

# The Miami Times

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## From chains to change



Juneteenth celebration to promote knowledge, growth in Black Miami

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Breaking the chains of pessimism and lackluster business skills are issues that the Black community needs to tackle.

"Certain things are engrained in African-Americans because of slavery, passed on from generation to generation," said Dr. Delvena Thomas, a local psychiatrist.

That intergenerational bondage has been studied and questioned by professionals. It doesn't help that when Abraham Lincoln called for an end to slavery on Sep. 2, 1862, it wasn't until June 19, 1865, that slaves in the South were emancipated. Officially known as Juneteenth, the effects of that delay still lingers.

Black people still — like back then — need to be liberated even on the 152nd anniversary of Juneteenth. Sisters Natosha Gonzales and Khadija Williams-Frazier and friend, Dr. Delvena Thomas have joined forces to combat that entrenched mentality through a combination of education and connection.

They formed the group KND Productions (named after the three women: Khadija, Natosha and Delvena) and recruited people from the business, education and clergy communities to develop a program  
**SEE CHAINS 8A**



"We are still bonded in a way. We are shackled by not supporting one another, not obtaining the skills we need to maintain a business; we don't have equal access to certain opportunities."

—Dr. Delvena Thomas



## Dems denounce GOP at debate

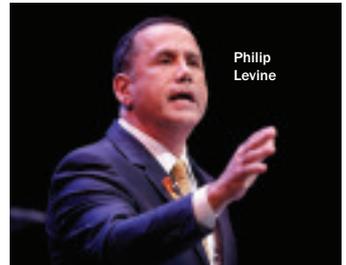
Candidates for governor walk common ground

**K. BARRETT BILALI**  
Special to The Miami Times

Since it was hard to distinguish themselves from each other, four of the five Democratic candidates for governor picked on their common enemy: the GOP and its leaders.

Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine, former Congresswoman Gwen Graham and entrepreneur Chris King all called for the resignation of GOP gubernatorial candidate Adam Putnam. Real estate developer Jeff Greene, who recently entered the race, was not invited to participate in the forum.

Putnam currently heads up the Department of Agriculture, which failed to make follow-up inquiries on some 365 applicants'



background checks for concealed weapons licenses. Putnam, in a news conference on Saturday, said a department employee failed to make the inquiries into applicants who were flagged for noncriminal reasons during three background checks from February

2016 to March 2017, the Associated Press reported. The state revoked 291 permits and fired the employees.  
"What he did is a travesty," said Levine.  
"In the private sector, if you've done something as incompetent as Adam  
**SEE GOP 8A**

(top) Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, far left, businessman Chris King, Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine, right, and U.S. Rep. Gwen Graham, far right, speaks during a gubernatorial debate ahead of the Democratic primary for governor on Monday, June 11.

## Transit union and county reach agreement

A department employee assistance program eliminated in the process

**ANDREA ROBINSON**  
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After nearly four years of stalled negotiations, county administrators and a local transit union last Wednesday reached a contract agreement that will give transportation workers retroactive pay but also eliminated an employee assistance program within the department.

On Friday, union leaders said the program will be back on the table when bargaining reopens soon for the upcoming fiscal year.

The deal was reached just as Miami-Dade County Commissioners were to begin to deliberate and vote on three unresolved issues to end an impasse between labor and management.

"This is a victory for both sides," said Clarence Washington, president of the Transport Workers Union Local 291. "Our members are very satisfied with the agreement, but no one escaped entirely unscathed."

TWU represents 2,800 employees of Metrorail, Metrobus and Metromover systems.

The approved contract agreement gives TWU members a 4-percent wage increase, retroactive to October 2016; eight shop stewards who will work full-time to assist members and work with the county; and full pay for workers on sick leave and vacation, including shift differentials and overtime premiums.

In return, the county will get a key reduction in the number of union stewards



TWU Local 291 members Kimberly Peacock, Arthur Strachan and Sabrina Symonette are bus operators.

and employees tied to a United Way-related Membership Assistance Program on its payroll — from as many as 16 down to eight.

The number of union stewards and the membership assistance positions was a sticking point in the negotiations. Those members, who work on behalf of TWU within the Miami-Dade Transit Agency, earn about \$1.3 million, a figure that Mayor Carlos Gimenez criticized.

Union officials said they already had agreed to trim the number to 11, and that the county wanted to eliminate all but three of those positions, according to labor attorney Mark Richard. The three or four employees who served as counselors in the Membership Assistance Program will return to their regular jobs with the department.

Several employees spoke  
**SEE TRANSIT 6A**

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# VIEWPOINT

BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | JUNE 13-19, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

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## EDITORIAL

### GOP: Empty barrels making no noise

The ink had barely dried on the qualifying papers when the official Democratic gubernatorial candidate debates began. Actually, the Dems seeking to occupy the state house, even before qualifying, made clear they want the seat Gov. Rick Scott will soon mercifully vacate.

Democrats have a pool of five candidates for governor from whom to choose come Aug. 28 Primary Election.

Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, former congressman Gwen Graham, former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine, businessman Chris King have been talking to voters through campaign stops and three broadcasted debates about issues that they believe are important to Floridians. Last week, Palm Beach billionaire Jeff Greene entered the race. He will have some catching up to do to get voters to get to know him.

Under Scott's watch, the prosperity gap visible between the haves and the have nots only widened in South Florida. Residents trying to navigate the narrow bridge of surviving in the state often slip and fall under the oppressive economic weight.

And yet every chance that Scott had to show that he was human, that he cared about his constituents, he balked. But none has been more egregious than when Scott refused to expand Medicaid. Last month, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention revealed that in Florida, 20 percent of the adults do not have health coverage, Politico reported. But in the states that expanded Medicaid, the uninsured rate declined to 9 percent. In the same Politico report, the Institute for Women's Policy Research, found that mental health for women in Florida was declining while suicide numbers are going up. The Institute said that the reduced health services by Scott not expanding Medicaid is a contributing factor for the declining mental health care in Florida.

So the damage is done. The new occupants of the state house must undo the damage that Scott's inhumane policies have caused.

And that's one of his missteps. We could go into his iron-fisted stance against restoring the rights of former felons who have successfully served their time. Scott has put up a rigorous defense to not allow former felons to vote.

This needless position is a direct affront to Black Floridians, since they make up 21 percent of all voting age people in the state, but they cannot cast a legal ballot. The only way felons can get their rights back is if a state Clemency Board — on which Scott sits and has veto power over — approves their application.

An April Slate article points out how Scott has only restored 3,005 voters out of more than 30,000 applicants. The article shows the records of other Republican governors:

Two-term Gov. Jeb Bush, 73,508; and one-term Gov. Charlie Crist, 155,315 applications. Scott's administration has a backlog of 10,085 applications.

And now he is looking to represent Florida in the U.S. Senate.

The GOP gubernatorial candidates — NRA-loving Adam Putnam and Ron DeSantis — who want to serve in Tallahassee will maintain Scott's tone-deaf attitude.

Voters need to beat back this challenge because Scott and the GOP have failed the state's working poor and disenfranchised others.

## CARTOON CORNER



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

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## We must vote to stop Trump's abuse

EUGENE ROBINSON, *The Washington Post*

President Trump is a bald-faced liar who covered up collusion between his campaign and the Russians, tried to derail a federal investigation and claims to be above the law like some tin-pot dictator. This is not my assessment. It is what Trump and his attorneys proudly proclaim.

Don't be distracted by Trump's showmanship and buffoonery. Look instead at the essence of what he is trying to do: Save himself from possible impeachment by subverting the rule of law and enhancing tribalism at the expense of citizenship. In place of "E Pluribus Unum" he attempts to substitute a very different idea of the nation and what it stands for: "Just Win, Baby."

A confidential Jan. 29 letter from Trump's legal team to special counsel Robert Mueller, first published Saturday by *The New York Times*, gives copious new evidence — as if more were needed — of the

president's utter shamelessness and his smirking contempt for the people he is sworn to represent.

Begin with a particularly egregious example of Trump's lying. You will recall the now-famous June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower — organized by Donald Trump Jr. and attended by Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner — for the purpose of obtaining damaging information about Hillary Clinton from a Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, who has close ties to the Kremlin. This meeting was a clear act of "collusion" (which is not a legal term), but whether any laws were broken is up to Mueller.

When the meeting was revealed last summer, Trump Jr. issued a statement saying that "we primarily discussed a program about the adoption of Russian children" — a subject that reportedly did

How can democracy and constitutional order function in contempt, rather than reverence, of truth?

was then another of Trump's attorneys — admits that, indeed, "the President dictated" the bogus statement.

Ho-hum, just another of Trump's lies — but stop for a minute and think about that. We have a president who lies constantly about matters big and small, a president whose word we can never trust. How can we accept that? How can democracy and constitutional order function in contempt, rather than reverence, of truth?

Trump is untroubled by this question because democracy and constitutional order, to the extent he understands them, do not seem to be what he has in mind. Rather, he claims imperialism.

None of that matters, according to Trump and his lawyers. Nor does it matter if Trump asked Comey to end his investigation of Trump's former national security adviser, Michael Flynn.

## Read the rage in their MAGA hats

RENEE GRAHAM, *The Boston Globe*

Recently, I saw more than a dozen people wearing "Make America Great Again" hats in what I would have thought would be the most unlikely place:

The National Museum of African American History & Culture, in Washington D.C.

As I approached a 180's slave cabin that once stood on Edisto Island, S.C., plantation, I saw the gathering under my shoulder — first one, then three, then more. Some wore the familiar red hats, while others opted for white. President Trump's preferred color. Some also sported T-shirts bearing Trump's slogan. All of them were white teenage boys.

They did nothing disruptive. In fact, the Trump Youth barely seemed to do much of anything at all. They moved together as a group, occasionally casting a bored eye to the right or left. Although I didn't notice an accompanying adult, they could have been part of a class trip.

On second thought, this had nothing to do with class. As the boys walked by, Black

visitors had a variety of reactions. One woman looked them up and down then shook her head. A man rolled his eyes. Another woman gave them side eye so sharp it could have pierced metal. Still, people refused to give them the greater acknowledgment they might have sought. We do have important things to do.

Since its opening in September 2016, the museum has become hallowed ground for many Black Americans. It is a sanctified space to learn, reflect, and see the path, with all

its pitfalls and triumphs, upon which we still move forward.

Perhaps this incongruous show of Trump allegiance was intended to rile us. Apparently, it's not the first time these sartorial politics have been on display. After I posted a photo of one young man holding his MAGA hat, others tweeted that they've also noticed white teens wearing the caps at the museum.

"When my family visited the museum last year, we saw a white teen with the same hat," wrote Wendi C. Thomas, a journalist, "Felt like trolling."

That's an appropriate assessment for those supporting this racist troll of a presidency.

Since Trump's 2016 election, his name has been used to threaten Jews and people of color. According to a hate crime database compiled by ProPublica, more than 150 school bullying incidents through May 2017 included evocations of Trump's name or his divisive comments. This included white students, after a Florida high school football game,

chanting "Donald Trump!" at Black students from an opposing school.

In her award-winning book, "White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide," Carol Anderson writes, "White rage doesn't have to wear sheets or burn crosses, or take to the streets."

These days, all it has to do is scream the current president's name.

Whatever the intent of the MAGA cap wearers, I hope the disaffected white teens also recognize this: If they only marveled at the cruelties one race has inflicted on another for no good reason, then they should have stayed home. If they looked at the Klan videos, hoods and robes, especially the one in a very familiar shade of red, and wished again for a time when its members marched unmasked in the nation's capital, near where the museum now stands, they should have stayed home.

To denigrate Black history is to denigrate American history — their own history.

## Hatred sets the tone in the country

CHARLES M. BLOW, *The New York Times*

A Pew Research Center report released May 5 found that nearly seven in 10 Americans "feel worn out by the amount of news there is these days."

Fighting this fatigue is the real test of a person's resolve, including mine.

When my enthusiasm for resisting this vile man and his corrupt administration starts to flag, I remember the episode that first revealed to me the darkness at Trump's core, and I am renewed.

On an April night nearly 30 years ago, a young investment banker was beaten and raped when she went for a jog in Central Park. The attack left her in a coma. She happened to be white. Five teenagers arrested for the crime — four Black and one of Hispanic descent — went to trial.

After being questioned

for hours, the defendants gave false confessions that conflicted with one another, and those confessions were captured on video. As *The New York Times* pointed out in 2002: "The defendants in the jogger case were put on camera after they had been in custody, in some cases, for as long as 28 hours."

As one of the five wrote in 2016 in *The Washington Post*: "When we were arrested, the police deprived us of food, drink or sleep for more than 24 hours. Under duress, we falsely confessed."

A few days after the attack, long before the teenagers would go on trial, Donald Trump bought full-page ads in *New York* newspapers — you may think of this as a precursor to his present-day tweets to a mass audience — under a giant, all-caps head-

line that read: "Bring Back the Death Penalty. Bring Back Our Police!"

The boys would be convicted even though the physical evidence in the case was inconclusive.

After serving up to 13 years in prison, another man confessed to the crime and his DNA matched that at the scene of the crime. The boys, then men, had their convictions overturned, were freed, and eventually reached a multimillion-dollar settlement with the city.

In true Trump fashion, he refused to apologize or show any contrition whatsoever. But it is the language in the body of Trump's 1989 death penalty ad that sticks with me. Trump wrote:

"Mayor Koch has stated that hate and racism should be removed from our hearts.

I do not think so. I want to hate these muggers and murderers. They should be forced to suffer and, when they kill, they should be executed for their crimes."

That to me is the thing with this man: He wants to hate. When Trump feels what he believes is a righteous indignation, his default position is hatred.

This hateful spirit envelops him, consumes him and animates him.

He hates women who dare to stand up to him and push back against him. He hates Black people who dare to stand up — or kneel — for their dignity and against oppressive authority.

He hates immigrants so he has set a tone of intolerance. He hates Muslims, so he moves to institute his travel ban and attacks their religion.



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# Judge rules out 'stand your ground' defense

Former cop on trial for Corey Jones' death plans to appeal the ruling

**CAROL PORTER**  
*Miami Times Contributor*

It's been about three years since Corey Jones, a Black Delray Beach resident and musician, died because his car broke down on I-95 near Palm Beach Gardens.

Nouman Raja, the former Palm Beach Gardens Police Officer, implicated in Jones' death, will likely stand trial in July, despite the fact that Raja's legal team attempted to file a "stand your ground" appeal earlier this month. Judge Samantha Schosberg Feuer, the Circuit Court judge handling the case, turned down the request last week. Raja's attorneys plan to appeal the decision.

Attorney Benjamin Crump, who has handled this and similar cases, and his team commended the judge for handling the "stand your ground" request.

Crump said that a "stand your ground" appeal had no place in finding out the truth about what happened the night Jones was killed.

Crump said that if Raja and his legal team were able to overturn the trial, it would be sanctioning the murder of the young man.

"On behalf of the family of Corey Jones, and for every American possessing a sense of justice, I wish to commend the judge for today's ruling that Florida's Stand Your Ground law has no place in shielding a sworn law enforcement officer from facing justice after killing an innocent man," said Crump in a June 1 statement. "Nouman Raja killed Corey Jones without any reasonable justifi-

cation, and his attempt to hide behind Stand Your Ground was a shameful ploy to escape prosecution. I hope the judge's ruling sends a loud and clear message to law officers around the nation that when they act outside the law, they will face the consequences."

The "stand your ground" hearing was May 7 and 8, at the Palm Beach County courtroom. Attorneys defending Raja, who has been accused of taking the life of Jones with excessive force were also present.

At various points during the day, defense and prosecution played the tape of Jones calling for a tow, casting a ghost-like veneer over the courtroom. The hearing was overseen by Feuer, who will likely oversee the jury trial.

Attorneys representing the Jones and Banks families, and representing Raja presented their sides of the case, with Brian Fernandes and Adrienne Ellis speaking for the Jones and Banks families. Scott Richardson and Richard Lubin mostly spoke for Raja, stating that Raja was in fear of his life because Jones came out of his car with a loaded gun. Fernandes and Ellis, on the other hand, said Jones was the one who should have been able to use "stand your ground," as he was the one in fear of his life. Richardson insisted that Raja had identified himself as a cop even though that identification had not been picked up by any recording devices, like a cellphone. Fernandes noted that Raja's statements had been inconsistent and unreliable and that Jones had no idea that



Corey Jones

Raja was law enforcement because Raja was not wearing any identifiable vests or clothing. Raja's vehicle was also an undercover vehicle, so Jones again had no knowledge a cop had arrived on the scene of his car breaking down.

"Corey Jones was doing nothing except waiting for some assistance," said Fernandes. "He was going to go to church the next day. He is the person who could have used 'stand your ground.' He doesn't get the benefit of 'stand your ground.'"

On May 8, Crump concurred that Jones should have been able to take advantage of the "stand your ground," as he was in fear of his life. Crump said that if Raja, and his attorneys, got their wish, they would be sanctioning the murder of Jones.

"If the 'stand your ground' defense is approved," said Crump, "it would be tantamount to the murder of Corey Jones. Corey was waiting for a helping hand, and all he got was bullets."

C.J. Jones, Corey Jones' brother, spoke out that morning, saying that Raja did not identify himself to Corey. C.J. believes Raja and his defense attorney's witnesses were not telling the truth during their

testimony.

"At that moment, he had multiple chances to say he was a police officer," said C.J. Jones. "He didn't have a badge on or anything."

Anquan Bolden, Jones' cousin, said that no family should go through what they were going through and that

the defense team was trying to get Raja off. Bolden said that it was the job of the Jones and Banks' families to get justice for Corey Jones, who died an untimely death on an interstate in the middle of the night.

"They are trying to get Raja off," said Bolden. "It's our job

to get justice."

Melissa Jones, Corey Jones' sister, said that Raja could have handled the situation a lot differently and got back in his car and drove away when he found out Corey Jones was waiting for a tow truck. "We will get justice," said Melissa Jones.



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## ADVERTISEMENT

## Wells Fargo launches \$60 billion plan to increase African American homeownership

After years of moving and renting, novelist Randy Camp, recently became a first-time homeowner at age 55.

"It feels good," said Camp, a resident advisor at a youth services agency in Des Moines, Iowa.

"That's this idea of this place in years, so now make sure you take care of it and enjoy it." I also did it for my children. As I get older, I realize the importance of leaving an asset for them."

In an effort to make homeownership dreams a reality for others like Camp, Wells Fargo has launched a 30-year diversity initiative to provide \$60 billion in home loans, supporting at least 250,000 African American homeowners by 2027. As part of the plan, the company also intends to significantly increase the diversity of its mortgage sales force.

Working with the National Urban League and the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Wells Fargo announced the initiative Feb. 28 at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta.

The company aims to help reverse the decreasing homeownership rate in the African American community, said Brad Blackwell, head of housing policy and homeownership growth strategies for Wells Fargo.

Blackwell added that the company also plans to invest \$15 million in a wide range of initiatives that promote financial education and counseling for African American homebuyers over the next 10 years. The company will also boost its recruiting, hiring, and retention of African American home mortgage officers, he said.

## Year of transformation at Wells Fargo

In a letter published in the 2017 Wells Fargo Annual Report, CEO Tim Sloan had this to say about the past year:

"This was a year of transformation at Wells Fargo. We achieved a great deal in 2017 and look forward to building on our momentum in the months ahead. Our top priority remains rebuilding the trust of our customers, team members, communities, regulators, and shareholders. We have made foundational changes to identify and fix problems so they do not happen again and achieved significant progress in our commitment to make things right for our customers and build a better bank. Our transformation is grounded in our vision of satisfying our customers' financial needs and helping them succeed financially. While we have some work to do, I assure you that the Operating Committee and I are fully committed to building on our accomplishments. In addition, we take very seriously the recent order we entered into with the Board of

Governors of the Federal Reserve System in February 2018, and we will work diligently, yet swiftly, to meet the requirements.

In response to feedback from our team, we introduced a streamlined Vision, Values & Goals of Wells Fargo in late 2017 — replacing what previously was a 37-page expression of our culture. Today the smaller-sized booklet focuses exclusively on our guiding principles and goals, clearly expressing the beliefs that guide every team member as we work together to build the best Wells Fargo possible.

We have overcome challenges many times during our history. We have a solid foundation, exceptional businesses, and an outstanding team. Our more than 250,000 team members are dedicated, talented, and committed — and, without a doubt, they are our most important resource. Thank you for placing your trust in Wells Fargo and for your support. Our commitment to you is unwavering as we continue our transformation into a better, stronger company.

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## New Wells Fargo structure focuses on customer experience "Change for the Better"

After a successful pilot in select locations across the U.S., Wells Fargo branches have rolled out the first phase of changes designed to transform the customer and team member experiences.

One of these changes is to put in place a new compensation program for retail bank team members to focus on the customer experience within its branches. The new compensation program took effect on Jan. 1, 2017, and applies to all branch team members, including managers, tellers, and personal bankers.

The changes have also simplified complicated processes, replaced required questions with tips and suggestions relevant to customers, eliminated sales pressure, and allowed bankers and tellers to simply talk to their customers, ask questions, listen, and meet their financial needs by offering the right products and services or referring them to the right partners.

## A celebration of black entrepreneurs

Celebrity chef Robbi Ali joins Wells Fargo in a salute to African American small business owners who are working to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

As early as middle school, Mandy Bowman knew she wanted to be an entrepreneur. The Brooklyn, New York, native went on to study entrepreneurship and global business management at Babson College in Massachusetts, and then took a job as a social media manager by day, while she worked on developing her own business at night.

In October 2017, Bowman was a full-time entrepreneur and had launched her business — the Official Black Wall Street app. "I wanted to support black-owned businesses in my local area, but was unable to find a directory that was current or easy to use — so I created my own," said Bowman. The app is now the largest directory of its kind in the world, according to Black News, and allows users to find and rate black-owned businesses in their neighborhoods all nationwide.

Bowman's business, like other small businesses, required hard work, dedication, and, most of all, support to succeed. Currently, there are more than 2.6 million black-owned businesses in the U.S.,

according to the U.S. Small Business Administration's Survey of Business Owners Facts (PDF). In support of these businesses, and in an effort to strengthen communities, Wells Fargo is saluting and highlighting Community Builders — the African American small business owners who go above and beyond to make things better for their businesses, their customers, and their neighborhoods.

"Initiatives like Community Builders help encourage and inspire black entrepreneurs, and we hope this initiative will encourage others to seek out and support the Community Builders in their neighborhoods," said Candace McCullum Gainer, Wells Fargo's head of African American integrated campaigns. Wells Fargo launched the Community Builders initiative in 2017 by spotlighting the stories of African American business owners nationwide who were working to give back to their local communities. In honor of Black History Month, Wells Fargo is once again celebrating Community Builders.

"Supporting small business owners is critical to the success of our communities and a priority Wells Fargo takes seriously," said Lisa Frison, multifaceted segment strategy leader. Wells Fargo has helped small businesses in local

communities through focused investments and by providing small business tools and resources.

The company also supports small businesses through Wells Fargo Works for Small Business® and the Wells Fargo Works for Small Business: Diverse Community Capital program. The Diverse Community Capital program, established in 2015, provides capital to Community Development Financial Institutions, or CDFIs. CDFIs provide technical assistance, financial services, mentoring, and other resources for diverse small businesses that may not qualify for conventional bank loans.

Throughout February, Community Builder recognition events are taking place in Atlanta, Houston, and New York City. The marquee event in New York City will feature Bowman and special host, entrepreneur, and celebrity chef Robbi Ali.

"I'm excited to work with Wells Fargo to celebrate Community Builders," Ali said. "Simply trying to run a business as an entrepreneur takes a lot of work, so going above and beyond that takes even more effort, but also brings even more rewards. I am proud to be in a position to acknowledge other entrepreneurs who are doing great business and serving as Community Builders for their neighborhoods."

# TRANSIT

CONTINUED FROM 1A

passionately about the benefit of having stewards and MAP counselors. Supporters said that counselors spoke up for them to administrators when personal and professional crises occurred.

Bus operator Kimberly Peacock, a 13-year employee, told commissioners about an incident on her bus route when a passenger suddenly struck another passenger for no reason. She called a counselor for advice.

Peacock said the program also helps her deal with work-life issues, especially illnesses related to her two sons, ages 11 and 12. One of the boys suffers from asthma, which worsens during the summer, rainy season, Peacock testified. That causes her to be late or miss work altogether.

"Sometimes we can't call management at that time, but I can call MAP," Peacock said. "We need those people to step in for us."

Peacock said because their jobs force them to be away from home, she and others rely on friends and kinfolk to help.

"I'm here nine hours and 22 minutes a day. I have to have other people move my children as I move passengers," she said.

Commissioner Dennis Moss later complimented the union for the program.

"I would hope that something is retained. It's good to have someone to talk with employees who are going through problems," Moss said. "It's good to have people who walk the walk, who know what's going on."

On Friday, Washington said



Photos courtesy of Mary Matthews, Transport Workers Union of America  
**TWU Local 291 members Miguel Espertin and Rasheem Molina work on the Metromover system.**

the union would seek reinstatement of the program and the four counseling positions when TWU and administrators begin their bargaining session.

"That's going to be on the table. That service is too vital to the membership just to let go," Washington said.

The hearing last Wednesday before county commissioners was the final opportunity to reach an agreement, under rules set up by the state Public Employees Relations Commission. Commissioners convened a special hearing to serve as arbitrators in a labor dispute that started October 2014.

The contract dispute was the main component among several contentious issues between the union and Miami-Dade County administration.

In addition to the employment agreement, the union also has criticized administrators over cuts in bus routes and service, privatization of some bus routes and the state of some equipment.

Union members packed the commission chambers for the hearing, which lasted more than five and a half hours.

Members of other unions — including United Teachers of Dade and postal workers —

came out in support.

At the hearing, Richard said union workers were like a family that was "at risk of losing 100 years of contracts."

"The agreement expired in 2014. They couldn't get a contract between 2014 and 2017," Richard said. "The dispute is over a three-year contract. This is like Groundhog Day. It makes no sense."

Talks between the two sides stalled after the previous contract expired in 2014. Negotiations and mediation failed to reach an agreement several times. In November 2017, they couldn't resolve their issues during a non-binding hearing before a local magistrate.

On Wednesday at Coun-

ty Hall, both sides laid out their case before the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners. Just as commissioners started their questions, county negotiator Tyrone Williams said a possible agreement was near. He, Gimenez, and representatives from the union and county huddled on the left side of the dais.

Cheers and applause erupted when Williams announced that a deal had been reached. Now, union members must ratify the agreement. Union officials say that likely will happen in the next month or so.

Leading up to the hearing, Local 291 received assistance from TWU International,

which conducted a six-month campaign to engage the membership and seek public support for public mass transit.

Some of their educational efforts included a clergy breakfast held at the historic Greater Bethel AME Church in Overtown. Union officers and rank-and-file members in May passed out leaflets urging riders to tell the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners to support public mass transit — and transit workers.

Union members also held a major rally on June 2 that attracted state lawmakers and political candidates, as well as leaders of labor and civic organizations.



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Circuit Court Judge Renatha S. Francis gets assistance with her robes from her husband, Phillip Fender after being formally sworn in as a judge in August 2017.

# Jamaican-born judge elevated to Miami-Dade Circuit Court

## Gov. Rick Scott appoints the Honorable Judge Renatha S. Francis to seat

*Miami Times Staff Report*

Amid calls from the community for more Blacks to serve on the judicial bench, Gov. Rick Scott on Monday appointed Judge Renatha S. Francis to the Circuit Court of the 11th Judicial District. Francis' promotion follows an initial appointment by Scott to the Miami-Dade County Court back in August 2017. Prior to the appointment, she worked as an attorney, specializing in repre-

senting insurance providers in personal injury protection litigation. She joins Judge Tanya Brinkley and Judge Teretha Lundy to make up the only three Black women of 123 judges currently serving Miami-Dade County, according to the Caribbean Bar Association. Francis is only the second Black female judge appointed to the Circuit Court in Miami-Dade County. She follows after retired Judge Mel-

via Green, who was the first Black female judge to be appointed in 1989. Francis is a native of Jamaica, where she attended the Bridgeport Primary School, St. Hugh's High School for Girls and the University of the West Indies. The Caribbean Bar Association says it will remain "hopeful that future jurists continue to be well-qualified, impartial and representative of the community they serve." "Judge Francis' long-awaited

promotion holds special importance for the Caribbean Bar Association and the wider Caribbean community, who are currently celebrating June as National Caribbean-American Heritage Month," a statement from the Caribbean Bar Association said. "We are immensely proud of her achievements to date and look forward to her continued service to the South Florida community, which many Caribbean nationals call home."

# NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

## It Takes a Village Parent Forum and Resource Fair

A meeting to address the increase of youth violence in the community will be hosted by the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Committee. The CRB, in association with Miami-Dade Commissioners Daniella Levine Cava and Dennis C. Moss, will offer parents guidance on how to prevent their youths from entering the juvenile justice system from 6 — 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 14 at the Goulds Parks Community Center, 11350 SW 216th St. For more information, contact Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board Director, Shirley Plantin at 305-375-1406.

## American Black Film Festival

All roads lead to Miami Beach for the American Black Film Festival from June 13 through 17.

Join a community of artists, executives and industry tastemakers who gather each year in Miami Beach to showcase emerging talent, celebrate Black culture and create opportunities for people of color to achieve success in the entertainment industry. The festival has five action-packed days of red carpet premieres, master classes, celebrity conversations, tech talks, exclusive parties and more. For more information, visit [abff.com](http://abff.com)

## HIV awareness

Sistas Organizing to Survive will observe 10 years of mobilizing Black women to organize to survive and raising

awareness about ending the HIV epidemic. The event will start at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 20 at 5120 NW 24th Ave. Dinner will be served and guests can enjoy raffles, prizes and give-aways. For more information, contact Kalentha Nunnally at 786-202-6598.

## Protect the Children

The Female Development World Organization will hold its annual fundraising event titled Protect the Children Gala Dinner. This fundraising event seeks to bring awareness to the issues of human trafficking and child abuse prevention in local and international communities. It will start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 11 p.m. on Thursday, June 28 at The Venue, 2345 Wilton Drive, Fort Lauderdale. There will be live entertainment by Betty Wright and the Mister Foundation Inc., with DJ Baboo. For ticket information, visit [FDWO.org](http://FDWO.org).

## JUNETEETH EVENTS

In celebration of Juneteenth, PAMM collaborates with National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) to host a screening of Papa Machele and H-2 Worker 7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 14 at the museum. A conversation between documentary filmmaker Stephanie Black, Jason Fitzroy Jeffers, Rhea L. Combs and Joanne Hyppolite. Museum Curator at NMAAHC will follow the screenings, touching upon questions of identity, colorism, labor and geography's impact upon people across the African Diaspora.

Open to the public. Free with museum admission.



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## GOP

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Putnam has done...you'd be fired," said Levine.

The other Republican candidate for governor is Ron DeSantis.

Gillum, the lone Black candidate, got a rousing applause by bringing the gun issue closer to home.

"There are countless gun violence incidents, which ravage neighborhoods every day of the week," said Gillum.

The Democratic hopefuls also took Gov. Rick Scott to task for being a "denier of science" in the face of climate change's effects on coastal Florida.

They also called on the Republican-controlled legislature for raiding billions from a trust fund designated for affordable housing.

In 2017, \$130 million was removed from the \$292 million Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Fund by the state's legislature to resolve budget shortfalls.

Levine called the taking

“

**There is only one trust fund that the Legislature is not allowed to sweep, and that is the concealed weapon trust fund. Let's take some of that money out of the concealed weapon permit (trust fund) for the funding of other needs in Florida."**

of these funds "embezzlement" while King explained how former Republican Gov. Jeb Bush first started the practice by taking a little and, when no one complained, it became a normal practice.

"There is only one trust fund that the Legislature is not allowed to sweep, and that is the concealed weapon trust fund," said Graham. "Let's take some of that money out of the concealed weapon permit (trust fund) for the funding of other needs in Florida."

Graham and the other candidates agreed that they would veto any measure to siphon funds from affordable housing initiatives.

The event was hosted by the SEIU Florida State Council, Dream Defenders Action Fund, Florida Immigration Coalition (FLIC) Votes, New Florida Majority, Organize Florida, Florida Planned Parenthood PAC and the Color of Change PAC.

The audience cheered and clapped for issues they supported despite the efforts of moderators -- BPS

NewsHour's and Miami native Yamiche Alcindor and WLRN Public Media's Luis Hernandez -- to stick to the forum rules.

Gillum played to the crowd and, in the end, seemed to have the greater number of applause lines.

He drew cheers when he quipped he was the only "non-millionaire" on the stage. At one point, he used lyrics from rapper Migos' song "I walk it like I talk it," said Gillum.

Democrats have not held the governor's seat since 1994 and candidates have been crisscrossing the state campaigning and have already debated each other twice before Monday.

Florida's Democratic Chairman Terrie Rizzo said voters have alternatives to "failed Republican leadership."

"Unlike their Republican rivals, Democratic candidates continue to offer a fresh alternative to nearly 20 years of failed Republican leadership," wrote Rizzo in a statement issued shortly after the debate.

"Tonight marks the third

time Democrats met to debate about the critical issues facing Florida, while 'proud NRA sellout' Adam Putnam and right-wing extremist Ron DeSantis have yet to debate and continue to hide from voters."

Republicans Putnam and DeSantis will have their first debate in Orlando on June 28.

The Democrats faced off in Tampa last Saturday evening where the candidates were busy taking shots at each other. During that debate, the candidates seemed to dogpile on Levine, who is leading in the current polls.

At Monday's forum, the criminal justice system and the disparate treatment of Black people and people of color came center stage.

Candidates took turns blaming the privatized prison system for profiting from the incarceration of people of color.

Levine talked about "cutting the pipeline of African-American men going to prison." He said Florida is a national leader in locking people up and that Blacks get longer prison sentences

es in 60 percent of cases in comparison to whites in Florida.

Gillum called for more Blacks to serve on juries and more Black judges to better reflect the diversity of the state.

Overall, the candidates stood in unison on a number of policy issues such as legalizing marijuana, banning assault weapons, abolishing the "stand your ground" law, making schools safer, supporting seniors' rights as well as a woman's right to choose. They were against standardized testing in schools, but for free universal college, affordable housing, raising the minimum wage and respecting immigrants.

The candidates agreed to stand up against the powerful sugar industry, which is in the crosshairs of environmentalists, who blame them for water pollution. All agreed not to take contributions from their lobbyists.

The general consensus was to find a way to protect the livelihoods of the nearly 50,000 workers while protecting the environment.

## CHAINS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

that not only celebrates Juneteenth but provides solutions to breaking the mental chains.

KND will present a screening of the Oscar-nominated film "I Am Not Your Negro" and a panel discussion June 18 at the Overtown Performing Arts Center.

"I Am Not Your Negro" is a documentary based on an unfinished manuscript of writer, James Baldwin. In the film, narrated by Samuel L. Jackson, Baldwin discusses the state of racism in America in the 1970s and accounts for the experiences of Malcolm X, Medgar Evers and Martin Luther King Jr., his close friends.

When Gonzales, a business owner, saw "I Am Not Your Negro" for the first time when it premiered in 2016, she thought that it was something that every Black person needed to see.

"Why aren't the African-Americans more optimistic? There are African-Americans in sports, African-Americans are in politics. Sounds familiar? Change African-Americans to Negro, and you have the opening line to 'I Am Not Your Negro,'" said Gonzales.

Gonzales and the others involved in the project were discussing if Black people have made progress since the '70s when they came up with the idea to start a series of educational and motivational events.

"Maybe we haven't [made progress] if the same questions are being asked. This is an area that we will be talking about -- growth," she said.

The June 18 event, "Having Our Say: Taking Back Our Community" will tackle the questions through a mixed panel of professionals.

Moderated by Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce president and CEO, Gordon Eric Knowles, the panel will include Thomas; William

**Dr. Joy DeGruy's MAP theory of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome**

- M: Multigenerational trauma together with continued oppression
- A: Absence of opportunity to heal or access benefits available in the society; leads to
- P: Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome

"D.C." Clark, president of DCS Mentoring Program; Bishop James Adams, a clergyman at St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church; and Marimba Williams, an African diaspora historian.

Thomas, who plans to offer a psychological perspective on the panel, said there are many mental factors and delusions stemming from slav-

ery that are hindering Black Americans from moving forward.

"We are still bonded in a way. We are shackled by not supporting one another, not obtaining the skills we need to maintain a business; we don't have equal access to certain opportunities," said Thomas.

But to feel free, people have to get beyond the effects of Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome, a condition studied by researcher Dr. Joy DeGruy.

Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome is the behavior that survivors develop because of "multigenerational oppression ... resulting from centuries of ... slavery, which was predicated on the belief that African-Americans were inherently/genetically inferior to whites." Another side-effect is the difficulty to thrive together in the business world.

As a solution to the lack of collaboration, the event will start off with a networking

segment at 6 p.m., followed by the movie screening from 7-8:30 p.m. then the discussion from 8:30-10 p.m. Attendees are urged to bring their business cards and be "ready to support" each other.

Chamber of Commerce head, Knowles, also said that he also hopes the event can bring more unity as the film explores "how we as a people" have lived in this country.

"We will have a conversation about the movie, Mr. Baldwin and what he went through and some of the is-

ssues we face," Knowles said.

Overall, Gonzales said that by looking at "our" past and present, she hopes that "we" could stimulate growth, find solutions and learn from each other -- as she has learned from the film.

In a clip from "I Am Not Your Negro," Baldwin said: "The future of the negro in this country is as bright as the future of this country."

For more information and to register visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/having-our-say-taking-back-our-community-tickets-46255371060>. Tickets are \$20.

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## MIAMI GARDENS

# Ready-mix concrete jobs on the horizons



Ozinga is known for its convoy of ready-mix concrete trucks. The company is opening a new facility in Miami Gardens and will be hosting a job fair on June 16.

## Ozinga, which is expanding in South Florida, has several post openings

CAROLYN GUNISS  
[cguniss@miamitimesonline.com](mailto:cguniss@miamitimesonline.com)

Citing the city's location as a reason, ready-mix concrete and materials company Ozinga Bros. Inc. has set down roots in Miami Gardens. And it is hiring, too.

The family-owned Chicago-based business has selected the former site of the former Wabash Trailer at the Golden Glades Interchange for its new plant. Already Ozinga is seeking staffing for the location, which has been under construction since mid-May.

Ozinga will be hosting a job

fair from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 16, at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex, located at 3000 NW 199th St., in Miami Gardens.

"At the job fair, Ozinga is seeking to hire drivers, batchmen, loader operators, mechanics, yard operators, and quality control technicians," a news release said. The company offers benefits including retirement planning options.

The 90-year-old company provides concrete, other materials, and energy solutions in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan, and employs more than 2,000 workers. It

services customers via a fleet of trucks, barges, rail, and the iconic red-and-white-striped concrete mixers.

Ozinga set up a plant in Miami in 2017, which is located at 2165 NW 17th St. It has made another expansion since, when it acquired Banaszak Concrete, with locations in Davie and Hollywood.

The Miami Gardens location is expected to open later this year.

Ozinga executives, who were unavailable for an interview, sent a message saying that Miami Gardens was a draw because of its location. Miami Gardens City Manager Cameron Benson reiterated that Ozinga approached and selected the city based on

"our central location.

"From the City's perspective, the Ozinga job fair confirms a geir commitment to being a good corporate partner — both by investing in the community and hiring local residents to join their workforce," Benson said.

Ozinga was named a 2017 Top Work Place by the Chicago Tribune and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newspaper.

Since locating in Miami, Ozinga has become a local supplier of ready-mix concrete or concrete blocks to a variety of residential and commercial projects, including the Miami Gardens Public Works and PortMiami Cruise Terminal, the release said.

When Ozinga first came to South Florida company president Marty Ozinga said the economy and the workforce were draws.

"The opening of the new South Florida facility demonstrates confidence in the recovering economy, steady growth in the construction industry and a strong testament to a skilled workforce," Marty Ozinga told Florida Construction News.

"We are committed to South Florida and look forward to creating new jobs and generating tax revenue that will provide a boost to the overall economy in the state for many years to come," Marty Ozinga said. "This investment will not only strengthen the lo-

cal construction sector and create good-paying manufacturing jobs for residents, but it will also have a multiplier effect on the regional economy."

Construction has been on a rebound since the 2008 recession. For the last year, the industry added 41,800 jobs as of November, according to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.

At the job fair, candidates can become familiar with some equipment as Ozinga will have a concrete mixer on site. Bring an updated resume and be prepared for on-site interviews, the release said. To start the application process, apply at [ozinga.com/careers](http://ozinga.com/careers).

# MIA opens new sports charter terminal

## Area will welcome pro athletes from near and far privately at the airport

JENNY ZIEGLER  
*Special to the Miami Times*

The South Florida sports scene is booming and is poised to expand as it is scouted by teams and major sporting events.

Miami-Dade County has already locked in the Formula One Grand Prix for 2019; the Miami Open at Hard Rock Stadium; and Super Bowl LIV in 2020. Major League Soccer has committed to Miami and is in search of a place to put a 25,000-square-foot stadium.

Team members now have the option of a more private way to arrive in Miami-Dade — their very own terminal.

On Friday, June 8, Miami International Airport rolled out a new sports charter terminal for use by local, national and international professional

sports teams and their athletes.

Signature Flight Support and MIA opened what they call a one-of-kind terminal with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that brought out some of the key officials and aviation leaders in Miami.

On hand for the event were Isaac Lee Sr., area director of Signature Flight Service Miami, Lester Sola, director & CEO of Miami-Dade Aviation Department, Mark Johnstone, BBA Aviation Group chief executive, William Talbert III, president/CEO of the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau and Miami-Dade Commissioners Joe Martinez and Jean Monestime.

The terminal will help athletes escape the normal airport traffic and long check-in lines. Fans will not be allowed



Photos courtesy of Francisco Gonzalez

The ribbon-cutting ceremony for Signature Flight Support's brand-new 3,500 square-foot Sports Charter Terminal that opened at Miami International Airport.

in the secured terminal.

The joint venture between Signature Flight Service and MIA is geared toward attracting elite sporting events to Miami-Dade.

The GMCVB's Talbert said his agency is going to use the sports terminal to lure some of the top athletes and sporting events to the city of Miami.

"We are going to use this in all of our promotional material when we go out to seek new events. We are in competition right now for World Cup in 2026. We're in compe-

tion for Wrestle Mania. We are going to be in a regular rotation for Super Bowls," said Talbert. "So, we are going to use this as part of our bid package, so that we can get more events, showing that this is the only such facility in the entire world. That distinguishes us from the competition. This is going to get us more teams, more players, more business, and at the end of the day, more economic activity and more jobs," said Talbert.

The sports terminal comes with a \$4-million price tag and took less than a year to complete. It covers 3,500 square feet and features a very vibrant-colored VIP suite, a lounge and office support equipment. Secured parking is a part of the package.

Tatiana Cruse, assistant general manager of Signature Flight Miami, worked closely with Lee and oversaw getting

# Tourism boom helps create 1.5 million jobs

## Florida's industry achieves its highest quarter ever in history

Miami Times Staff Reporter

Florida hit an all-time record 33.2 million visitors in the first quarter of 2018, according to Gov. Rick Scott. This represents an increase of 7.4 percent over the same

period in 2017 and is the largest quarter for visitation in Florida history. Scott made the announcement on Tuesday following the release of a report by VISIT FLORIDA, the state's official tourism marketing corporation.

"I am proud to announce that Florida set an all-time record by welcoming over 33 million visitors to our state during the first quarter of 2018. This historic tourism number represents a 7.4 percent increase over last year and demonstrates the momentum that our state has built," Scott said. Since December 2010, Flor-

ida has created more than 1.5 million jobs, and a large part of this growth is because of the state's tourism industry, he continued.

According to research by VISIT FLORIDA, an estimated record 29.1 million domestic visitors traveled to Florida in Q1 2018, an 8.5 percent increase in domestic visitors over the same period

last year.

Following efforts by VISIT FLORIDA and Scott to better market Florida visitation from Canada, 1.4 million Canadians came to Florida in Q1 2018. It is an increase of 2.5 percent from Q1 2017, continuing Florida's strong growth of 4 percent in the 2017 calendar year.

Total enplanements at

Florida's 18 major airports in Q1 2018 increased 7.6 percent over the same period the previous year. Of total enplanements, 80.1 percent were domestic; up 1.4 million compared to Q1 of last year. The number of rooms sold and the hotel occupancy rate in Q1 2018 also grew by 3.3 percent and 1.9 percent respectively.

**Dozens sit on a beach in Miami, May 28, 2017. On June 5, Gov. Rick Scott announced that tourism has reached a record number in the state.**



Photos courtesy of U.S. Air Force/Staff Sgt. Jared

## Black PR Wire gets new editor

FMU communications alumnus Joseph Ellick Jr. takes the helm

Miami Times Staff Report

Miami-based Black news distribution company, Black PR Wire has added a new edition to the team.

Joseph Ellick Jr. will serve as the newsroom editor and national news correspondent.

"I'm so blessed and excited to be a part of the Black PR Wire team. The opportunity has really motivated me, and this is just the beginning of some exciting things that are on the horizon," said Ellick.

Ellick brings an invaluable amount of writing and editing experience, knowledge and community engagement to the nation's first and largest online news wire company. Ellick is a recent graduate of Florida Memorial

University, with a bachelor's degree in English, TV broadcast and communications.

He will serve as the corporate editor and host/producer of "Thrivin' Online," the company's YouTube channel, which makes its official debut later this summer.

He has produced award-winning pieces for Revolt TV, NASCAR, and The Trayvon Martin Foundation, to name a few. He has penned a number of articles that have been published online and in multiple publications including Black College Today.

While at FMU, South Florida's only historically Black college or university, he started the first-ever student-published magazine, The Roar Magazine. Ellick also produced the

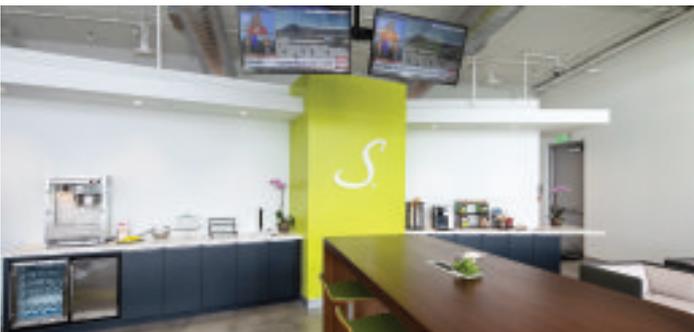


Joseph Ellick Jr.

Black PR Wire

first sports broadcast division and was instrumental in developing various events for the community

as president of the FMU chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists.



Photos by Francisco Gonzalez

A view of the decor inside Miami's new sports terminal

## MIA

CONTINUED FROM 9B

all items delivered, the necessary permits and paperwork through Miami-Dade. Cruse thinks the décor is very "Miami." "We wanted that Miami spice and that Miami flavor. Keeping it similar to our main building, but this building is very modern."

Greg Chin, spokesman for Miami-Dade Aviation Department, from whom Signature Flight Service leases, said the design was a partnership.

"We partnered with them in the design and construction of the facility," Chin said.

The new terminal is located at 3551 NW 59th Ave., in Miami, just about a mile away from the north side of the airport.

Lee, who spearheaded

this project, says that this is a "very unique facility - the first ever of its kind."

"We constructed this facility in order to attract all the sports teams that visit the Miami area. Whether it is professional teams, collegiate teams or even if they are VVIP customers; sometimes team members fly separately from the whole entire team, and they want an exclusive terminal to

fly through and that's the business we're attracting with this particular facility," Lee told *The Miami Times*.

Lee says the company is already working with such teams as Real Madrid and United Manchester, coming this summer to Dolphins Stadium, and it hopes to attract even bigger events and teams such as the Miami Heat, MLB and NBA All-Star games.



### ELECTION NOTICE

The public is advised that Opa-locka Community Development Corp. shall conduct its Board of Directors' Election. OLCDC Members are invited to vote on the Election Day as follows:

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, July 11, 2018**

**TIME: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM**

**Polling Place: Arts and Recreation Center (ARC)  
675 Ali Baba Blvd, Opa-locka, FL 33054**

Membership Application Form to be eligible to vote must be submitted by Friday, June 18, 2018 by 5:00 P.M. Individuals interested to serve on the OLCDC Board must submit their candidate application form by June 18, 2018 by 5:00 P.M. Qualified candidates list and ballots will be posted and available to the members and to the public on Friday, July 20, 2018.

For more information please contact OLCDC at 305-687-3545 or visit our website at [www.olcdc.org](http://www.olcdc.org).

**Section 5.01 Eligibility for Membership:** Members shall be those persons who:

- reside, own property, or are employed in All the Service Areas, and
- are 18 years of age or older, and
- who indicate an interest in becoming a Member by completing the membership application process.

**Section 6.02 Qualifications of Board of Directors:**

- Each director who is elected by the Members as set forth in Section 6.03(a) shall be an individual who:
  - resides within the designated in all Service Area's and/or Target Area of the corporation, or
  - works in or maintains a business within the Service Area and/or Target Area, or
  - is an individual who owns property within the Service Area and/or Target Area.
- Each director who is appointed as set forth in Sections 6.03 (b) and 6.03(c) shall be an individual who:
  - is at least eighteen (18) years of age, and
  - has technical expertise pertinent to the corporation's goals and objectives.

The service area ("Service Area") boundaries of the corporation are: (a) North, County Line Road (Northwest 215 Street); (b) East 17th Avenue South to State Road #9 East to 7th Avenue South to 119th Street; (c) West, Northwest 57th Avenue.

The target area ("Target Area") boundaries of the corporation are: North, NW 167th Street; East, NW 17th Avenue; South, NW 127th Street; West, NW 57th Avenue.

The zip codes for these boundaries are the following: 33054, 33055 and 33056.



# OFFSHORE ENERGY

by Lieutenant Colonel Dennis O. Freytes  
USA (Ret.) Florida Chairman, Vets4Energy

## Plays Vital Role in U.S. Security



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

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

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

While we've been producing oil and natural gas in the western and central Gulf of Mexico for decades, 98 percent of federally controlled offshore acreage remains off limits to production. It is vital to our military and national interests that we expand opportunities for exploration and production.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our nation has come a long way in advancing our national security interests through the development of U.S. oil and natural gas resources, especially our offshore energy resources. Given the long lead time necessary in offshore development, decisions we make today will determine our energy security 15 years into the future, and beyond. It makes sense to keep as many options on the table as possible. Let's focus on the facts and move forward with policies that enable our energy and military sectors to thrive as the greatest in the world.



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

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Rising heavyweight boxer, Raphael Akpejori and veteran Jamaican boxer, Glen Johnson stand outside a gym.

Photo courtesy of George Hanson

## Miami boxer on quest to become a champion

'The Nigerian Hurricane' says he is on a mission to knock out the world

**K. BARRETT BILALI**  
Special to *The Miami Times*

When Raphael Akpejori hit his opponents on the basketball court, he got a foul.

When he hit his opponents on the football field, he got a penalty.

Now, the aspiring heavyweight contender seeks to hit and knock out his opponents in the boxing ring where it will all be fair play.

Last week, Akpejori was introduced to the boxing world as "The Nigerian Hurricane" at an event at Foxwood Resort Casino in Connecticut. His "ring name" reflects his many years as an athlete for the University of Miami's Hurricanes.

Akpejori, who resides in Miami, may be remembered as a starting power forward for two of his four years on the

university's basketball team from 2010 to 2014. He also played as a tight end on the football squad in 2014 at his alma mater before attaining a master's degree in mechanical engineering.

His day job is working for the University of Miami as a project coordinator in the Facilities Management department. But his real job and deep-seated goal is to become the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world.

"I think he will be a future world champion for sure," said his boxing trainer and former light heavyweight, Glen Johnson. "I have been around boxing for 27 years, and I truly believe he has what it takes to make his mark on boxing."

This is not going to happen overnight, said Johnson who has been working with the

aspiring boxer for the past five months. Johnson said the quest may take several years to accomplish.

"He is learning rather quickly," said Johnson. "He had great skills before working with me."

Those skills were acquired in Akpejori's first two years of boxing in the amateur leagues. His amateur boxing record boasts 14 victories, 10 of which were knockouts, and one loss.

"Before I sign a boxer, I ask them this first question: 'why do you want to fight?'" said boxing veteran Jimmy Burchfield Sr., CEO of Classic Entertainment and Sports, who recently signed Akpejori as one of his prime fighters.

The correct response for Burchfield is when the prospective fighter says he wants to be a world champion.

"If they answer anything less, I am not interested in them," said Burchfield.

Akpejori immediately passed the test.

"My goal is to become the world's heavyweight champion within four years," said Akpejori.

"The thing that really impressed me about Raphael is that he is a natural athlete," said Burchfield. "An athlete his entire life. Also, his intelligence ... His parents are well-educated. He is a complete package."

Akpejori's father is an attorney and banker while his mother is the owner of a supermarket back in Nigeria. His parents sent him to a basketball camp in South Africa where his athletic skills were first recognized. Raised in Nigeria, he first came to the United States on a scholarship to play high school basketball at the Sunrise Christian Academy in Wichita, Kansas at the age of 17.

"Jimmy Burchfield happened to be, at this time, the

best fit for me," said Akpejori, acknowledging that he was wooed by other promoters, including Floyd Mayweather, but they were not on the same page.

British boxer Anthony Joshua - who also has Nigerian parents - is now the world's heavyweight champion while American contender Deontay Wilder is seen as the main challenger.

"This is the mix we want to have Raphael in," said Burchfield. "This is a special attraction. He is going to excite this boxing world. We are very excited to have him on the CES team."

At 6-foot, 8-inches and 260 pounds, Akpejori has both size and the bulk to build his heavyweight career. Now, it is a matter of experience.

Akpejori's team is looking to get him his first professional fight by the end of this summer.

"We want him to be ready,"

said Burchfield. "A pro debut is a very big step in your career."

"There are plans to have a boxing event in Miami as well."

"There are a lot of people that he knows," said Burchfield. "When the time is right to do it there, we would certainly bring him back to Miami."

Meanwhile, Akpejori goes through his daily routine of training, working and rest.

His day begins at 6 a.m. with weight training, running, yoga, swimming and other activities to increase strength and conditioning. Then off to his day job. At 6 p.m. he hits the gym and trains with Johnson on agility, boxing drills, shadow boxing and hitting the heavy bag. He hits the bed by 10 p.m. every night. His day off is Sunday.

"Just like in all things, you have to put in the work," said Akpejori.

"If you don't do it, you get knocked out," he said. "If I do it, I will succeed."



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## HBCU will make history with medical marijuana

**Southern University and Agricultural and Medicinal College to launch first program**

**CLARISSA HAMLIN**  
*Black America Web*

A historically Black college and university in Louisiana is trying to make its mark in the medical marijuana industry.

Southern University and Agricultural and Medicinal College in Baton Rouge will launch a medical marijuana program after a contract with Advanced Biomedics, a Louisiana-based company specializing in pharmaceutical-grade marijuana products, was approved on May 25. The move will make the HBCU the first to start a program about legalized cannabis, WAFF, a Baton Rouge news source, reported.

"This is a momentous event," Bobby R. Phillips, chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Center and dean of the school's College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences, said in a news release. "We are extremely excited to be able to provide quality medicine for the citizens of Louisiana."

Southern University has joined the cannabis ranks with Louisiana State University, with both

but prohibited recreational use.

Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, which focuses on livestock, farming research and community education, will oversee the program, according to the report. Advanced Biomedics is set to automatically renew its contract with the school for two consecutive five-year periods.

The university is set to make a sizeable amount from the marijuana facilities, Phillips added. The Agricultural Research Center will receive \$6 million, and Southern will get a \$1 million signing bonus with each contract renewal.

"This groundbreaking research opportunity will also provide revenue for the University and economic development in North Baton Rouge," the chancellor said.

**MIAMI-DADE FIREFIGHTER**  
(Certified and Non-Certified)  
**Base Salary Range: \$41,013- \$71,637 Annually**  
**Additional Pay Incentives are Available**  
**Trainee Rate: \$39,162**

The Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department will be accepting online applications for the position of Firefighter, beginning Monday, June 4, 2018 through Sunday, June 24, 2018. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED and must be 18 years of age at the time of application. Applicants must also possess a valid Florida Driver License at the time of hire.

There will be no paper applications for this hiring process. All applications must be submitted online at [www.miamidade.gov/jobs](http://www.miamidade.gov/jobs), using Job Opening Number 49250. All previous applicants must re-apply.

ALL SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED; APPLICATION PROCESS IS NOT FIRST COME FIRST SERVED.

Applicants must apply and submit application online by Sunday, June 24, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, at [www.miamidade.gov/jobs](http://www.miamidade.gov/jobs), Job Opening Number 49250.

**Preferences**

Preference will be given to qualifying U.S. Veterans, qualified graduates of the Miami-Dade County Academy of Fire Rescue (MDC-AFR) in accordance with Resolution R-480-07, and graduates of Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Junior Cadet Program. Preference may also be given to applicants who possess a current State of Florida Firefighter II certificate, State of Florida EMT certification or State of Florida Paramedic (EMT-P). These certification numbers and dates should be entered in the online application under licenses and certifications.

EOE/Veterans/Preference

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Pursuant to Florida Statute Section 932.704, Public Notice is hereby given that the City of Miami, Florida, a municipal corporation, shall transfer for City use the below referenced vehicle. The transfer may take place no earlier than 10 days after the final publication.

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## **CHEVROLET AND NNPA JOIN TOGETHER TO OFFER HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS A \$15K FELLOWSHIP!**

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) is excited to partner with the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox to present Discover the Unexpected (DTU) – an amazing journalism fellowship.

Selected DTU Fellows from Historically Black Colleges and Universities earn a \$10,000 scholarship, \$5,000 stipend and an exciting summer road trip in the all-new 2018 Chevrolet Equinox.

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**#DTU2018**

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## HOME IS WHERE *the art is*

**JAYDA HALL**  
*digital@miamitimesonline.com*

Ceramicist Morel Doucet sits in a black office chair and stretches high with charcoal in his hands, pressing it into his artwork taped to a white wall.

As he removes his blue gloves that are now black, the 27-year-old stands up and cleans his hands while he stares at the carbon drawing called "Cane Sugar, A Ghetto Garden." The artwork portrays a Black man with an afro and bushy eyebrows surrounded by affixed leaves gathered from Liberty Square.

The piece is part of a large group of his current artwork called "New Kin, Black Kin," where Doucet says he's "examining what kin means to his identity."

Over a period of time, Dou-

cet visited Little Haiti, Overtown, Allapattah and Liberty City to gather plants from inner-city neighborhoods.

"These spaces are sacred," he said. "I look and see that these neighborhoods are changing super fast and how these people are pushed away, but what is constant is the vegetation. The plants incur the dreams and happenings in the space."

Doucet is taking an environmental approach to "metaphorically" describe climate gentrification in the South Florida community.

And he is one of four Black artists who are part of an even larger group of artists contributing creative work to the "Between a View and a Milestone" exhibit at ArtCenter/South Florida, in Miami Beach.

The exhibit launched on



**Morel Doucet**



**Jamilah Sabur**



**Terence Price II**

April 28 and is open until July 8 for visitors to discover what defines surrounding neighborhoods, cities and landscapes.

"Art has a way of describing the indescribable, and that comes through in this exhibition," said curator Angelica

Arbelaez, ArtCenter's programs coordinator. "Each of the artists has experienced a place in a way that is deeply personal, but they can be understood universally through their work."

Doucet was born in Haiti but grew up in the U.S. He

said he hasn't visited Haiti since he was younger, and taking the nature approach with his art is what connects him back to his native land and keeps him "grounded."

"We come from proud history," he said. "We overcame our oppressors. This art is a

celebration of life and shows how complex we are as people."

Sometime next year, Doucet's hopes to have about 30 art pieces for "New Kin, Black Kin."

But visitors can now get a look at his fragile multi-colored, shaded ceramic pieces called "Follicles, Cells, Biota," at the art exhibit. The work is made out of clay and was designed to "provoke" conversations about people of color and their complex relationships to their physical surroundings, according to Doucet.

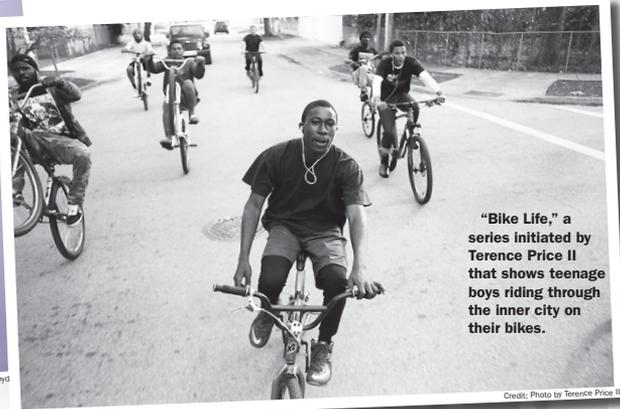
Doucet graduated from New World School of the Arts and received a bachelor's degree of fine arts in ceramics with a concentration in illustration from the Maryland Institute College of Art in

**SEE ART 6C**



**Follicles, Cells, Biota** by Morel Doucet.

Credit: Photo by David Gary Lloyd



**"Bike Life,"** a series initiated by Terence Price II that shows teenage boys riding through the inner city on their bikes.

Credit: Photo by Terence Price II



**Artist Adler Guerrier works on an art project in his space at the ArtCenter/South Florida.**

Credit: Photo by Alex Markov

# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



**ROBERT LEE CUNNINGHAM SR.**  
05/27/1922 - 05/20/1994  
Love you! Your children, grands and great grandchildren.



**VIRGIL CARR**  
05/12/2003  
From his late wife Ethel Carr; children, Jackie, Dedrick, DJ and the Carr family.



**REGGIE C. WILLIAMS**  
11/12/1931 - 11/13/2001  
We miss you. Love your family.



**WALTER L. MCCLAIN JR.**  
AKA "JET"  
02/16/1961 - 06/10/1991  
We love you and miss you. Your children, parents, sister and brother.



**LESTER JOHNSON**  
03/05/1954 - 02/08/2014  
We love and miss you. Kadon, Kahlil, Brandon



**WILLIE JAMES GREEN**  
07/01/1924 - 01/16/2014  
You are forever in our thoughts and hearts. Love, wife Sarah and family.

**WILLIE JAMES MILLER**  
08/30/1941 - 06/12/2017  
*In loving memory on Father's Day*  
For someone who meant so much and loved by all he knew who left behind a trail of tears and precious memories, too. We loved the sunshine in his smile and kindness in his heart but heaven saw that he was tired which meant we had to part. And now that it's his special day dear angels, hear our prayer please guard him with your gentle wings and tend him with great care. For he was someone wonderful and words just can't convey how much we wish that he was here once more, with us today.



**LEROY MCKINNEY SR.**  
06/20/1935 - 03/29/2016  
Happy Birthday!  
Daddy, You never knew that you was our hero. From, Cheryl, Remus, Liz, Cathy, Raymond, David and family.



**GILES HUTTON**  
06/17/1931 - 07/22/2017  
Happy Birthday, my love. Your wife, Virginia

**ALFRED LEE BARR**  
07/19/1939 - 07/14/2015  
We love and miss you. Genella and family.



**SIDONIE RAYMAL HILLS**  
06/28/1969 - 03/07/2007  
Happy Birthday Your Mom and Family



**EDSEL WALKER**  
05/06/1927 - 05/11/2005  
We love and miss you. Your children.



**TYRONE MAXWELL, JR.**  
09/03/1979 - 06/14/2008  
You have truly been missed. We love you. The family.

**JOSEPH RAHMING**  
06/25/1925 - 06/09/2015  
The Miami Times Man  
My Dad always told me never borrow Always try to get it on your own Daddy, you were the Man, I am A Bad Man Happy Birthday Your Son, Eric Rahming



**WILLIAM "3-D" JOHNSON, JR.**  
12/23/1964 - 08/06/2012  
We miss and will forever love you. Rell and Snok.



**WALTER CLARIT**  
08/03/1919 - 03/06/2003



**ERNEST L. HENRY**  
07/25/1927 - 04/17/2006  
Your family loves and misses you dearly.



**JOHN L. CRAWFORD**  
07/20/1938 - 01/26/2017

**SAMUEL J. WATKINS**  
11/25/1969 - 05/24/2009  
HOV Sounds Like You FRED Looks Like You SAM ACTS like You. We love and miss you dearly. Happy Father's Day



**PAUL HENDERSON**  
08/10/1922 - 09/11/2005  
We love and miss you. The Family

**HENDERSON BEASLEY aka "Poppa"**  
12/02/1906 - 09/20/1998  
We love and miss you, and we want to wish you a very Happy Father's Day.  
Dollie Zeigler and Family  
The Florence Family  
The Green Family



**KENNETH "COACH" WILCOX**  
08/15/1959 - 06/11/2017  
We love and miss you. The Wilcox Family

**EDISON BUTTS**  
01/05/1945 - 09/03/2014  
Gone, but never forgotten. Wife, Gloria and children.

**SAM COLEMAN**  
09/11/1934 - 09/05/2009  
Rest in Peace. Love always Your kids and grandkids.

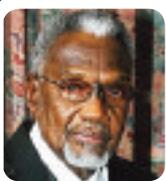
**DAVID CRUMP SR.**  
I love and miss you, Daddy. From Angel.



**JOHNNY "JAKE" PINSON**  
07/31/1932 - 12/26/2016  
All our love Derek, Tawanna, Otis



**LEROY SMITH**  
10/05/1939 - 05/14/2018  
We love and miss you The Family



**LESTER JONES**  
11/10/1934 - 11/22/2016  
We love and miss you. The Family



**WILLIE S.J. WHITE**  
01/18/1932 - 11/16/2004  
We love and miss you, Daddy, Angie, Wanda, Kenny, Josie and Corey.



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



**GARTH C. REEVES, JR.**  
1951-1982  
Yo will never be forgotten. Rest in peace.

# THE SOCIAL WHIRL

VENNDA-REI GIBSON | VENNDAL43@GMAIL.COM



**2018 Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Expo Annual College Scholarship Program high school winners at the award ceremony on May 24.**

Sixty years ago, members of Northwestern's Class of 1958 were celebrating their high school graduation, and this week, class members are coming together to celebrate and remember this milestone. Reunion activities will kick off this Friday with a **meet-and-greet** at DiAnes Banquet Hall in Miami Gardens. Saturday's activities will include a luncheon from noon to 3 p.m. at the Miami Shores Country Club and an evening social at the home of **Sadie Hartfield** in Little River. On Sunday, the class will worship together at the Church of the Incarnation at 9 a.m. Next week I hope to share the names of members of the class who participated in their 60th reunion, with perhaps, a photo. The Miami-Dade County Youth Fair & Exposition held a Scholarship Program dinner ceremony on May 24. The 2018 Scholarship Fund was awarded to 182 deserving high school seniors graduating from public and private schools across the county.

parents and dignitaries at the **E. Darwin Fuchs** Pavilion on the fairgrounds. Congratulations to all 2018 graduates. Each of you is beginning a new chapter in your lives. Graduations are nostalgic moments for parents, family and friends and a time for celebrating the many steps and accomplishments that have made this day possible. Milestones are a part of each person's personal history.

2018 High School Scholarship Award winners included: **Alonzo and Tracy Mourning** Senior High School; **William Gozlan Dayanna Medina**; **Luna Perricone** American Senior High School; **Demiyah Davis**; **Ayana Bradshaw**; **Desiree Thomas Arthur** & **Polly Mays** Conservatory of the Arts; **Shadiad Edwards** **Barbara Goleman** Senior High School; **Vincent Brown Valeria Donoso**; **Emily Wong BioTech@ Richmond Heights High School**; **Jessica Little Booker T. Washington** Senior High School; **Abdallah Joudch**; **Jamyra Rogers** Coral Gables Senior High School; **Juliana Balladares**; **Melanie Wu**; **Ximena Puig**;

**Alyssa Lamadriz** Coral Reef Senior High School; **Eric Baugh**; **Carson Fallon**; **Steven Lazar**; **Hannah Llende** Cutler Bay Senior High School; **Estheralice Lopez**; **Amberlynn Pitochelli** Design & Architecture Senior High School; **Olivia Graham**; **Ruth Suarez** Dr. **Michael M. Krop** Senior High; **Alan Imar**; **Kaitlyn Guise**; **Nathaniel Manor** Felix Varela Senior High School; **Clara Betancur**; **Karina D'Amato**; **Krystal Lucena**; **Kaytlin Alzugaray G. Holmes** Bradcock Senior High School; **Shan T'Erica**; **Joel Gonzalez**; **Roseliz Ochoa-Ferez**; **Mary Faas**; **Kevin Feroz** Hialeah Gardens Senior High School; **Ernesto Marin**; **Yailin Navarro**; **Ashley Gutierrez**; **Destiny Cepero** Hialeah-Miami Lakes Senior High School; **Tiana Downer**; **Jonathan Feliciano** Hialeah Senior High School; **Genevieve Arias**; **Maidely Gonzalez**; **Stephanie Figueroa**; **Rodnie Placentia** Homestead Senior High School; **Laquarry Johnson**; **Samuel White** iTech @Thomas A. Edison Educational Center;

**Ebony Cobb** John A. Ferguson Senior High; **Kelly Ly**; **Kaitlyn Amador**; **Guishella Cruz**; **Gonzalo Montoya** Jose Marti MAST 6-12 Academy; **Michelle Garcia - Guevara** Miami Beach Senior High; **Michelle Komisarchik**; **Glenda Jurado**; **Caroline Santos** Miami Carol City Senior High School; **Ma'Kia Moulton**; **Justin Mitchell** Miami Central Senior High School; **Manadou Blaise**; **Tamara Fleurissaint**; **Deron Green**; **Isis Flanders**; Miami Coral Park Senior High School; **Abiu Jorge**; **Melissa Padron**; **Arismel Rodriguez** Miami Edison Senior High School; **Deborah Cyrille**; **Jaii Laguerre**; **Micah Moses** Miami Jackson Senior High School; **Shirley Manzanares**; **Lamyra Thompson** Miami Killian Senior High School; **Shawn Thomas**; **Chavely Gonzalez**; **Garisa Slaton** Miami Lakes Educational Center; **Katherine Duarte**; **Jessica Amanambu** Miami Norland Senior High School; **Khamari Louissaint**; **Shaquera Johnson** Miami Northwestern Senior High School; **Kayla Walton** Miami Palmetto Senior High School; **Nicholas Macia**; **Taylor Burroughs**; **Gianna Sweeting** Miami Senior High School; **Britney Alpizar**; **Ariel Trueta**; **Adalain Sans**; **John Clement** Miami Southridge Senior High School; **Nathaly Figueroa**; **Tytianna Elam**; **Nakaycia Brewton** Miami Springs Senior High School; **Fouzja Raza**; **Fariha Raza** Miami Sunset Senior High;

**Vaneska Salas**; **Vanessa Andrade** New World School of the Arts; **Margaret Farrell** North Miami Beach Senior High School; **Ritchel Calvaire**; **Thierry Perard**; **Francesca Pierre** North Miami Senior High School; **Lemec Petit-Frere**; **Lashawn McKenzie**; **Melissa Latour** Robert Morgan Educational Center; **Markavia Bryant**; **Naeyana McNear**; **Elleen Toledo**; **Kayle Zaldivar** Ronald W. Reagan/Doral Westland High School; **Adriana Merino**; **Daisy Lau**; **Ronald W. Diego Mansilla** School for Advanced Studies- All Campuses; **Natalia Mercado**; **Anastasija Sulhan** South Dade Senior High School; **Anay Gonzalez**; **Ja'Kyra Brown**; **Johnpaul Salinas** South Miami Senior High School; **Mohammad Sroug**; **Angelo Madrugra**; **Anilegna Nunez** Abreu Southwest Miami Senior High School; **Ana Castaneda**; **Eunice Baez Toledo**; **Laura Paule** Westland Hialeah Senior High School; **Denise Carillo**; **Jessica Nunez** William H. Turner Technical Arts High School; **Nella Justal**; **Ruth Cherrifere**; **Donate Brooks**; **Darius Kemp**; **Zakara Skerrette**; **Keyuanna Williams** Young Men's Preparatory Academy; **Asia Hyman** Young Women's Preparatory Academy; **Johnisha Wright** Alternative Education Scholarship Awards COPE Center North; **Janet Santiesteban Dorothy M. Wallace** COPE; **Elizabeth Alvarenga**; **Thalia Navarro** Pace Center; **Anyle Alcazar** School Board Member Steve Gallon III will be the guest speaker for the Church of the Open Door Men's Fellowship Worship Service, Sunday, June 17 at 10 a.m. The theme for the service is "Men of Vision: Standing on the Promises of God." The Knights of Gold,

(KOG) mentee group of Beta Beta Lambda Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. have been invited to this worship service. The men of the church are taking an active role in helping to groom and shape the lives of young men. **William E. Clarke III** serves as chairman of the Church of the Open Door Men's Fellowship Worship Service, Deacon **Lavert Combs**, is president of the men's fellowship and Reverend **Adrian McLean** is interim pastor of the Church of the Open Door.

I thought this poem by **Josiah Gilbert Holland** was more than timely for these times and especially timely as we celebrate Fathers Day on this Sunday honoring fathers, celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. In history, the nation's first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the state of Washington. However, it was not until 1972, that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States.

"GOD, give us men! A time like this demands Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands; Men whom the lust of office does not kill; Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy; Men who possess opinions and a will; Men who have honor; men who will not lie; Men who can stand before a demagogue And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking! Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog In public duty, and in private thinking; For while the rabble, with their thumb-worn creeds, Their large professions and their little deeds, Mingle in selfish strife, lol Freedom weeps, Wrong rules the land and waiting Justice sleeps." *Happy Fathers Day as you celebrate, remember and honor on this day, And so it is as we Live, Love, Pray, Laugh, Sing and Dance in the Whirl. Blessings.*

# Class of 2018

Congratulations  
"The Lord your God is with you wherever you go" - Joshua 1:9  
Christ Apostolic Church South Florida



**AYO OGUNMOLA**  
Everglades High School



**NIFEMI OLUWATIMILEHIN**  
North Miami Beach Senior High



**JASMINE B. AYO-AJAYI**  
Everglades High School

Congratulations  
**ELANA BROWN**

Graduated May 21 with honors from Clark Atlanta University. She earned a master's degree in social work. Parents: Angella and the late Kermit Brown Sr. Love, White and Brown family.



"I hope your dreams take you . . . to the corners of your smiles, the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities and to the most special places your heart has ever known."



**ELAN INGRAM**  
Lincoln High  
Howard University  
Chemical Engineer  
Evyette and Fedrick C. Ingram



**JORDAN INGRAM**  
James Rickards High  
Tallahassee Community College  
Broadcasting Journalism  
Evyette and Fedrick C. Ingram

VICE MAYOR ERHABOR IGHSBARO AND COUNTY COMMISSIONER BARBARA J. JORDAN PRESENT

## VENDOR FAIR

**THURSDAY, JUNE 14**  
**5PM-7PM**

3030 NW 99th STREET, MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33056

**BETTY T. FERGUSON**  
RECREATIONAL COMPLEX AMPHITHEATER

Meet the team behind IMFest.  
Learn more about vendor opportunities with the 3rd Annual International Music Festival.

# Destinations

THE MIAMI TIMES | JUNE 13-19, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

4

## FOUR GREAT RESORTS FOR THE FOURTH



Chris McClelland

The Old Pine Treehouse at the Mohicans Resort, in Ohio — one of the properties offering special deals for the July 4th weekend.

### IF YOU'RE CONSIDERING A GETAWAY, THESE SPOTS SPREAD OUT ACROSS THE COUNTRY

JESSICA COLLEY CLARKE  
*New York Times*

Hotels across the United States are celebrating the Fourth of July with discounts, packages and resort credits that add extra value to an Independence Day getaway. If you're thinking about a midsummer getaway, here are a few to consider.

#### Tree Houses and Natural Beauty in Central Ohio

In the Amish country of central Ohio, The Mohicans Resort is offering 25 percent off its regular rates, which start at \$240 per night, from July 2 to 4. Set among tall trees, four cabins and six unique tree houses (some with outdoor showers) offer a peaceful retreat complete with fire pits. On the Fourth of July, a fireworks display is scheduled in Downtown Loudonville, a 10-minute drive from the resort. Other activities near the resort include zip line tours, horseback riding and canoeing.



#### Kayaking, Paddle Boarding and Tons of Sun in Florida

Stay three nights and get a fourth night free over the Fourth of July at The Westin Cape Coral Resort at Marina Village in Cape Coral, Fla. Rates start at \$165 per night. This package also includes a \$100 resort credit and free upgrade based on availability. Set in Tarpon Point Marina and near over 400 miles of navigable canals and waterways, this is a serene location for kayaking, paddle boarding and sunset cruises.



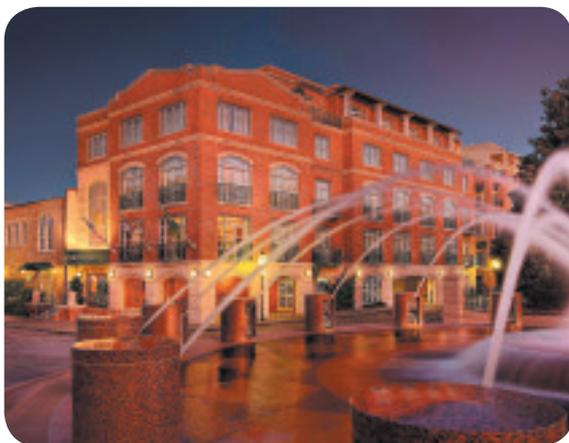
#### Fireworks and Fire Pits in California

At the Hotel del Coronado, just outside San Diego, Calif., the property's 130th anniversary brings additional value to a Fourth of July package. Rooms start from \$524 per night compared to the regular \$602 per night rate, and the resort is offering a \$130 resort credit for a two-night stay (or \$260 for a four-night stay) plus complimentary tickets to a beach party on July 1 complete with live music, beachfront fire pits and a fireworks display (\$50 value for two people). On the Fourth of July, the bay side of the hotel offers views of Coronado Island's fireworks display.



#### Fireworks and Frozen Treats in South Carolina

In Charleston, S.C., the HarbourView Inn has a private waterfront rooftop with views of the fireworks shows set across the river. Rates start at \$328 per night, compared to the regular starting rate of \$429 per night. A special rooftop reception on the Fourth of July will offer free boozy popsicles for adults and free ice cream cones for children.



# LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF  
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**City of Miami Gardens**  
7 - 11 p.m. on June 16 the city of Miami Gardens will host Father's Day in the Gardens; the free event will offer entertainment, refreshments and giveaways at the Miami Gardens City Hall, 18605 NW 27th Ave.; RSVP required; Info: Call 305-622-8000 ext. 2703

## Booker T. Washington Alumni Class of 1962

On June 15-17, the class will celebrate its 55/56 reunion. For more information, please call 305-732-1284 or 305-733-7794.

## Coconut Cay Citizens' Crime Organization

5:30 - 7 p.m. on June 21 there will be a discussion

about topics including home ownership and stabilizing wealth in Black communities; the event takes place at Maranatha Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 18900 NW 32nd Ave.; Info: Call 786-617-0898

## The Surviving Twin Network First Twin-S Luncheon on June 23

Info: Call 305-504-4936

## City of Miramar

8 p.m. on June 29 the city of Miramar will host Caribbean Comedy Night which will include top comedic talents from Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago; the event takes place at the Miramar Cultural Center, 2400 Civic Center Place; ticket for all ages required; visit [www.miramarculturalcenter.com](http://www.miramarculturalcenter.com)

org to purchase tickets

## SCHOOL MEETINGS: Miami Northwestern Class of 1968

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

## Miami Northwestern Class of 1973

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

## Miami Jackson Class of 1968

6 p.m. every second Monday to plan 50th reunion on June 14-18; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-336-7663

## Miami Carol City Class of 1968

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

## George Washington Carver High School Class of 1966

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

## 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

## 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

## Women on the Move, Inc.

Every fourth Saturday for women 55 and older who are interested in traveling and networking; Location and time: TBA; Info: Call 305-934-5122

## 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 Happenings Calendar is on or before 2 p.m. Fridays.*

# Legendary 'Dirty South' hip-hop group reunites

Goodie Mob's iconic album 'Still Standing' celebrates its 20th anniversary at Miami's Arsht Center

Miami Times Staff Report

Pioneering Southern hip-hop group, Goodie Mob is one of the most celebrated rap acts to come out of Atlanta.

Original members - Cee-Lo Green, Bigg Gipp, Khujo and T-Mo - will reunite at The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County for a concert on June 16.

The concert will commemorate their place in the music industry for the past 25 years.

Goodie Mob meaning the "good die mostly over bulls\*t," was formed in 1991. The rap group's music has focused on heavy social and political issues including racism, discrimination, geopolitics and gentrification—which is still relevant today.

The group made their debut with the 1995 gold-certified and critically-acclaimed album "Soul Food." It reached #45 on the Billboard 200 Albums Chart and #8 on the top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Chart. The album featured three Billboard Hot 100 singles including the Top 40 hit "Cell Therapy," "Soul Food" and "Dirty South," the hit song which coined the now popular phrase.

The group's second album, "Still Standing," was released in 1998 and it continued Goodie Mob's tendency towards social commentary, but also showcased Cee-Lo's penchant for singing for the first time. It reached #6 on the Billboard 200 and #2 on the top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Chart. "Still Standing" marked the group's second consecutive gold-selling effort. During this period, the group made a cameo appearance in the



Hip-hop group Goodie Mob will be performing at John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall on June 16.

Photo courtesy of artist management

film "Mystery Men" as the "Not So Goodie Mob," with Cee-Lo crediting himself by his birth name, Thomas Callaway.

Their third album, "World Party," was released in 1999. It reached #48 on the Billboard 200 and #8 on the Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Chart. The record veered away from the

gritty style that permeated their successful previous releases, instead incorporating lighter beats and party-related subject matter. Cee-Lo left the group to pursue a solo career during the production of this album. The fourth album from Goodie Mob and first without Cee-Lo, "One Money Don't Stop No Show," was some-

thing of a return to their earlier style. Released in 2004, it peaked at #15 on the top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums Chart.

Under the new name of The Lumberjacks, group members T-Mo and Khujo released two additional albums, "Livin' Life as Lumberjacks" in 2005 and "Age Against the Ma-

chine" in 2013.

Goodie Mob will perform at the Arsht Center's John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall 8 p.m. on June 16. Tickets are \$35, \$55, \$75 and \$95. All tickets may be purchased through the Adrienne Arsht Center Box Office by calling 305-949-6722, or online at [www.arshtcenter.org](http://www.arshtcenter.org).

# Prince, Diana Ross, B.I.G on display at Ali Cultural Arts

## Exhibit celebrates African-American Music Appreciation Month in Broward

Broadway World

In celebration of June being African-American Music Appreciation Month, works on display at the Historic Ali Cultural Arts will feature paintings of music icons including Prince, Diana Ross, Tupac Shakur, The Notorious B.I.G. and concert photographs of Toni Braxton, Common and Maxwell.

The free exhibition features the paintings of Haitian visual artist Jai D and the photographs of David I. Muir. "Jai is an exciting self-taught South Florida artist whose works portray the style, grace and boldness of some of the world's most celebrated musical talents," said Cheryl Davis, director

of programming and facilities. "And David's critically acclaimed photography captures musicians in those magical moments on stage performing and connecting with their fans."

Initiated by Jimmy Carter in 1979, the month-long celebration was changed by President Obama in 2016 to celebrate artists from the United States and their vital contributions to the world.

"A vital part of our Nation's proud heritage, African-American music exemplifies the creative spirit at the heart of American identity and is among the most innovative and powerful art the world has ever known," President Obama wrote.

For Jai D, he paints from his

Photos of Black musicians by photo artist of David I. Muir will be on display until July 26 for African-American Music Appreciation Month.



David Muir

personal experiences, ideas and influences. He is not your traditional artist; his art is in some forms relative to Black culture. Using his creations to highlight and capture the essence, beauty, resilience and strengths of all things cultural. His use

of abstract and bright vivid lustrous colors and textures can be found throughout most, if not all his paintings. Even though his art is mostly cultured, he is not biased nor does he limit himself to any particular art form, but rather allows his creativity,

ideas and inspirations flow through his artwork.

David I. Muir is a photo artist, author, entrepreneur and community leader living in South Florida. His photo collections, including the critically acclaimed "Pieces of Jamaica" and its accompanying coffee table book, have toured in national and international exhibitions. He has owned and operated businesses in music, artist management, event production and fashion. Muir is currently part of the management team at Island Syndicate, publishers of Island Origins Magazine and producers of The Taste the Islands Experience. He serves on local advisory boards, including nonprofits and arts organizations, curates multiple annual Fort Lauderdale art exhibits yearly, conducts seminars

for aspiring journalists and photographers, and teaches photography at Broward College.

The Historic Ali Cultural Arts, a performing arts and cultural venue, is located in the former home of the late Frank and Florence Major Ali, who had emigrated from Cuba and The Bahamas respectively. As the first Black business owners in Pompano Beach, Frank operated a barbershop and Florence, who was a skilled seamstress, cosmetologist and fashion designer, also operated her business in the building. This two-story property was built in 1933 and placed on the City of Pompano Beach Historical Register in 2016.

The exhibition started on June 7 and ends on July 26. For more information, [www.aliarts.org](http://www.aliarts.org).

# ART

CONTINUED FROM 1C

Baltimore. He says art is “definitely a native part of me.”

“I don’t see myself not ever doing it,” he said. “I’ve always been drawing, but it’s never been public. So as an artist, it’s great to show different sides of me.”

While Doucet specializes in ceramics and paintings, Terence Price II likes to highlight his Miami Gardens community using a camera.

Price grew up in Carol City and went to Miramar High School. The 28 year old’s love for street photography evolved after his mother saw a photo he took of his friends and suggested he look into working in the field.

“I had a cheap camera,” he said. “And after high school, I didn’t know what I wanted to do. So I listened to my mom and have been shooting ever since.”

That was almost 11 years ago.

Now more than 50 photos hang on the walls of Price’s space at the ArtCenter, where film-developing powder sits on his desk and several silver- and-black Minolta and Pentax cameras are placed on shelves – sitting like trophies.

His piece in the exhibit is a video called “Cider,” where Price focuses on someone “bobbing for apples” in a bucket filled with water while a sorrowful poem plays in the background. A struggling narrator who’s trying to deal after the recent shootings of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile speaks the words.

“I feel like it is important to tell stories of my peoples, and I felt that this way is more effective to get through to other people other than doing the normal stuff,” Price said.

Inspired by his grandfa-



Photo by Terence Price II

**“Bike Life,” a series initiated by Terence Price II, shows a teenage boy riding through the inner city on his bike.**

ther who died this year, Price started making films two years ago. And when he’s not filming, he’s getting shots of residents in his community, even if that means hanging off the back of a truck bed to snap an action shot of a teenager riding his bicycle.

“Bike Life,” one of Price’s series, showcases a group of teens riding through Overton and Liberty City, yelling, “Bikes up, guns down.”

“It was really nice,” Price recalled. “The organizer reached out to me, so I grabbed a couple rolls of film and my camera and started shooting.”

Price could remember the day he wasn’t home in 2006, and when he returned he saw that a bullet went through his house’s front window into his bedroom door during a drive-by shooting.

“It definitely made me feel like I need to be aware,” he said. “People say bullets don’t have eyes, and a lot of killings have been with stray bullets where innocent people get hit. There is a gun problem all over this place.”

But it’s those kinds of moments that Price likes to shed light on to “expand the photography plane,” he said.

“Every picture I take is part of me,” Price said. “And I see myself being a photographer until I’m like not able to.”

Jamaica native Jamilah Sabur and Haiti native Adler Guerrier are two other participating artists of the exhibit.

Sabur received a master’s degree in visual arts from the University of California San Diego and a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary sculpture from Maryland Institute College of Art. Her work focuses on architecture and installation.

Her piece in the exhibit showcases the layout of her mother’s home to create a sculpture based on the lattice-work above the front door of her house, according to the ArtCenter.

Guerrier received a bachelor’s degree from New World School of the Arts.

A photographer like Price, Guerrier finds places that are accessible to him.

He, however, has been recently focusing on flowers and plants in dominant spaces.

“Landscape is not just streets and concrete but also the flower boxes we add,” he said.

Guerrier added that looking at photos allows us to “escape” the structures of how we see life.

“If there is time, we should do it,” he said. “That’s the only way we can improve our perception and engage in a way that improves our lives.”

# YOU & YOURS

Faith  
Family  
Education  
Health  
Church News  
Parenting

SECTION **D**

THE MIAMI TIMES | JUNE 13-19, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM



Many people went to the Black Women's March to bring awareness to sexual assault.

## HERE COMES THE BOOM

JANIAH ADAMS  
jadams@miamitimesonline.com

In 2017, Black women were largely recognized in the areas of politics and social issues. They were credited with saving Alabama from Roy Moore, were thanked by Twitter for voting Democratic and locally, they made their voices heard by organizing the Black Women's March.

Now, the organizers of the Black Women's March are taking their influence a step further by forming a political platform to enforce the ideas presented at the Black Women's March. And what are they calling it? "Here Comes the Boom."

"I would define [the boom] as a voting bloc of empowered, resistant Black women and girls that are ready to shake things up and make some demands," said Jasmen Rogers-Shaw, the gender justice coordinator at the Miami Workers Center.

Rogers-Shaw is working with others from Miami organizations such as Soul Sisters Leadership Collective, Power U Center for Social Change, the New Florida Majority and more. They plan to assemble more than 300 Black women and girls and supporters on June 22 and 23 to begin developing a political platform that benefits Black women across the state of Florida.

"It will be a space where we can talk about the issues that are relative to Black

“  
We knew that the march is a relatively easy way to galvanize a lot of people, but it's not a good way to go deep with political engagement. Given the political climate and everything that's going on around the country and locally, and that Black women turn up to vote around the country, we felt we needed to have a conversation with Black women about how we're voting, and what we need, instead of taking the solutions that others are proposing for us.”

Jasmen Rogers-Shaw



Janiah Adams/ Miami Times Photos

Women hold inspiring signs at the Black Women's March in September.

women and then develop legislative solutions for the upcoming electoral cycle and beyond," Rogers-Shaw said.

The issues that are to be focused on are the same issues that were presented during the Black Women's March held last September. Those issues include immigration, mistreatment in public schools, reproductive health, the LGBTQ community and rights restoration and its effects on Black women.

Rogers-Shaw said this event is necessary to keep the principles of the Black Women's March alive.

"We knew that the march is a relatively easy way to galvanize a lot of people, but it's not a good way to go deep with political engagement," she said. "Given the political climate and everything that's going on around the country and locally, and that Black women turn up to vote around the country, we felt we needed to have a conversation with Black women about how we're voting, and what we need, instead of taking the solutions that others are proposing for us."

Not only will there be an emphasis on Black women at the assembly, but also on Black girls. Youth will have their own space at the assembly where they will take part in workshops, conversations and activities designed specifically for them.

SEE BOOM 8D



Jarah Adams/ Miami Times Photos

Many young people attend the Black Women's March.

# BOOM

CONTINUED FROM 7D

"It's sometimes very hard for both generations to be heard in a space," said Mariama Gregory, Power U Center for Social Change's communications director. "It can be difficult for young people to be heard. So we thought it would be a good idea for the young folks to have their own assembly, in a sense."

Power U has been working with girls at COPE Center North, a school for pregnant adolescents, to prepare them for the assembly.

"These young mothers in high school, getting ready to graduate at voting age, a lot of the policies are going to affect them," Gregory said. "Healthcare, childcare and benefits and when the school board is making decisions about their education, they need to be involved because they're also parents now."

Youth organizers with Soul Sisters Leadership Collective are co-chairing the youth committee for the assembly. Tanisha "Wakumi" Douglas, the founder of S.O.U.L. Sisters Leadership Collective, said youth will be educated about what they're voting on, important deadlines, opportunities to register and pre-register.

The Black Girls Matter Coalition, which is a partner-

ship between S.O.U.L. Sisters Leadership Collective, Miami Workers Center, Power U Center for Social Change and the Dream Defenders, have a list of demands that were put together by youth who have previously participated in the Black Girls Matter workshops. Douglas said youth at the assembly will work to sharpen the list of demands and policy recommendations.

"We will also be thinking about how to translate some of the policy recommendations that are currently in the platform into recommendations that can be incorporated in the discussions that candidates are having in these midterm elections," Douglas said.

Many policies in the Black Girls Matter platform have to do with girls' experiences in public schools. On its website, lists demands such as race sensitivity training for school officials, safe and inclusive spaces for LGBTQIA+ people, and comprehensive sex education.

Douglas mentioned a few other hot topics that the youth may want to include in their policy recommendations.

"There are some conversations right now about gun violence and metal detectors. Black girls and members of the Black Girls Coalition have ideas about those issues and many of their ideas are different than the ideas the can-

didates have," Douglas said. "So they want to be clear to candidates that this is what we believe in, this is what we want, and we'll be voting for candidates who are in alignment with these policy recommendations."

Douglas said the youth assembly will be a lot of fun and aims to create a fun culture around voting. There will also be free T-shirts for all youth in attendance and giveaways.

Organizers and participants in the assembly will attend local political forums with candidates. They will also appeal to school boards in order to help implement their policies.

"The assembly is not the end," she said. "There will be follow-up trainings about doing those things, [such as] how do you lobby to legislative officials so they can hear your voice."

All together, organizers hope these efforts will greatly affect the political platform for Black women.

"That's our goal for the future, is that we can develop a pipeline of potential candidates of Black women that will run for office locally," she said.

*Here Comes the Boom will take place June 22 and 23 at Miami Dade College's Wolfson Campus, 300 NE Second Ave. For more information and to register, visit [herecomestheboom.org](http://herecomestheboom.org).*



Activist Yonasda Lonewolf Hill speaks at the Black Women's March in September, 2017.

# CHURCH Listings

## CATHOLIC

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

## BAPTIST

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

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

## MISSIONARY BAPTIST

**New Christ Tabernacle Church**  
Rev. Harold 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

**Second Canaan Missionary Baptist Church**  
Rev. Jeffrey L. Mack, Pastor  
4343 NW 17 Avenue 305-638-1789

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

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

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

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

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

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

**New Life Christian Center**  
Rev. Bruce Payne  
5725 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



City of Opa-locka

# Dozens get fed in Opa-locka

State Rep. Cynthia A. Stafford and Opa-locka Vice Mayor Joseph L. Kelley partnered with Farm Share to distribute food to residents on Saturday, June 9 at Sherbondy Pavilion, 215 Perviz Avenue, Opa-locka.



# FAITH CALENDAR

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

◆ **Gospel Tabernacle of Faith Deliverance Church**  
Join Gospel Tabernacle for the ministry's three-night Men's & Women's Conference on the demonstration of the power of God; 7:30 p.m. on June 13 to June 15; 3311 NW 189th St. in Miami Gardens; open to public with no registration required. Call 305-626-9162 or email [Gospelmia@gmail.com](mailto:Gospelmia@gmail.com) for more details.

◆ **House of God Keith Dominion**  
AJ Manuel Funeral Home is hosting a free gospel concert at 7 p.m. on June 16, featuring the The Jackson Southernaires; 1225 N. Redland Rd. in Florida City; Call 954-920-1313 for more details.

◆ **Gospel Tabernacle of Faith Deliverance Church**  
Culminating Father's Day at 10 a.m. on June 17; speakers

include: Bishop John T. Irving Jr., Apostle Sheena Gooden, Pastor Ray Wilson and Apostle Joy Jackson; 3311 NW 189th St. in Miami Gardens; open to public with no registration required. Call 305-626-9162 or email [Gospelmia@gmail.com](mailto:Gospelmia@gmail.com) for more details.

◆ **Gathering All Parents to Prayer**  
Prayer for youth; noon every

third Saturday; 835 NW 119th St.; Call Apostle Thelma Knowles at 305-332-1736 for more details.

◆ **Greater New Bethel Baptist Church**  
Provides behavioral health, intervention and treatment services for Black men at risk for HIV or substance abuse disorders. Call 305-627-0396 for more details.

◆ **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 and 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 AME Church**  
Food and clothing giveaway every second 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.

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; 3-4 p.m. every second Sunday. Call 305-634-2993 for more details.

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

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

## MEN'S HEALTH MONTH



Lenard McKelvey, known professionally as Charlamagne Tha God, is an American radio presenter and television personality.

### Why all men of color should go to therapy

The 'Breakfast Club' co-host opens up about mental health, how it saved him

**CHARLAMAGNE THA GOD**  
*Men's Health*

I have had anxiety literally my whole life. When you're young and running the streets, you think all of that paranoia and anxiousness comes with the territory. As you get older, when you're damn near 40, and life is good and you still have those feelings...that's when you know something is wrong.

When I have anxiety attacks, I always think I'm having a heart attack. One time, I had an anxiety attack after I got fired from radio, and I was living back home with my mom. I was 31 years old. I had a 3-year-old daughter, a soon-to-be wife, and I was collecting unemployment checks. I was just dealing with a lot. I wasn't too sure what the future held for me. That was really terrible anxiety.

The guy checked me out and was like, "Your heart is perfect. You've got an athlete's heart. Do you have anxiety?" I was like, "I don't think so. But damn, I've had this before. I've had that tightening in my chest, that heart beating real fast. I've had this before." And he said, "You had an anxiety attack. You had a panic attack." That was the first time that I was actually told I had an anxiety attack.

Seven, eight months ago, I started going to therapy. Every Friday at 3:00 p.m., I do an hour-long session. It's 100 percent a life-changer. My therapist told me, "You don't need medicine. All you need is somebody to talk to. You just need to do some relaxation exercises."

There's nothing like seeing your floor clear because you organized and cleared the space of all that clutter. That's how I feel when I go to my therapist. It's interesting how therapists will say, "Let's unpack this." That's really how it feels! For me, it feels like I'm unpacking a bunch of the shit that I don't need.

I go to therapy just to push those negative thoughts

**SEE HEALTH 11D**

NORTH SHORE MEDICAL CENTER



Dr. Sonal Mehta is an award-winning interventional neurologist of North Shore Medical Center and specializes in vascular neurology and endovascular surgical neuroradiology.

## New center gives *time*

Less need to move patients increases chance of survival

**Juliana Accioly**  
*Special to The Miami Times*

Stroke survivors in Miami now have greater chances of a better outcome. As of March, North Shore Medical Center received certification as a comprehensive stroke center.

No longer having to transfer patients to a different medical facility, explains Dr. Sonal Mehta, can save many from disability and death.

A vascular and interventional neurologist who specializes in thrombectomy, Mehta joined North Shore as a crucial piece in the process toward comprehensive status. The emergency procedure allows even large blood clots in the brain to be enclosed in a stent, increasing the chances of survival and reducing the risk of severe brain injury.

"When it comes to strokes, time is brain; every

**SEE STROKE 11D**

People need to take responsibility and keep up with their health, so they don't end up in a critical condition where they have to depend on others for simple tasks.

## Black men must fight lung cancer

The highest rates in the U.S. among the group

**DEVIN HEFLIN**  
*The Orlando Times*

Black America remains disproportionately affected by lung cancer and remain the largest fatality group from the disease.

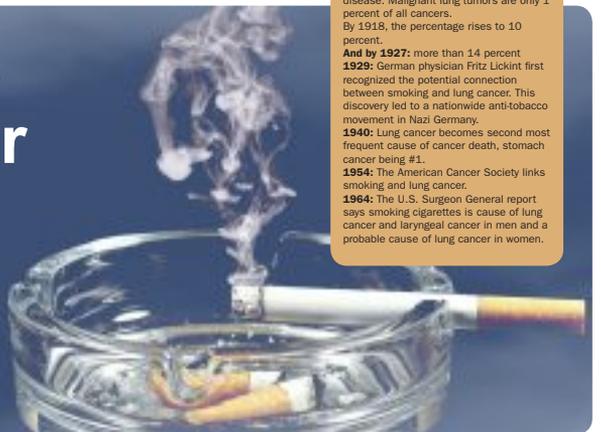
Black men were diagnosed 15 percent higher than white men for lung cancer, according to the latest data from the American Cancer Society. Black men are less likely to smoke as many cigarettes as their white

counterparts, yet are the highest diagnosed and the highest dead.

Research from the society has examined whether genetic factors play a role. Gene differences in Black Americans reveal that they metabolize nicotine differently, and thus may contribute to the formation of lung cancer.

It's also been cited that industries that produce heavier air pollution (for example,

**SEE CANCER 11D**



**TIMELINE OF LUNG CANCER HISTORY: 1878:** Lung cancer defined as a distinct disease. Malignant lung tumors are only 1 percent of all cancers.

By 1918, the percentage rises to 10 percent.

**And by 1927:** more than 14 percent  
**1925:** German physician Fritz Lickint first recognized the potential connection between smoking and lung cancer. This discovery led to a nationwide anti-tobacco movement in Nazi Germany.

**1940:** Lung cancer becomes second most frequent cause of cancer death, stomach cancer being #1.

**1954:** The American Cancer Society links smoking and lung cancer.

**1964:** The U.S. Surgeon General report says smoking cigarettes is cause of lung cancer and laryngeal cancer in men and a probable cause of lung cancer in women.

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## Young men get a push

Miami-Dade County Public Schools board member Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall hosted the Strive for Greatness Youth Symposium on May 31 at Young Men's Preparatory Academy.

The purpose of the event was to motivate, inspire and connect the students with influential male leaders in the community.

Each of the male leaders spoke to more than 70 students about their journeys to overcome hardships, which led them to accomplish their personal and professional goals.

The leaders included: Raymond Andrews,

owner/president, Quality Pro-Duction Electrical Contractors; Ezra Dieuville, program manager, Gang Alternative, Inc.; Jeff James, assistant attorney, Miami-Dade County Public Schools; Stephen Hunter-Johnson, attorney, Lydecker Diaz Law Firm; and Travis Sands, founder/CEO, Our Chance Enterprise.

"I thank our wonderful male leaders who took the time to speak to our youth at Young Men's Prep. "It is our hope and belief that through strong male mentors, our students will strive for greatness and reach their full potential," said Bendross-Mindingall.



Miami-Dade County Public Schools, District 2 staff



## Go viral with #Read30 and The Children's Trust

Protect your kids from the 'summer slide' with this social media challenge

Stack up some must-reads, set a daily reminder and get ready to flash your most dazzling smile – #Read30 is here!

A brand-new social media initiative launched by The Children's Trust earlier this month, #Read30 is the latest spoke in the organization's early learning and literacy umbrella.

"Reading at or above grade level by the third

grade is critical to a child's lifelong success – both at school and in career – so we've committed a lot of time and resources toward making sure that every child in Miami-Dade can meet that milestone," says Trust president and CEO James R. Haj. "Now, as a complement to our Read to Learn campaign, Book Club and Books for Free, we've created #Read30 to further



Monkey Business/stock.adobe.com

support those efforts."

So, what exactly is #Read30? It's a social

media call to action, a challenge to parents, caregivers and mentors to sit

with their child every day this summer and read – to them and with them – for 30 minutes, taking a selfie each time and posting it to their Facebook, Twitter and/or Instagram pages with the hashtag, you guessed it, #Read30. Supported by the involvement of local partners like WSVN 7 News anchor Craig Stevens, the Miami-Dade Public Library System (MDPLS) and a slew of local radio stations and mommy and lifestyle bloggers, #Read30 is set to become the next ice bucket challenge. And it's the perfect time to do it.

With the academic year now over, children across the county will soon be at risk for what experts call the "summer slide" – when kids are out of school and lose a big chunk of the skills they've learned there. Keeping up on reading is particularly important, say educators, as children who don't continue to exercise their literacy muscles over the summer can fall a whopping two years behind by the fifth grade. In fact, summer learning loss is one of the top three

reasons why children fail to read at grade level. Those who miss that benchmark may be setting themselves up for long-term hardship: Nearly 90 percent of graduates from high school were poor third-grade readers, and high school dropouts earn less than half of college graduates.

The research bears it out – reading with your children on a consistent basis is one of the best things you can do to ensure early learning, positive development and scholastic strength. It's also a great way to promote bonding and create happy memories.

Preschool and early elementary school-age children engage most with books that feature faces, animals and objects you can point to and talk about – bonus points if you read using different voices for different characters! Older kids can be encouraged to select their own books; visit the MDPLS website at [www.mdpls.org](http://www.mdpls.org) to see monthly staff picks and ask your local librarian for suggestions.

## Preach and teach love: How to raise tolerant children

Books to remind your kids that everyone has something important to contribute to society

Societal beliefs and customs are rapidly changing, so our children's sensitivity to others' new normals may not be up to speed. The following books – all available through the Miami-Dade Public Library System – encourage compassion, empathy and acceptance, and can help you kickstart a conversation with your kids about practicing tolerance and embracing diversity.

**PRE-SCHOOL AND EARLY ELEMENTARY**  
• **'The Big Umbrella'** by Amy June Bates and Juniper Bates  
In this charming tale of accep-

tance, a red umbrella grows to include everyone who needs shelter, no matter who or what they are.

• **'Strictly No Elephants'** by Lisa Mantchev

Banned from the Pet Club, a boy and his pet elephant and a girl and her pet skunk start a club where all are welcome.

• **'Bear and Wolf'** by Daniel Salmieri

Bear and Wolf meet in the winter forest and discover that although they're different, they share a curiosity and openness about the world that leads to friendship.



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### ELEMENTARY

• **'Wonder'** by R.J. Palacio  
After being home-schooled for years, Auggie's finally going to public school. But will his classmates see past his extraordinary face?

• **'Inside Out & Back Again'** by Thanhha Lai

Ha's family flees Vietnam in 1975 to take refuge in America, where she finds her new home both frightening and appealing.

• **'Awkward'** by Svetlana Chmakova

Peppi is having a hard time fitting into her new school, and she pushes away the first person who tries to befriend her.

### MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

• **'American Born Chinese'** by Gene Luen Yang

Three narratives come together in this graphic novel that explores Jin's search for belonging and acceptance.

• **'The Hate U Give'** by Angie Thomas

Starr is the only witness to the police shooting of her unarmed friend, and she must decide what she is willing to risk for truth.

• **'The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora'** by Pablo Cartaya

Arturo fights to save his abuela's restaurant from gentrification in this moving and humorous celebration of culture and community, set in Miami.

# Pastor OF THE WEEK



Pastor Nelson Fernandez

PRESENTED BY



## Afro-Latino pastor uses hands-on approach to postively impact lives

### Nelson Fernandez combines love, teaching, therapy

ISHEKA N. HARRISON  
ishקה@gmail.com

When Nelson Fernandez was 19 years old, he said he was fired from a construction job for talking about God too much. Instead of working, Hernandez said he was witnessing about the majesty of Jesus Christ. From that day to this one, he hasn't stopped.

Now 69, Fernandez serves as the lead pastor of North Miami Seventh-day Adventist Church, a Spanish-language ministry located at 14225 NW Eighth Ave., in North Miami. The church has youth services on Fridays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays from

9 a.m. to sunset, including praise and worship, Sabbath school, preaching, youth clubs and more.

Originally from the Dominican Republic, Fernandez moved to Puerto Rico with his family when he was a teenager. One of seven children, he became a passionate member of the Communist Party. He said it was that passion that inadvertently led him to his lifelong Christian faith.

On May 23, 1967, Fernandez said he went to a church with ill intentions; He had planned on harming a young missionary from Puerto Rico that disrupted a communist convention at the university

he was attending by preaching on Jesus.

"I went to that church not to be saved, I went to that place with two of my companions (the companions) ... I made a promise that I was going to kidnap him and basically make him disappear. We were going to take him out, discipline him and teach him a lesson, but the Lord had other plans," Fernandez said.

After hearing a "powerful message" from a prominent attorney and pastor named Rafael Ortega, Fernandez said his life was changed forever.

"I found myself crying and being taken to the al-

tar. At the very moment, I was saved, I heard a voice in my mind that said 'Nelson I am God. I'm calling you to preach my word,'" Fernandez said.

Next, he had to go before the communist party and explain why he could no longer participate.

"Jesus is the creator, and when He revealed Himself to me, I knew that He was real and I was willing to die for His truth," Fernandez said. "They asked me what I was doing, I told them Jesus is God. I cannot show you God, but I feel God in my heart."

The following year, Fernandez enrolled in Defenders Theological Seminary to begin ministerial training. After finishing his studies, he was summoned to New York to work on youth crusades.

Eventually, Fernandez went to Philadelphia where he received his first church, Bethany Christian Church. Over the years, he's done extensive ministry work including teaching Theology and Bible Interpretation at Assemblies of God Bible College in Chicago and serving as a missionary in Venezuela.

In 1981, Fernandez said he moved to Miami after driving down with a colleague and feeling at home.

"I was impressed with Miami because it reminded me of my country. It reminded me of Puerto Rico, and I said if I got an invitation to come to Miami, I would take it. Two weeks later, I got an invitation from Zion Church to preach for two weeks, and

two weeks extended to 24 years," Fernandez said.

In 1985, he married his wife Maria with whom he has three children: Lourdes, Nelson Jr., and Elias. He later became a Seventh-day Adventist after having been introduced to and researching the faith.

In addition to pastoring, Fernandez has dedicated his life to serving as a teacher, licensed therapist and overall good Samaritan. It is not uncommon for him to drop what he is doing to help someone.

"I think that being a teacher and being a pastor, I see myself as an agent for change. I see myself as a dream maker ... It's important for people to be treated with dignity and respect," Fernandez said. "I'm the type of pastor that I visit all of my members at least once a month. I sit down with them at home. I talk to them. I listen to them. One of the roles of a pastor is to counsel. Most people complain that nobody listens to them, so I'm trying to change that."

True to his hands-on approach, Fernandez said he also keeps track of his members' birthdays, anniversaries and other important milestones to make sure he is serving them in tangible ways.

"I go to my kids' graduations. I take my kids camping. I immerse myself in their daily lives. If they have an issue in court, I'll be there. If they don't have a job, I help them get a job. If I'm not able to be a resource for my

members, what good am I?" Fernandez said.

Currently working at Booker T. Washington Senior High School, Fernandez believes teaching, like pastoring, is among the noblest of professions.

"I think teaching is the most influential vocation there is. Aside from the ministry, there's no other more-noble profession than teaching. Everything starts with a teacher. ... For my students, the sky is not the limit, the sky is just the beginning," Fernandez said.

Whether his students or his congregants, Fernandez wants everyone he encounters to understand their identity in Jesus Christ.

"I like to translate what I know is God's purpose for humanity. They are children of God. They are princes and princesses. That's what I see sitting there," Fernandez said. "I want them to find their identity as God's children. If they hear from me what God says about them - 'You are strong, I love you. You're loved no matter what anybody else says' - there's going to be a wall around them mentally that's going to allow them to block any negative outcome no matter who says what."

To learn more about Fernandez and North Miami Seventh-day Adventist Church, call 786-378-3298.

Do you know of spiritual leader who should be featured in this column? Email Isheka at ishקה@gmail.com with the subject line: POW Referral.

# STROKE

CONTINUED FROM 9D

minute counts," says Metha. "Brain cells get injured because of the lack of blood flow and for every minute a stroke goes untreated, a person can lose over a million neurons. Having to transfer patients between facilities affects their chances of recovering."

The upgrade involved new equipment, staff education on specific skill sets, and the development of a closer relationship with Emergency Medical Service providers.

According to Karell Mullings, the center's stroke coordinator and neuroscience nurse manager, last year a total of 272 stroke patients were admitted to North Shore, but 25 had to be transferred to Palmetto General or the Florida Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale for further care. Since the reconfiguration, the center has comprehensively treated six patients - from evaluation to treatment to secondary stroke prevention. Support groups also come together regularly to aid patients and their families in post-stroke care. The type and degree of disability following a

stroke depends on the area of the brain that's damaged and its extent. In general, a stroke can cause paralysis or difficulty controlling movement, sensory disturbances including pain, defective language skills, thinking, memory and emotional disturbances.

The good news is that most strokes are preventable. Mullings says that people must "stay on top of risk factors and get their annual check-up. A large portion of our patients do not comply with medication routines, they stop when they think they've gotten better and ignore the consequences."

### MODIFYING AND AVOIDING RISK FACTORS

More than 30 percent of cancer deaths could be prevented by modifying or avoiding key risk factors, including tobacco use, being overweight or obese, unhealthy diet with low fruit and vegetable intake lack of physical activity, alcohol use and indoor smoke from household use of solid fuels.

Another study found that many patients with a certain type of lung cancer, for which surgical removal of part of the lung offers the best chance for a cure, did not get the proper surgery. Shockingly, only 62

percent of all patients who would have a good chance of the surgery helping them had the surgery.

When the researchers separated the results out by race, 66 percent of white patients who were appropriate candidates had the surgery while only 55 percent of Black patients who were appropriate candidates had the surgery. While this is bad news for all patients with this type of lung cancer, it is worse news for Black Americans since they were substantially less likely than white patients to get the surgery.

need to take responsibility and keep up with their health so they don't end up in a critical condition where they have to depend on others for simple tasks."

For more information on North Shore Medical Center's stroke services, please visit <https://www.northshoremedical.com>.

To help recognize stroke symptoms and signs the American Heart Association promotes the acronym FAST as a tool:

- Face Drooping - Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop or is it numb?
- Arm Weakness- Ask the

person to raise both arms. Is one arm weak or numb? Does one arm drift downward?

• Speech Difficulty- Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like "the sky is blue." Is the sentence repeated correctly? Are they unable to speak, or are they hard to understand?

• Time to call 9-1-1- If the person shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get them to the hospital immediately.

• One hallmark of a hemorrhagic stroke is a patient who complains of the worst headache of his/her life.

# HEALTH

CONTINUED FROM 9D

out of my mind. None of us can escape thinking negatively. Negative thoughts are going to pop up in your head. You're going to have self-doubt sometimes, you're going to be insecure sometimes. You're going to worry about your kids, you're going to worry about your wife, but it's about pushing that shit out and not holding onto it. When you hold onto it, that's when it grows.

Black men, we have so much trauma. We constantly deal with anxiety. If you grew up in the hood, you're going to have some sort of trauma, PTSD. But nobody is trying to sit Black men down and treat us. Immediately, therapists want to put us on medicine. They want to put us on Ritalin or some type of pill that's going to suppress us or numb us.

I think Black men especially should go to therapy and seek out mental help because we need it. Even if you don't think you need it, we need it.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Apostolic Revival Center**

Services  
Wed. Interspersed Prayer  
9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun.-Sec. 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 10 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 5 p.m.  
Tue. 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 5 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 a.m.

Website: cmc.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

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

**Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church**

Services  
Early Worship 7 a.m.  
Sunday School 9 a.m.  
NBC 10:05 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.  
Worship 4 p.m.  
Mission and Bible

Pastor Douglas Cook, Sr.

5946 N.W. 12th Avenue  
305-751-9323

**New Birth Baptist Church, The Cathedral of Faith International**

Services  
Sunday Worship 7 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday (Bible Study) 6:45p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 10:45 a.m.

1 (800) 254-ABCC  
305-685-3700  
Fax: 305-685-0705  
[www.newbirthbaptistmiami.org](http://www.newbirthbaptistmiami.org)

Bishop Victor T. Curry, D.Min., D.D. Senior Pastor/Teacher  
2300 N.W. 135th Street

**Pembroke Park Church of Christ**

Services  
SUNDAY Bible Study  
Morning Worship, 10 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6 p.m.

TUESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.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 Meeting  
Mon.-Fri. 2:45 p.m.

Rev. Charles Lee Dinkins

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

# Obituaries

In Memoriam | Happy Birthday | Remembrances  
Death Notices | Card of Thanks

THE MIAMI TIMES | JUNE 13-19, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

## Richardson

**REBECCA SIPPJO**, 82, homemaker, died June 6 at North Shore Medical Center. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Antioch of Brownsville Baptist Church.



**DELORES SAUNDERS**, 79, entrepreneur, died May 28 at Kindred Hospital Ft. Lauderdale. Final rites in Bimini, Bahamas.



**VANDARL CALLENDER**, 70, baker, died June 7 at home. Service 11 a.m., Thursday at Mount Nebo Baptist Church of Ft. Lauderdale.



**ERNESTINE GREEN**, 81, homemaker, died June 1 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 12 p.m., today at Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church.



**ARVILLA FELTON**, 73, housekeeper, died June 4 at North Shore Medical Center. Service 11 a.m., Friday at Refuge Church of Our Lord.



**MARIE ANTIONELL YOUNG**, 52, homemaker, died June 8 at North Shore Medical Center. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Refuge Church of Our Lord.



## Hall Ferguson Hewitt

**ALBERTHA BUTLER aka "MOTHER BUTLER"**, 90, LPN nurse, died June 9 at home. Survived by sisters, Darletha Boggs and Lucille Williams; grandson, Master Sargent Curtis Reid. Memorial service 6-8 p.m., Friday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at the church.



**SHEMAYA WILCOX**, 37, died May 31. Services were held.

**ALVIN KNIGHT**, 65, died May 29. Services were held.

**DARLENE M. JOHNSON**, 79, died June 6. Services were held.

**NANNIE MAE KNIGHT**, 57, receptionist, died June 9. Service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.

## Eric S. George

**LUCAS GEORGE LEVARTY**, 82, died May 30. Final rites in Bimini, Bahamas.



**JOHN HENDERSON**, 64, died June 7. Service 2 p.m., Friday at Ebenezer Baptist Church Hallandale.



## Hadley Davis

**MARY JENELL BRUTUS STEPNEY**, 76, homemaker, died June 8 at Aventura Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**MICHAEL F. HYLTON**, 71, died June 9 at home. Service 10 a.m., Friday at the Caballero Rivero Dade North Memorial Park.



**ALTHEA EDNA JONES**, 49, died June 3 at home. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at New Bethel A.M.E. Church.



**CURTIS LEE JOHNSON**, 61 construction worker, died May 25 at Miami Veterans Hospital. Services were held.



## Trinity

**RODNEY LEE, SR.**, 51, died June 1 at University Of Miami. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Hosanna Community Baptist Church.



**WILLIAM BETHEL, JR.**, 53, died June 9 at home. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**ANGELA MICHELL JOLLY**, 50, died June 11 at home. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at New Harvest Missionary Baptist Church.



## Mitchell

**RICHARD "SHOW BOAT" WILLIAMS**, 72, retired resource officer for Dade County School Board, died June 6 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church.



**A.J. Manuel**

**LEWIS GREEN, SR.**, 81, licensed contractor, died June 11 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Dania Church of God in Christ.



## Gregg L. Mason

**ROSIE B. REDD**, 92, died June 6. Survivors include: son, Lue E. Redd (Joan); and other relatives. Viewing 6-8 p.m., today. Final rites in Hatcherchubbee, Alabama.



## Cremation Society - North Carolina

**JAMES HARDY WILLIAMS**, 89, baggage porter for Aircraft Services at The Miami International Airport for 35 years, died June 2, in the presence of his family in Pittsboro, North Carolina. Memorial service 1 p.m., Saturday at Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church, 15250 NW 22 Avenue, Miami Gardens, FL.

SEE YOUR OBITUARY ONLINE  
WWW.MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

## Wright and Young

**LOUISE WALLACE**, 74, retired administrative assistant for Miami Dade County Public Schools, died June 11. Survived by a loving husband, Ezral "Tony" Wallace; a dedicated sister, Bernice Barry; two beautiful children, Felicia Yvette Cox (daughter), Ezral Anthony Wallace, III (son); son-in-law, Philip Cox, Sr.; daughter-in-law, Magda Wallace; grandchildren, Sydney Cox, Philip Cox, Jr., Autumn Wallace and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. Public viewing Friday. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at St. James Catholic Church, 540 NW 132 Street, North Miami, FL.



**VIRGINIA STEWART**, 94, domestic, died June 6. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at St. Mary's Wesleyan Methodist Church.



**RASHAAD HODGSON**, 11, student, died June 2. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church.



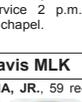
**VALENCIA COLEY-HALL**, 59, cafeteria worker, died June 9. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



**JANIE MCCOY**, 91, domestic, died June 6. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Historic Mt. Zion Baptist Church.



**ANGELA RIGBY**, 58, supervisor, Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



## Hadley Davis MLK

**EDDIE HANNA, JR.**, 59 retired ground keeper, died June 7 in Albany, GA. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Greater Harvest Baptist Church.



**BETTY WARREN**, 72 retired caregiver, died June 6 in Waycross, GA. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Grace United Community Church.



**KERRY SMITH**, 48, customer service rep, died June 9 at Memorial Regional Hospital Hollywood. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.



**KENNETH MORRIS**, 56, laborer, died June 6 at home. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



## Eric L. Wilson

**VICTORIA ELIZABETH CHRISTIAN**, 65, retired postal worker, died June 4. Service: 12 p.m., Saturday at Koinonia Worship Center, Hollywood, FL.

**JOHNNIE RAY LAWSON**, 57, died June 8. Private service with family in Cape Coral, FL.

## Manker

**MR. JEFFERIES ROSEMOND**, 81, construction worker, died June 3 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Walker's Temple COIC.



**MINNIE LEE AUSTIN**, 79, nurse assistance, died June 6 at home. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



## Range

**WILLIE JAMES REYNOLDS**, 61, laborer for Roofing Industry, died June 5. Survivors include his sister, JoAnn Sweats Harvell; daughter, Tasha; son, Neil; brother-in-law, Milton Harvell; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends. Viewing 3-7 p.m., Thursday in the chapel. Service 11 a.m., Friday in the chapel.



## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**WILLIAM A. COOPER**  
4/12/1929 - 6/16/2008

Ten years have passed since you left us, but fond memories of you will always remain in our hearts. Your family

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**KENNETH WILCOX aka COACH KENNY**  
08/15/1959 - 06/11/2017

A year has come upon us as we celebrate the life of a legend, "Coach Kenny Wilcox." You were deeply loved and needed by your family, friends, co-workers and the many lives you touched. Our love for you is forever. Love, Your Family

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**FREDERICK MULKEY**  
11/28/1957 - 06/13/2004

We will always cherish fond memories of you. Love forever. Mother, Mable Mulkey and family.

**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN?**

Have you forgotten so soon about your departed loved one? Keep them in your memory with an in memoriam or a happy birthday remembrances in our obituary section.

**305-694-6225**  
The Miami Times



Bluesman Eddy Clearwater

## Eddy Clearwater, the bluesman, dies at 83

**TERENCE MCARDLE**  
Washington Post

Eddy Clearwater, a Mississippi-born singer-guitarist whose swaggering showmanship and mixture of blues and rock-and-roll won him wide admiration during a seven-decade career, died June 1 at his home in Skokie, Ill. He was 83.

His publicist, Lynn Orman Weiss, said Clearwater had suffered complications from a recent surgery but declined to confirm a specific cause. His last show was May 19 at the nightclub Buddy Guy's Legends in Chicago.

Often performing with a large American Indian head-dress or a wide, flat-brimmed Stetson hat, Clearwater commanded the crowd's attention. He duckwalked across the stage and liked to wade into the audience with his guitar. Though classified as a Chicago bluesman, his mostly original repertoire combined elements of gospel, soul and rock-and-roll — particularly the music of Chuck Berry and Louis Jordan — into a boisterous musical stew that he termed "rock-a-blues." The Blues Foundation inducted him into its hall of fame in 2016.

Clearwater was a left-handed guitarist who played a right-handed guitar upside down. He began accompanying gospel quartets as a teenager. However, by the early 1950s, he was performing blues in the rough taverns of the South and West sides of Chicago as Guitar Eddie, sometimes with his cousin, harmonica player Carey Bell. He also befriended guitarists Otis Rush, a fellow southpaw, and Magic Sam, both of whom would become Clearwater's mentors. By the end of the decade, he had become smitten with Berry's music.

"I had just bought a blue Ford, my first car," he recalled to the Chicago Tribune. "I was driving ... and I flipped on the radio to hear 'Oh, Baby Doll.' ... He enunciated so clearly that everyone knew the lyrics, and a lot of whites thought Chuck Berry was white when they first heard him."

In 1958, he recorded his first single, the Berry-influenced, "Hillbilly Blues," for Atomic-F, a record label owned by his entrepreneurial uncle. The label credited the disc to Clear Waters, a play on the name of renowned blues singer Muddy Waters. Eventually, Clear Waters evolved into Eddie — and later, Eddy — Clearwater. Several rock-and-roll 45s followed for small Chicago labels and the larger Cincinnati concern King-Record in the 1960s.

The Berry style brought him lucrative bookings at clubs in the white Chicago suburbs. His flashy guitar style also got him work with a white rockabilly singer, Eddy Bell, who outfitted

On one job, a bartender invited him and his band to her house for drinks after a gig.

"I walked in her house, and hanging up in her den she had a headress, a full-elegant headress," he told the Tribune. He offered to buy it but instead she gave it to him as "a good luck charm."

"I've always been very fond of the American Indians, and I happen to be part Indian, anyway — Cherokee," Clearwater added. "My grandmother was full-blooded Cherokee."

For several years, the "good luck charm" became part of his show. He appeared in the headress astride a horse on the cover of his first full-length album, "The Chief" (1980). The record established him as a contemporary blues artist. More than 15 albums followed over the next three decades.

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

**VIEW YOUR OBITUARIES ONLINE AT**  
WWW.MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM