

# The Miami Times

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## A name etched in stone

### PLAZA TO HOST LARCENIA BULLARD'S NAME

**Larcenia Bullard** is a late politician who served the Richmond Heights area.



**Project to include Black history, art gallery, community services**

**K. BARRETT BILALI**  
Miami Times Contributor

County Commissioners last month.

The plaza building, to be located at 14518 and 14508 Lincoln Blvd., will include a South Miami-Dade Black history exhibit, social services, offices and retail space.

The Richmond Heights Community Development Corp. will be located on the second floor and will manage the building. Commissioner Dennis C. Moss sponsored the resolution, which put the plans in progress.

The construction of the proposed two-story, 14,000-square-foot building will be overseen by Tara C. Smith, director of the Miami-Dade County  
**SEE PLAZA 6A**

**T**he Larcenia J. Bullard Plaza will become a reality in the historic community of Richmond Heights.

The project, which was first envisioned in March 2010 as part of the Richmond Heights Charrette Area Plan, was approved by the Board of

Below is a concept drawing of Larcenia Bullard Plaza where Black history and commerce will meet.



Rendering courtesy of Gurri Matute

## Mock storm event preps community

Activists, school board to apply lessons learned from Irma

**FELIPE RIVAS**  
frivas@miamitimesonline.com

As hurricane season moves into its first month, community activists are hoping for the best but readying everyone for the worst.

The New Florida Majority on Saturday, June 30 sponsored Serious Games, a large scale community-led mock disaster scenario and panel at Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus. The event was designed to engage political figures, activists and community members to work together to identify gaps in case of an emergency and to find ways to resolve the issues together.

More than 130 community members came out to voice their opinions, concerns and offer solutions.

"We were able to do the simulation," said Nancy Metayer, Climate Justice Organizer with the New Florida Majority, an advocacy organization. "It became very emotional for some folks because they were reliving their experiences from Hurricane Irma."

The simulation was followed by a group assembly with different officials, during which community members were able to voice their opinions and concerns. Several elected officials from Broward and Miami-Dade counties passed by the workshop.

"They actually listened to the community about their concerns and solutions," said Metayer.

This year, activists and even a school board member are trying to head off confusion and  
**SEE STORMS 4A**

## Miami Times takes No. 1

The honor bestowed by national organization of Black newspapers

**CAROLYN GUNISS**  
cguniss@miamitimesonline.com

The Miami Times on Thursday, June 28, walked away with the highest honors for Black newspapers in the nation: the John B. Ruswurm Trophy, presented by the National Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation.

The trophy is awarded to a newspaper each year that accumulates the most points by excelling in several or all of the 20 categories of the NNPA Foundation's Merit Awards competition. The awards were presented during the NNPA Annual Convention, which took place June 26-30 in Norfolk, Virginia. In the categories that judge



**"We have a team dedicated to excellence and service to our community. There is no better winning combination."**

Garth Reeves

es considered the entire publication, *The Miami Times* placed first for Best Special Section and Best Layout and Design, and third for Best Use of Photographs and General Excellence. *The Miami Times* took second place for Best News Pictures, Best Circulation Promotion, Best Original Advertising, Best Youth Section and Best Church Section. The newspaper finished third for Best Women's/Lifestyles  
**SEE AWARDS 6A**



Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA; Amelia Ashley-Ward, the NNPA Foundation chair and publisher of the Sun-Reporter; Garth C. Reeves, vice president of Business Development for The Miami Times; and Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA at the 2018 NNPA Merit Awards.

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**WHITNEY'S TRUE STORY**

**1C**



# VIEWPOINT

BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | JULY 4-10, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

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## EDITORIAL

### Explore all options before a tax hike, Miami-Dade schools

The Miami-Dade County Public Schools seem to always be in the spotlight, mostly for positive news about educating children. The latest news is no exception. The district announced on Friday that for the first time in its history, the entire district gets a letter grade of A from the state's grading system.

To get a letter grade of A from the Florida Department of Education, a district must show student gains in learning, middle school performance, graduation rate and putting students on college and career paths. That is no small feat, especially for a district whose majority students are non-native English speakers and about 98 percent of the student population comes from homes that qualify for the federal free-or-reduced-priced-lunch program.

The superintendent attributed the district's stellar performance to teachers, people on the frontline of imparting knowledge to students. Then he asked county residents to reward our teachers with a pay raise. The teachers union supports the raises wholeheartedly. And so does The Miami Times. But not at the expense of taxpayers.

On the November ballot, residents will be asked if they would like to tax themselves to raise teacher salaries. It is well-documented that teachers are under-paid statewide, and in Miami-Dade they are at a real disadvantage because of the high cost of living relative to their income.

A review of Vision 2020, the district's strategic plan that sets goals and benchmarks for the years 2015-2020 shows the plan set out four areas on which the school board should focus: education, school/district leadership, student, parent, and community engagement and financial efficiency/stability. It was written at the start of the economic recovery and most organizations were in right-sizing mode. The district was no different.

Inequity was one of the issues the strategic plan names between older and newer schools. Some schools needed physical and technological upgrades to the tune of \$1.8 billion. But in 2012, voters overwhelmingly supported a \$1.2 Billion General Obligation Bond on the basis that the district would improve the schools.

The written document does address teachers in terms of training them to be better at their craft. But it does not address teacher compensation. In the financial part of Vision 2020, it talks about increasing funding for the district's students. The word salary isn't mentioned.

So the idea to ask voters to tax themselves to pay teachers stems from a tax and affordability. It seems the district is attaining many of the goals in the strategic plan. But since there was no goal for salaries, there is no plan.

Not until about a year ago, did the district start to address teacher salary, according to board member Steve Gallon III, when he filed an item to explore ways to give an increase. A committee was formed, which provided several recommendations.

Before rushing to taxation, perhaps an updated strategic plan should be drafted that sets some attainable goals including teacher compensation.

County homeowners are under tremendous pressure when it comes to taxes and affordability. Let's make sure we explore all options before we dig into their pockets again.

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## Sea-level rise: Worse than you think

HAROLD R. WANLESS, Sun Sentinel

Look what we have done. Let's put this global warming and climate change thing in perspective.

For the past million years, atmospheric carbon dioxide fluctuated between 180 parts per million (ppm) and 280 ppm about every 100,000 years, and, in concert, temperature cooled and warmed and sea level went down and up 330 feet or more.

These natural changes in carbon dioxide, temperature and sea level occurred over thousands of years as Earth changed how she presented herself to the sun - cycles of a more and less circular orbit and changes in the amount and direction of the tilt of her axis to the sun.

Earth's climate is now severely out of balance and will respond in unprecedented, dire, and most certainly rapid ways.

Both natural climate change and the dramatic human-induced global warming is being

“Most disconcerting, half of the excess heat buildup in the oceans has occurred since 1997. Our still rapidly increasing greenhouse gas levels, because of rapidly increasing global population and industrialization.”

caused by the sun's radiation reflecting off the Earth's surface at a longer wavelength and being caught and turned into heat by greenhouse gases, principally carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide.

These extra greenhouse gases put into the atmosphere by human activities have now warmed the atmosphere by more than one degree above

pre-industrial revolution levels, possibly enough to trigger the total melting of the Greenland Ice Sheet.

Carbon dioxide remains in the atmosphere a very long time, and the effects of human-induced atmospheric warming will be felt for several thousand years. Yet, if that were the whole story, it would just be a challenging matter to remove the excess greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, and the heat would quickly diminish.

Only about 2 percent of this excess heat remains in the atmosphere.

Most disconcerting, half of the excess heat buildup in the oceans has occurred since 1997. Our still rapidly increasing greenhouse gas levels, because of rapidly increasing global population and industrialization, are making global warming more and more serious and less reversible every day we keep using fossil fuels.

Earth's rate of global mean sea level (GMSL) rise doubled after 1930 as our warming ocean began expanding. Since 1990, we have had an additional quadrupling of the rate as accelerating polar ice melt has kicked in.

Globally we are up to about 46 millimeters rise per year, a rate of 1.5 feet per century. Accelerating ice melt is now doubling this rate every seven to eight years. That will get our coasts in trouble very quickly.

South Florida's rate of sea-level rise has been a bit faster than GMSL in the past and is predicted become significantly faster in the future.

Current federal government projections for GMSL rise, those that include accelerating polar ice melt, see a further to 8.2 feet of global sea-level rise by 2100.

ranging future when you look at elevation maps of South Florida or most any other coast.



## Trump and Sessions, two of a kind

DAHLEEN GLANTON, Chicago Tribune

Coretta Scott King warned us about Jeff Sessions.

If Republicans had paid attention last year, Sessions would be retired in Alabama rather than in Washington enforcing Donald Trump's cruel immigration policies. And children would not be torn away from their parents at our borders.

Do not be fooled by Trump's purported adversarial relationship with the U.S. attorney general for recusing himself from the Russia investigation. The men are cut from the same bigoted cloth. And neither could survive without the other.

In a letter written two decades before her death, the widow of Martin Luther King Jr. spoke of Sessions' "reprehensible conduct," and his use of intimidation and fear to get what he wants.

"I do not believe Jefferson Sessions possesses the

requisite judgment, competence and sensitivity to the rights guaranteed by the federal civil rights laws," King wrote in 1986.

At the time, she was pleading with members of the Senate Judiciary Committee not to confirm him as a federal judge because of what many African-Americans perceived as attempts by the then-U.S. attorney to repress the black vote in the 1980s.

It worked then. But when the letter came up again during Sessions' confirmation hearing for attorney general last year, Republicans overwhelmingly voted him in.

A man who lacks compassion for his fellow American citizens certainly does not have it for immigrants who are not. Sessions has shown us time and time again that he and Trump have more in common than what might appear on the surface.

If you wonder why Trump

“Coretta Scott King was fearful of Sessions because she understood that history often repeats itself. Both she and her husband knew the evil that men like him were capable of in-

has not made good on his tempered threats to fire Sessions or why Sessions has not chosen to resign, it is because they need each other too much. More than that, they seem to feed off each other.

Trump and Sessions look at immigrants through the same hate-shaded lens, and their contempt for anyone, even young children, who attempt to enter our country without

the proper papers is equally as vile.

Even before Trump was elected, he began making a case for separating children from their parents at the border. If Americans don't slam the door shut, he warned at a rally in Phoenix, violent criminals would pour in and terrorize our nation, while taking away jobs, educational opportunities and social services that belong to us.

"Zero tolerance for criminal aliens. Zero. Zero," Trump shouted to loud applause. "Zero. They don't come in here. They don't come in here."

As attorney general, Sessions serves as Trump's facilitator — and his enabler.

A more decent attorney general might stand up to such nonsense and try to talk some sense into such a cold-hearted president. For Sessions, though, Trump's dirty deeds are carried out easily. Eagerly, in fact.



## CARTOON CORNER



## New judge could remake America

CHARLES M. BLOW, The New York Times

Donald Trump has attacked American institutions that seek truth and justice, like the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the press, because he wants to weaken America's faith in truth and facts themselves.

He has shunned and denigrated America's traditional allies and cozied up to America's traditional enemies, in one of the most bewildering presidential postures the country may ever have seen.

And now, with the retirement of the Supreme Court moderate Anthony Kennedy, Trump will be able to solidify the court's conservative majority for a generation.

Elections have consequences. Not voting has consequences. Falling for Russian propaganda has consequences. Voter suppression has consequences. Taking the absolutely ridiculous position that there would be little difference between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump

“Trump's imprint on the courts will help the conservatives preserve more of that power for a longer period of time.”

has consequences.

The most lasting consequence is in the Supreme Court, which has lifetime appointments.

So now, if you are a woman, a minority, an immigrant, a person who is LGBTQ, the rights you have acquired could be in jeopardy.

If you are just a decent person who believes in expanding equality, respecting choice and identity and civil rights, your vision of America is in jeopardy.

Conservatives want to arrest America's development and send our country into regression. This is about the maintenance of their power long after they have lost the dominance of numbers.

The courts are an insurance policy in their strategy of impending progress.

Conservatives want to reserve the right to use religion as a weapon, to control other people's bodies and to judge some people as less worthy of full participation in the American experience because of whom they love, how they identify, where they are from or which God they worship.

They want to protect what they call "American culture," which is more aptly described as white culture. No matter how advantage was gained, no matter how privilege was acquired, it is the province of the deniable, scrubbed clean of blood and tears. Present

privilege, power and prestige must be preserved.

That is one reason that the court's decisions on the Affordable Care Act were closely watched and in some ways controversial. At its core, Obamacare is about the interconnectedness of civil societies. It asked those with more to help support the health and well-being of those with less.

This is precisely why conservatives hate it. They prefer a Darwinian ecosystem of care in which health corresponds directly with wealth.

Trump's imprint on the courts will help the conservatives preserve more of that power for a longer period of time.

Whoever Trump appoints to the Supreme Court will most likely be there for the rest of my life. I will live the rest of my days with Trump's legacy. That's a hell of a thought.



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.



In this June 22, file photo, demonstrators protesting the fatal police shooting of Antwon Rose Jr. cross the Roberto Clemente Bridge during an evening rush hour march that began in downtown Pittsburgh. Police shot Rose as he fled during a traffic stop on June 19.

AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar, File

# Protestors keep Antwon's killing alive

The teen was killed by a police officer in East Pittsburg during a traffic stop

ERRIN HAINES WHACK

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The day after Antwon Rose Jr. was shot through the cheek and elbow and in the back, killing the 17-year-old honors student, young black people swarmed the East Pittsburgh police station.

Over the next several days, outraged protesters took over thoroughfares, disrupted rush hour and shouted from the steps of the county courthouse, demanding that the white off-

icer who killed the Black teenager be charged.

Rose's killing is the first in the Pittsburgh area in the Black Lives Matter era, and residents are galvanized. From the sustained marches to the swift announcement that Officer Michael Rosfeld will face charges of criminal homicide, what has unfolded in the hills of western Pennsylvania's steel country is a rare response to the killing of an unarmed Black male, despite longstanding tensions in the area between police and the scattered Black community.

Residents are guardedly optimistic the case could result in an even rarer conviction.

"It's a different political climate, a different energy with the people who are coming out," said Brandi Fisher, an activist who started the Alliance for Police Accountability in 2010. "This was a cold-blooded murder, and it's the first for this generation in our city to have witnessed."

For nearly two weeks, and despite a heavy media focus on immigration at the Mexican



Michael Rosfeld police officer



John Fetterman for Lieutenant Governor via AP File

This undated file photo of a frame from video provided by the John Fetterman for Lieutenant Governor campaign shows Antwon Rose Jr. in a campaign announcement.

border, protesters have turned national attention to Pittsburgh without big names like the Rev. Al Sharpton or lawyer Ben Crump, and demonstrators have been largely local and diverse.

Unlike Ferguson, Missouri; Baltimore; Cleveland and other places where similar cases have caused outcry, Allegheny County is 81 percent white and 13 percent Black. The Black unemployment and poverty rates

are triple that of whites. It all creates a climate that has failed and exhausted the area's Black community, organizer Tresa Murphy said.

"We live in a city that has systematically oppressed us since our grandparents got here," said Murphy, 24.

In talking about Rose's killing in East Pittsburgh, several miles outside Pittsburgh, residents frequently reference the region's systemic inequities,

particularly in segregation and policing.

The small borough of about 1,800 residents is 60 percent Black, but its eight-member police force is predominantly white. Pittsburgh's police department was the first subjected to a federal consent decree in 1997 after a Department of Justice investigation found a pattern of excessive force and other shortcomings.

The Rev. Shanea Leonard, of Judah Fellowship Christian Church in Pittsburgh, who protested in a downtown march on Wednesday, sees more unity around the Rose case.

"It was enough years ago, but the community has been galvanized," Leonard said. "We're not seeing justice. It's more of us that are tired than ever before."

Protests have continued since the announcement of charges for Rosfeld, as the community raises concerns

about the legal process. While happy about the charges, many are outraged that he was released on bond less than an hour after turning himself in.

"That says they plan to show this officer favor," Fisher said. "He's at home with his family, and he didn't have to pay a dime to get out of prison."

Rose was killed June 19 after fleeing during a traffic stop. He was a passenger in a car suspected in a drive-by shooting that occurred earlier that evening in neighboring North Braddock.

Police arrested another 17-year-old, who also ran from police, on Wednesday. Prosecutors say that teenager is the suspected shooter in the drive-by and that Rose was not involved.

Rosfeld gave inconsistent statements about whether he saw Rose with a weapon, officials say. Rosfeld's attorney has said that he believes the shooting was justified and that the officer should face an involuntary manslaughter charge at most.

Christian Carter, 18, said he has never felt distanced from gun violence or the killings of Black men by police. He has been a fixture in the recent Pittsburgh-area protests and said people are fueling the unrest, which he does not expect to subside soon.

"We're growing up in America, where it's a daily thing to see these deaths," Carter said. "I think a lot of the older people are scared to see what's going to happen to us, being on the front lines, but I'm doing it because this is something that's important to me, that I want to stop. We're not backing down."



In this June 23 file photo, demonstrators protesting the fatal police shooting of Antwon Rose Jr. march through the South Side section of Pittsburgh.

Michael M. Santiago/Pittsburgh Post-Gazette via AP File



Harrison Jones/Pittsburgh Tribune-Review via AP File

Michelle Kenney, second from left, the mother of Antwon Rose Jr., reacts and Antwon Rose, left, the boy's father, listens as attorney Fred Rabner, second from right, speaks to reporters at the Allegheny County Courthouse in Pittsburgh.



Ben Jealous addresses supporters at a primary-election-night party on June 26.

# Former NAACP president wins Maryland's primary for governor

## The Democrat calls for single-payer health care and tuition-free college

DANIEL VICAR  
The New York Times

Democrats searching for sparks of progressive energy see the ascent of Benjamin T. Jealous in Maryland as an encouraging electoral sign.

Jealous, the former head of the NAACP, campaigned for governor on single-payer health care and tuition-free college. Last Tuesday, he emerged from a crowded Democratic primary field by beating a more moderate candidate, Rushern Baker, by more than 10 percentage points.

If elected, Mr. Jealous would be the first Black governor of Maryland.

Jealous led the NAACP from 2008 to 2013. The Baltimore Sun's editorial board named him Mary-

lander of the Year in 2013, writing that he had brought "energy, vision and focus to an organization in need of all three."

Along with the seismic triumph of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez in New York, his victory signaled enthusiasm behind Democratic candidates who are further to the left than many incumbents and added to the debate about how their positions will affect the party's chances in general elections.

Whatever Jealous's odds of victory are in November, at the moment he's widely seen as an underdog to the popular incumbent governor, Larry Hogan, a Republican who has enjoyed approval ratings in the 60s and topped out at 71 in January. A *Washington Post*

poll from May 29 to June 3 had Hogan ahead of Jealous in a hypothetical election by 12 points.

At a news conference last Wednesday, Jealous said that he was unconcerned by the odds, and that winning the primary had itself been a "steep climb."

"You tell us beating Hogan is like beating Everest? Well, we just climbed K2," he said, referring to world's second-highest mountain. "If you can climb K2, you can climb Everest."

Hogan, who has distanced himself from President Trump, moved quickly to portray Jealous as a free-spending candidate of the extreme left.

"His risky and irresponsible schemes would require massive middle-class tax hikes that would wreck our economy and put thousands out of work," said Scott Sloan, Hogan's communications director.

imously approved by all board members. Other items approved by the school board last year include a thorough clean-up collaboration with municipalities, a recognition for employees and first responders for post-hurricane efforts and opportunities for hourly employees to make up work hours lost during school closures.

"I thought it was critically important that we reflect on the lessons learned from Hurricane Irma," Gallon said, "and frame a formalized, codified, plan of comprehensive action to be presented to the board and to the community."

Miami-Dade County Public School system plays an integral role in providing shelters, information and support during a storm. Legislation passed that will allow the broader community to receive from the school system

updated leadership plans, support, relief and assistance in the event of a major hurricane. The superintendent should have the updated plan developed and adopted by the next school board meeting, on Aug. 15.

Miami-Dade County officials advise residents to have water, food, gasoline and pet food, among other supplies that can last at least three days after a storm. But activists found for some citizens, weathering a storm with a packed a pantry, medicine, ice and other emergency supplies is close to unachievable. During a major storm like Irma, many citizens were left exposed without immediate help from official emergency response teams for several days after the storm.

Gunder, founder of Make The Homeless Smile Again and vital member of the Liberty City com-

munity, took it upon herself to fill the need of thousands of citizens from North Miami to Florida City, following the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

Gunder advises citizens to acquire hurricane supplies constantly in small quantities instead of waiting until a storm is approaching to do so.

"The government did not understand that some people can't survive the three days," said Gunder, "and people couldn't wait 72 hours after a storm for help."

In effect, through her organization and with the help of the New Florida Majority, Gunder created a Community Emergency Operation Center (CEOC) in Liberty City to provide relief for citizens. With less than two days of preparation, Gunder and a team of volunteers began servicing the immediate needs of her community in less

than eight hours after the storm. "Some people were skeptical," she said, explaining that citizens thought her team was the Red Cross. "When we told them we were regular community members, they were happy to see us."

In the following days, more than 350 volunteers signed up to help, with several CEOs replicated in 18 different neighborhoods,

which fed more than 23,000 people of all backgrounds, languages and income levels, with very little support or resources from county officials, Gunder reported.

Gunder said she will continue to improve the operations of the CEOs through the Florida Disaster Preparedness Plan, a long-term strategy for building disaster and community activism.

# STREET Talk

COMPILED BY JAYDA HALL, digital@miamitimesonline.com

## What should the next governor focus on for the betterment of Florida?



Torrence Marshall, 50  
Davie



LaToya Jones, 27  
Fort Lauderdale



Brandon Cross, 23  
Miami Gardens

School safety, because these kids shouldn't have to attend school with the thought of being harmed at any moment. School is a place for you to go and learn, not to fear for your life. I also think the governor needs to focus on giving teachers the top-dollar salary they deserve.

I think the next governor should focus on putting religion back in schools and having these kids pray before they start class and pray before they leave. Where I'm from in Jamaica, that's what we do. It just keeps us grounded, and the kids today are far from that.

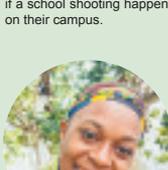
I think the governor should focus on gun control. As an officer, I also believe that schools should have more than one assigned officer on the premises. In addition to more officers, training needs to be put in place for students and faculty to learn alternative ways to respond if a school shooting happens on their campus.



Ashley Scott, 28  
Miami



D'Angelo Payoute, 21  
Miami Gardens



Krystal Rozier, 28  
Hollywood

I think the next governor should focus on affordable housing for people who do have good jobs but don't make enough to pay for their home. I also think we need to make it a requirement in Florida for people who move here to learn English. It shouldn't be an option for them to speak English but a requirement for us to learn their language in order to get a job.

In my opinion, the next governor should focus on better health in the state of Florida. Every year enrollment time comes around, deductibles get higher and coverage gets lower. Not everyone has the perfect job with the best benefits.

The next governor should definitely focus on adding further investigation and funding for Florida human trafficking cases. The amount of women being forced into human trafficking is far too high, and it doesn't seem like enough is being done to fight this awful issue in our state.

# STORMS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

unfulfilled needs if the community faces another major storm season.

Miami-Dade County School board member Steve Gallon III filed a few items in an effort to prepare the district for its role during a disaster.

While activist Valencia Gunder continues to initiate training and motivate her community to prepare for a major storm before the worst-case scenario becomes imminent.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Board on June 20 unanimously passed a request for a hurricane preparedness plan update. Superintendent Alberto Carvalho will have to provide an updated plan of action to the board on the new, revised or enhanced plans for pre-hurricane preparation and evacuation processes.

Proffered by Gallon, the item was co-sponsored by Perla Tabares Hanitman, Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Maria Teresa Rojas, and Lubby Navarro. The updated plan will build from previous decisions taken by the board after last hurricane season.

"The item reflected a culmination on the activity, commitment and initiatives taken by the school board and the superintendent on the heels of Hurricane Irma," said Gallon.

Last year, during Hurricane Irma, some 400,000 children who rely on the free or reduced lunch program were at risk of not eating, while school was shuttered for more than a week.

The district was underprepared to fill the need of the students who rely on their respective schools to eat at least one respectable meal a day, Gallon said. The school system is the largest provider of meals to children in the county. As a result, Gallon proposed that school officials develop a plan to distribute meals during state and/or district-mandated emergency school closure.

His initiative was also unan-

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- ✓ Florida House of Representative, District 9, Legislative Assistant
- ✓ Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Chief of Staff, District 2
- ✓ Miami Children's Initiative, Director of Strategic Partnerships

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[www.ElectCedricMcMinn.com](http://www.ElectCedricMcMinn.com)



## ADVERTISEMENT

## Wells Fargo is helping empower students for their futures

Thandi Moses has always had clear plans for her future. As a high school student in Rochester, New York, she knew she wanted to go to a historically black college or university. Now that she's a student at an HBCU, she plans on attending an Ivy League law school after she earns her bachelor's degree.

"I want to go to school with people who want to succeed," Moses said. "It empowers you."

Thandi Moses applied and was accepted to Florida Memorial University in Miami Gardens, Florida, during UNCF's Empower Me Tour in 2017.

But as a high school student, she wondered how she would adjust to college life and the curriculum, so she attended United Negro College Fund's Empower Me Tour in Rochester, New York, in 2017 to find out more about college opportunities. There, she learned about Florida Memorial University — which she applied to and was accepted at during the event — Tuskegee University, and North Carolina A&T University, and she even received one of five \$20,000 scholarships from UNCF, the largest scholarship granting organization for students of color. Today, Moses is a freshman at Florida Memorial University in Miami Gardens, Florida, majoring in law and government with a minor in business administration.

With support from UNCF, Najma Calhoun, a senior at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, is working to complete her undergraduate studies.

The Empower Me Tour travels to colleges and universities nationwide,

providing free information about financial education, college and career readiness, college completion, and self-empowerment for high school students, college students, alumni, and administrators; parents; educators; and the community. High school students participate have the opportunity to attend HBCU workshops with speakers, presenters, and recruiters, who typically offer acceptance and academic scholarships on the spot.

"There are three big things that students take away from the tour, starting with how to think of themselves and the set of experiences they have for a career," said Larry Griffith, senior vice president for Programs and Student Services for UNCF. "Often, students aren't able to associate their particular major with what might be out there for them in the world, so we help them think that through. The second thing we do is give them tools so that they can then take their knowledge, ready themselves for interviews, and make things pop on their resumes. The third thing we do is give them a chance to practice. We put them in front of professionals who will look at their resumes and conduct mock interviews so they can receive feedback in a low-risk environment. The students come away thinking about what their opportunities are, are able to explore their opportunities, and put everything into practice."

The Empower Me Tour was created in 2008 by founding sponsor Wells Fargo, and the company continues to provide financial support and volunteers. It

provides \$1 million each year for UNCF's programs and scholarships, and Wells Fargo team members regularly volunteer at events like the Empower Me Tour, mentoring attendees, teaching financial capabilities, and serving on local UNCF boards. In 2017, 133 team members volunteered about 950 hours with UNCF.

Dewey Norwood, relationship manager for Wells Fargo's Corporate Responsibility and Community Relations, said it's important to provide students with guidance about college and their careers. "If you help them, they're going to want to come back and help the next generation," he said. "They are going to come back to their campuses. They are going to remember that person from Wells Fargo. They may not remember our names, but they are going to say, 'hey I met somebody from Wells Fargo who helped me build my credit,' or 'I was on a Wells Fargo webinar, and they told me the importance of building good relationships.' All of those pieces come to be a great reward long term."

Even though she is just starting her college career, Moses already plans to come back and share her story with younger students. She hopes to inspire others to take advantage of the opportunities UNCF and the Empower Me Tour provide.

"The Empower Me Tour can help people realize what they actually want to do in life and provide you with what you need," Moses said. "I would encourage all students to go to the Empower Me Tour, receive information, and put forth your best effort."

## Wells Fargo supports donations to more than \$1 Million a day to charities

Wells Fargo & Company last year continued to invest in communities across the country through its philanthropy and volunteerism, donating more than \$286.5 million in 2017 to more than 14,200 nonprofits, the company announced.

The company's plan to target \$420 million in donations to nonprofits and community organizations in 2018 is an increase of approximately 40 percent from 2017. Wells Fargo already is one of the top corporate cash donors, ranking first among financial institutions and third among all U.S. companies in a 2016 report (most recent ranking) by The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

"We understand the important role we play in helping our communities, so we will continue to identify additional opportunities where Wells Fargo can make a difference," CEO, Tim Sloan said. "Wells Fargo's increased philanthropy will have a positive effect on the causes and communities we support and further enhance our Corporate Social Responsibility efforts, which will continue to focus on advancing diversity and social inclusion, creating economic opportunities in underserved communities, and accelerating the transition to a lower-carbon economy and a healthier planet."

## Re-affirming our commitment to communities

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## Wells Fargo employees volunteered a record of 5,500 hours per day

In addition to corporate donations, Wells Fargo's team members volunteered a record 5 million hours in 2017, valued at \$48 million (source — Independent Sector), which included 187,500 hours of service on 5,879 nonprofit boards supporting community revitalization and resiliency, home ownership, small business, food insecurity, and other global challenges. During the company's annual employee giving campaign, more than 45,300 team members pledged \$85 million to 40,000 nonprofits. As a result, United Way Worldwide named the company's workplace giving campaign No. 1 in the U.S. for the ninth consecutive year.

"We couldn't be more proud of our Wells Fargo team members who, year after year, exhibit selfless commitment to strengthening the communities we serve and enriching the lives of others," said Wells Fargo President and CEO Timothy J. Sloan. "We honor the volunteerism, determination, and leadership of our team members, who are the cornerstone of our efforts to build a better bank for all communities. Their generosity underscores one of our company's most important core values and inspires the investments in communities across the country that we will continue to make."

"We're grateful to Wells Fargo and its team members for their growing investment and commitment to building stronger communities," said Brian Gallagher, President and CEO of United Way Worldwide.

"Whether it's volunteer financial coaching, charitable giving through their workplace campaigns, helping to fight hunger or supporting new job opportunities, Wells Fargo is leading across the board to make a difference in every community across America."

## Wells Fargo commits \$3.5 million to increase financial capability across U.S.

Toroni Jackson was at a low point four years ago. In Chicago's Cook County Jail for a fourth time, she was struggling with substance abuse, had no job, a limited education, terrible credit, and was burdened with debt — she didn't even have a bank account. Caught in a painful cycle that was destroying her family, she resolved to change.

"I wanted to start my life over," said Jackson. "I just needed a little help with my beginning."

The Wells Fargo Financial Capability Grant program focuses on helping people, like Jackson, who are facing destabilizing economic challenges. Started in 2017, the program's grants help people from diverse populations who are underbanked by connecting them to income supports and financial training.

The program has just awarded \$1.2 million to two nonprofits with thoughtful and focused financial capability programs — the Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC), and the Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE) Fund.

The Wells Fargo grants will provide \$1 million funding for the CFE Fund and \$2.5 million funding for LISC financial capability programs in a total of 25 U.S. cities and regions over three years.

"All of the cities we are working with demonstrated that they are looking to make financial empowerment front-and-center in the work they can do," said Tamara Lindsay, a principal at the CFE Fund. "The long-term vision is to create a permanent home for this work, to help make sure it is sustainable."

City leaders collaborate with CFE Fund partners to open Financial Empowerment Centers, or FECs, for their residents. At FECs, professionally trained counselors help consumers with low and moderate incomes manage their finances, pay down debt,

increase savings, establish and build credit, and access safe and affordable mainstream banking products. The FEC model integrates counseling into other social services, including housing and foreclosure prevention, workforce development, prisoner reentry, benefits access, domestic violence services, and more. First piloted in New York City under Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in 2008, the FECs are a proven success — about 80,000 consumers have reduced individual debt by almost \$94 million and increased their families' savings by about \$12 million. A recent CFE Fund evaluation showed that this program works even for residents with very low incomes and other complex financial challenges.

"Offering financial counseling as a public service, through local governments, helps stabilize struggling households and communities. Local leaders know the importance of helping families and neighborhoods build financial stability and make better use of social services," said Jonathan Mintz, president and CEO of the CFE Fund.

Wells Fargo's grant to LISC will strengthen and expand the Financial Opportunity Center, or FOC, model across 15 target markets. Working through local nonprofits nationwide since 2006, FOCs offer services including employment and career counseling, one-on-one financial coaching and education, and connect individuals with low-cost financial products that help build credit, savings and assets. FOCs also have a remedial education component that provides participants with foundational reading and math skills that they need in order to get into job training programs that can lead to higher paying, living-wage careers.

"Promising talent exists in all our communities, and we have to invest to

help people realize their full potential. That's where FOCs come in," said LISC CEO Maurice A. Jones. "By connecting people to the tools they need, they can compete for the quality jobs that employers must fill to innovate and grow. They'll be able to earn more, save more and access life-changing opportunities for themselves and their families."

During a conversation with her parole officer, Jackson found out about a local Financial Opportunity Center housed at Chicago's Jane Addams Resource Corporation, a nonprofit local community resource center. The FOC helped Jackson find additional education opportunities and get her into a job placement program. After she successfully landed her welding job, Jackson continued to receive guidance from a financial coach. She created a budget, reduced her medical debts, and established credit.

Mike Rios, head of Wells Fargo Community Relations, said results like Jackson's are the goal.

"We are very excited to be working to help build strong and resilient communities by improving the financial capability of American families," Rios said. "We take our responsibility to the communities we serve very seriously, and with the help of organizations like LISC and the CFE Fund, we will continue to invest in community-based programs that address critical needs at the local level."

New addiction- and debt-free with a solid credit score and a path to a career, Jackson said one of the keys to her transformation was getting a financial plan.

"I am very focused now that I've started my life over," she said. "I want to do my very, very best. So whatever it takes — I say, 'Put me in, coach!'"

# It takes a Village to be a home

## Urban League touts education plan

**NYAMEKYE DANIEL**  
ndaniel@miamitimesonline.com

Seven months ago, Lenora Sapp moved from Miami Gardens to a two-bedroom apartment in Liberty City, a transition that is usually done in the reverse.

Sapp said the safety of the new residential apartment complex attracted her to the area where residents often move out because of high crime.

"It's quiet safe, clean, security," said Sapp.

The Villages, a 150-unit affordable housing complex located at 755 NW 69th St., is part of the plan for "success" that the Urban League of Greater Miami has for Liberty City. The nonprofit plans to change the landscape of the community.

"We're gonna show you it can't only happen in Wynwood and South Beach," said Fair. "It can happen in Liberty City."

In addition to being a gated-community with patrol officers on watch, The Villages is equipped with a clubhouse, swimming pool, business, parent resource and fitness centers, amenities that have kept the units 100 percent occupied since the first door was unlocked in April 2017.

Sapp lives in her two-bedroom apartment alone, but she often gets visits from seven

grandchildren, she said, pointing to a small pink tricycle that stuck out in a catalog-ready bedroom.

Dozens of elected officials, community activists and other onlookers joined in the celebration on Friday, as they toured the new leasing office and business and resource centers.

"It's more than a place for people to lay their head. It is providing an opportunity for people to grow their net worth, to leave out of poverty to the middle class, and from the middle class to a higher standard of living," said Miami Commissioner Keon Hardeman, who grew up just a few miles away in the James E. Scott Public Housing Development.

Fair said they made a promise to build more than 2,000 units, and the Urban League will do it.

The main way for Black families to progress is by getting an education, Fair said.

Fair said the Urban League will be moving forward with We Rise Education Village, a plan for "success" for the children in area's school district.

"If we could all be a strong, visionary committed family then the children would be alright," said Fair.

We Rise Education Village calls for a deliberate formula for informing and educating the community about issues that



Miami Times photo/ Nyamekye Daniel

**Urban League of Greater Miami president T. Willard Fair cuts the ribbon at the grand opening ceremony June 27 at The Villages in Liberty City with help from local officials.**

impact the children within that district. The league will provide parenting classes, and career and vocational resources for parents among others.

The initiative, which spans several blocks in Liberty City, involves multiple local organizations including Miami-Dade County Public Schools in a concentrated effort to support 13 neighborhood K-12 schools, their students and parents.

The next campaign will be an immunization and health screening drive.

Dorothy Bendross Mindigall, the school board member for the area, will work closely with the league for the plan that she called "long overdue for those who might have some influence, and we are not using it."

The parent resource room

was named after Bendross Mindigall, she found out at the event where she cut the ceremonial red ribbon.

Sharon Henley saw her last name highlighted. Fair named three streets in the Village after long-time employees of the Urban League.

Henley followed in her father's footsteps and worked for the Urban League for 23 years.

She stood in front of a sign that represents her father, Robert L. Henley Way. He was an advocate who pushed voters' rights and Black employment decades ago. His work, and others who contributed around 100 years of service, came full circle on Friday.

"I think this is the best way to give back to the community by instilling what our parents instilled in us," Henley said.

body, she still made you feel so special like she was there for you."

Richmond Heights was established after World War II as a community of Black soldiers returning from the war. The proposed building is now a vacant lot, but it is hoped to be the focal point of the annual return of former residents to this enclave rich in Black history.

"She was very much a proponent of public schools," said Dwight. "She always put the value of children first because how we treat children will have ramifications on the future of the community."

Dwight would have continued the family's presence in the statehouse in Tallahassee, but he lost his re-election bid against Republican Frank Artiles in 2016.

"I did my best to try to hold on to the seat," said Bullard. "But redistricting made it very difficult."

Over the years, the election districts have been redrawn and now Senator President Pro Tempore Anitere Flores represents the 39th District while Senator Annette Taddeo represents the 40th District. Both districts have parts of Bullard's old district.

State Sen. Oscar Braynon II, who represents Miami Gardens, remembers working closely with Sen. Larcenia Bullard back in the days.

"Larcenia Bullard was a personality — always happy, a joyful person, someone who gave everybody a great big bear hug. It didn't matter who you were," said Braynon in a Miami Herald article when Larcenia died.

"When she came on the Senate floor and hugged every-

# WORD

ON THE STREET

## The fall of Dante Starks

**BRIAN DENNIS**

Now that Dante Starks has been arrested and has agreed to cooperate with authorities in their ongoing investigation of corruption within Opa-locka, he has a lot of people outside of Opa-locka nervous and having sleeplessness nights because of their affiliation with him and the schemes that he devised. There are a litany of elected officials, a preacher and others who are as nervous as a leaf shaking in the wind during a hurricane.

Can you imagine how those who are tied to Starks and are now under investigation are probably calling him a snake and a snitch? But the one thing that needs to be understood about all of this stuff is that as time unfolds, we're going to find out who are the rats who were getting some of that illegal cheese and now has them caught up in the trap.

Look at all the people who were arrested and got time for being affiliated with him: former assistant public works director Gregory Harris, former city commissioner Luis B. Santiago, former city manager David Chiverton and Corleone Taylor. But I'm quite sure there is no one more nervous than former city manager Ed Brown who has been linked to Starks in the past through the Miami-Dade State Attorney's office investigation. For those who made the choice to be affiliated with Starks they're probably looking at a pair of federal handcuffs in their near future.

Starks was the spider that spun the web and entangled many because of their greed

and their love for an easy and corrupt dollar. The sad part about all of this is that there were a whole lot of people who were part of what he was doing, stepping on the backs of Black folks and the community. The days when we could easily point the finger and say what the powers that be are doing to our community are fading away. It's the very same people who are supposed to be representing us that are screwing us over.

What Starks should have done when late commissioner Terence Pinder took his own life by crashing into a banyan tree at Opa-locka Airport was to make a change in his life. Pinder gave Starks a way out by taking everything he knew with him to the grave but Starks wouldn't stop and accept the warning to leave well enough alone. Starks showed blatant disrespect and disregard for Opa-locka because he controlled and manipulated members of the commission and key personnel. Now the city's staff has to slowly put it all back together. Come election time, residents shouldn't forget that Mayor Myra Taylor was the key puppet in all of these moves and avoid Starks supporter. Not one time has the mayor publicly stood up and repented, apologized or asked the residents of Opa-locka for their forgiveness in her role in all of this negative publicity during her tenure as the mayor. She has blamed everybody from former city manager Steve Shiver to the state's Financial Oversight Board for the city's problem but not one time has she turned her pointed finger to herself.

# PLAZA

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Internal Services Department. The project and will be funded through a General Obligation Bond. Construction is expected to begin June 2019 and conclude by December 2020.

"I am definitely excited about it," said her son, Dwight Bullard. "I think it is a reflection of her service and time in office and a legacy to her commitment to that community."

The county commission voted June 2014 to name the building for Larcenia.

Larcenia J. Bullard died suddenly in her hometown of Allendale, South Carolina in 2013 while on a family vacation. She had a lifetime career of public service as both an educator and politician.

She was first elected to serve in the Florida state house in 1992 with the Democratic wave for President Bill Clinton. That same year saw the election of Carrie Meek, Florida's first Black congresswoman since Reconstruction. Bullard and Meek were close friends and associates, said Dwight, and were able to bring federal funds back to Richmond

Heights, which was part of Meeks congressional district.

Hurricane Andrew, which hit South Florida in August of 1992, devastated many Black communities. But Bullard was able to work with Meek and lobby in the statehouse for recovery funds for her district.

"Outsiders said there was no way they can bounce back," said Bullard. "But she understood that was our home. So when the feds sent funds to the State of Florida, she made sure those funds got down to the local communities."

Larcenia Bullard continued in her service as a state representative until 2000 when her husband, Edward Bullard won the seat in a local election. This gave Larcenia an opportunity to set her sights on becoming the District 39 State Senator where she succeeded in serving from 2002 until 2012. Her son, Dwight then served in this capacity from 2012 until 2016.

"I followed in her footsteps, literally, said Dwight who now serves as Florida director of New Florida Majority. "My family is known for both education and politics."

All of the family members — Larcenia, Edward and Dwight — were educators before holding public office.



The Miami Times' Vice President of Business Development at Garth C. Reeves and St. Louis American Entertainment & Website Editor Kenya Vaughn share a moment at the NNPFA Merit Awards. The Miami Times topped the St. Louis American Thursday night to take the spot as best Black newspaper in America.

# AWARDS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Section and Best Entertainment Section.

Before the awards Thursday, NNPA President Ben Chavis told attendees the competition received more than 1,000 entries and that the 2018 awards ceremony was going to be the highlight of the convention.

It had been seven years since The Miami Times took home the Russwurm trophy, so named for John Russwurm, who cofounded the first Black newspaper, Freedom's Journal in 1827.

Vice President of Business Development Garth C. Reeves said the recognition that The Miami Times is the best Black newspaper in America speaks for itself.

"We have a team dedicated to excellence and service to our community. There is no better winning combination," Reeves said.

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# KIPP Sunrise Academy is Opening in Liberty City this August!

Opening in the summer of 2018, KIPP Miami will operate its first free, public, open-enrollment charter school in Miami. KIPP Miami will start with KIPP Sunrise Academy, educating students in Kindergarten and first grade. We will partner with the Urban League's We Rise Liberty City initiative, along with other community organizations to bring additional educational options to the Liberty City neighborhood.



  
*"We are proud to have KIPP as a partner in the We Rise Initiative. By focusing on the advancement of education, we have set a standard for excellence and achievement that pushes others to strive for the best—for themselves, for their children and for their neighborhoods."*  
**T. WILLARD FAIR**  
Executive Director and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Miami



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SECTION **B**

THE MIAMI TIMES | JULY 4-10, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM



N. Patrick Range unveils the branch's mural, which honors his mother's activism and work in Liberty City community.

## WELLS FARGO

### OPENS THIRD BRANCH IN LIBERTY CITY

Financial institution acknowledges its past issues, recommits to future

FELIPE RIVAS  
frivas@miamitimesonline.com

A new Wells Fargo branch is set to open in Liberty City. The new branch, located at 641 NW 62nd St, will be the third branch available in the area. The branch will be fully operational on Monday, July 9.

For the last two years, Wells Fargo has been mired in controversy involving the shady creation of fraudulent savings and checking accounts, and lines of credits, as well as coercing customers to buy unnecessary auto insurance policies. Various regulatory bodies, including the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Security and Exchange Commission, have fined the company over \$185 million in fines, and the company may face additional civil

and criminal penalties as investigations continue.

As a result, in May, Wells Fargo launched an integrated marketing campaign called "Re-established," in an effort to re-establish trust among customers by recommitting to their needs. In the campaign, the company acknowledges past issues and commits to focus on customer satisfaction.

"We are very proud to be part of this area for the last 50 years," said Jorge Villacampa, Area President of Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, about the opening of the new Liberty City branch. "We hope to be part of this community's economic development."

The company has restructured the manner in which it conducts business, explained

SEE BANK 10B



Jorge Villacampa and Eric Knowles cuts the inaugurates the bank's new Liberty City branch.

Miami Times photos/Felipe Rivas

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING MATTERS

DANIELLA PIERRE, affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com

### Slumming it for years

More allegations of housing violations continue at Cordoba Courts Apartments

The residents of Cordoba Courts Apartments in Opa-locka aren't the only

ones with documents that show the dismal conditions in which they lived since

May 8, 2017, so does Miami-Dade County's Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM).

Documented are sanitary nuisance, untreated or improperly treated human waste, garbage, offal, dead animals or dangerous waste materials harmful to human or animal life are some hazards residents navigate.

An email addressed to Shalonda Rivers, a longtime resident and current president of Cordoba Courts Apartments, presented correspondence from a rep-



Pierre

representative of Miami-Dade County's records management section of DERM, that confirms they "have a number of records available that go back several years" concerning Cordoba Courts. And since copies of the violations have already been forwarded to Opa-locka's Code Enforcement Department, and the City Commission is well aware of the residents' concerns, I see no reason how Millennium Housing Management is still able to even operate. It is unacceptable for anyone to have to live in slum housing conditions, especial-

ly when the federal government is already providing funds to ensure safe, decent and affordable housing.

#### RESIDENTS DESERVE FAIR HOUSING

According to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) website, there are hundreds of landlords who have been fined and/or debarred from doing business with the federal government as a result of failing to provide safe and decent housing for the poor. Many residents already face the strain and anxiety of housing unaffordability and low wages in Florida. Add slum-housing conditions to

the equation, and it is just not fair at all.

Miami-Dade County Public Housing and Community Development needs to take a look at Millennia's last Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) inspection. Opa-locka and county officials ought to be a bit more responsive as to what is happening at Cordoba Courts. When Rivers recently tried to safeguard her unit and contents within in preparation for hurricane season, she was flat-out denied renter's insurance by GEICO due to existing mold, documents show. Since GEICO doesn't want to insure, and the residents

SEE SLUM 10B

Young swimmer makes a splash for safety.



## Suit up for swimming with lessons

A quartet of friends are making sure their kids are safe

**JENNY ZIEGLER**  
*Special to The Miami Times*

Summer officially began on June 21, and that usually means family vacations.

You've got your destination picked out, every detail of your trip planned out and your bags are packed. Shorts, tank tops, flip-flops, sunscreen, beach towels and swimsuits — you're ready to go.

And whether you're headed to the beach, on a cruise or an island, a vacation would not be complete without the thrilling fun that swimming brings.

Swimming is consistently one of the top public recreational activities. It entertains us through the sheer fun and sport of it. It relaxes us. It

brings people of all ages, races and genders together for a little fun in the sun.

But, the art of swimming is also an essential life skill — a survival skill that will add to your fun.

Swimming lessons are only the beginning of a lifetime of safety and fun in that ever-popular H<sub>2</sub>O.

Lessons help swimmers, both young and old to build confidence in the water so that they can relax and feel safer while having fun.

But Black families have some challenges when it comes to swimming.

According to research done by the USA Swimming Foundation, 64 percent of Black American children have little to no swimming ability. Sandy Deastave, Nancy

Saint-Fleur, Blativa Pierre and Angie Pierre, childhood friends, have decided they are going to do their part to reduce that statistic. These ladies have six children between them ranging in ages from 4 to 8 years old, and they have vowed that this trend will end with their families' generation.

"We wanted them to learn how to swim because we grew up not learning how to swim. And we felt that it was best that our kids learn how to swim so that they could be able to help themselves and help save others out in the world that don't know how to swim," said the friends.

These parents are equipped with instruction in CPR and are all collectively learning

**SEE SWIM 10B**

Photos courtesy of the American Red Cross



These kids are all smiles as they learn about water safety.

# NEW CHAIR FOR BROWARD HOUSING

## Habitat Humanity services director Marcia Barry-Smith lands the spot

Miami Times Staff Report

A finance and housing expert with more than 30 years of experience has been appointed chair of the Broward Housing Council.

Marcia Barry-Smith, director of Community Outreach and Program Services for Habitat for Humanity of Broward, has been selected for the position.

"To be elected by the Council for this role is an honor. There are complex issues

that must be addressed and my esteemed Council members and I will be looking closely at the many facets of the affordable housing crisis in Broward County," said Barry-Smith.

The Housing Council was established in 1974 and serves in an advisory capacity to the Broward County Commission and to facilitate coordination between the county, municipalities, business community and not-for-profit groups to address housing issues in-



Marcia Barry-Smith

cluding, but not limited to, affordable housing, workforce

housing and homelessness. Barry-Smith has worked in the area of affordable housing on banking and nonprofit boards and management since 1994.

Regarded as an expert in community development around the nation, Barry-Smith's program Homeless to Homeowner has placed hundreds of formerly homeless families into homeownership, empowering them to reach for independence and financial fitness.

"The need for safe, sustainable housing in Broward County for those of limited means is at an all-time, dan-

gerously critical high," said Barry-Smith. "Safe, comfortable and affordable living conditions are essential for families and children to simply exist from day to day, much less thrive. The connection between living conditions and good health outcomes is indisputable. As an unequivocal advocate for the underserved, I consider it an honor to serve on this council."

Last March, Barry-Smith received a Woman of Distinction award from the Lauderdale Regional Chamber of Commerce in recognition for her leadership in the com-

munity. In October of 2017, Barry-Smith also received an Economic Opportunity Award from the Broward County Chapter of the United Nations Association of the United States of America.

Barry-Smith has won numerous awards as an executive and as an active speaker against domestic violence, including South Florida's Most Accomplished Black Executive, Homeless Advocate (2006) and Thurgood Marshall Advocacy (2006).

Additionally, she serves on numerous boards including the Lauderdale Local Affordable Housing Committee.

# Guyana dreams of Exxon oil industry riches

Skepticism swells about whether the poor and isolated Caribbean nation will reap the promised billions of dollars

KEJAL VYAS

The Wall Street Journal

GEORGETOWN, Guyana — Along the sea wall separating this sleepy capital's moldering wooden houses from the coffee-colored Atlantic, construction workers in hard hats rush to expand ports, build luxury condos and open the country's first Hard Rock Café.

The developments aim to tap the expected wealth from what until recently was unimaginable for this jungle-covered former British colony: oil.

An Exxon Mobil Corp.-led consortium said last week it has begun offshore drilling after recently discovering at least 3.2 billion barrels of light crude in Guyanese waters. Guyana is projected within a decade to pump nearly a barrel of oil per person a day, more per capita than Saudi Arabia. That makes this poor backwater of 800,000 people — mostly descendants of African slaves and indentured laborers from India — a top global energy



The Muneshwers wharf in Georgetown is abuzz with activity as workers prepare to support off-shore drilling by an Exxon Mobil-led consortium.

frontier.

"Each Guyanese is going to be a U.S.-dollar millionaire, or worth that, in a few years," Natural Resources Minister Raphael Trotman said, referring to a national wealth fund

the country is developing.

Not everyone is convinced of a bonanza.

Many Guyanese say Exxon's deal disproportionately benefits the company and its minority partners — Hess

Corp. and China's Cnooc Ltd. — while leaving little for this country of miners and farmers on horse-drawn carts. Others worry about corruption and Guyana's ability to responsibly handle an oil de-

posit worth nearly 50-times the nation's gross domestic product.

"Boy, ain't nobody here getting rich when all everyone does is steal," said Eon Samuels, 25, an unemployed construction worker, as he fished from a pier.

Exxon has called Guyana one of its most important and potentially profitable prospects, among a handful of new developments the company has identified as the best since its merger almost 20 years ago with Mobil Corp. Western oil companies have increasingly turned to Latin America at a time when opportunities have narrowed in other regions such as Russia or Iran due to sanctions or resource nationalism.

Exxon said that Guyana will receive an estimated \$1.6 billion in royalties and revenue in the first five years after oil pumping begins in 2020 and a projected \$7 billion during the life of one of its most promising fields. But the company hasn't finished appraising all the oil that it has found and keeps discovering more,

portending what the company said was a larger payout for Guyana down the road. "This emerging industry has the potential to transform the economy of Guyana and positively impact the lives of people for generations to come," a company spokeswoman said.

It isn't uncommon in the oil industry for the first investors to get the best deals because they assume more risk. Exxon didn't discover oil in Guyana until 2015, 16 years after it signed an exploration contract.

But critics said the government should have demanded better terms when Exxon renewed the contract in 2016.

"Exxon took advantage of our weak bargaining position and our inexperience, and they were able to extract everything they wanted," said Anand Goolsarran, the country's former auditor general.

The International Monetary Fund, which is advising Guyana, recently recommended that the government halt granting new licenses until it can secure better terms and overhaul its tax structure.

## BANK

CONTINUED FROM 8B

Villacampa. The company is moving away from personalized sales goals and single employee incentives to a team-based approach, where the branch as a whole is acknowledged for servicing customer needs, instead of individual employees.

Wells Fargo has been involved in local community programs within Liberty City. The institution provides financial literacy programs to help people understand the many ways to build

credit, pay for college, or take out a business loan or a mortgage. The company is also part of a food distribution program in partnership with Farm Share and Miami-Dade County. Also, Wells Fargo works locally with nonprofit organizations to help families learn about affordable home ownership and rentals.

"We provide grants to organizations like Urban League and The Haitian American Community Development Corporation," said Leo Toca, Wells Fargo Community Development Officer.

The support Wells Fargo provides to these or-

ganizations allows them to enhance their work around their perspective communities. "Wells Fargo support has been unwavering and substantial," said Samuel Diller, Executive Director of the Haitian American CDC. "Their support has allowed us to keep our doors open," he said.

The new Liberty City branch will boast a personalized mural depicting prominent figures of the city's community. The mural is displayed atop the teller line. Wells Fargo has a Community Mural Program dedicated to create custom-designed, his-

torical artworks that respects the community's legacy. Images for the mural were provided by the Black Archives History and Research Center of South Florida and HistoryMiami Museum, among other sources. The Liberty City branch mural is the 20th mural installed by Wells Fargo.

N. Patrick Range, owner of Range Family Homes, and son of civil rights activist and politician M. Athalie Range unveiled the mural. Mrs. Range was commemorated in the mural for her activism and work in the community, along with other historical figures.

## SLUM

CONTINUED FROM 8B

can't rely on Millenia to do what is required by the Fair Housing Act, residents will have to rely on local governments for assistance. Reflecting back to Hurricane Irma last year, residents in communities of color, low-income and affordable housing usually don't receive the assistance needed in a timely manner.

### OPA-LOCKA NEEDS TO ACT, NOW

Nathaniel Wilcox, executive director, of People United to Lead the Struggle for Equality (P.U.L.S.E.), continues to monitor the housing conditions and safety-to-life concerns of the res-

idents at Cordoba Courts. In the weeks ahead, Rivers, president of Cordoba Courts, will meet with Opa-locka's Police Department and Code Enforcement concerning issues of safety and security. For now, Cordoba Courts is undergoing an annual audit being conducted by North Tampa Housing. This audit will entail random inspections of select units. With all the inspections and searches going on, Millenia Housing Management should also be just as vigilant with repairs long overdue to the building as well. Opa-locka should get back to ensuring Fair Housing is being carried out.

*Living in slum or experiencing unfair housing conditions in South Florida? Let's hear about it! Contact Daniella Pierre, affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com.*

## SWIM

CONTINUED FROM 9B

how to swim alongside their children.

When asked about their summer plans, the quartet said, "We are going to the beach, water parks and more."

For those who have yet to have an epiphany of their own on the importance of water safety, look at some of the latest findings on death by drowning.

The American Red Cross, known for its humanitarian and educational efforts on both the national and local levels, provided these statistics:

### General Drowning Statistics:

- Drowning is the leading cause of injury deaths for children 1-4 years of age, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Among those 1-4, fatal drowning remains the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death behind motor vehicle crashes. (CDC)

- Drowning is the fifth leading cause of unintentional injury deaths for all ages in the United States. (CDC)

- Injuries from drowning kill more children 1-4 years of age than any other cause except birth defects. (CDC)

Researchers say formal swimming lessons can reduce the likelihood of children drowning by 88 percent. (Brenner et al)

So, be on the safe side of these statistics, and get those swimming lessons.

### Before you dive in, remember these safety tips:

- 1 Swimming lessons are the first line of defense — survival skills for both you and your child.
- 2 Always supervise your children in, on and around



The American Red Cross teaches life saving skills to these young swimmers.

- 3 Keep your cellphone handy for possible pool-

- 4 side emergencies. Make use of personal floatation devices (PFD) such

- 5 as life jackets or floatation suits.

- Learn CPR — it only

takes a moment to lose or save a life

6 Orient yourself underwater — know your surroundings

If you need some help finding some classes in Miami-Dade County, look for the Red Cross Learn-to-Swim classes by visiting RedCross.org/TakeAclass for a class near you. It has classes for those ages 6 months to adult.

And, if you need a little on-the-go assistance via your smartphone — there's an app for that.

Download the Red Cross Swim App: it promotes water safety education, and it aids parents and caretakers of young children learning how to swim. It also features games, videos and quizzes specifically designed for children. The app can be downloaded for free by searching for 'American Red Cross' in your app store or by going online to redcross.org/apps.

Photo courtesy of the American Red Cross



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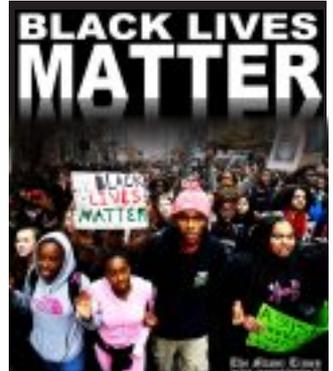
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**NYSE  
trader/  
broker  
Lauren  
Simmons**

## Female broker stands out

She is the first woman at  
New York Stock Exchange

**NIKI MCGLOSTER**  
Essence

Lauren Simmons, 23, is both the youngest and only full-time female equity trader at the NYSE, according to CNBC. "When I tell people what my job is they are always surprised," she says of her history-making position for Rosenblatt Securities. "It's surreal." Simmons graduated from Kennesaw State University in December 2016 with a bachelor's degree in genetics and a minor in statistics. She initially planned to pursue a career in the medical field, but landed on Wall Street after recalling how much she loved working with numbers in high school.

"The one thing that I love about numbers and statistics, and kind of one of the reasons I came to the New York Stock Exchange, is because numbers are a universal language," she explains.

"When you put them on a board it connects everyone, which is probably one of the reasons why the New York Stock Exchange is so iconic."

However, becoming a trader at the NYSE is far from a breeze. Before she started her role back in March 2017, she had to pass the Series 19, an exam that tests one's knowledge of financial concepts and principles all floor brokers have to take. Rough-

ly 80 percent of test-takers don't get through.

Spoiler alert: She passed. Being the sole woman on the floor has its everyday challenges, though. For example, the signature jackets worn by traders only come in men's sizes, and the women's restroom is further away than the men's restroom. But believe it or not, the NYSE is ringing the closing bell on old ways as positive change is on the horizon.

Between Simmons' own story and the recent news that the NYSE just named Stacey Cunningham as their first-ever woman president, she hopes these milestones will be encouraging to other women.

"Be uncomfortable and go after what you want," Simmons says as a last piece of advice to CNBC. "Apply for the job — you have no idea what

lies behind the door. And if you don't get the job, it's okay. Apply for the next

job and move forward. Don't let that be a stop in your career, your life or

whatever you want to do. I think it's important to just keep going."

### GOLDEN POND APARTMENTS A SUBSIDIZED HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The waiting list for Golden Pond Apartments, a HUD Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly project has been closed, due to high volume of applicants on the waiting list. The average wait is over two years. Therefore, lease applications will not be given or received, until further notice, for this particular project located at 1000 NW 155 Lane, Miami, FL 33169.

CNC MANAGEMENT INC.  
(305) 642-3634 / TDD (305) 643-2079  
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



### CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the City Commission of the City of Miami, Florida on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 9:00 AM at City Hall, located at 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133 for the purpose of granting the following:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION, WITH ATTACHMENT(S), BY A FOUR-FIFTHS (4/5THS) AFFIRMATIVE VOTE, AFTER AN ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING, RATIFYING, APPROVING, AND CONFIRMING THE CITY MANAGER'S FINDING, ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED AS EXHIBIT "B," THAT COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION METHODS AND PROCEDURES ARE NOT PRACTICABLE OR ADVANTAGEOUS FOR THE CITY OF MIAMI ("CITY") PURSUANT TO SECTION 29-B(A) OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED, AND SECTION 18-182 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAID PROCEDURES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SELL THE CITY OF MIAMI ("CITY") OWNED PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT 1812 NORTHWEST 2 AVENUE, MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN EXHIBIT "A," ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED, TO YOLO MIAMI, LLC ("YOLO") FOR \$25,000.00 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING; FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS, IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE CITY ATTORNEY, FOR SAID PURPOSE

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

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

Todd B. Hannon  
City Clerk



#31292

### TWIN LAKES APARTMENTS A SUBSIDIZED HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The waiting list for Twin Lakes Apartments, a HUD Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly project has been closed, due to high volume of applicants on the waiting list. The average wait is over two years. Therefore, lease applications will not be given or received, until further notice, for this particular project located at 1007 NW 155 Lane, Miami, FL 33169.

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### OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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

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

#31288

Jason Walker, Executive Director  
Omni Redevelopment District  
Community Redevelopment Agency



### Invitation to Bid Pneumatic Tube System

W. G. Yates & Sons Construction Company and Jackson Health Systems cordially invite subcontractors to complete and submit their bids by Tuesday July 31, 2018 no later than 2:00 pm for the following project:

**Jackson Health System  
JHS West Medical Campus**

The Invitation to Bid includes the following packages:

- Conditions of the Contract and Specifications – Issued for Construction – Dated February 2, 2018
- Perkins and Will Architectural DD and CD Phased Construction Drawings – Dated February 7, 2018
- Perkins and Will Structural Drawings – DD and CD Phased Construction Drawings – Dated February 7, 2018
- Small Business Enterprise (SBE) & Responsible Wages – Attached Form A, A.14 & A.16

Bid requirements and bid forms, specifications, drawings and other construction documents will be available through W. G. Yates Construction Company. Respond to Mike Posey at mposey@wgates.com to get access to bid documents. If you should have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call Mike at 601.519.3121.

All bids must be delivered in a sealed envelope to Jackson Memorial Hospital Facilities, Design and Construction Department trailer located at the corner of NW12th Ave. and NW 19th St. Complete address is listed below:

**Jackson Memorial Hospital – FD&C Command Center Trailer 1**  
Attn: Mike Posey  
1080 NW 19th Street  
Miami FL 33136

Yates is committed to supporting the economic development of certified Miami-Dade county small business enterprise-construction (SBE/C) firms. Miami-Dade County certified SBE-C entities are encouraged to submit a bid package for this and other projects. W.G. Yates & Sons Construction Company and associated partners are an equal opportunity employer minorities/females/veterans/individuals with disabilities/sexual orientation/gender identity.

A pre-bid meeting will be held onsite July 20, 2018 at 1:00 pm to familiarize bidders with the project requirements. The project site address is listed below. Please sign in at the onsite office trailer.

**W. G. Yates Field Office  
Jackson West Project  
7800 NW 29th Street  
Doral, Florida 33122**

All questions can be directed to Mike Posey at mposey@wgates.com.



# CONGRATULATIONS!

## CHEVROLET AND NNPA OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCE OUR 2018 DISCOVER THE UNEXPECTED FELLOWS!



The wait is over! Chevrolet and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) are proud to announce our six Fellows selected for Discover the Unexpected (DTU) 2018 - a life-changing journalism fellowship.

Chosen from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) nationwide, our DTU 2018 Fellows each receive a \$10,000 scholarship, \$5,000 stipend and a journalism adventure in the 2018 Chevrolet Equinox.

Our DTU 2018 Fellows are geared up and ready to go discover stories of inspiration and innovation in our African American communities. Follow us and show our HBCU students some love along the way. The journey begins!



[NNPA.ORG/DTU](http://NNPA.ORG/DTU)

#DTU2018, #ChevyEquinox, #Chevy, #NNPA

**JAYDA HALL**

*digital@miamitimesonline.com*

If you're yearning to learn the true story about Whitney Houston's life, then this means you must buckle down for a wild ride.

"Whitney," a documentary film on the star, makes slow, sudden turns into unforeseen moments of Houston's life.

She was a living legend, setting records such as being the only artist to chart seven consecutive U.S. No. 1 singles.

And although she illuminated the stages she performed on, she was stuck in a dark place for quite some time.

Director Kevin MacDonald takes you through this darkness in her documentary. Highlighting her life from childhood until the day of her death, MacDonald helps viewers understand the star by allowing those close to her to tell the story.

Houston, known to family and friends as "Nippy," was the center attention in the family. From birth, her Aunt Bae said she was "so beautiful" and such a "good baby."

Her brothers Michael and Gary were always told not to return home if something ever happened to their sister, they recalled.

As the pride and joy of the Houston family, Houston possessed a talent that stood out tremendously even though she came from a family of singers.

She knew by the age of 13 that she wanted to sing and started leading songs at New

## WHITNEY'S TRUE STORY

Film on pop icon to hit theaters July 6

Hope Baptist Church, in Newark, New Jersey.

"Whoever this God was loved to be praised," she said in the documentary.

But the star had no easy life as a singer. Her mother Cissy was extremely hard on her.

She would always remind her daughter that singing had to be done from the "heart, mind and guts."

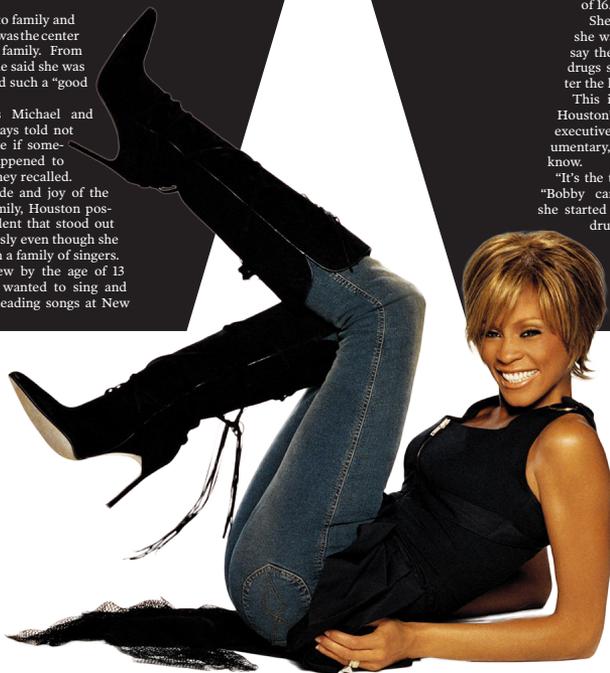
And the nonstop training paid off when then-17-year-old Nippy blew the roof off of a hang-out spot. From there, her life as a music artist took a positive turn. The documentary does a good job of leading us to Whitney Houston getting a deal with Clive Davis and Arista Records at age 19. When the shows were booked, you learn secrets, including the fact that Houston started using drugs from the age of 16.

She used marijuana, and when she was on shows, her brothers say they would go out and find drugs such as cocaine, no matter the location.

This is one of the parts of Houston's life that Pat Houston, executive director of the documentary, says people need to know.

"It's the true story," she said. "Bobby came in years after she started to tap dance with drugs."

The executive producer, who started working as Whitney  
**SEE ICON 6C**



The life of Whitney Houston will be exposed for all to see on July 6 when a documentary on the pop icon hits theaters.

## 'Evidence of Innocence' in the spotlight

Ben Crump talks about the state of judicial system at ABFF screening

**CAROL PORTER**  
*Miami Times Contributor*

Mark Schand, a young Black man spent 27 years in prison for a murder he did not commit.

The battle Schand's family and his attorneys fought to get him free was depicted on an episode of "Evidence of Innocence," a four-part original TV One series shown during the African Black Film Festival last month.

The show recaps the journey of four people who were

wrongfully convicted of crimes as they share their accounts with civil rights attorney Benjamin Crump.

Crump represents and has represented many families in pursuit of justice, including Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin, whose son Trayvon Martin died at the hands of a neighborhood watchman, George Zimmerman.

He is also representing the family of Corey Jones in a case in Palm Beach County. Jones, a young Black musician, died in an interaction



Civil rights lawyer Benjamin Crump speaks at the screening of "Evidence of Innocence" June 17 during the American Black Film Festival.

*Miami Times photos/Carol Porter*

with a former Palm Beach Gardens police officer Nouman Raja when his car broke down near Interstate 95. The case is likely to go to trial in July.

At June 17 ABFF event, Crump spoke about Schand's episode, which aired on TV One June 4. He talked about the unfairness in the current justice system, and how the highest rate of those imprisoned unjustly were Black men.

According to a 2017 report by National Registry of Exonerations, Black people convicted of murder or sexual assault are more likely than their white counterparts to

be later found innocent of the crimes.

Crump asked those present, mostly Black men and women, to fight for any family member who was wrongly imprisoned.

"This can happen to any one of us," said Crump. "If you believe in your heart they are innocent, don't give up on them. As family, we have to fight the system. We are all we have got. We have to be here for one another."

For those who sit in jail waiting to be released, like Schand, their family was their main resource to get them out of jail.

**SEE CRUMP 6C**



Be prepared to be shocked and outraged

Reviewer says 'The Sun Does Shine' is a page-turning novel

**6C**

KEEP THE FUN GOING ON  
**4TH OF JULY**



'Luke Cage' season 2 is anything but bulletproof

**5C**



## Whether enjoying fireworks or planning a picnic, here's how to stay safe

### The Red Cross

The Fourth of July holiday means outdoor activities, whether watching fireworks or hosting a family picnic. The American Red Cross wants everyone to enjoy their holiday and offers safety steps they can follow.

"The Independence Day Holiday is a great time for summer fun and we want to make sure everyone stays safe during their celebration," said Joanne Nowlin, chief executive officer of the American Red Cross South Florida Region. "Whether

your plans include fireworks or fun outdoors, we offer these steps you can take to stay safe during the festivities."

#### STAYING SAFE

The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public fireworks show put on by professionals. Stay at least 500 feet away from the show. Leave any area immediately where untrained amateurs are using fireworks. If you are setting fireworks off at home, follow these safety steps:

1. Never give fireworks to small children, and never throw or point a firework

toward people, animals, vehicles, structures or flammable materials. Always follow the instructions on the packaging.

2. Keep a supply of water close by as a precaution.
3. Make sure the person lighting fireworks always wears eye protection.
4. Light only one firework at a time and never attempt to relight "a dud."
5. Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from children and pets.

#### HEAT SAFETY

1. Hot cars can be deadly.

Never leave children or pets in your vehicle. The inside temperature of the car can quickly reach 120 degrees. Check on animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from the heat. Make sure they have plenty of cool water.

2. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. Avoid drinks with caffeine or alcohol.

3. Avoid extreme temperature changes.

4. Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing. Avoid dark colors because they absorb the sun's rays.

5. Check on family, friends and neighbors who do not have air conditioning, who spend much of their time alone or who are more likely to be affected by the heat. If someone doesn't have air conditioning, they should seek relief from the heat during the warmest part of the day in places like schools, libraries, theaters, malls, etc.

#### PICNIC SAFETY

1. Don't leave food out in the hot sun. Keep perishable foods in a cooler with plenty of ice or freezer gel packs.
2. Wash your hands before

preparing the food.

3. If you are going to cook on a grill, always supervise the grill when in use. Don't add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited. Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill to keep the chef safe.

4. Never grill indoors. Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, the deck, tree branches, or anything that could catch fire.

5. Make sure everyone, including the pets, stays away from the grill.

THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS IN COLLABORATION WITH SUPA CINDY AND SUPAFRIENDS PRESENT

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# THE SOCIAL WHIRL

VENNDA-REI GIBSON | VENNDAL43@GMAIL.COM

Summer moves on and “my how time flies.” July is here, as we continue our journey during this seventh month, the fourth of seven months to have a length of 31 days. Long days and short nights. However, during the final weekend of June, there was much news to share.

**Maceo Pickett**, Director of the Kappa League, and Miami Alumni Chapter brothers accompanied Kappa Leagues for a “Summer Movie Outing” on Saturday, June 23, to the AMC Sunset Place 24 Theater to see Jurassic World. The Kappa League is designed to enrich the lives of and encourage achievement in middle and high school aged males in Miami-Dade County.

On Sunday, June 24, the South South Florida Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College (SFC-NAASC), hosted their All that Jazz Scholarship fundraiser at the Club Tropical Ballroom. **Traci Cloyd** served as emcee for the occasion.

This year’s theme was “Recognizing Achievements in Aviation.”

The SFC-NAASC was chartered in 2000 with 31 South Florida alumnae.

Alumna gold members were **Florence Greer**, Silver Alumna members included **Dr. Dorothy Jenkins Fields**, **Erica N. Wright**, **Tishria Mindingall** and Bronze Alumna members included **Sandra Mapp**, **Christie Grays**, and **Betty Davis**. Current Members include: **Dr. Christine Bellard** C’2004; **Dr. Sheila Chamberlain** C’81; **Lisa Rogers Cherry** C’89; **Verbena Brown Cummings** C’79; **Elizabeth McDougle Davis** C’60; **Patricia Davis** C’73; **Helen Dorsett** C’48; **Danielle Doss** C’2008; **Sonja Knighton Dickens** C’91; **Anna Marie Ellis**



Kappa League members

C’81; **Dr. Dorothy Jenkins Fields** C’64; **Florence Greer** C’85; **Christie Grays** C’96; **Betty Davis Griffin** C’97; **Tracy Jackson** C’91; **Sandra Mapp** C’75; and **Judy Jones McKinley** C’77.

This year the chapter gave away \$6,500 in scholarships at their All That Jazz Scholarship Fundraiser. The 2018 scholarship recipients were **Isis Benjamin**, **Kathlyn Wisdom**, **Tierra German**, and **Nadia McBean**. All have a 3.0 G.P.A. or higher.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was recognition of the three 2018 Alumnae Honorees who are quite an impressive and accomplished group of women in the field who have made stable achievements in the field of Aviation. These honorees were: **Dr. Sheila Chamberlain**, Spelman College Class of 1981, the US Army’s first Black female combat intelligence pilot, and is a magna cum laude honors graduate from Spelman College with post graduate studies in Public Administration, from the University of Oklahoma. She

became the United States Army’s first Black woman combat intelligence pilot/aviator in 1985. She earned her juris doctor from the University of Miami School of Law in 1996. She became the first woman pilot elected to the National Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. in 1998 and served as its National Parliamentarian. **Sheila** is a National Aviation and Aerospace Pioneer and Hall of Famer. Most recently, she was designated as one of “South Florida’s 25 Most Influential and Prominent Women in Business and Industry” for 2017 by Legacy Magazine; Lt. Commander (Sel.) **La’Shanda Holmes**, Spelman College Class of 2007, the first Black female U.S. Coast Guard helicopter pilot and a former White House Fellow. **La’Shanda Holmes** graduated high school at the top of her class, and entered Spelman College where she became interested in the Coast Guard while volunteering at a career fair. The culmination of her years of hard work were realized when she received her wings at graduation. (Pinning

her was Lt. **Jeanine Menze**, the Coast Guard’s first Black aviator.) **La’Shanda** currently lives and serves her country and community in the South Florida; **Erika Marshall**, Class of 2001, **Erika** received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Computer Science from Spelman College and The Johns Hopkins University, respectively. As of February 2018 **Erika** is the Program Director for the Persistent Surveillance Systems organization at Lockheed Martin where she is responsible for delivering persistent Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) solutions to government and civil customers worldwide. Within **Lockheed Martin**, **Marshall** was the first female, first Black and youngest general manager for Lockheed Martin’s Palm Beach operations and is the Southeast Regional leader for their African American Council for Excellence (AAE) as well as a member of the Executive Committee of our Women’s Intrinsic

Network (WIN). She has served on the Florida Atlantic University College of Engineering and Computer Science Executive Advisory Board. On May 11, 2018, she was one of the recipients of **Chamberlain**



Chamberlain

Journal’s Influential Business Women of 2018 award. Community Pioneers in Aviation honored were: **Barrington Irving** the youngest person to pilot a plane around the world in 2007, (record broken several years later) as well as the first Black pilot to navigate around the world. He founded Experience Aviation in 2006, which provides programs for students interested in STEM careers, including aviation. Operation SAFE Flight which was founded by **Darrell Roberts** (retired FAA Technical Director, Miami International Airport air control tower), Operation SAFE Flight engages the South Florida aviation community in its annual two-day air expo which attracts over 6,000 youth, adults and educators. This provides great exposure for students to explore many opportunities in the aviation field; Miami Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. which consists of Black aviation crew members (i.e. pilots, navigators, mechanics, instructors) that served in the military since World War II. After their service, these chapter members settled in South Florida and have made significant contributions to the community by promoting aviation in public speaking, mentoring young persons and providing over \$5,000 in aviation scholarships annually.

In the 18 years that the South Florida Chapter has been in existence, they have provided over \$54,000 in scholarships for South Florida women attending Spelman College.



Marshall

2017-2019 Officers and their Spelman class are: President **Erica N. Wright** C’94; Vice President **Patricia Davis** C’73; Recording Secretary **Tracy Jackson** C’91; Corresponding Secretary **Dr. LaTasha Russell** C’2002;

Treasurer **Bernadette Cecilia Poitier** C’77; Financial Secretary **Kristina Mills** C’05; Parliamentarian **Dr. Sheila L. Chamberlain** C’81; Members-At-Large: **Broward County Betty Davis Griffin** C’97;

**Miami-Dade County AnnaMaria O. Ellis** C’81; Palm Beach County **Sandra Mapp** C’75; Co-Chaplains **Dr. Anna Price** C’79 **Verbena Cummings**,

**Fundraiser Committee Members** included:

**Wanda Blain Randall**, C’76 • **Charmain** with members

**Christie Grays**, C’96 • **Erica Wright**, C’94 • **Danielle Doss** C’2008 •

**Judy Jones McKinley**, C’77 • **Sandra Mapp**, C’75; **AnnaMaria O. Ellis**, C’81 • **Kia Ball Gastlow**, C’03 • **Pam Williams**

C’76 • **Verbena Brown Cummings** C’79 • **Tishria L. Mindingall**, C’87, chaired the Scholarship and Student Outreach Committee with members; **Sandra Mapp**, C’75 • **Bernadette Cecilia Poitier**, C’77 • **Dr. LaTasha Russell** C’2002.

And a ‘Jazzy’ good time was had by all as guests enjoyed the array of buffet foods, enjoyed various drinks and danced, which made for a wonderful. Kudos to Deep Fried Funk Band for the music.

*Journeys with friends are so good. Friends are the family that we choose, the family that we share. They make some of the best fellow travelers. So our journey continues in the Whirl where we Live, Love, Pray, Dance, Laugh and Sing with so many Blessings.*

## Chuck D talks current state of Black America

Hip-hop legend praises NNPA voter drive, criticizes mainstream media

STACY M. BROWN  
NNPA Newswire Contributor

To many hip-hop fans, historians and to his peers, Chuck D is considered one of the most influential lyricists in contemporary music.

In describing the Queens, New York City-born artist in the biography pages of his new book, “Chuck D Presents This Day in Rap and Hip-Hop History,” the publisher notes that Chuck D helped paved the way for political, social, and culturally conscious hip-hop, both as a solo artist and as the leader of the ground-breaking group, Public Enemy.

In a wide-ranging exclusive interview with NNPA Newswire, the legend, whose given name is Douglas Ridgenhour, addressed issues concerning Black America, including President Donald Trump, the importance of voting, and the need for the Black Press to reach even further around the globe.

“The state of Black America is always going to be a truncated state, if we don’t expand to where we are in the world,” said Chuck D, who just kicked off the wildly successful Prophets of Rage tour with Cypress Hill and Rage Against the Machine.

To date, the concert tour reportedly has drawn more than 3.1 million fans in over 27 countries.

“If [Black people] are going to rely on the United States of America to come around and give us answers, then we don’t understand

that we’re all over the world, the majority...then we are doomed to be slaves in this country forever,” Chuck D said. “You’ve got to fight to get out of the box; to achieve in the United States of America was never going to be an easy ride for Black people, so we shouldn’t cut ourselves off from those who look like us in this 21st century.”

In an era where new and upcoming hip-hop stars like Migos and Cardi B, are leaders, Chuck D remains universally revered.

His Public Enemy albums remain among the most critically-acclaimed works in rap music, including “It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back” and “Fear of a Black Planet.”

Earlier this year, a writer for GQ Magazine noted that not only is he one of the greatest and most influential MCs in rap’s history, Chuck D is also blessed with the sort of encyclopedic knowledge and staggering recall that places him among the genre’s foremost historians and custodians.

“Chuck was there, and he got receipts,” the writer said. Chuck D said that Black America should have done more to embrace President Barack Obama and realize his limitations.

“President Obama was a statement to the world, a gateway to the world and an introduction to understanding what’s in the world for us,” Chuck D said.

Chuck D continued: “He was not there so that we



Kim Metso/Wikimedia Commons

**Public Enemy founder and Hip-hop legend Chuck D says that the Black Press must get ahead of the curve and continue its global outreach efforts. Chuck D in Gothenburg, Sweden.**

could simply stay in America and get answers, when the next guy who comes along is a dysfunctional idiot and everything gets reversed.”

The hip-hop pioneer added that Obama’s presidency gave us a passport to understand where Black people are in the world. Chuck said that he thinks Black people dropped the ball by not seizing on the opportunity while he was still in the White House.

“Waiting for Obama to do anything for Black people was the biggest fault in my opinion, because he was the president knowing damn well that he couldn’t make ‘the Black move,’” Chuck D said. “I think he gave it his all for eight years and we didn’t do all that we could and, even then, it might have taken 30 years to take advantage of a person like Obama in office; but we only got eight.”

Still, voting is key, Chuck

D said, as he applauded the NNPA-led effort to register 5 million, new Black voters this year.

“Voting is as important as washing your tail in the morning,” he said. “Pay attention to the local level and think about the bigger ramifications of not voting.”

Chuck D continued: “You have to tell young people to pay attention at the local level, because when they run past that red light and they get pulled into that kangaroo court, where they want to revoke your license, that’s who you should look at when voting. The literacy of what voting is to our young people is short-sighted and we can do better.”

The recent shooting deaths of rappers XXXTentacion in North Miami and Jimmy Wapo in Pittsburgh, Penn., are as troublesome as the shooting deaths of his contemporaries, Notorious

B.I.G., Jam Master Jay and Tupac, Chuck D said.

The mainstream media must share some of the blame, particularly in the case of XXXTentacion, Chuck D said.

“This is a serious issue. It’s not trivial,” Chuck D said. “I got on the [mainstream] media for pumping this kid up like he was going to die and when he dies, it’s just another headline. What did you do to prevent this?”

Chuck D continued: “When a guy is in that much danger, don’t give him coverage. The more you do that, the more of a target and a death sentence you give him.”

To remain strong and relevant, the hip-hop legend said that the Black Press must get ahead of the curve and continue its global outreach efforts.

“I think being able to be multimedia and create your text into spoken word, where the Black Press does its own podcasts and also visual stories where sight and sound are used is important for the Black Press,” he said. “But also, reaching beyond the border lines. The whole world has something to say, and you’ve got to be eloquent in different languages, especially French and Spanish.”

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# LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF  
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### ■ City of Miami

10 a.m. on July 3 there will be a press conference held by Miami Mayor Francis Suarez and Miami-Dade commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson; "One Bullet Kills the Party" wants to urge the community to refrain from using weapons on the Fourth of July, especially to celebrate with gunfire; the event takes place at Henry Reeves Park, 600 NW 10th St.

### ■ City of Miami Gardens

3–9:30 p.m. on July 4 there will be the free "Fourth of July Celebration," hosted by the city of Miami Gardens; the festivities will feature a 30-minute fireworks show and live performances by Ice Berg, Lil Dred and JT Money; the event

takes place at the Betty F. Ferguson Recreational Complex, 3000 NW 199th St.; attendees are advised to leave home their coolers and tents; Info: Call 305-622-8000

### ■ City of Miramar

7–9 p.m. on July 4 the city of Miramar will host the free "Independence Day Celebration"; the event will include a live DJ, a kids zone and a fireworks show at 9 p.m.; food can be purchased at the venue; the event takes place at the Miramar Regional Park, 16801 Miramar Parkway; park entry won't be allowed after 8:30 p.m.; Info: Call 954-602-3178

## SCHOOL MEETINGS:

■ **Miami Northwestern Class of 1968**

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

■ **Miami Northwestern Class of 1973**

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

■ **Miami 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 305-704-4825

■ **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 Distinc-**

tion, 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.childrensdance.net](http://www.childrensdance.net)

## OPPORTUNITIES:

■ **South Florida Tuskegee Alumni Club scholarship:**

Financial aid scholarships are currently being offered to returning and newly accepted South Florida students attending Tuskegee University. Please request applications by submitting your name and contact information to [stfcaalumni@gmail.com](mailto:stfcaalumni@gmail.com) by Jul. 15.

The deadline for the Lifestyle Calendar is Fridays at 2 p.m.



The second season of the American web television series **Luke Cage**, which is based on the **Marvel Comics** character of the same name, sees Cage become a hero and celebrity in Harlem after clearing his name, only to face a new threat.

## 'Luke Cage' season 2 is anything but bulletproof

Black superhero series suffers from Netflix's tendency to stretch stories

ALAN SEPINWALL  
Rolling Stone

"Luke Cage" is perhaps the worst offender yet of the Netflix/Marvel drama approach of filling up a 13-episode bag with only three or four episodes' worth of story at best.

The core narrative fueling the season — a Godfather-style saga of the multigenerational rivalry between Mariah's family and a Jamaican dynasty, represented by Mustafa Shakir as the super-strong, spin-kicking Bushmaster — is potentially a good one, touching on a lot of the show's sociological areas of interest. There are the usual compelling elements here as the hero-of-Harlem's story continues, including meditations on black wealth and power (an ally of Mariah's describes her as "bougier than Lawrence Otis Graham, but she's got the tenacity of Frank Lucas; she's straight

gully with her shit"), political activism as a commodity to be merchandised on street corners and more. Periodically, either Woodard or the late, great Reg E. Cathey (in one of his final roles, playing Cage's estranged preacher father) will take their performances to a grandly tragic and vulnerable level that momentarily shakes the show out of its complacency.

We also get a few welcome lighter moments where characters from the other Marvel shows pop in, particularly a bar brawl where Misty Knight (Simone Missick) and Iron Fist's Colleen Wing (Jessica Henwick) — with three arms between the two of them — take on a group of belligerent drunks. Shockingly, even a one-episode appearance by Iron Fist himself (Finn Jones) is something of a welcome jolt, because he and Cage have a simple but unmistakable opposites attract buddy



"Luke Cage" star Mike Colter the bullet-pierced hoodie his character wears is a nod to Trayvon Martin.

comedy vibe. But even if it was just Mariah vs. Bushmaster, with Cage caught in the middle, it would make for one hell of a four-episode run. There's just not remotely enough material there to support 13 hours of TV, and the amount of running in place until it's time for the endgame is palpable. Characters change al-

ignightclub balcony before shifting into wheel-spinning incoherence.) Even attempts at doing shorter character arcs, like a brief period where our hero starts believing his own hype a little too much, don't do enough to effectively break up the season the way they're meant to; they often feel abandoned in mid-stream, rather than one idea leading into the next and the next. Worse, Cage too often feels like a bystander in his own series, unsure of which side to take in the Mariah/Bushmaster war, in a way that makes Colter's usual understated cool feel too reserved to work.

Marvel's Netflix shows are structurally flawed because they insist on pure serialization across a full season without having complex enough plots to warrant that. (Luke Cage and Jessica Jones in particular would easily lend themselves to the Justified format, where the first half of the season is mostly stand-alone hours about the heroes working a new case each time, with the big arc slowly

developing in the background until the big conflict begins in the second half.) But even beyond the imbalanced plot/time ratio, there's a flatness — and cheapness — to be found across the whole run. For every one dynamic scene, whether straight-up superhero action (\*) or simply a moment involving many characters bouncing off each other at once, there are at least a half-dozen lifeless two-person conversations. The same handful of points are repeated over and over: Cage won't forgive his father's adultery, Mariah's business and romantic partner Shades (Theo Rossi) resents being treated like a henchman, Bushmaster insists on calling Mariah by her maiden name because of the bad blood between the families, Mariah is torn between her legit image and her gangster roots, etc. Like Cage says, it's just rinse and repeat, all exposition of things from decades past that sound more exciting than what we're watching in the present.

## BOOK REVIEW

# Be prepared to be shocked, outraged

Reviewer says 'The Sun Does Shine' is an impressive, page-turning novel

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER  
bookwormsez@yahoo.com

You always keep your eyes on the prize.

You've given yourself no other options and your steadfastness is your compass. What you believe will happen. What you know is truth. Say it enough, and everybody else will know, too — especially when, as in the new book "The Sun Does Shine" by Anthony Ray Hinton with Lara Love Hardin, the truth is one of innocence.

On a night in the summer of 1985, 29-nine-year-old Ray Hinton checked in with the security guard at his workplace, just as he'd been told to always do. He hadn't been at the job long, but that had become his routine every night before getting assignments for his shift, doing work he liked.

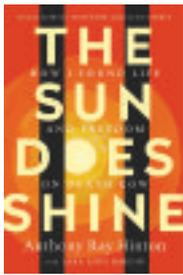
Reaching that point hadn't been easy. The youngest of 10 children, Hinton was his mother's "baby" and he continued to live with her after high school; though he'd

thought about college, there was no money or scholarship for it. Instead, he found work at an Alabama coal mine, hating the work, loving the paycheck, still wanting what he couldn't afford.

He took a car he never paid for, and it cost him a few months in jail.

By that evening in the summer of 1985, though, Hinton had resolved to make his mother proud. He was again employed, sober, living on the straight and narrow, had checked in with the guard as he was told, and worked until it was time to go home.

And that was where he was arrested five days later, accused of a robbery and murder committed while he was at work, miles from the crime scene. His trial was short. The jury was all-white, as were the judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, and a ballistics "expert" that was no expert. During the trial, Hinton "knew" he'd be convicted, knew it in his heart, even though he clearly had an alibi.



He was innocent. And he was sent to Death Row.

Because there's a book about this, you've probably already figured out that author Hardin is a free man now. You already know of his innocence. The shocker is that that took 30 years for exoneration, and when you read "The Sun Does Shine" (with Lara Love Hardin), be prepared to be shocked some more.

Or maybe you won't be: at times, Hardin himself seems to expect many of the things that happened to him, which leads to a whole host of emotions for a reader. You shouldn't, in fact, be at all surprised to feel



Anthony Ray Hinton released from prison on April 3, 2015, is surrounded by friends and family.

frustration, sadness, white-hot anger, and crushing despair — sometimes, from the same page. And yet, despite that you'll cringe inside, Hardin also makes readers' souls soar with words that

reveal small beauties between horrors, and kindness where you don't expect it. That's like taking an amusement-park ride with no seat belts; hang on tight, because it might hurt.

What's left to say, then, about this book? Nothing, except that you'll like it for everything it wrings from you. "The Sun Does Shine" could be the most-impressive book you'll lay eyes on.

## \$132 million made by 'Wrinkle'

Director rakes in big bucks in the film industry, makes Black history

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Filmmaker Ava DuVernay has checked off another milestone for Black female directors. Last week her film "A Wrinkle in Time" crossed the \$100 million mark domestically, a first for a Black woman. The film got a late-game boost playing as a double feature at drive-in theaters with the record-breaking "Incredibles 2" this past weekend.

gram that she may be the first but will not be the last.

DuVernay was also the first Black woman to get a budget of over \$100 million to direct a film. "A Wrinkle in Time" cost around \$103 million to make.

The Disney film has now grossed over \$132.4 million worldwide, but with marketing costs well over \$100 million, "A Wrinkle in Time" is also still not in the black.



In this March 13 AP photo, director Ava DuVernay appears at the premiere of "A Wrinkle In Time," in London. DuVernay has checked off another milestone for Black female directors. This week her film "A Wrinkle in Time" crossed the \$100 million mark domestically, a first for a Black woman.

## ICON

CONTINUED FROM 1C

Houston's manager in 2000, was responding to the rumors that the pop icon's career fell apart because her then-husband Bobby Brown introduced her to drugs.

Pat Houston's sister-in-law. She met the star's brother 26 years ago through a mutual friend and would attend Whitney's shows to see him perform as her background singer.

The documentary does a good enough job of introducing each person telling the story of Whitney, and displaying what her life was like while the star was still alive.

From Bobby Brown's stardom, to the birth of Bobby Kristina Brown, you will learn a bit more about each character in Whitney's life.

The film puts pieces together as it goes on, like introducing Houston's family of singers, one of whom allegedly molested Whitney at a young age.

You'll see singers in the family at the beginning, and when the climate changes, people like Whitney Houston's older cousin Dee Dee Warwick is shown as a culprit.

"That was shocking," said Dana Hanna, a moviegoer. "I never even heard of a Dee Dee Warwick. It's mind-blowing."

According to those close to Whitney, she molested the star and her brothers while Cissy Houston would go on tour as a singer. Not one child mentioned it to their parents at the time.

As you are directed to the good, you're hit with the bad. You'll begin to see that Whitney's downfall didn't happen overnight.

It took time, and "Whitney" lets you feel the joy and the sting within two hours.

You might cry when you see how her life affected her one and only daughter, Bobby Kristina Brown. You may shake your head when you witness her turning her life around, only to go back down a dark path.

You may learn to be a bit more understanding when it comes to addiction. In fact, you may finally decide to give up your own.

"Her family did try to do something about it," Pat



Pat Houston, sister-in-law to Whitney Houston, is the executive producer of "Whitney," a documentary film on the pop icon.

Houston said. "It was up to her to ultimately take control of her life. It was her choice."

You may not be a star, but the documentary can help you reflect on your life, while you learn the truth about Whitney Houston and those around her.

"It just reminded me of how talented she was," Hanna said. "There were a lot of things I didn't know. Sadly from this, you see that drugs and alcohol can mask stuff. And that hurt a little bit."

Whitney Houston's life ended when she was found dead in a bath tub by her assistant in February 2012. She was 48.

"If it wasn't for the drugs, the skies were the limit for her," Pat Houston said. "But she accomplished a lot in her life time. I think her purpose was fulfilled, and God gave us her for a moment in time. She used that moment to captivate the world."

"Whitney" will premiere at several South Florida movie theaters on July 6.

Participating theaters are divided by counties below: Miami-Dade County: Sunset Place 24, Aventura Mall 24, Cobb Hialeah Grand 18, South Beach 18 and O Cinema Wynwood Miami.

Broward County: Sawgrass 23, Paradise 24, Davie, The Classic Gateway Theatre Fort Lauderdale, Cypress Creek Station 16 Fort Lauderdale, Oakwood 18 Hollywood and Pompano Beach 18.

Palm Beach County: Palace 20 Boca Raton, Regal Shadowwood 16 Boca Raton, Cobb Downtown at the Mall Gardens, Regal Royal Palm Beach 18 and AMC City Place 20.



Trayvon Martin's mother Sybrina Fulton, left, and her childhood friend, Pam McCormick, attend a screening of "Evidence of Innocence."

## CRUMP

CONTINUED FROM 1C

Schand was imprisoned under false testimony and was sitting with his wife in a beauty shop when he was arrested for a murder of Victoria Seymour.

Seymour was an innocent bystander in a drug deal turned robbery.

Crump also pointed to another case in which a young Black gay woman was unjustly locked up for 14 years, and again, the prosecutors lied, misled and diverted.

"The hardest thing for a

Black lawyer to do was go into a courtroom and the only other black item in the courtroom is the black robe the judge was wearing," he said.

Crump said the change could come through a jury selection and prevention.

He said that Black people should get on juries when they could and look for ways to act as mentors or role models for youth.

However, minorities still have to overcome the judicial system that is rigged against them.

"Don't take my word for it," said Crump. "Go to any courtroom in any city, in any

state in America, and watch how they administer justice to Black children. You have the Black children taken to a corner, and they are locked up."

Black Americans are incarcerated at more than 5 times the rate of whites, and Black children represent 32 percent of children who are arrested; 42 percent of children who are detained; and 52 percent of children whose cases are judicially waived to criminal court, according to the NAACP.

It ruins their chances of a productive future said Crump.

"You can't be a nurse, a

teacher, a real estate agent. You can't even get life insurance. There is a study that shows one in five Black men will be a convicted felon. If the trend continues, it will be one in three."

There is law and then there is morality, said Crump.

"Everything Hitler and his followers did was legal," said Crump. "It didn't make it right. Slavery is legal. Segregation is legal. If we followed precedence, we'd still be slaves. We have to keep fighting."

Miami Times staff reporter, Nyamekye Daniel contributed to this story.

## The Children's Trust grants awards

### Honey Shine among newly funded

JAYDA HALL  
digital@miamitimesonline.com

The Children's Trust has recommended a total of \$84 million recurring annual grant awards to dozens of institutions and organizations for the next five years.

The announcement was made on May 30 that the awards will be granted for school health clinics, parenting support and summer and youth enrichment programs at 773 locations across Miami-Dade County.

Launched in 2002 by voter referendum, The Children's Trust functions as a source of revenue derived from prop-

erty taxes. Its mission is to fund investments that will improve the lives of children in the Miami-Dade community.

"The Children's Trust looks forward to helping "all our youth succeed in school and in life," according to James Haj, president and CEO of the organization.

"We are thrilled to be able to bring more services to our community to make families stronger and children healthier," he said.

More than half of all applicants not previously funded were awarded grants, according to The Children's Trust.

One of the organizations



In this file photo, Tracy Wilson Mourning (center) is at the Hats Off Luncheon in May 2016. Her nonprofit organization, Honey Shine Inc. received \$200,000 from The Children's Trust, announced on May 30.

funded for the first time for youth development was Honey Shine Inc., a nonprofit organization that specializes in mentoring, sisterhood and empowerment for girls.

Out of 217 applications requesting more than \$94 million for youth development, The Children's Trust recommended more than 170 applications for funding — Honey Shine was included.

The organization, which was started by Tracy Wilson Mourning in 2002, received funding of more than \$200,000.

And being selected for the first time was "quite an accomplishment" for the organization, according to Wendy Ellis, Honey Shine's executive

SEE GRANTS 8D

Candis Riggins, who says Walmart failed to reassign her when she was five months pregnant and became ill from cleaning products, with her children, from left, Jhazlyn, age 4; Jhayce, 6; and Jhadie, 8.

Gabriella Demczuk for The New York Times

# PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION

rampant in America's biggest companies

Many women around the nation have been systematically sidelined

NATALIE KITROEFF AND JESSICA SILVER-GREENBERG  
New York Times

American companies have spent years trying to become more welcoming to women. They have rolled out generous parental leave policies, designed cushy lactation rooms and plowed millions of dollars into programs aimed at retaining mothers.

But these advances haven't changed a simple fact: Whether women work at Walmart or on Wall Street, getting pregnant is often the moment they are knocked off the professional ladder.

Throughout the American workplace, pregnancy discrimination remains widespread. It can start as soon as a woman is showing, and it often lasts through her early years as a mother.

The New York Times reviewed thousands of pages of court and public re-

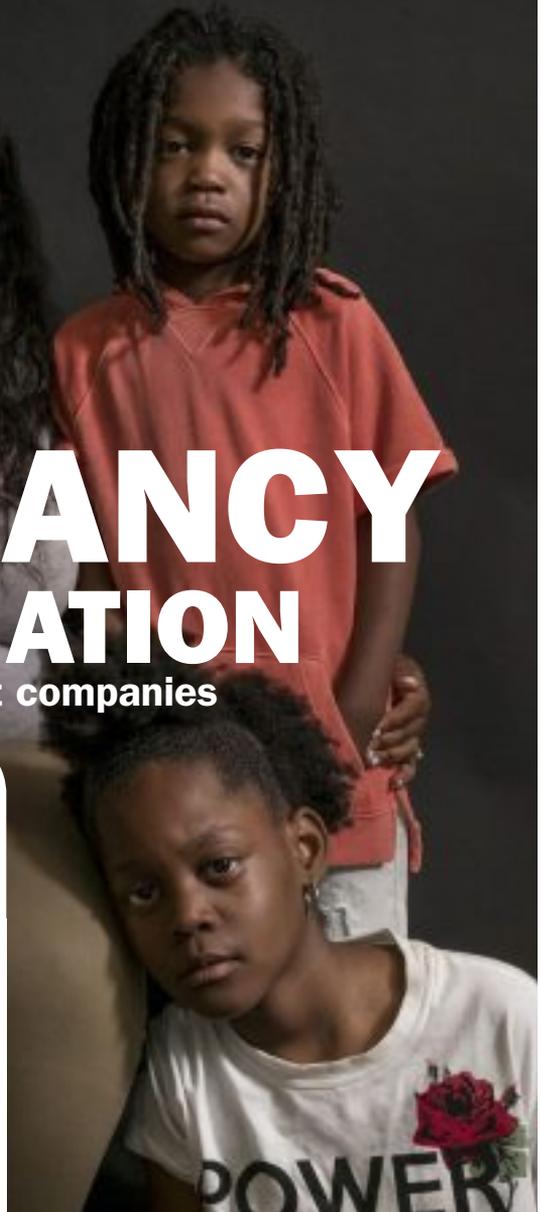
ords and interviewed dozens of women, their lawyers and government officials. A clear pattern emerged. Many of the country's largest and most prestigious companies still systematically sideline pregnant women. They pass them over for promotions and raises. They fire them when they complain.

In physically demanding jobs — where an increasing number of women unload ships, patrol streets and hoist boxes — the discrimination can be blatant.

Pregnant women risk losing their jobs when they ask to carry water bottles or take rest breaks.

In corporate office towers, the discrimination tends to be more subtle. Pregnant women and mothers are often perceived as less committed, steered away from prestigious assignments, excluded from client meetings and slighted at bonus season.

SEE WORK 8D



## GRANTS

CONTINUED FROM 7D

director and vice president of operations.

"The fact that we were chosen is pretty amazing," she said. "There are organizations that didn't get this opportunity and even some who got it before and didn't get it again."

The focus will be to improve summer camp experience for girls and to offer them educational sessions in reading and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), according to Ellis.

She added that because the organization depends on donors and supporters to help young girls, the award is "life changing" for Honey Shine.

"This will be very substantial in helping the girls transform from the inside out," she said. "We want them to become true citizens in the community, and we want them to shine."

The Trust received 63 applications for the parenting competitive solicitation. Parent to Parent of Miami was one of 44 applicants requesting more than \$23 million.

The organization has been around since 1986, providing peer support to parents of children with disabilities such as autism. It will receive more than \$650,000 for the next five years.

Parent to Parent of Miami has received funding from The Children's Trust for 14 years, and it's still a "privilege," according to Isabel Garcia, president and CEO of the organization.

"We're happy that we have been funded for this long," she said. "The support we get

from The Children's Trust is unequal to any other funder we have experienced. We have been able to grow and prosper because of the community's decision to fund the organization."

Garcia said her organization will continue its duties, which include pairing parents who have children with disabilities and going along with them to school meetings to discuss child improvement in classes. "Families we meet are increasing knowledge of their child's disabilities and learning how to deal with them better," Garcia said. "We want to make sure we continue to decrease distress and increase the hope and help that families need."

Variety Children's Hospital is another agency recommended for the school-based health solicitation.

Since 2007, The Children's Trust has supported nurses in the agency's system, in order for them to provide health services to students at 12 schools. Some of the institutions receiving services from Variety include Emerson Elementary School, Richmond Heights Middle School and Southwest Miami Senior High School.

Variety's contract amount includes nearly \$1.4 million that will go toward registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and more social workers.

"We wanted to add more mental health professionals because they're lacking and due to the recent events," said Cindy Harrah, director of the school health program. "Our goal is to improve access for children and their parents, and to be where the students are."

For the 2017-2018 school year, Variety said all 12 schools had more than 40,000 student

encounters, including education consultation and sick visits. Additionally, more than 500 classes were taught on preventive education.

"The Children's Trust is wonderful, and there is a lot of impact we're making in the community for the children and schools themselves," Harrah said. "We want to help improve attendance rates in schools, and if the children are healthy then they will learn."

For The Children's Trust, it has always been a "very big and exciting effort" to provide funds to the community, said Emily Cardenas, the communications director.

"This is our mission," Cardenas said. "The need was there to have a dedicated source of revenue, and this is why we exist."

But the task of providing funds is no easy one.

Once the application is released, applicants must submit proposals along with additional required documents.

"It's stressful because we want to see everyone succeed," Cardenas added. "It's very competitive, but I'm happy to say that quite a number of those organizations were able to compete with their big brothers and were able to get funding as well."

Cardenas said The Children's Trust looks at an organization's location of service, quality of content in proposals, requested amount of money, and may require some to be interviewed.

This year, The Children's Trust held an initiative for small community-based organizations that included training and education sessions on how to stand out for funds.

For more information, visit [www.thechildrenstrust.org](http://www.thechildrenstrust.org).

## 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

### Second Canaan

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

### 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**  
Prophetess Felicia Hamilton-Parramore  
630 Sharar Avenue • 954-707-3274

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**NON DENOMINATION Livey Stone Church of Miami**  
Pastor David Dorisac  
8025 NW Miami Court 754-400-0899

## WORK

CONTINUED FROM 7D

Each child chops 4 percent off a woman's hourly wages, according to a 2014 analysis by a sociologist at the University of Massachusetts. Amherst, Men's earnings increase by 6 percent when they become fathers, after controlling for experience, education, marital status and hours worked.

"Some women hit the maternal wall long before the glass ceiling," said Joan C. Williams, a professor at University of California Hastings College of Law who has testified about pregnancy discrimination at regulatory hearings. "There are 20 years of lab studies that show the bias exists and that, once triggered, it's very strong."

Of course, plenty of women decide to step back from their careers after becoming mothers. Some want to devote themselves to parenthood. Others lack affordable child care.

But for those who want to keep working at the same level, getting pregnant and having a child often deals them an involuntary setback.

The number of pregnancy discrimination claims filed annually with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has been steadily rising for two decades and is hovering near an all-time high.

It's not just the private sector. In September, a federal appeals court ruled in favor of Stephanie Hicks, who sued the Tuscaloosa, Ala., police department for pregnancy discrimination. Hicks was lactating, and her doctor told her that her bulletproof vest was too tight and risked causing a breast infection. Her superior's solution was a vest so baggy that it left portions of her torso exposed.

Tens of thousands of women have taken legal action alleging pregnancy discrimination at companies including Walmart, Merck, AT&T, Whole Foods, 21st Century Fox, KPMG, Novartis and the law firm Morrison & Foerster. All of those companies boast on their websites about celebrating and empowering women.

### DEMI MOORE'S STUNT

Otisha Woolbright heaved 50-pound trays of chickens into industrial ovens every day at her job in the deli and bakery of a Walmart in Jacksonville, Fla.

In 2013, when she was three months pregnant, she started bleeding and went to the emergency room. She was told that she was at risk of miscarriage. She returned to Walmart with a physician's note saying that she should avoid heavy lifting. She asked for light duty.

That's when her boss, Teresa Blalock, said she had seen a pregnant Demi Moore do



Charlotte Keast for The New York Times  
**Otisha Woolbright, who has sued her former employer, Walmart, for pregnancy discrimination, with her children, clockwise, Kamilah, 8 years old; Ny'trinity, 11; Erick, 9, Jaia, 4; and Jacob, 7 months.**

acrobatics on TV.

In an email to The Times, Moore said that a stunt double actually performed the routine.

"You would have to be extremely ignorant and inexperienced with pregnancy or just completely uncaring and insensitive to use a moment of comedic entertainment, like my appearance on David Letterman while I was eight and a half months pregnant, to pressure a pregnant woman into doing something that put her or her baby at risk," she said.

According to Woolbright,

Blalock said that if she couldn't lift chickens, she could "walk out those doors."

Woolbright couldn't afford to lose her paycheck, so she kept lifting chickens.

"What choice did I have? There was no other job that was going to hire me being pregnant," she said.

Later that month, Woolbright said, she was lifting a tray of chickens when she felt a sharp pain. Scared she was having a miscarriage, she went back to the hospital. Walmart then put her on light duty.

"We disagree that a specific

request for accommodations due to pregnancy was made and that we denied that request," a Walmart spokesman, Ragan Dickens, said. He said that "Blalock, a mother and a grandmother, was supportive of Woolbright."

Woolbright asked about maternity leave. Three days later, she said she was called into a cramped office. She stood there sweating, seven months pregnant. "Walmart will no longer be needing your services," a supervisor said.

Woolbright sued Walmart, the nation's largest employer. Her suit, which is seeking class-action status, is pending.

It took Woolbright a year to land another job. Her children outgrew their clothes. She thought about swallowing enough antidepressants to kill herself. After stints at a restaurant and a van rental company, she stopped working, because she couldn't get shifts that allowed her to take care of her children.

Walmart is the least expensive store in town, and Woolbright goes there to buy baby formula and diapers. "It's torture," she said.

### PAUSING TO VOMIT

Seven hundred miles to the north, Candis Riggins was scrubbing toilets at a Walmart in Laurel, Md., when she started to feel sick. She was five months pregnant, and the smell of the clean-

ing fluids nauseated her. She complained several times to a manager, who refused to permanently reassign her to another position. So she kept cleaning bathrooms, often pausing to vomit.

Doctors told her that chemicals in the cleaning products were endangering her and her unborn child.

One chilly morning on her way to work, she fainted at the bus stop.

Riggins again asked a manager for a different job. This time, Walmart let her clean the store's doors instead of the bathroom. But she said the chemicals still made her ill.

She was eight months pregnant when she started regularly missing shifts. Walmart fired her, citing the absences. She now works at Target.

Dickens, the Walmart spokesman, said the company allowed her to stop working with the chemicals she complained about and occasionally let her work as a cashier or store greeter. Riggins's lawyer, Dina Bakst, said that her client still had to spend most of her days cleaning.

In 2017, under pressure from Woolbright's class-action lawsuit and E.E.O.C. complaints, Walmart updated its guidelines on how to accommodate pregnant women. The nationwide policy now includes a temporary, less taxing job as a "possible" solution. It doesn't provide a guarantee.

## FAITH CALENDAR

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

■ **The Kingdom Agenda Ministries Inc.**  
Free counseling, tutoring, health screenings and messages of services are being offered by Senior Pastor Felicia Hamilton-Parramore. Call 954-707-3274 for more details.  
■ **Gathering All Parents to**

**Prayer**  
Prayer for youth, noon every third Saturday, 835 NW 115th 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 Business and Conference Center**  
Gospel Kickback with entertainment and fine dining; noon - 6 p.m. every Sunday. Call 305-224-1890 for more details.

■ **Metropolitan A.M.E. Church**  
Food and clothing giveaway every 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.

■ **New Day N Christ Deliverance Ministry**  
Free mind, body and soul self-improvement and Zumba fitness classes. Call 305-891-0018 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.

■ **MCC 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.



## THERAPY FOR **BLACK** *girls*

Meet the woman on a mission to reduce mental health stigma

**KANDIA JOHNSON**  
*Black Enterprise*

After watching the first Black Girls Rock awards show Dr. Joy Harden Bradford was inspired to create Therapy for Black Girls, a platform encouraging the mental wellness of Black women and girls.

Over the years, Bradford has expanded the platform from a blog to a podcast with listeners in 158 different countries, a Facebook group called the "Thrive Tribe" with over 13,000 women and a therapist directory which has grown to over 700 therapists in less than a year.

"My work has always been heavily focused on Black women and girls," said Bradford. "I think too often we're so busy taking care of other people that we aren't always paying attention to what's going on with us. I wanted a platform that helped sisters put the focus back on themselves."

Bradford gave insight on self-care, the stigma of mental health in the Black community, and cliché phrases to avoid when trying to help a depressed loved one.

**What are the stigmas that often hold people of color back from therapy and what services or programs do you offer to combat these stigmas?**

I believe that many people of color have been socialized

“

**I think too often we're so busy taking care of other people that we aren't always paying attention to what's going on with us. I wanted a platform that helped sisters put the focus back on themselves."**

Dr. Joy Harden Bradford



*Therapy for Black Girls*

**Dr. Joy Harden Bradford created, Therapy for Black Girls, an online space dedicated to encouraging the mental wellness of Black women and girls. She also launched a podcast with the same name.**

to believe that talking about private matters should only happen within the confines of the family (the whole idea of airing dirty laundry so to speak). Also, many people still don't know how therapy works or believe that only "crazy" people need therapy. There are also many people who still view mental illness and needing to go to therapy as a sign of a weak faith relationship, which, of course, is not the case.

The "Therapy for Black Girls" podcast is helping to

reduce that stigma. The podcast episodes are designed to help people get an idea of the millions of different reasons someone might benefit from therapy. Listeners are also exposed to a variety of therapists that are guests on the show. This format helps them to realize that we all have different personalities and work differently so there is likely a therapist out there that's a great fit for everyone. I think it's a great opportunity for people to get accurate information about mental health

and to dispel any myths they may have about how therapy works, etc.

**To date, what are your top three episodes?**

1. Self-Worth
2. Slaying Your Anxiety
3. This Isn't What I Imagined

**When it comes to mental health, what is the one thing that you think women overlook in maintaining self-care?**

Boundaries! I think far too many of us don't say no enough. No to that extra task

at work, no to that friend who never shows up for us, no to that ex who keeps trying to come back into our lives, etc. I don't think we always realize the cumulative impact that taking on other people's stuff can have on our mental health.

**What cliché phrases should we avoid when trying to help a depressed loved one?**

- Just pray about it.
- Your life is so good, what do you have to be depressed about?
- Life is hard for everyone, toughen up.

While people may be well-intentioned when trying to help a loved one, these sentiments typically only make people feel like you don't understand them and that you're not someone they can go to in the future. A nice alternative for this would be something like "I'm sorry to hear that you're struggling. Do you want to talk more about how you're feeling?"

**What do you believe people can do to reduce the stigma of depression and anxiety?**

I think sharing more openly about our own struggles and experiences with therapy helps. I also think we have to be careful with our language. It's important to remove stigmatizing language from our vocabulary, so saying things like "she's so crazy" or "this gives me OCD" is something to avoid.



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South Florida students are participating in a LaunchCode coding class.

Photos courtesy of LaunchCode

## Give 28 weeks, have a coding career

Free program enrolling until July 16

**JULIANA ACCIOLI**  
*Miami Times Contributor*

At 29, Air Force veteran Judy Rincón found herself bouncing from job to job in search of a new career path. Marketing, real estate, nothing held her interested for long. One day she read a newspaper article on a LaunchCode free coding boot camp and a week later she was enrolled.

"I wanted to do something different," said the Miami native, and a mother of a 3-year-old daughter. "I wasn't technically inclined, but I knew I was good with numbers."

In the course of 16 weeks, Rincón became proficient at what she needed to break into a tech career: front-end and back-end development, website design and teamwork.

"I thought it was going to be too difficult, complicated, but once I engaged in group activities, I realized how enjoyable and beneficial it can be working as part of a team," she said.

After a Mastercard representative became familiar with the BillPay app she developed as a graduation project, Rincón was offered a one-year, full-time paid apprenticeship offering technical support to financial institutions.

"It's been life-changing," she said. "This job opened my eyes to know that I'm good at being technical, and I enjoy it more than anything I was do-

ing before."

LaunchCode, the national nonprofit that financed Rincón's targeted education, has just announced that it will use a \$100,000 grant from the Alliance Data Corporate Giving Fund to sponsor a new introduction to computer programming course in South Florida.

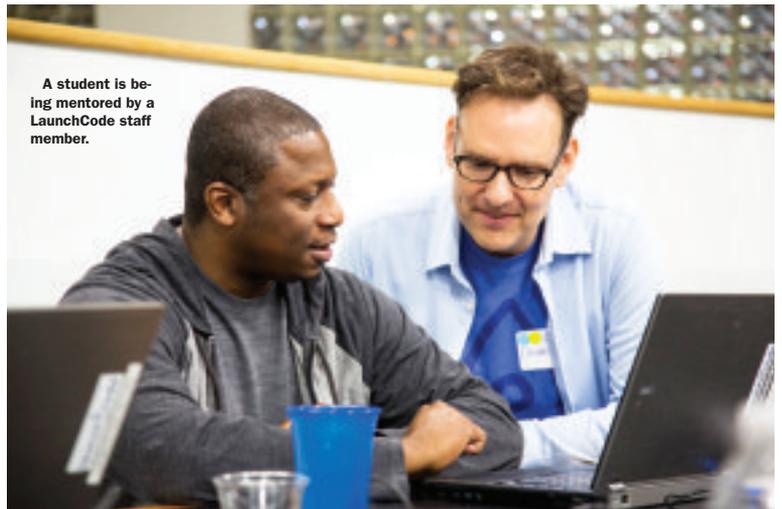
LC101 will be a 28-week program with a focus on job placement, explained Matt Mawhinney, the company's director of candidate engagement, because the demand for web developers, coders and tech aficionados outstrips supply, and there's a need to establish a new base of talent for tech companies.

"There's a perception that because technology is so spread, there's plenty of qualified workers out there," he said. "But people that have coding skills set are actually fewer than the demand for roles."

The course will enroll 120 students, with a curriculum that includes two weekly night classes. Applications close July 15 and classes will start July 23.

According to Mawhinney, anyone who enjoys the process of building and creating has some curiosity about technology and is interested in problem-solving can become a talented technologist.

"The course is designed for those with an eye towards a big payoff," he said. "You can



A student is being mentored by a LaunchCode staff member.

do this program, not acquire any debt, start at \$60,000 and go up to \$80,000-90,000 with two years of experience."

LaunchCode was founded in 2013 by Jim McKevey in St. Louis, Missouri, as he experienced firsthand the gap in tech talent when trying to recruit for his own company, Square.

Since then, it has placed more than 100 individuals into upwardly mobile tech careers and enrolled more than 700 students in the Miami

area. Mawhinney said that students ranging from 16 to 66 years of age have been placed into apprenticeships and that 80 percent of the graduates get hired into full-time roles as employers are increasingly rethinking their hiring practices to value a candidate's skills and drive rather than a college degree.

Ant-quanique Dancy, from Liberty City, who majored in mathematical sciences and educational studies, enrolled into LaunchCode's crash

course last year as a way to build upon her skills.

"I only had a small interest in technology," explained the 23-year-old. The result, she said, is that she's getting closer to realizing her full potential. In addition to designing websites for her family businesses, Dancy will serve as a teacher assistant in the upcoming new LC101 course and will start teaching mathematics at Miami-Dade public schools next year.

"The program creates an

environment where you have to interact and help your classmates rely on your team if you need help with something, which I think is different from college where they fostered a more competitive atmosphere, where your work is your work," she said. "You learn that it is fine to not get it right the first time, that when you start something you are not going to be good at it, but that the more time you put into it, the better you become."

## ROTC pays off for a college-bound student

The U.S. Army gave a college scholarship to Cadet Darrol Baker in the amount of \$40,000 June 14 at the Salute to Youth Luncheon during the 100 Black Men Inc. National Conference in Hollywood. The check was presented by Col. Farrell Duncombe.

Last year, the Army awarded more than \$330 million in ROTC scholarships to students at more than 275 colleges and universities across the country.



Photo courtesy of Ron Campbell

# Pastor OF THE WEEK



Pastor Terrance Wilson

PRESENTED BY



Miracles made daily.

## Terrance Wilson uses love and creativity to reach out to others

Young preacher says, he will help people regardless

ISHEKA N. HARRISON  
ishakah@gmail.com

If you walk into Trinity Church on a Tuesday night, you would likely see its Creative Arts and Young Adult Pastor Terrance Wilson affectionately known as Pastor T., sharing his heart with 500 young adults during its popular Rendezvous Service.

The role is a full circle one for Wilson, 36, a Carol City native who grew up at the church located at 17801 NW Second Ave. in Miami. Like many who are called to pastor, Wilson said it was never in his plans.

Initially, Wilson thought he would embark on a solely creative career. He attended all arts magnet schools growing up and went to college at Maryland Insti-

tute College of Arts (MICA), where he earned a bachelor's in Illustration and master's in Digital Arts.

At MICA, Wilson also met the woman who would become his wife, Johanne. They both moved to New York after completing their studies to chase their artistic dreams.

"Ever since I was a little kid I used to always say I want to help people. I didn't know what that meant. I didn't know how I would do it, and the only gift that I knew that I actually had was just a talent for the arts. ... Preaching just wasn't on the radar, pastoring wasn't on the radar, but I always loved people so I believe in just being relational," Wilson said.

That love for people

caused Wilson to accept a job offer to come home to Miami to teach art at Holy Cross Lutheran School in 2005. He gravitated back toward Trinity in hopes of giving back.

"I was just serving at the time. I was like, let me help in the youth group because I feel like now that I've been away, maybe I'd have something to impart to these kids. I wasn't trying to preach. I just wanted to be there, just to be kind of like a big brother. I was teaching kids in the daytime so being a mentor was already in my lane," Wilson said.

After a year of serving, Wilson said, unbeknownst to him, James Abraham, the youth pastor at the time, was mentoring him to take over. His senior pastors, Rich and



Alicha Desai

**L-R: Johanne Wilson, Valencia Wilson (front) and Pastor Terrance Wilson on the runway during COOL Creative's Fashion Show for their ICON Clothing Collection, which highlights heroes of the past in hopes of sparking new leaders to action, during Art Basel in 2016.**

Robyn Wilkerson, also took notice of his service and offered him a creative position on staff.

"Back in those days in 2005, creativity in the church wasn't as relevant as it is now and my senior pastors ... they saw a need for it. That same gentleman who mentored me, Pastor James, he left the youth ministry to me. He thought I'd be the best fit for it, and I started out fully as a youth pastor in 2007 ... and I've been doing it ever since," Wilson said.

Today, in addition to serving at Trinity Church, Wilson and Johanne own a successful creative branding company called COOL (Create Out Of Love) Creative

that also has a fashion line connected to it. Their clients have included major companies like Macy's, Burger King, Under Armour, Boston Market and more.

"We tell the stories of our clients, and we do it in love. I didn't want to operate like Corporate America. ... There's a very crass way in which people do business that we didn't want to be a part of. I'm a man of God first so even if I do business, I want to do it in the right way, and the only way I can operate is the same way that Christ operates ...," Wilson said.

Wilson and Johanne are also the parents of Valencia, 8, who they adopted from

Haiti when she was 4 years old after trying for 11 years to have children.

"Valencia is literally a walking, talking, breathing answer to prayer. Our family is not a conventional family, but it's the perfect family for us. If I didn't tell you she was adopted, if you looked at her and me and my wife you would definitely think she was our biological kid because most people do," Wilson said.

Whether serving people through pastoring, business or their clothing line, Wilson said he always wants God's name to go before him.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God is kind of the keystone verse for our lives. ... There's a million things we're involved in that are doing well, but it all started because we chose to go on the same journey together. Through it all, God's always done exactly what He said He would do, He's taken care of us," Wilson said.

Wilson also doesn't want people to confuse the title of pastor with fulfilling the actual job description

"Pastor is a title but that's not what the job is. The job description is saving people; the job is being there when somebody's on their sickbed; the job is being there when somebody's getting evicted; The job is loving people that nobody wants to love. I like preaching, but that's not why I do it. ... If I never got to preach again, I'm gon' keep loving on people whether I've got the title of pastor or not," Wilson said.

Do you know of a spiritual leader who should be featured in this column? Email [ishakah@gmail.com](mailto:ishakah@gmail.com)

## Continuing the legacy built by Jackson's founding physician

JAMES JACKSON HUTSON JR.

Forty-one years ago, I took my place in the field of medicine. I say "took my place" because health care is in my blood; my history is deeply rooted in its framework in South Florida. While some might say they chose a career in medicine, I was following in the footsteps of a pioneer, Miami's first physician, my great grandfather: Dr. James M. Jackson. I'm often reminded of him when I look at the mortar and pestle, used for mixing medications, that was given to me by my grandmother, Ethyl, Dr. Jackson's daughter. It's a tool that once sat in his very office in the early 1900s.

In 1918, Dr. Jackson made a lasting impact on what would become a flourishing metropolis with the construction of Miami City Hospital. With just 13 beds, he and his staff battled a deadly flu epidemic, provided care to populations that, at the time, some might have left behind, gave opportunities to up-and-coming healthcare professionals, and set the stage for what would become the renowned health system we know Jackson to



**James Jackson Hutson Jr.**  
Orthopaedic Trauma Surgeon  
Ryder Trauma Center MD

be today.

Dr. Jackson's story, rich in civic duty and a strong sense of urgency to make communities healthier and happier, has permeated through my family for decades, and is one of the reasons why I found myself wanting to push his legacy forward.

After graduating from the Uni-



versity of Florida's College of Medicine in 1977, I chose surgery as my specialty. In doing so, I was also paying homage to my grandfather, Dr. Thomas Woodward Hutson, who was a surgeon and a former chief of staff at Jackson. I took that

family lineage a step further by becoming a trauma surgeon at Ryder Trauma Center. Trauma does not discriminate. It does not know age, race, gender, or nationality. Through my work at the trauma center, I, like my grandfather and

great grandfather before me, have been able to provide innovative care to some of South Florida's most vulnerable patients.

Jackson has been making miracles daily for 100 years. The intense commitment of everyone who works at our facilities is a testament to the good that we do for the community, one patient at a time, and to the world through the generations of care providers who have learned their profession at our hospitals and clinics.

The spirit that my great grandfather had in 1918 continues to be the guiding principle of the health system today. Jackson continues to be a beacon of light and hope for not just Miami-Dade County residents, but patients from around the world. The "Alamo," part of the original hospital, still stands as a symbol of how far we have come and how much we have grown. And here I stand, generations later, ready to fulfill my family's mission, and that of the health system, to provide the highest standard of care to every person who walks through our doors.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Apostolic Revival Center**

**Services**  
Wed. Interspersed Prayer 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Morning Service 11 a.m.  
Sun.-Eve. Worship 7:30 p.m.  
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 6:30 p.m.  
Thurs. Fellowship 10 a.m.

Evangelist Eric W. Doss

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

**New Vision For Christ Ministries**

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

Rev. Michael D. Screen

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

**Brownsville Church of Christ**

**Services**  
Lord Day Sunday School 9:45am  
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Worship 5 p.m.  
Tuesday Night Bible Study 7:30pm  
Thurs. Mon. Bible Class 10 a.m.

Min. Harrell L. Henton

4561 N.W. 33rd Court  
305-634-4850

**93rd Street Community Missionary Baptist Church**

**Services**  
7:30 a.m. Early Morning Worship  
11 a.m. Morning Worship  
Evening Worship  
1st & 3rd Sunday 6 p.m.  
Tuesday Bible Study 7 p.m.  
Website: cmcnc.org

Pastor Rev. Carl Johnson

2330 N.W. 93rd Street  
305-836-0942

**St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church**

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

Rev. Dr. C.A. New, 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.  
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-NBC6  
305-685-3700  
Fax: 305-685-0705  
www.newbirthbaptistmiami.org

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

**Pembroke Park Church of Christ**

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

TUESDAY Bible Study 10 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

www.PembrokeParkChurchOfChrist.com  
954-962-9327  
3707 S.W. 56th Avenue, Hollywood, FL 33023

**Hosanna Community Baptist Church**

**Services**  
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study  
Thursday 7:30 p.m.  
Youth Ministry  
Mon.-Fri. 2:45-3:30 p.m.

Rev. Charles Lee Dinkins

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

## Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

**ROBERT LEE KIMPSON, JR.**, 68, park worker, died June 28 at Memorial Regional Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Love Fellowship Ministries Church of God Prophecy.



**GONEL JEAN-CHARLES**, 67, died July 2 at Villa Maria Nursing Home. Arrangements are incomplete.



**SAVANNAH JACKSON**, 95, domestic servant, died July 2 at Palmetto General Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Friday in chapel.



## Richardson

**DONALD ARMSTRONG, JR.**, 23, waiter, died June 23 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.



**SARAH BOYD**, 96, retired beautician, died June 27 at Miami Jewish Home. Services were held.



**CORNELIUS SR.**, 73, retired solid waste, died June 29 at Jackson Memorial Hospital North. Service 11:30 a.m., Saturday at Refuge Church of Our Lord.



**Hall Ferguson Hewitt GRACIE FOWLER**, 91, homemaker, died June 25. Service 10 a.m., Friday at Church of the Incarnation.



**MRS. LULA B. HARRELL-GRAHAM**, 73, retired accounts payable clerk, died June 29. Survived by her children, Ronald, Donald, and granddaughter, Johnaiyah. Public Viewing 4-7 p.m., Friday in the chapel. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 1470 NW 87 Street Miami, FL 33147.



**CHRISTOPHE BARR**, 80, died June 20. Services were held.

## Paradise

**MARY ELLA CLAYTON**, 86, died June 27 at home. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church.



**ROBERT FLETCHER**, 67, died June 26 at Jackson South Community Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



**Wages and Sons- GA GRANT HOWARD LEVIN**, 60, died June 22 in Dacula, GA. Final rites in Dacula, GA.

## Eric S. George

**JEMAL TYRONE SIMMONS**, died June 26. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Ebenezer Baptist Church.



**DR. JOHN HUBERT ST. LOUIS**, died June 29. Memorial service 1 p.m., Saturday at Networking for Christ Ministry Hollywood.



**JANICE DELOISE KING**, died June 30. Arrangements are incomplete.

## Range

**PERCY RITCHIE JR.**, 85, retired master Builder/entrepreneur, died June 28. Survivors include his children: Ivan (Francine) Ritchie of Florida, Percy (Kelly) Ritchie, III of Florida, Dr. Madelyn S. Ritchie (Quintin) Hilbert of New Jersey and Ret. Chief Warrant Officer Armetta J. Ritchie of Texas; sister, Arlene Bowleg; grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and sorrowing friends. Viewing 4-8 p.m., Friday in the chapel. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Kiononia Worship Center, 4900 W. Hallandale Beach Blvd, Hollywood, FL 33023.



**DOVAL HANLEY**, 65, retired associate, died June 28. Final rites in U.S., Virgin Island.

## Trinity

**JONATHAN CHARLES**, 27, security officer, died June 26. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at Miami Gardens Church of Christ.



**BEULAH MAE SMITH**, 86, homemaker, died June 28 at Select Nursing Home. Arrangements are incomplete.

## Manker

**CHRISTEEN WALDEN**, housewife, died June 28 at Hialeah Medical Center. Viewing 6 p.m., Friday at Antioch M.B. Church of Brownsville. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at the church.



**AMY BLANCHE JAMES**, 78, homemaker, died June 23 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.

## Cabellero Rivero Southern

**JOHNNIE L. JACKSON**, 88, retired construction worker, died June 30 at home. Viewing 4-9 p.m., Thursday at Cabellero Rivero Southern Funeral Home, 15011 West Dixie Highway, North Miami, FL 33181. Service 1 p.m., Friday in the chapel.



## Eternal Rest

**EDWARD BRIMBERRY aka GOOSE**, 77, died June 28. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.



**JAMES DIXON**, 65, entrepreneur, died June 13. Services were held.

## Hadley Davis MLK

**JESSIE NIX**, 78, died June 25 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Friday in the chapel.



**MARGARET WILLIAMS**, 70, died June 24 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Liberty Fellowship Church of God.



## Wright and Young

**RONALD RAY WHITEHEAD**, 61, case worker, died June 28. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Historic Mt. Zion Baptist Church.



## McWhite

**WILLIE FRANK KNOX**, 66, roofer, died June 30 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.



## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

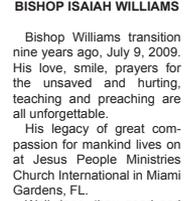


**MICHAEL (MIKE) BENNETT**  
SUNSET JULY 3, 2013

Those we love don't go away  
They walk beside us everyday  
Unseen, unheard, but always near,  
Still loved, still missed and forever dear  
Your loving wife, Pam and the family.

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**BISHOP ISIAH WILLIAMS**

Bishop Williams transition nine years ago, July 9, 2009. His love, smile, prayers for the unsaved and hurting, teaching and preaching are all unforgettable. His legacy of great compassion for mankind lives on at Jesus People Ministries Church International in Miami Gardens, FL. Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**MRS. MAMIE LOUISE "LT" BUTTS ISAACS**

It has been two years since God called you home. Not a day goes by you are not missed... Oh what we would give to hear your voice, see your smile or feel your touch. Dear sister, you are missed beyond words. Your loving family

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**MARGIE FULLER**  
02/14/1951 - 07/04/2011

Seven years have passed and we miss you very much. The Fuller family.

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



**ELAINE ALMATHA BULLARD THOMPSON READY**  
JULY 3, 2013

May the winds of love blow softly  
And whisper for you to hear  
That we'll always love and miss you  
And wish that you were here  
Cyril and Priscilla "Angie" Thompson and their families

## In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



# Joe Jackson, 89, musical family patriarch, dies

## CNN

*Lisa Respers France*

Joseph "Joe" Jackson, the patriarch who launched the musical Jackson family dynasty, died Wednesday in a Las Vegas hospital, a source close to the family tells CNN.

He was 89. Jackson was the father and at times manager to pop stars Michael and Janet Jackson, along with the sibling-singing group, The Jackson 5.

No cause of death has been released, but Jackson had reportedly been in ill health. "I have seen more sunsets than I have left to see," read a tweet posted Sunday from Jackson's official twitter account. "The sun rises when the time comes and whether you like it or not the sun sets when the time comes."

He and Katherine Jackson wed in 1949. They moved into a home on Jackson Street in Gary, Indiana, the following year, where they welcomed their first of 10 children, Maureen "Rebbie" Jackson.

Rebbie was followed by Sigmond "Jackie" Jackson in 1951, Toriano "Tito" Jackson in 1953, Jermaine Jackson in 1954, La Toya Jackson in 1956, Marlon Jackson in 1957, Michael Jackson in 1958, Steven Randall "Randy" Jackson in 1961 and Janet Jackson in 1966.

Marlon's twin, Brandon, died soon after birth. With a large family to support, Joe Jackson surrendered his dreams of becoming a boxer and secured a job as a crane operator for U.S. Steel.

He and his brother Luther also formed a band in the mid-1950s called The Falcons, intent on booking gigs for extra money.

The band only lasted a few years, but Jackson had developed an ear for music and believed he had found some talent in his children.

He formed The Jackson Brothers in 1963 — with sons Tito, Jackie and Jermaine — and began entering them in local talent shows.

With the addition of Marlon and Michael, The Jackson 5 was born in 1966. Two years later, they signed with Motown Records.

They went on to become one of the most successful R&B groups in history, with their father initially acting as their manager.

At the height of their stardom, The Jackson 5 sold millions of records and had their own CBS variety show.

"Joseph's role as manager dwindled however as Motown CEO Berry Gordy began to take more charge on his act, a role that reverted back to Joseph when he began man-

aging the entire family for performances in Las Vegas," according to Jackson's official site. "Joseph also helped his sons seal a deal with CBS after leaving Motown."

The success of The Jackson 5 led to Michael Jackson going solo, becoming such a major star that he was later dubbed the King of Pop. Youngest daughter Janet also became a hugely successful recording artist.

The elder Jackson managed daughters Rebbie, La Toya, and Janet in the early 1980s until they, like their brothers before, struck out on their own.

Joe Jackson was criticized at times for being a harsh task master. His children told stories of their father being hard on them growing up.

In 2013 interview with CNN, Jackson was asked about his daughter Janet's complaint that the children were not allowed to call him "Dad," instead referring to him as "Joe."

"You had all those kids running hollering around," Jackson said. "They're hollering, 'Dad, Dad, Dad,' you know, and it gets to be -- it sounds kind of funny to me. But I didn't care too much about what they called me, just as long as they (were) able to listen to me and what I had to tell them, you know, in order to make their lives successful. This was the main thing."

Jackson admitted that he disciplined his children physically but said he had no regrets.

Joe Jackson on physically disciplining his kids: "I'm glad I was tough."

"I'm glad I was tough, because look what I came out with," he said. "I came out with some kids that everybody loved all over the world. And they treated everybody right."

Jackson also weathered some controversy after his wife documented his alleged extramarital affairs in her book, "My Family, The Jacksons."

The couple split more than once and lived apart for decades, but they reportedly never divorced.

The couple presented a united front when their son Michael died in 2009 from an overdose of Propofol.

The elder Jackson told CNN his son had tried to reach him before his death, but they didn't connect.

"He says, 'Call my father.' This was before he passed. 'He would know how to get me out of this,'" Joe Jackson said. "But they didn't get in touch with me. They said they couldn't find me, but I was right there."

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OBITUARIES  
ONLINE AT  
WWW.MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

