and support — mental health services can be quite effective when delivered by school-based professionals who are naturally in children's lives.”**

be quite effective when delivered by school-based professionals who are naturally in children's lives.”

The researchers examined 43 studies that evaluated nearly 50,000 children who had received school-based mental health services. They looked at the effectiveness of those services targeting various conditions including anxiety, depression, and attention and substance use problems.

A small number of services evaluated in this study pull



**Study finds that school-based services targeting child behavior problems have been more effective than other services targeting child attention problems.**

children out of classrooms to receive individualized treatment. Many school-based treatment models require that teachers learn and deliver a social emotional mental health curriculum separate from their academic instruction. Other school-based treatment models blend behavioral and mental health services into classroom instruction. For example, a teacher might divide their classroom students

into competing teams that get points for appropriate behavior and good listening during instructional times.

The authors found that mental health services blended into routine academic instruction in the classroom are particularly effective, compared to pull-out services or implementation of a separate mental health curriculum altogether.

If left untreated, men-

tal disorders first appearing during the elementary school years tend to persist into adulthood and are associated with impaired social functioning, suicidality, substance misuse, criminality, lower education and occupational attainment, and lower quality of life.

"Treating children in schools can powerfully overcome issues of cost, transportation, and stigma that typically restrict chil-

dren from receiving mental health services," said lead author Amanda Sanchez.

Other study findings show school-based services targeting child behavior problems have been more effective than other services targeting child attention problems, mood and anxiety problems or substance use. Moreover, treatments that are implemented multiple times per week are more than twice as effective as treatments that are only implemented on a weekly (or less) basis.

Further research is needed to understand how to best apply the findings from this study to optimize school-based mental health services for the very large number of students in need.

The authors caution that many schools — particularly those in low-resourced communities — do not have the personnel or expertise to implement quality mental health services without additional support and partnerships with mental health professionals. In order to optimize the success and sustainability of school-based mental health services, the authors call for increased support, training and resources for school-based staff.

# Pastor OF THE WEEK



Pastor Kevin Jones

PRESENTED BY



Miracles made daily.



## Talking Christ in the military with Senior Pastor Kevin Jones

### Former soldier leads a congregation in Pembroke Park

GREGORY W. WRIGHT  
g.wright@hotmail.com

Kevin Jones is senior pastor at the Pembroke Park Church of Christ, located at 3707 SW 56 Ave., in Pembroke Park.

Pastor Jones also wore the uniform of the U. S. Army.

"I was doing pretty bad in school," Jones admits. "There

was nothing for me to do, and I had enough sense to know that if I stayed where I was, things were not going to go well for me." So, three days after graduating from high school in his small hometown in North Carolina, he joined the army.

First, he was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mis-

souri, then later at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Even in the army, Jones said, "I kind of stumbled, not living as I should." But there, he also met Jasper Newsome, a minister at the Beauregard Church of Christ. "He took me in and kind of just worked with me. I was rough around the edges, but he never let me feel like I

was. I would never forget, every week, I use to go to church in Timberland boots, never dressed up," Jones said. But slowly, the self-described "country boy" began to see and feel the need to dress up for church.

Two times Jones was deployed to Iraq. After the first tour, he admitted he suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a condition developed by those who have experienced combat, or other terrifying events.

"First deployment, I really felt like if I would have had a ministry outlet, it would have been a blessing. The second deployment, I felt like something was happening. I started in my living quarters. I hung up these signs all around base camp, [that said] 'Hey! A devotional happening every Tuesday and Thursday in Area C-12.' It started off with two people, two people became eight people, and it just continued to progressively grow. I never felt anything so clearly about what I was supposed to do."

During that time, the U.S. Army offered a reenlistment bonus of \$10,000 tax-free to soldiers in combat zones. "The money was appealing," he said. "I turned it down.

I didn't have a plan. I just knew I was supposed to go to Southwest Christian College in Terrell, Texas so that I could get into ministry."

The Eastland Church of Christ in Fort Worth was his first assignment as a pastor. The young pastor was fearful at first, having never been on staff as a pastor before. "All I've ever known was the army, so I didn't think it would be for me, but without any hesitation, they [the congregation] invited me in."

Pastor Jones's experiences opened his eyes to the need to promote Christ to those in the military. "The call to ministry was just military stimulating," he said. "Just getting deployed, and realizing that a lot of soldiers were struggling, and people just needed a faith outlet."

In military life, Pastor Jones says, "I think we have to reintroduce Christ. I think the common perception of who God is, is off-putting. I don't think America, while they appreciate the work of soldiers, don't fully gather what that is. For the average soldier, the worst thing he has ever known was getting stood up at the prom. He goes from that into an institution that's training him to kill people in defense

of himself, his unit and his country. He gets deployed into an arena where people want his life. He does that for 365 days. He gets on a plane and comes back to America, and just like that, he's supposed to just snap back, and that's just not even possible. For 365 days the way he handled any situation was with violence, and he was encouraged to do it. He's back home and somebody bumps into him. You expect him to say, 'I'm sorry?' That's not happening!"

Pastor Jones says, "Christ is not only just a corrector, He's a comforter. I think what the average soldier needs, whether he is humble enough to admit it, is just comfort."

Comfort is also what the 225-member Church of Christ and Pastor Jones offered to its Pembroke Park community where, on Saturday, church members held their annual Lovefest, cleaning up trash and painting over graffiti in the community.

With his wife Clarissa, Pastor Jones, now 37 years, invites all to come worship. "Wherever you are, we want you to know, if there was ever a place with a seat for you, it's here. We are a church full of imperfect people, striving to serve a perfect God."

# Mormon church to end ban on Blacks priests

PEGGY FLETCHER STACK  
The Salt Lake Tribune

On an otherwise unremarkable June day nearly four decades ago, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints made a momentous declaration: It was opening its priesthood to "all worthy males," ending a century-long ban on Black men and boys being ordained, and on Black wom-

en being allowed in Mormon temples.

That June 8, 1978, change was a divine revelation, told LDS leaders said at the time, which came after much prayer and meditation about the prohibition.

The church's governing First Presidency said Monday that it will host a "celebration" June 1 at the Conference Center in downtown Salt Lake

City to mark the 40th anniversary of that revelatory change.

To LaShawn Williams, a Black Mormon, the celebration is a "step in the right direction."

Williams, who teaches courses on social work at Utah Valley University, said



Gray

"consistency matters most to me after a historic celebration."

The LDS Church "is demonstrating a desire to listen and to do," she said. "And my testimony will grow as [it continues] to do better."

Darius Gray, one of the

founders of Genesis, a support group for Black Mormons, recently penned a blog for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' official website.

"I am Black, an African-American convert who this year celebrates with millions of members the 40th anniversary of the priesthood

being extended to all worthy male members," Gray wrote in "Healing the Wounds of Racism." "Since that time, church leaders have fully disavowed past speculation for why the priesthood was withheld, including the notion of Blacks being less valiant in the pre-mortal existence."

## Happy Birthday Ms. Maggie

Happy Birthday to Ms. Maggie Vinson on her 99th birthday, April 25.

From her family and friends of Altamonte Springs, Florida and Miami.

May God bless her with many, many more.



Maggie Vinson

## Pastoral anniversary celebration

The members of New Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 7103 NW 22 Avenue, cordially invites you to their second anniversary celebration service for Pastor Bernard E. Lang at 3 p.m., Sunday, April 22, Rock of Ages Missionary Baptist Church. Pastor Johnnie White will be in charge of the service.

Other churches will be participating in this special service. All are welcome to attend.



Pastor Bernard E. Lang

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Fill out the grid, bring or mail it to:  
 The Miami Times  
 2537 NW 54th Street  
 or FAX to 305-634-0341  
 or call 305-634-0341

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Apostolic Revival Center**

**Services**  
 Wed. Interspersed Prayer 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
 Morning Service 11 a.m.  
 Sun. Ser. Worship 7:30 p.m.  
 Tues. 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 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening 5 p.m.  
 Tues. Bible Class 8:30 p.m.  
 Thurs. Fellowship 10 a.m.

Evangelist Eric W. Doss

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

**New Vision For Christ Ministries**

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

Rev. Michael D. Screen

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

**Brownsville Church of Christ**

**Services**  
 Lord Day Sunday School 9:45am  
 Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.  
 Tuesday Night Bible Study 7:30p  
 Thurs. Mon. Bible Class 10 a.m.

Min. Harrell L. 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: cmcbc.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. Ivey, Pastor

1470 N.W. 87th Street  
305-691-8861

**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. 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Rev. Charles Lee Dinkins

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

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

## Paradise

**TRETHA WILLIAMS SPEER**, 62, died April 12 at Baptist Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**CLIFFORD C. TOWNSEND**, IV, 74, died April 7 at University of Miami. Memorial service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**TYRONE MASSALINE**, 60, died April 4 at Jackson South. Service 7 p.m., Friday at Life Point Church of Naranja.



## Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

**ERNESTINE PEEK**, 100, retired, died April 9 at home. Service 11 a.m., Thursday at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church.



**WILLIE ALVIN BROOKS**, JR., 48, truck driver, died April 8 at Memorial Regional Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Friday in the chapel.



**DIANA THOMPSON**, 70, caretaker, died April 16 at Jackson North Medical Center. Viewing 1-6 p.m., Monday, April 23 in the chapel. Service 11 a.m., Tuesday, April 24 at St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church.



## Trinity

**ANTOINETTE WILLIS**, 65, died April 7 at Mount Sinai Medical Center. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Saint James Catholic Church.



**JULIO ISABEL CHINEA**, 75, died April 11 at Jackson Health Systems. Service 1 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.

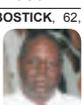
## Hall Ferguson Hewitt

**CARL LOUIS MURRAY**, 80, retired biology lab instructor at New York City College, died April 13 at Kindred Hospital. Survivors include sister, Sadie Smith, Ph.D., and Mary Hepburn; brother, Sylvester; special niece, Debra Williams and a host of other relatives. Viewing 5-7 p.m., Thursday. Service 1 p.m., Friday at Triumph Church Kingdom of God in Christ, 6825 NW 20 Ave., Liberty City. Interment Caballero Dade Memorial.



## Gregg L. Mason

**TERRANCE BOSTICK**, 62, died April 16. Viewing 5-9 p.m., family hour 6-7 p.m., Friday. Service 1 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



## AJ Manuel Florida City

**DAVID FLUITT**, 31, construction, died April 6. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.

## Hadley Davis MLK

**GLORIA MCCREE ARNOLD**, 67, educator, died April 10 at Select Specialty Hospital Atlanta. Service 10 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**ROBERT SHEFFIELD**, 94, retired, died April 15 at Memorial Regional Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at St. Paul A.M.E. Church.



**JOHNNIE LEE OWENS, JR.**, 71, driver, died April 14 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Carol City United Methodist Church.



## Wright and Young

**JOSEPH LEE CLARK**, 49, longshoreman, died April 10. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at Greater Holy Cross Missionary Baptist Church.



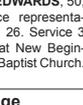
**BETTY HINES**, 85, died April 14. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Mt. Zion Apostolic Temple.



**A. LOUISE HUNTER**, 80, nursing assistant, died April 13. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Saint City Church.



**DEANGELA EDWARDS**, 50, customer service representative, died March 26. Service 3 p.m., Saturday at New Beginning Missionary Baptist Church.



## Range

**ANTHONY PAUL "TONY" ARMBRISTER**, 69, retired Lt. Col. of United States Marine Corps, died April 14. Survivors include his wife, Juanita W. Armbrister; daughter, Carladense Armbrister Edwards (Herman); sister, Emily Jones (Charles); brother, Leo Armbrister, Jr. (Mary) and Clarence Armbrister, L.L.D. (Denise); and a host of other relatives and friends. Litany Service 7 p.m., Thursday at the Church of The Incarnation. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at the church.



**LORETTA D. BRANTON**, 61, level 3 forensic auditor, died April 10. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Greater New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.

**VICTORIA N. SINCLAIR**, infant, died April 11. Private services were held.

**JACK DAVIS**, 81, retired entrepreneur, died April 10. Service 10 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.

## Range Coconut Grove

**ETHEL HALL FIFE**, licensed practical nurse, 89, died April 10 at Jackson South Community Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Christ Episcopal Church.



## Eric S. George

**LEON JAE FRAZIER, III**, died April 9. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at New Birth Baptist Church Miami.



## A Mortuary Group

**TWYLA L. RICHARDSON**, 43, tax agent, died April 12 at home. Service 3 p.m., Saturday at Church of Our Lord, 4450 NW 17 Ave., Miami, FL 33142.



## Eternal Rest

**KIMSON GREEN**, 17, honor student, died April 8. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.



## Richardson

**MURRAY GORDON**, 66, solid waste, died April 8 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Refuge Church of Our Lord.



## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**ANTHONY "RAT" JOHNSON**  
07/15/1990 - 04/17/2014

May the winds of heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear.  
How much we love and miss you; wish that you were still here.

The Family

## Card of Thanks

The family of the late,



**PASTOR EMERITUS REVEREND ALBERT JONES**

gratefully acknowledging and thanking you for your kind expressions of sympathy. Special thanks to Mitchell Funeral Home, Miami Dade Police Department, Broward County Sheriff's Office, Seaboard M.B. Association, Baptist Women's Council of Greater Miami and Vicinity, New Mt. Calvary, Greater New Macedonia, Peace, Peaceful Zion, 93rd St. Community, New Macedonia (Hollywood) and Dixon Grove M.B.C. (Jonesboro). May God bless each of you.

The Jones Family

## Retired Lt. Colonel Armbrister dies

Miami Times Staff Report



Anthony Paul Armbrister

Lt. Colonel Anthony Paul Armbrister, a decorated retired officer of the U.S. Marine Corps and a descendant of South Florida's early Bahamian settlers, died in his sleep at his home on Saturday. He was 69.

Affectionately known as "Tony," Armbrister was the middle son of the late Leo and Violet Armbrister. He was proud of his Bahamian ancestry and spent much of his youth traveling between Miami and Nassau, Bahamas. Armbrister served in the Marine Corps for 24 years accompanied by his wife, Juanita Williams, and earned numerous awards for his service.

Before he went into the military and before his 49-year marriage to Williams, Armbrister did what many young men do after high school — attend college. He completed his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in 1969. During his time in college, he played trumpet in the Marching 100, participated in the ROTC program and joined Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, which he remained with for

50 years.

On top of his education, Armbrister was a Episcopalian christened by Father Culmer in Overtown's St. Agnes Episcopal Church. He was an acolyte in Liberty City's Church of the Incarnation and a member of the founding family of the Church of the Transfiguration in Opa-locka.

Armbrister was considered to be a man who was devoted to his family and adored his grandchildren. He loved celebrating aboard cruises and was looking forward to an upcoming cruise to Alaska to celebrate his 70th birthday.

His daughter, Carladense Armbrister Edwards, said her father had an impact on her and her two children.

"My father and I had an

exceptional and unusual relationship because we were friends and business partners," she said. "It's all about how he was a very proper, formal person, and he taught us to speak properly and articulate clearly and look people in the eye. In essence, he taught us pride. I realized my father was preparing me for the life that I have. It wasn't expected for Black folks to be articulate and successful, and I was defying the odds as a Black female. I can't even put to words how impactful he's been to me and my kids."

Armbrister was predeceased by his parents, Leo and Violet Armbrister and his son, Andrew Paul.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita; daughter, Carladense Edwards (Herman); grandchildren William Barzney (14) and Zora Alexandria (12); two brothers Leo B. Armbrister Jr. (Mary) and Clarence "Clay" Armbrister (Denise); one sister Emily Jones (Charles); first cousins — Sandy, Florence, Gail, Paul, Jeffrey, Fred, Pamela and Pat; many cousins, nieces and nephews; brother and sister-in-laws; many adopted family members and close friends; and his military brothers and sisters from across the globe.

## Hal Greer, 81, jump shooter, dies

RICHARD GOLDSTEIN

The New York Times



Credit: Mark Webb/The Herald Dispatch, via Associated Press

Hal Greer, the Hall of Fame guard with the dazzling jump shot who helped take the Philadelphia 76ers to the 1967 N.B.A. championship, died on Saturday night in Arizona. He was 81.

The 76ers announced his death on the team's website but did not specify the cause or say where in Arizona he died.

A consistently prolific scorer, Greer was one of the most brilliant pro guards of the 1960s, together with Oscar Robertson, Jerry West and Sam Jones. But he was always low key.

Greer was a slightly built 6 feet 2 inches. He wasn't a leaper, he had no special flash, and he seldom showed emotion on the court.

"I never said anything that made headlines," he told *Basketball Digest* in 1980. "Nothing colorful."

"We called Greer bulldog because he had that kind of expression on his face, and it never changed," his former teammate Al Bianchi told *Pluto* in the oral history "Tall Tales" (1992).

But in his 15 N.B.A. seasons, with the Syracuse Nationals and their successor franchise, the 76ers, Greer turned in an outstanding game just about every night.

"He would have 25 or 30 points on you, and you'd be

Fans gave Greer a standing ovation in 2012 in his hometown, Huntington, W.Va., where he had starred for what is now Marshall University. He was the first high-profile Black player at a major college in the state.

wondering what he did to get all those points," Monroe recalled in "Earl the Pearl" (2013, with Quincy Troupe). "Every night, steady. You knew he would be going to pull up and shoot the jumper, but you were never ready for it."

Averaging more than 20 points a game in eight seasons, Greer was an N.B.A. All-Star from 1961 to 1970, and he was named to the all-league second team seven times.

He was voted most valuable player of the 1968 All-Star Game, scoring a record 19 points in a single quarter. He was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1982 and named to the N.B.A.'s 50th anniversary team in 1996.

Greer averaged 22.1 points a game on the 76ers' 1967 championship squad, playing alongside Wilt Chamberlain at center, Chet Walker, Luke Jackson and Billy Cunningham at forward, and Larry Costello and Wally (later Wali) Jones in the backcourt.

The 76ers, coached by Alex Hannum, were 68-13 in the regular season, then eliminated the Bill Russell-led Celtics from the playoffs with a 4-games-to-1 victory in the Eastern Division finals, ending Boston's streak of eight consecutive N.B.A. titles. Philadelphia won the finals over the San Francisco Warriors in six games.

Greer averaged nearly 28 points a game in the 76ers' 15 playoff games.

Cunningham long remembered Greer's one-handed jumper, fired from up to 20 feet out, usually from the top

of the foul circle. As he told Hoop magazine in 2006, it was "as good as anybody's who ever played the game."

Greer was also adept at penetrating to the basket, and he was an outstanding defensive player. He shot free throws effectively while mimicking his jump-shooting form.

"I would like to be remembered as a great, consistent player," he once told *The Philadelphia Daily News*.

Harold Everet Greer was born on June 26, 1936, in Huntington, W. Va., where his father, William, was a railroad worker. After starting at the segregated Frederick Douglass High School there, he became the first high-profile black player at a major college in West Virginia in Huntington.

Earl Lloyd, the first black player in the N.B.A., with the Washington Capitols in 1950, played at the historically black West Virginia State.

The Syracuse Nationals selected Greer in the second round of the 1958 N.B.A. draft. "I didn't think I had a chance at all," he once said. "When I first got there, I didn't even unpack my bag." But Greer went on to team with the outstanding front-court scorers Dolph Schayes, Johnny Kerr and George Yardley and played five seasons for the Nationals before they became the Philadelphia 76ers, after the Philadelphia Warriors moved to San Francisco.

**ASK FOR YOUR COUPON TO PLACE YOUR CARD OF THANKS IN THE MIAMI TIMES**

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