

The Miami Times

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LIBERTY SQUARE

SHOULD THEY STAY OR GO?

Residents have to choose whether to take Section 8

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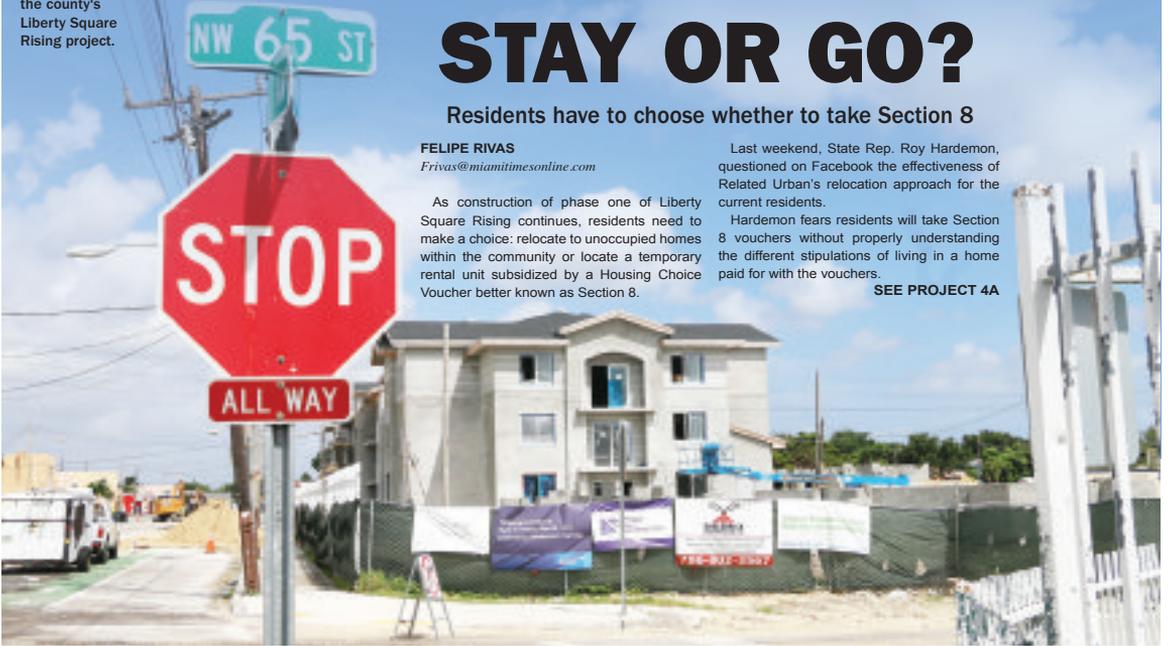
As construction of phase one of Liberty Square Rising continues, residents need to make a choice: relocate to unoccupied homes within the community or locate a temporary rental unit subsidized by a Housing Choice Voucher better known as Section 8.

Last weekend, State Rep. Roy Hardemon, questioned on Facebook the effectiveness of Related Urban's relocation approach for the current residents.

Hardemon fears residents will take Section 8 vouchers without properly understanding the different stipulations of living in a home paid for with the vouchers.

SEE PROJECT 4A

Construction is ongoing as part of the county's Liberty Square Rising project.



Miami Times Photo / Felipe Rivas

OPA-LOCKA

City loses lawsuit to bump candidates off ballot

Dottie Johnson and Rose Tydus still in running for mayoral seat Nov. 6

CAROLYN GUNISS
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On June 12, Opa-locka City Clerk Joanna Flores requested a legal opinion from attorney Vincent Brown. Flores

wanted to know, among other things, if "a former elected official who had previously served eight consecutive years as mayor and/or commissioner of the City of Opa-locka [is] eligible to run

for the Office of Mayor or Commissioner in the City of Opa-locka."

Flores was questioning the language of a 2014 city charter amendment that instituted term limits for the mayor and commissioners.

On July 16, Brown answered Flores via email, no, that person would not qualify to run,



Dorothy "Dottie" Johnson

because of term limits, citing section 2.1.1 of the charter. Flores, in emails, tells Brown the term limits do not affect the candidates "because none of them are surviving a 'current term in office.'"

Dorothy "Dottie" Johnson and Rose Tydus, two former Opa-locka commissioners, were allowed to qualify to

run for the open mayoral seat. Two other candidates, current commissioners Matthew Pigatt and John Riley, also qualified.

On Aug. 30, Brown filed a suit against Johnson and Tydus, aiming to remove them from the ballot.

The eligibility of Johnson SEE LAWSUIT 6A

Obama ignites voters

Almost 5,000 people turned out to hear her message

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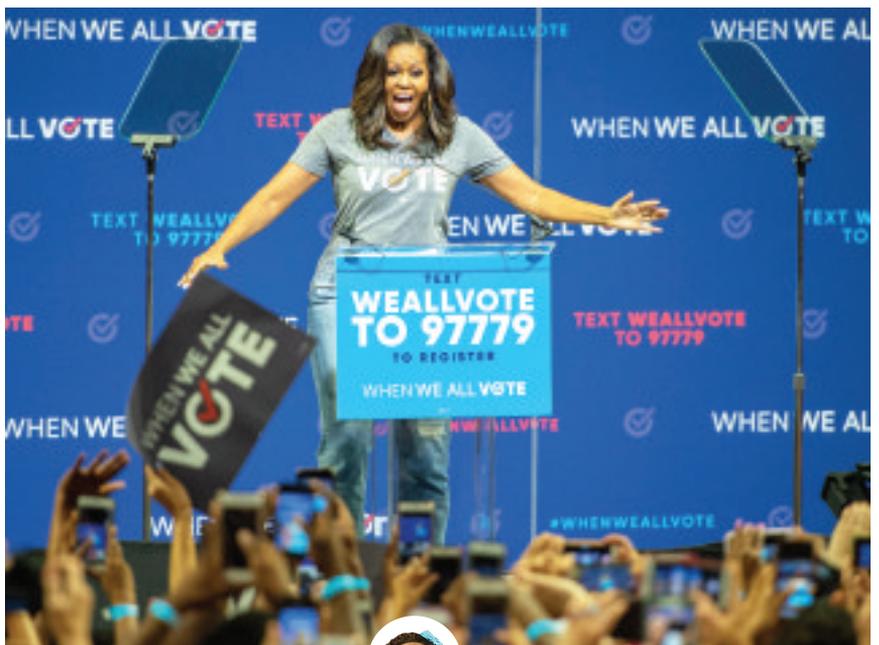
Michelle Obama fired up eligible voters at the Watsco Center of the University of Miami, during the culmination of the National Week of Action sponsored by the When We All Vote campaign. Almost 5,000 people attended the free event to hear former First Lady and co-chair of the campaign speak about the importance of voting, last Friday.

Obama spoke to a mixture of university students, local residents and people who traveled from other parts of Florida to hear her speak. She reminded attendees that voting is a "fundamental right."

"It is the only way in our democracy to have a say in the issues we care about," she said

SEE OBAMA 6A

Former first lady Michelle Obama speaks at a rally to encourage voter registration on Friday, Sept. 28, 2018 in Coral Gables, Fla.



Miami Times photo/Gregory Reed

INSIDE BUSINESS.....	8B	YOU & YOURS.....	7D
CLASSIFIED.....	11B	FAITH CALENDAR.....	8D
IN GOOD TASTE.....	1C	HEALTH & WELLNESS.....	9D
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Arrested 9 times before turning 15

Today 90°



1C

VIEWPOINT

BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | OCTOBER 3-9, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

Editorials
Cartoons
Opinions
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EDITORIAL

Donald Trump, self-made sham. Now let's see your tax returns

"I built what I built myself." This boast has long been at the core of the mythology of Donald Trump, Self-Made Billionaire. As the oft-told story goes, young Trump accepted a modest \$1 million loan from his father, Fred, a moderately successful real estate developer from Queens, and — through smarts, hard work and sheer force of will — parlayed that loan into a multibillion-dollar global empire.

Like so much of what Trump has been selling the American public in recent years, this origin story was a sham — a version of reality so elaborately embellished that it qualifies as fan fiction more than biography. Also, as we've come to expect from Mr. Trump, the creation of this myth involved a big dose of ethically sketchy, possibly even illegal activity.

As an in-depth investigation by *The Times* has revealed, Trump is only self-made if you don't count the massive financial rewards he received from his father's business beginning as a toddler. (By age 3, little Donald was reportedly pulling in an annual income of what today would be \$200,000 a year.) These benefits included not only the usual perks of hailing from a rich, well-connected family — the connections, the access to credit, the built-in safety net. For the Trumps, it also involved direct cash gifts and tens of millions in "loans" that never charged interest or had to be repaid. Fred Trump even purchased several properties and business ventures, putting ownership either fully or partly in the names of his children, who reaped the profits.

As Donald Trump emerged as the favorite son, Fred made special deals and arrangements to increase Donald's fortunes in particular. *The Times* found that, before Donald had turned 30, he had received close to \$9 million from his father. Over the longer haul, he received upward of what, in today's dollars, would be \$413 million.

Along the way, it seems that certain liberties were taken with tax laws. *The Times* found that concocting elaborate schemes to avoid paying taxes on their father's estate, including greatly understating the value of the family business, became an important pastime for Fred's children, with Donald taking an active role in the effort. According to tax experts, the activities in question show a pattern of deception, a deliberate muddying of the financial waters. Asked for comment on *The Times*'s findings, a lawyer for the president provided a written statement denying any wrongdoing and asserting that, in fact, Trump had little to do with the dizzying transactions involving his family's wealth.

Everyone can understand the impulse to polish one's background in order to make a good impression. For Trump, whose entire life has been about branding and selling a certain type of gaudy glamour, this image-polishing has been all the more vital to his success. And he has pursued it with a shameless, at times giddy, abandon.

Veterans of New York news media still laugh to recall how Trump would call them up, pretending to be a publicist named John Barron, or sometimes John Miller, in order to regale them with tales of Trump's glamorous personal life — how many models he was dating, which actresses were pursuing him, which celebrities he was hanging out with. As gross and tacky and bizarre as this all seemed, it was aimed squarely at fostering the image of Donald Trump as a master of the universe who, as the cliché goes, women wanted and men wanted to be.

This mythos was burnished and expanded by Trump's years on "The Apprentice," where he played the role of an all-powerful, all-knowing business god who could make or break the fortunes of those who clamored for his favor. Occasionally he could be harsh or even insulting, but it was always in the context of delivering the tough love that the contestants so needed to hear. And who was more qualified to deliver those lessons than Donald Trump? As with all reality TV, it was total bunk. But it promoted precisely the golden image that Trump — with a multimillion-dollar assist from his father — had carefully cultivated for his entire life.

With this glimpse into the inner workings of the Trump family finances, some of the grimmer, ethically suspect aspects of Trump's mythmaking begin to emerge — and with them, many questions about all that we still do not know about the man and his business empire. Seeing as how that empire and his role in building it are so central to who Trump claims to be — the defining feature of his heroic narrative — the American public has a right to some answers. For starters, now would be an excellent time for Trump to hand over those tax returns on which he has thus far kept a death grip.

In his 1987 memoir "The Art of the Deal," Trump famously offered his take on the origins of his success: "I play to people's fantasies. People may not always think best themselves, but they can still get very excited by those who do. That's why a little hyperbole never hurts. People want to believe that something is the biggest and the greatest and the most spectacular. I call it truthful hyperbole. It's an innocent form of exaggeration — and a very effective form of promotion." But increasingly, Trump's willingness to bend the truth — and the rules — in the service of his myth looks less like innocent exaggeration than malicious deception, with a dollop of corruption tossed in for good measure. It's not the golden, glittering success story he has been peddling. It's shaping up to be something far darker.

—The New York Times

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Kavanaugh hearings exclude race

CHARLES BLOW, *The New York Times*

Indeed, many people have drawn attention to the numerous parallels between the two cases of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh and Clarence Thomas, but I would like to draw attention to one difference, one that could bode well for Ford: the absence of a racial element in a heated racial environment.

Months before Thomas was nominated, an amateur photographer videotaped the savage beating of motorist Rodney King by a throng of Los Angeles police officers.

One could argue that this was the first modern Black Lives Matter case — a private citizen recording and sharing video that exposed police brutality.

In June of 1991, as the officers awaited trial, Thurgood Marshall, the civil rights lion and the only African-American on the Supreme Court, announced his retirement. President Bush, under pressure to appoint a minority replacement, did just that. He nomi-

nated a Black man to replace a Black man — Clarence Thomas for Marshall's seat — even as he publicly proclaimed, "I don't feel there should be a Black seat on the court or an ethnic seat on the court."

But the two men could not have been more different: Marshall, a true liberal, and Thomas, a man hostile to civil rights initiatives.

Thomas's nomination put Black America in a bind: Oppose Thomas and risk having no Black representation on the court, or support him in spite of his hostile views. Black civil rights groups were hesitant to take a stand one way or the other on Thomas, even though years earlier he had berated those groups, saying all they do is "moan and whine."

Then came the allegation of sexual harassment brought by Professor Hill, and everything changed. It is not that Hill wasn't credible, but it was that Thomas was on the defensive and the image of yet another Black man under attack from a

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In June of 1991, as the officers awaited trial, Thurgood Marshall, the civil rights lion and the only African-American on the Supreme Court, announced his retirement.

group of white men had an eerie echo of King under assault from the L.A.P.D.

The hearings that followed, including compelling, credible testimony from Hill and the demeaning way in which she was treated, was extraordinary, must-see television.

Then, Thomas provoked Blacks to circle the wagons when he declared the hearings a "high-tech lynching for uppity Blacks who in any way dares to think for themselves." He continued: "And it is a message, that unless you kowtow

to an old order you will be lynched, destroyed, caricatured by a committee of the U.S. Senate rather than hung from a tree."

After the hearings, The Chicago Tribune reported on an ABC News-Washington Post poll that showed support for Thomas's confirmation had actually risen to 56 percent.

Black people, to their everlasting regret, backed Thomas, as did the Senate, over Hill's warnings.

This time, that racial element is absent. The Republicans on the committee, those likely to be hostile to Ford, are all still white men. Ford and Kavanaugh are both white.

This is a much more focused battle of testimonies. Either a boy assaulted a girl or he didn't. Either an older child took advantage of a younger one, or he didn't.

One of these pillars is lying and in this collection of gender narratives, women will not have to struggle with the choice that Black people did.



Cosby isn't a victim of the system

RAHEEM VEAL, *Blavity*

Perhaps the most highly-publicized sexual assault trial of all time ended last week, as Bill Cosby was sentenced to three to 10 years in prison. Rightfully, coverage of the case has engulfed the news cycle for the last few days. As I watched the news from a nearby bar after work, my eyes remained fixated on the man on the screen.

For the first time since the case initially went public years ago, I allowed myself to mourn. This was Cliff Huxtable, who'd pushed culture forward by teaching us lessons in his wholesome, family-oriented sitcom. Why did things have to end this way?

Then, I reminded myself: This same man had forced himself upon the unresponsive bodies, and sedate minds of women he'd viewed as his own sexual mannequins. My sympathy flattened in about 30 seconds.

As much as the #MeToo era has been defined by the heroism of those willing to come forward and bravely out their attackers, it's also



Comedian Bill Cosby is pictured in a photo released by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

been shaped by the slew of allegations regarding the predatory, lascivious behavior of many powerful men in the entertainment industry, such as Harvey Weinstein — a white man. However, Cosby is notably the first of these celebrities to have been given a sentence that includes hard prison time, inevitably causing many to question how much racial bias was at play while considering his sentencing. But this is no case of heroes eventually dying or horoscopes often lying. This was the day of reck-

oning for a maniacal man who'd preyed upon women for decades. He earned all of this.

Another popular reason many people oppose this verdict is because the 2004 crime "happened so long ago." But in July, the uncle of the prime suspect in Tupac Shakur's murder — who was an eye-witness that fateful night — offered new insight into this crime after 22 years. Would we advocate ignoring this information? Sure, homicide and sexual assault aren't equivalent. However, both heinous

acts change the victim's life forever.

Survivors of sexual assault relive these violent attacks for the rest of their natural lives. Since the overwhelming majority of their assaulters are friends or relatives, survivors often have to see them on a regular basis.

Many of the social media users who have made this argument are brothers. Even though I would certainly debate someone down over this in person, I do not fully condemn this opinion. Why? Because I know where it stems from. Successful Black men are almost always vilified and torn down by the media (and consequently, white America) as well as law enforcement — especially if they assert their blackness.

At first glance, the demise of a living icon may seem detrimental to the Black community. But this outcome sets two precedents that can potentially benefit us all: Making work environments safer, and establishing that assaulters cannot hide behind their status.

What it means to be a rape apologist

NIA HAMPTON, *Afro.com*

Calling out abuse in your community isn't divisive, being abusive toward your community is. I know this because I wanted to "save" my abuser.

My abuser wasn't a man. She wasn't an adult. We were both children at the time. My awareness and compassion for her pain made it easy to repress and disregard the very real effect that being sexually abused by her had on me. It affected me so much that I never thought of what I was experiencing as abuse.

At one time, I even said I liked it. I thought it was normal. When someone close to me spoke up about being abused by the same person, I was confused. As much as I

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My abuser wasn't a man. She wasn't an adult. We were both children at the time. My awareness and compassion for her pain made it easy to repress and disregard the very real effect that being sexually abused by her

hurt for my friend, I feared for the repercussions of my abuser.

I was indifferent. I wasn't willing to cut ties with my

abuser. I was unable to conceive of a way to distance myself from my friend emotionally. I thought my abuser was just misunderstood, and I thought if I loved her enough, one day she would make better decisions and finally get it together. She never did.

It would take a long time for me to see all the effects her abuse had on me. I have very real intimacy issues and fears.

When people are either enraged or indifferent to victims of sexual assault, that speaks to where they are in their own journey. In the same way that Harriet Tubman had to first convince enslaved Africans that they were enslaved on plantations, Black women

have to see all the ways that the men (and women) they love in their own community have harmed them. And then they have to empower themselves enough to do something about it.

Unfortunately, rape culture makes being a rape apologist our default setting, even if we know what it's like to be a victim. However, you don't have to die on the hill defending someone who has been accused of being a rapist. You can change your mind.

So when we call you rape apologist, understand the severity of the role you are auditioning for. You are contributing to the culture that created the problem in the first place.



No right to vote hurts communities, study shows

Bipartisan support for Amendment four, which restores felons' rights

K. BARRETT BILALI
Miami Times Contributor

Anthony Bozman knows the pain.

The husband and father of five adult children was convicted of a felony charge 27 years ago. And he still can't vote.

"I am a 55-year-old man who hides on election days," said Bozman.

"It is the wound that refuses to heal," said Bozman, who works two jobs and pays taxes. "They say they want you to be a productive citizen, but they deny you the right to be productive, to vote. It hurts a lot ... Especially election times."

"People ask me on election day, 'Oh, did you vote?' I cannot say, 'Yes, I voted.' So I just evade the question altogether. I don't answer, I change the subject. Which I shouldn't have to do. I did my time."

Bozman's compelling story is highlighted in a study recently released by the Advancement Project, a multi-racial civil rights organization.

"Democracy Disappeared: How Florida Silences the Black Vote through Felony Disenfranchisement" gives an in-depth analysis on the social and emotional impact of an individual's loss of his or her right to vote and the political and economic collateral damage to Black communities in Florida.

Ten Florida counties with substantial Black populations — including Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach — are reviewed in the report for negative socio-economic con-

ditions, which could be reversed by returning the civil rights to ex-felons.

"This is about once you feel like a full citizen, you are empowered to feel like a father or mother figure. This is about overall life. And being given back the rights that were lost," said Advancement Project spokeswoman Zerline Hughes Spruill.

The report uses the term "Returning Citizens" instead of ex-felons.

"Ex-felons has a negative tone" said Hughes Spruill. "Negative connotation. Prison bars. And some of these folks may have done things but many may have needed another way of dealing."

"The key is more empowerment," said Hughes Spruill. "Voting power could give these returning citizens a way to change their communities. They could work on their schools, gentrification issues, redistricting and actually go to the polls."

The report shows that of the 6 million Americans who cannot vote due to felony disenfranchisement, about 28 percent or 1.7 million of them live in Florida. Also, about 11 percent of voting-age Floridians are disenfranchised because of a felony conviction.

"Going to prison and having a felony conviction affect the entire family and community," said Dexter Gunn, 50, another disenfranchised Returning Citizen. "When you're considered a leader in your family and you end up in prison, it disallows you from being there for the little things that count.

When you're not there, you



Supporters for a bill that would automatically restore voting rights to convicted felons upon their release from prison hold up signs supporting the bill during a news conference Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, in front of the State House in Montgomery, Ala.

AP Photo/Rob Carr

clude a feeling of disconnect from not being present in the lives of people who matter the most."

Ultimately, voter disenfranchisement affects "poor communities of all races and Black communities," says the report.

"The disappearance of millions of Returning Citizens' votes, including hundreds of thousands of Black votes in Black communities across hundreds of elections over many decades, prevents Black participation in the institutions where weighty decisions and policies are made," states the report.

"Both those directly denied the right to vote and those in communities where their political power is mute — democracy has disappeared,"

concludes the report.

"Florida has to address its failure to lend support to the communities to which these men and women return. Democracy Disappeared makes clear where those resources should be spent in order to begin the process of making these people whole again," said Dwight Bullard, political director of New Florida Majority.

The passage of the statewide ballot issue dubbed Amendment Four could have history-changing effects on the political structure of Florida — almost, if not equally impactful, as the election of Andrew Gillum as Florida's first Black governor.

The effect of this change of law would grant those 1.7 million ex-felons the right

to vote again. Interestingly, whites make up a majority of those ex-felons in the group.

In times when there are clear divisions on political beliefs, ridding the state of voter disenfranchisement has bipartisan support from both Progressive and Conservative organizations.

The Christian Coalition and other right-wing groups funded by the Koch Brothers have been pushing their voting blocks to support Amendment Four. Freedom Partners, based in Virginia, has been actively rallying support and raising monies for the effort.

"In the Sunshine State, Floridians are permanently excluded from voting because of a prior felony conviction — one of only four states with a

lifetime ban. If we want people returning to society to be productive, law-abiding citizens, we need to treat them like full-fledged citizens," said Freedom Partners in a press statement.

The group supports Republican gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis despite the fact that the GOP hopeful has no stated position or open support for Amendment Four.

Gillum, the Democratic progressive candidate, is giving full vocal support to restoring voting rights for ex-felons.

"We have a chance November 6, to restore that right — that opportunity, and dignity, for all Floridians," said Gillum last month during a campaign stop in front of the State Capitol.

Barack Obama backs more than 200 Democrats

Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, Florida governor candidate among

JUANA SUMMERS
Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama is expanding his influence ahead of November's midterm elections. On Monday, he released a second slate of endorsements for Democrats running for office

into several races that have captivated national attention. Obama did not endorse Rep. Beto O'Rourke, the Democrat challenging Sen. Ted Cruz in Texas, or Phil Bredesen, a former Democratic governor of Tennessee who is now running for Senate against Republican

has always made the biggest difference in the lives of the American people when we lead with conviction, principle and bold, new ideas. Our incredible array of candidates up and down the ticket, all across the country, make up a movement of citizens who are younger, more diverse, more female than ever before," Obama said.

The former president's engagement in the political fray

president's endorsements, a spokesman for the Republican National Committee said Obama had cost Democrats more than 1,000 seats as he oversaw the slowest economic recovery in history.

"By tying these candidates to his failed economic policies, he's helping ensure they

suffer the same fate," spokesman Michael Ahrens said.

Hillary Clinton, the former Democratic presidential nominee, also tweeted words of encouragement for a slew of Democrats backed by Run For Something, a group launched in the aftermath of the 2016 elections to encour-

age young Democrats to enter politics.

"Pitch into their campaigns if you can, reach out to friends in their districts to encourage their support, or start with a like or a follow," Clinton tweeted. "November 6th is only 36 days away, so there's no time to waste."



Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama speaks as he campaigns in support of Pennsylvania candidates in Philadelphia, Sept. 21, 2018.

es ranging from local to national, bringing the total to more than 300.

Among the most prominent candidates to win Obama's support are Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the Democratic congressional candidate who won an upset primary victory this summer in New York; Andrew Gillum, the Tallahassee mayor who is running for governor in Florida; and Kyrsten Sinema, the Democratic nominee for Senate in Arizona.

While the candidates that Obama endorsed stretch up and down the ballot — from gubernatorial hopefuls to aspiring state lawmakers — he notably declined to wade

Rep. Marcia Blackburn. Obama's endorsement might not be helpful to Democrats competing in southern states, where the former president isn't popular. Bredesen said last month he wouldn't welcome Obama or other party leaders campaigning for him in Tennessee.

Obama favored Democrats in close races across the country, veterans of his administration and past campaigns, and he also prioritized diversity. In a statement, Obama described the candidates as "Americans who aren't just running against something, but for something."

"The Democratic Party

since leaving office has been limited and carefully crafted. He returned to the political stage last month with a speech in Illinois, in which he made a sharp break from the deference that past presidents typically show their successors, offering a scathing rebuke of President Donald Trump's tenure.

Since then, as he has campaigned on behalf of Democrats in states like California, Ohio and Pennsylvania, he has largely shied away from as explicit indictments of the Trump presidency, instead imploring voters — particularly young Americans — to vote.

Responding to the former

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Photo courtesy of Secure Our Future PC

Community leaders gather during a press conference at Madie Ives K-8 to advocate for and inform the public of the November 2018 referendum item that increase property taxes to raise \$232 million. The funds would be used to pay for security personnel and give pay increases to Miami-Dade County Public Schools teachers.

Political committee pushes for teacher pay amendment

Voters to decide to increase county property taxes on Nov. 6 election

Miami Times Staff Report

Supporters of a ballot measure that, if passed, would generate funds to pay for additional school-safety personnel and give Miami-Dade County Public Schools teachers a raise, hosted a press conference Tuesday morning.

Secure Our Future is the political committee advocating for Miami-Dade County residents to agree to pay a bit higher property taxes to raise \$22 million annually for the next four years.

The event brought together supporters of the measure from business, civic and community leaders along with Superintendent Albert M. Car-

valho, school board members and United Teachers of Dade.

Residents can vote for the measure on their November ballot.

The political committee kicked-off a campaign in mid-September and is joined in its advocacy by Virginia Aponte, T. Willard Fair, Adolfo Henriques, Marlon Hill, David Lawrence Jr., Melissa Medina and Gepsie Meteluis.

"Providing our youngest residents with the best quality education is at the crux of ensuring the future social and financial well-being of the broader Miami-Dade community," said Tony Argiz, chair of Secure Our Future PC. "During this election cycle, I urge our

county residents to rally together and join us in supporting stronger, safer schools not just for our children, but for us all."

The increased funds would allow the district to place sworn officers at all public schools and help provide better teacher compensation, a news release from the political committee said.

"State funding for education has not changed in a decade," said Carvalho. "Remarkably, we receive the same per pupil funding in 2018 that we received in 2008. Our children deserve better, and they deserve access to the highest quality education. This includes a safe and secure school environment that supports optimal teaching and learning. The additional funds will allow us to compensate

teachers in a way that honors their incredible work, while strengthening security measures to keep everyone in our schools safe."

Funds from this referendum will be kept, controlled and spent locally to best benefit our children, educators and public schools, the news release said.

Miami-Dade schools have earned an A+ rating for the first time in the district's history.

"As teachers create A+ schools, yet Florida ranks #45 in teacher pay," said Karla Hernandez- Mats, president, United Teachers of Dade. "We need teachers to be able to live in the communities they serve and the referendum will support higher compensation to help retain educators in our local schools."

WORD ON THE STREET

BRIAN DENNIS

Time for new faces in Opa-locka

With four seats open for the Opa-locka City Commission it has drawn a total of 14 people to run for political office and, without question, there's going to be some new faces on the commission.

When the momentum of positive change began in the city, it started with two familiar faces and a new face: Commissioner Timothy Holmes and Vice Mayor Joseph Kelly and Commissioner Mathew Pigatt. They are nicknamed the Opa-locka Trinity because, like Jesus, they started making decisions that would help the residents and not hurt them and bring the finances of the city upward after all of the incompetent decisions that have been made from the mayor's seat.

The city is reinvigorated with energy of the young people who are running for office. But you also have to know how to read between the lines and see the candidates who are tied to the old regime of Mayor Myra Taylor and Dante Starks.

The saying should be "familiarity breeds contempt" instead of "familiarity breeds contempt" when it comes to Opa-locka politics. One of the things that voters have to stop doing is voting for people just because they're familiar with the candidates' names. Some of those familiar names, their actions have done us more harm than good and have completely and totally embarrassed the city. What Kelly and Holmes were able to do with Pigatt was bootcamp him and make him into a commissioner and soon-to-be mayor — results from being under the tutelage of those two individuals.

There's no question that those two were pulling their hair out with inexperienced

decisions that young Pigatt would make but you have to go through growing pains with them. Just look at how he's turned out as a commissioner under them. Better yet, look at how his vote along with those two have been quietly turning the city around and also has given the city a new hope.

But there are three city commission seats open, one for a two-year term and the others are for four-year terms. In these three seats I'm recommending for the two-year seat, Sherelean Bass, and for the two four-year seats, I'm recommending Alvin Burke and Christopher Davis. None of these three have ties to anyone in the city in the old regime that was basically sending city officials and commissioners to jail and to the grave. The one thing that the city definitely needs is independent thinkers who can get on board and vote for the common good of the residents and not only change the faces on the city commission but continue to move the city in the positive direction. The city has been stained with bad publicity the last maybe six to seven years but these are all people who have never been in office before and don't have any affiliation with the forces that were corrupting and stealing city services and making the employees lose their pay and health benefits.

We really have to start looking at who we are voting for and why we are voting for them. We need to ask ourselves do they serve the best interest of the residents and the city? I can truly say they do. Once they begin to betray the trust and confidence of the residents, there will always be a spot for them in "Word on the Street."

Prepare to Prosper

Part 4: Get smarter about credit

Today, most people carry some amount of debt. This may include student loans, personal loans, or credit card bills. And sometimes it may be challenging to prioritize these debts over other everyday expenses. But making a plan to manage your payments and balances can help. These nine tips may help you prepare to take small steps to managing your debt and improving your credit.

- 1 Always pay on time**
If you're missed a payment, pay as soon possible because your default history makes up 35% of your credit score.
- 2 Monitor your credit regularly**
Review your credit reports regularly to make sure they are accurate, and look for areas where you can improve.
- 3 Pay more than the minimum**
If you pay more than the minimum, you will help pay your down debt faster, save on interest expense and help improve your credit score.
- 4 Know your limits**
Being debt-free means not your credit limits may negatively impact your credit score, so try to keep your balance on revolving credit under 30% of your limit.
- 5 Know your debt-to-income (DTI) ratio**
Lenders look at the amount of debt you have compared to your monthly income when evaluating your credit. A DTI of a good idea is less than your DTI below 36%.
- 6 Take on new debt only when needed**
Having too many accounts with balances can lower your credit score and may become difficult to manage.
- 7 Qualify for lower rates**
See if you qualify for lower rates on your current debts, especially if your credit has improved or if there are other ways to drop your rate if you qualify.
- 8 Think before closing accounts**
Consider keeping accounts open if they have a good payment history as closing them may lower your credit score and limit your credit usage.
- 9 Build an emergency fund**
Having funds set aside in a savings account can help you to avoid using credit cards for unexpected expenses.

Getting smarter about your credit by taking charge of your debt can make all the difference when it comes to preparing for long-term financial success. You can explore credit basics and different ways to manage your debt at wellsfargo.com/smartercredit.

WELLS FARGO

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OBAMA

CONTINUED FROM 1A

In her speech, Obama urged citizens to make voting a top priority for all elections, both local, statewide and national.

"When a huge chunk of the population sits out of the process, why are we surprised when our politics do not reflect our values?" she asked.

Attendees cheered loudly throughout her speech. She encouraged those registered voters and volunteers to carry the energy for the next five and half weeks until election day, Nov. 6. "I want you all to take this energy that you are feeling right now and run with it ... make sure everyone is as fired up

as you all are," she said in her closing remarks.

The 2018 cycle has been propelled by two elements: Dislike of President Donald Trump and a record number of women running for office. According to NBC News, there were 53 female Senate candidates, previous record was 40 in 2016, and 476 female House candidates, with the previous record being 298 in 2012. Among the 476 women who ran for a seat in the U.S. House, about 75 percent were Democrats.

Over 52 percent of Democratic House female candidates won their primary races. Their percentage was higher than Democratic men or Republican women. The 2018 election cycle is expected to be a record one for female candidates. Backlash to Trump's presidency

is widely seen as one of the main reasons as his disapprovals climb higher.

Several recognizable celebrities charged up the crowd prior to Obama's speech. Singer-songwriter, Kelly Rowland, attorney and political commentator for CNN Angela Rye, gospel singer, Erica Campbell, and funnyman Keegan-Michael Key echoed the importance of going to the polls come election day.

Broward resident, Amber Vaughan, was among the excited attendees who went to the event. She is the president of the Broward Young Black Progressives, a millennial driven organization that believes in engaging, educating and empowering voters.

"I really needed this encouragement," she said. "We have so much at stake, and it hurts my heart when I hear people say that they don't vote." Vaughan plans to vote early so that she may drive other voters to the polls on election day.

The National Week of Action featured more than 2,000 grassroots events and rallies nationwide encouraging people to vote in the upcoming November election.

When We All Vote is a national nonprofit campaign focused on encouraging citizens to have their voices heard through the voting process.

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 22 through Sunday, Nov. 4 from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. countywide. Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 6.

The NNPA Newswire contributed to this report.

LAWSUIT

CONTINUED FROM 1A

and Tydus was put to rest Friday. Circuit Judge Maria de Jesus Santovenia ruled that both candidates will remain on the city's ballot and are eligible for the Nov. 6 general election.

Brown's argument that since the candidates had served two full, four-year terms previously that they were now ineligible to serve due to term limits, was rejected by Santovenia. Tydus had served as an Opa-locka city commissioner from 2004 to 2008 and 2012. Johnson served from 2006 to 2010 and 2010 to 2014.

Neither Johnson nor Tydus are incumbents. One of their attorneys, Mike Pizzi, said the charter is clearly speaking to people who are running for re-election.

Attorneys for Johnson and Tydus issued statements Friday evening.



Rose Tydus

"Judge Santovenia found the only interpretation that makes sense" is that the Opa-locka Charter term limits provision

requires City officials who have served eight consecutive years in elective office must take a break in public service before seeking elected office again.

The City Attorney's decision to argue for a lifetime term limits ban was contrary to the clear citizen initiative that put term limits - and the requirement for a break in office - into the Char-

ter," said attorney Benedict P. Kuehne in a statement.

Kuehne along with Pizzi and Douglas Jeffrey defended Johnson and Tydus. Pizzi said he did it pro bono to protect democracy.

"The people can now vote for the candidate of their choice as should be their right. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Tydus are very happy and thank the Court for its wisdom. We are happy that the rule of law prevailed," said Pizzi.

The ruling is a blow to the city and now makes the mayoral race a certain four-person challenge.

On Monday, Johnson said the lawsuit was a "crafted masterplan that failed," she said.

She points a finger in the direction of Piggatt and Brown. "I think it was the both of them in cahoots," Johnson said.

"It's nonsense," Piggatt said, saying Flores, as the city's Supervisor of Elections, set the lawsuit wheels in motion. Piggatt leaves on the table two

years of his term to run for the seat. Riley terms out this November.

"The people are the only true judges of change in Opa-locka," Piggatt said Friday evening. "Nov. 6 is the decision that matters."

Tydus said with the ruling out of the way, her campaign can pick up steam. She said she would never have presented papers to qualify for the election if she thought she was ineligible.

"Now I can go full-fledged ahead," Tydus said. "I was waiting to see what it was going to be. Now we are going to campaign."

Pizzi said the lawsuit was filed as a way to whittle down the pool of candidates. Tydus said she doesn't care if there is motive behind the lawsuit or what the motive could be.

"I am running because I believe I am the best candidate. I am not running against anyone," She said. "I have work to do and I have to pray knowing that it all depends on God."

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

Town hall meeting

State Reps. Cynthia Stafford and Sharon Pritchett will host a Florida Constitutional Amendments Town Hall meeting. The meeting will take place from 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 10 at Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 2400 NW 68th St. The meeting is supposed to address the proposed amendments that will appear on the Nov. 6 General Election ballot. For more information, call 305-953-3086.

Miami Commission adopts 2018-19 budget

With a unanimous vote, the city of Miami Commission adopted a \$1.09 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2018-19. The recently adopted budget is balanced and includes a \$27 million reserve for labor negotiations and \$5 million for beautification projects without increasing the overall property tax rate. The 2018-19 budget follows key priorities for the upcoming fiscal year based on the city's Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan focuses on mobility, housing, public safety, improving the way services are delivered, and improving shared civic spaces. This budget includes the creation of a Department of Human Services.

Miami students take aim at gun violence

Hundreds of South Florida students took a pledge against violence. It was part of the annual Do The Right Thing campaign. Last week's rally at Jungle Island was themed "Back Without A Bang!" following the tragic school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland and other school shootings plaguing the nation. More than 500 city of Miami students simultaneously raised their hands and took a pledge against violence during the rally. All students also signed a giant 4-foot by 8-foot copy of the pledge which will be sent to Florida Gov. Rick Scott.

Florida ranks near bottom of U.S. states for teachers

A new report claims

Florida is ranked near the bottom among best and worst states for teachers. In the report released by WalletHub, Florida ranked 47th out of all U.S. states and the District of Columbia when determining the country's most teacher-friendly states. The higher-ranked states are ones where teachers are paid a better wage. WalletHub used 22 metrics to conduct its report, including Average Starting Salary for Teachers, Income Growth Potential, Quality of School System, Pupil-Teacher Ratio and Teacher Safety. Florida ranked lower (48th) in regards to "Opportunity & Competition," but improved to 33rd in "Academic & Work Environment."

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OAD 0018

Amazon, ahead of its rivals, raises wages to \$15

The move will lead to more wage hikes in all industries, analysts say

JOSEPH PISANI
The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon, the business that upended the retailing industry and transformed the way we shop for just about everything, is jumping out ahead of the pack again, announcing a minimum wage of \$15 an hour for its U.S. employees that could force other big companies to raise their pay.

The online giant also said it will push Congress to increase the federal minimum wage, now at \$7.25.

Given Amazon's size and clout, the move Tuesday is a major victory for the \$15-an-hour movement, which has organized protests of fast-food, gas station and other low-paid workers. Already, several states and cities have raised their minimum wages above the federal one.

Amazon, whose value topped an awesome \$1 trillion in September, has been under political and economic pressure to pay its employees more.

"We listened to our critics, thought hard about what we wanted to do, and decided we want to lead," said Jeff Bezos, Amazon founder and CEO.

But Amazon may also be offering raises out of necessity: With the economy booming and unemployment near rock bottom, employers are having difficulty finding help. Amazon, with about 100 warehouses around the country, will soon need to hire more than 100,000 workers to pack and ship boxes during the holiday season.

The wage increase takes effect next month. Amazon said the move will

benefit more than 350,000 workers, including full-time, part-time, temporary and seasonal positions. Employees at Whole Foods, the upscale grocery chain Amazon owns, will get the same raise. Hourly employees who already make \$15 per hour will also see a wage increase, the Seattle company said. (Workers in Britain will also get a raise.)

“
We listened to our critics, thought hard about what we wanted to do, and decided we want to lead.”
”

Jeff Bezos
Amazon founder and CEO



AP Photo/Patrick Semansky, File

In this Aug. 3, 2017, file photo, Myrtice Harris applies tape to a package before shipment at an Amazon fulfillment center in Baltimore. Amazon is boosting its minimum wage for all U.S. workers to \$15 per hour starting next month. The company said Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2018, that the wage hike will benefit more than 350,000 workers, which includes full-time, part-time, temporary and seasonal positions.

Current pay for warehouse workers at Amazon is at least \$12.25 an hour in Omaha, Nebraska, \$13 in Baltimore and \$16.50 in New York, according to recent job postings.

The announcement was enough to soothe one of Amazon's fiercest critics: Sen. Bernie Sanders. The senator, who frequently uses Twitter to point out the disparity between Amazon's hourly wages and Bezos' vast fortune, congratulated Bezos for "doing exactly the right thing" and urged other companies to follow Amazon's example.

Sanders described Amazon's

move as "a shot heard around the world."

It will have repercussions beyond retailers and will put pressure on any company that operates a distribution center, said Gerald Storch of the retail consulting firm Storch Advisors.

"This will lead to a general increase in minimal wages in all industries," he said.

At the same time, Storch said, the wage increase will widen the gap between the healthy retailers, such as Amazon, Walmart and Target, and the struggling ones, which won't

be able to afford to compete on salary.

"The weaker retailers have been cutting costs and squeezing every penny," Storch said. "They are in a very tough place."

Amazon, founded more than two decades ago, has expanded far beyond its bookseller beginnings. Despite its dominance, it shares a major problem with employers big and small: a tight labor market. Unemployment in the U.S. is 3.9 percent, near an 18-year low. Higher pay for workers is one way of dealing with that.

"They'll gladly cross the street and take a better-paying job," said Marc Wulfrat, president of MWPVL, a supply chain consulting company.

Walmart raised its starting pay to \$11 an hour earlier this year and said it has seen lower turnover among its employees. Target, which announced plans last year to raise hourly wages in steps to \$15 by 2020 and now pays \$12 an hour, said the number of job applicants rose 60 percent in the days after it increased its minimum by \$2 to \$11 per hour last year.

Amazon said it doesn't ex-

pect to raise prices for its products to pay for the wage increases.

"Customers are going continue to see incredibly low prices every day," said Dave Clark, senior vice president of worldwide operations.

The push for a higher federal minimum wage will be overseen by Amazon's Jay Carney, White House press secretary during the Obama administration. Amazon won't ask Congress to raise the minimum to a specific number.

But "we're sure \$7.25 is too low," Carney said.

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Vocation careers on display at OYC

Students attended the center's first conference focused on training

FELIPE RIVAS
frivas@miamitimesonline.com

Many recent high school graduates may choose to go through the traditional four-year college route. The Overtown Youth Center wants to inform students about other career paths available to them.

Juniors and seniors from local high schools Last Thursday focused on short-term training in different trades at a vocational conference presented at the Overtown Youth Center. The center has done college fairs in the past but this was its first vocational fair focused on youth workforce readiness. The center wanted to provide different

avenues for the students as they near graduation, explained Nile Patrick, who helped coordinate the event.

"We want to give the students and the community as much information as possible so they could make informed decisions," said Patrick, who is a development specialist. "There is a lot of emphases placed on the traditional four-year colleges. The beautiful thing about vocational schools is that it doesn't stop once you get your certificate or A.A. [Associate of arts degree]; you can continue to go on and get your traditional bachelor's or master's, but you can earn money along the way."

Students from Miami Ed-



Stanley Jean, a Miami Edison Senior High School senior, thanks a Miami officer after their talk.

ison and Booker T. Washington senior high schools walked throughout the gym of the youth center meeting and talking to program supervisors and potential employers, representing industries such as aviation, public safety, firefighting, communications and design media and cosmetics.

Stanley Jean, 16, is a senior at Miami Edison, who moved from Canada to live with his dad in Miami. Stanley is nearing graduation and before coming to the conference, he asked his teachers about how to become either a firefighter or a police officer, he explained.

"Those are the only two things that I'm focused on," he said. "This is one of the best experiences I have ever had in my life because I never had something like this back

SEE OYC 10B



BLACK PROFESSIONALS SUMMIT

The Miami Times table set up at the Black Professional Summit.

Politics, business mix at meeting

Gubernatorial candidates stomp at Black Professional Summit; DeSantis sparks conflict

KISHANDA BURNS
digital@miamitimesonline.com

The Democratic and Republican Florida gubernatorial candidates made appearances this past weekend at the Black Professionals Summit — albeit not at the same time.

Republican former Congressman Ron DeSantis appeared on Friday afternoon, while Tallahassee Mayor and

Democratic nominee Andrew Gillum delivered a keynote Saturday.

DeSantis talked about school choice and economic investment, which led an audience member to ask a concerning question.

During DeSantis' discussion, Pascale Royal interrupted by asking a question about criminal justice reform to end the school-to-prison pipeline.

Raynard Jackson, who is a Republican strategist and founder of Black Americans for a Better Future (BAFBF), kept interrupting Royal, not allowing her to finish her question to DeSantis.

"Let us finish the program, ok," said Jackson to Royal.

"I'm just going to be a little unreasonable about that," Royal said, responding to Jackson. Royal is an employee at Citrix, a software company.

DeSantis sat quietly as he watched the battle between Jackson and Royal.

Jackson ordered security to escort Royal out of the room and DeSantis left the room without answering any questions from the audience members.

Gillum, the next day, spoke to the audience about the importance of the educa-

tion system.

"I believe in a strong public education system," said Gillum.

"I believe in good production of our workforce, our future employees, our future employers, entrepreneurs, innovators and creators. All of it is made possible when we do our job."

Gillum also spoke on racism initiated by the comment that his opponent made. "We're not going to divide this state by the color of our skin, based off of racist, decisive, rhetoric. We're going to have an exchange of ideas because the people of the state of Florida deserve that," he said.

Executive Vice President of Communications for Black Professionals Network Sarah Bertrand said the group was approached by members of the DeSantis team inquiring whether he could speak at the summit.

Black Professionals Network is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan organization.

"This year's summit theme is 'Disruption: Creating a Culture of Change,'" said Bertrand. "Our goal is always to enrich our network of Black professionals in the community and provide them a platform where

SEE SUMMIT 10B



Democratic nominee Andrew Gillum

HEY ALEXA, WHY IS AMAZON MAKING A MICROWAVE?

Online retailer releases several new products onto the market

KAREN WEISE
The New York Times

SEATTLE — If you're one of the millions of people without a smart speaker in your home, Amazon wants to talk to you.

Last week, the company announced not one, not six, but more than a dozen devices for its Alexa voice assistant — all meant to solve problems in your life that you may not have even known you had.

There's even a microwave.

"If you have ever tried to defrost peas, it's a number of clicks," said Dave Limp, Amazon's senior vice president for devices and services.

Limp said the \$59.99 microwave, made by AmazonBasics, the company's house brand, was a way for Amazon to try out the smart home tools it is building out. The company wants the devices to be easier to set up out of the box and for other companies that make kitchen appliances — from rice makers to ovens — to tap into the Alexa platform.

"When we imagine a future with thousands of devices like this, this is going to become essential," Limp said.

The microwave was perhaps the cheekiest in a blizzard of announcements at the event inside Amazon's headquarters.

"We took advantage of the hands-free moments," Tom Taylor, senior vice president of Alexa, said in an interview. "How do we continue to expand? Where else are those opportunities?"

So far, Amazon's answer appears to be "everywhere."

The company has a long history of introducing products and services at a rapid clip, in sharp contrast to competitors like Apple, which focuses on a few very refined releases at a time. Some of Amazon's ideas work, like its Kindle e-reader, and the company keeps building on them. But many of them fail, like its Fire smartphone, and the company quickly drops them.

Limp also introduced an Echo Auto that



Photos via The New York Times

The Amazon Show video device and the new Amazon clock.

plugs into cars; Fire TV Recast, a DVR recording device that lets users record live TV and watch on a variety of devices; and an analog wall clock with a voice-controlled timer.

Another suite of devices announced is aimed to appeal to audiophiles. Echo devices can now be used for individual left and right channels, meaning a pair can create stereo sound. And the new Echo Sub provides rich base sounds, which Mr. Limp showed by booming Lorde's "Royals." The new Echo Input is the first Echo device without a speaker so users can connect their speakers to the brain of the Alexa.

Since it introduced its Alexa smart assistant four years ago, the company has not shied from trying out new forms and uses. First it had an Echo speaker, a tall cylinder, then an Echo Dot, a version the size of a hockey puck. Then it added a screen, too, with the Echo Show. At the same time, developers wrote thousands of apps — or skills — for the devices. There are now more than 50,000 skills.

The announcements show that Amazon

is trying to flood the field, not just with its own devices but with products intended to model a way for outside manufacturers to build off Alexa's interface.

"It's overwhelming — that's the risk for the consumer," said Carolina Milanesi, an analyst with Creative Strategies. "They have been so early in the market that they need to make sure the geeks that jump into the smart home early have something, but at the same time, they need to make it really simple for people who haven't yet."

Not all of the announcements were products. Amazon introduced new ways Alexa will try to anticipate the needs of users, not just respond to questions. The Alexa Hunches function, which will be public later this year, tries to provide suggestions; for instance, if a user says good night to Alexa, the voice assistant might note that a porch light is on and offer to turn it off.

Amazon also said users would no longer need to sign up individual skills to use them. Instead, they will be able to speak to Alexa, which will automatically pick the best skill.



The Amazon microwave was one of more than a dozen devices announced by Amazon last week.

SUMMIT
CONTINUED FROM 8B

they are exposed to and can educate themselves on all aspects of governance both corporate and community based.” DeSantis and Gillum are seeking to be governor of Florida and are on the

“
I believe in good production of our workforce, our future employees, our future employers, entrepreneurs, innovators and creators. All of it is made possible when we do our job.”
”
Andrew Gillum

Nov. 6 ballot. Both emerged as the nominees for their respective parties. At the beginning of the contest after the



Ron DeSantis and Maynard Jackson

Photo courtesy of DeSantis Campaign

primary election, DeSantis appeared on Fox and told Floridians not to “monkey” up the election by electing Gillum. He was accused of putting out a call to racists in the comment, which he has denied. Gillum made several appearances in South Florida this

past weekend including keynoting the NAACP’s Freedom Fund Gala and attending the Miami-Dade County Democratic Party’s main fundraiser, its sold-out Blue Gala at the Biltmore. Gillum and actor Kendrick Sampson joined supporters and volunteers

at an “Unidos por Gillum” grassroots event at the historic Ball & Chain nightclub in Little Havana. Following the event, Gillum gathered with supporters and greeted voters at Little Havana’s Viernes Culturales arts and music festival on Calle Ocho. Hillary Clinton

will join Gillum in Florida for a joint appearance in late October. Details about the event have not been released yet. DeSantis spoke at the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce then took part in a roundtable discussion. Recent political

polls have Gillum leading DeSantis by almost double digits.

The Black Professionals Summit ran two days, Sept. 28 and 29, at Florida International University’s Roz and Cal Kovens Conference Center, located at 3000 NE 151st St., North Miami. Keshia Paul is president and CEO of Black Professionals Network, organizer of the summit.

About 400 people attended workshops and keynotes by Senior Vice President/Editor at Large of Black Enterprise Alfred Edmond Jr. and Ashley Bell, regional administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration among others.

Miami Times executive editor Carolyn Gunniss contributed to this report.



Miami Times photos/Felipe Rivas

The Overtown Youth Center vocational conference allows students to explore career options available to them after graduation.

OYC
CONTINUED FROM 8B

at home.” Jean and the students interacted freely with company representatives asking questions regarding training time, salary and benefits, as well as their quality of life working in the different fields. Jean left the conference motivated with many of his questions answered. “Coming here made me feel way better,” he said. Miami Dade College representatives were also part of the conference, providing students with information about the different “career in a year” programs available, as well as the traditional two- or four-year academic programs offered at the college.

Many recent grads fail to continue education due to career path indecisiveness and lack of knowledge about available workforce training, explained Magda Castineyra, director of the dual language program at MDC’s Honors College at the Inter-American Campus, who also helps coordinate events at the Overtown



Magda Castineyra, a Miami Dade College representative, address students’ questions about the different vocational training programs offered by the college.

Youth Center. “You could very easily [in] between six or nine months, or a year, do a certificate and start working, making very good money,” Castineyra said about the short-term vocational programs MDC provides. Students can begin working right away, after completion of the certifi-

cate without losing credit hours if they wanted to continue education in the future. “After gaining some experience, [students] can come back and then do an associates and those credits build on the associates, so you don’t have to retake those courses,” she said. The Overtown Youth

Center is set to host a college fair for middle- and high-school students on Oct. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. More than 40 colleges and universities will be in attendance, featuring many historically Black colleges and universities. High school students are encouraged to bring transcripts and SAT/ACT scores.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY Notice of Special Election

Pursuant to Miami-Dade County Resolutions R-658-18, R-659-18, R-660-18, R-661-18, adopted on June 26, 2018, R-744-18, adopted on July 10, 2018, R-576-18, adopted on June 5, 2018 and R-766-18, adopted on July 24, 2018, by the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County, Florida, notice is hereby given of a Special Election on November 6, 2018, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors in Miami-Dade County, for their approval or disapproval, the following referendums:

COUNTY REFERENDUMS

Charter Amendment Relating to Nonpartisan Election of Clerk of the Circuit Court

Shall the Charter be amended to require that the election of Clerk of the Circuit Court be conducted on a nonpartisan basis and that no ballot shall show the party designation of any candidate for Clerk of the Circuit Court?

Yes 350
No 351

Charter Amendment Relating to County Appointed Officials and Employees Running for Certain Elective Office

The Charter currently requires that County appointed officials or employees qualifying to run for federal, state or municipal elective office take a leave of absence and, if elected, immediately forfeit their County position. Shall the Charter be amended to limit this restriction to only apply to County officials and employees who qualify as a candidate for certain County elected offices?

Yes 352
No 353

Charter Amendment Relating to Review of Initiatory Petitions for Legal Sufficiency

Shall the Charter be amended to require that the Board of County Commissioners shall determine the legal sufficiency of an initiatory petition at the next Board meeting after the Clerk of Courts approves the petition form rather than after the required signatures have been gathered?

Yes 354
No 355

Charter Amendment Regarding Elections for County Commissioners and Mayor

Shall the Charter be amended to provide that when a candidate for County Commission or Mayor withdraws, becomes disqualified, or becomes deceased prior to an election no votes cast for such candidate shall be counted and that when a candidate for County Commission or Mayor is unopposed in an election after the close of qualification such candidate shall be deemed elected to office?

Yes 356
No 357

Charter Amendment Prohibiting Certain Payments Circulators of Initiatory Petitions

Shall the Charter be amended to prohibit any person circulating an initiatory petition from paying or offering to pay any individual or organization, or receive payment or agree to receive payment, on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained for circulating the petition and invalidate any petitions collected in violation of this prohibition?

Yes 358
No 359

New Municipality in Northeast Miami-Dade

Shall the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners be authorized to create a new municipality in the area of northeast Miami-Dade with the following outermost boundaries?

Northern boundary: County line
Eastern boundary: City limits of Aventura (Biscayne Blvd.)
Southern boundary: City limits of North Miami Beach
Western boundary: Interstate 95
Yes 360
No 361

SCHOOL BOARD REFERENDUM

Referendum to Approve Ad Valorem Levy for Teachers, Instructional Personnel, School Safety and Security

Shall the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, levy 0.75 mills of ad valorem taxes for operational funds (1) to improve compensation for high quality teachers and instructional personnel, and (2) to increase school safety and security personnel, with oversight by a Citizen Advisory Committee, beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2023?

Yes 362
No 363

All qualified electors residing within the boundaries of Miami-Dade County and/or Northeast Miami-Dade shall be eligible to vote Yes or No for these referendums.

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

Christina White
Supervisor of Elections
Miami-Dade County, Florida



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We have a solution. 305-440-1188</p> <p>REPAIRS</p> <p>C & F Decorating Services Painting, Fencing, Flooring. 305-757-4840</p> <p>CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 4 P.M., TUESDAY</p>	<p>EMPLOYMENT</p> <p>MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS is accepting online applications for AUDIT DIRECTOR, Capital Construction. Salary range \$75,669 to \$124,000. Apply online today at http://jobs.dadeschools.net for assistance contact Lourdes Rodriguez 305.995.1136.</p> <p>OIL CHANGE TECH Small business looking for an experienced oil change tech. For high volume fleet service. Medium/Heavy Truck experience a PLUS. Email: info@oilchangegetyou.com. 888-979-3645</p> <p>ROUTE DRIVERS We are seeking drivers to deliver newspaper to retail outlets in Broward and Miami Dade. Wednesday Only You must be available between the hours of 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. Must have reliable, insured vehicle and current Driver License. Apply in person at: The Miami Times 2525 NW 54th Street</p> <p>YARD SALE</p> <p>YARD SALE - Saturday, October 6 7:00 a.m. - 12 p.m. on NW 211 Street between 27th Ave.-37 Ave. 305-297-2327</p>	<p>PERSONALS</p> <p>FUN, FLIRTY, LOCAL Women! Call 786-364-7785 Try Free! www.livelinks.com</p> <p>SERVICES</p> <p>GENE AND SONS, INC. Custom-made cabinets for kitchens and bathrooms at affordable prices. 14130 N.W. 22nd Avenue. Call 305-685-3565</p> <p>BOB'S HELPER Unclog drains, doors and lawn service. 305-801-5690</p> <p>SPIRITUALIST</p> <p>CATHRINE Spiritual reader. I solved all problems in Life, Love, Marriage, Business, Success. Remove spells. One visit will change your life! 786-569-8346</p> <p>MOTHER LUCY SPIRITUAL HEALER 52 years of experience. Solve of all life problems. Reunite lovers. Call for free reading. 817-485-7237</p> <p>SISTER RISSA Spiritual Adviser Handmade oils Spiritual Baths Case Work Fixed Candles Honey jars, sour jars, crystals, ancestor money and more. Email me at daughterofmayam777@gmail.com, 754-779-5032</p> <p>CLASSIFIED DEADLINE 4 P.M., TUESDAY</p>	<p>LEGALS</p> <p>DIVORCE Looking for Cynthia M. Brown. Please call 334-329-3091. My name is James Brown.</p> <p>FICTITIOUS NAME</p> <p>NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of FCAA, Mt. Calvary Day Care located at 14701 NW 7 Avenue in the city of Miami, Florida 33168, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated this 3rd day of October, 2018.</p>
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The Miami Times

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Government-supported race discrimination

Black real estate workers decide to escalate push

HAZEL TRICE EDNEY
TriceEdneyWire.com

Despite the fact that the Fair Housing Act was passed by Congress more than 50 years ago, evidence now reveals that government-supported racial discrimination in home buying remains rampant across the U.S. - yet, with little legislative remedy or recourse.

This is the reason that members of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), a 71-year-old organization of Black real estate professionals, are pushing for Congress and policy influencers to take action after a NAREB-issued report and a panel of independent housing experts confirmed pervasive discrimination in homeownership.

"Trends leave us today with a Black homeownership rate of 41.6 percent - merely the same as it was just two years after the signing of the Fair Housing Act of 1968. Yes, there are reasons," says NAREB President Jeffrey Hicks. "There has been decades of federal, state and local government supported discriminatory housing and housing finance policies, disparate lending patterns, redlining, and exploitation, resulting in unimaginable losses of wealth."

Hicks was giving opening remarks to an audience of hundreds of people assembled at a two-hour NAREB forum during the recent Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference (CBCF-ALC) in Washington, D.C.

"Let me be clear. We are here today assembled in this room to begin down a road to solutions identifying the key areas where policy changes can have a measurable impact and create a space for true democracy in housing allowing all people of our nation to climb up the middle class ladder to build wealth through home ownership," Hicks continued. "NAREB believes it is possible and doable."



NAREB President Jeff Hicks

throughout the city. Dissimilarity indices over .60 are generally considered high.

• Since the peak year of Black homeownership in 2004, Black gains have been eviscerated due largely to the failure of federal financial regulatory agencies to prohibit predatory loan products that were disproportionately peddled to affect Black consumers, as well as insensitive federal policies that provide less assistance to Black households facing foreclosure than to non-Hispanic White homeowners.

• Federal housing regulators have aggressively pursued lending practices that make access to homeownership more challenging than necessary for lower- and moderate-income and Black households.

• More than twice as many of Black applicants (50 percent) applied for FHA-insured loans in 2016 compared to white applicants (23 percent). Conversely, fewer Black applicants (32 percent) sought conventional financing, half the rate of non-Hispanic White applicants (64 percent) seeking conventional financing. Congressman Meeks (D-N.Y.), a

member of the House Financial Services Committee, promised that Black homeownership - viewed as a key vehicle for Black wealth - will not be continually overlooked or purposely ignored by lawmakers. If Democrats win control of the House, Meeks hinted that the continued housing crisis in the Black community will be high on the legislative agenda.

"It is still the basic and most important and probably the biggest investment that people of color will ever make in their lifetime. And those of us in Congress learned our mistakes. We're going to fix it so that this will never happen again," said Meeks, whose congressional office sponsored the Sept. 13th forum.

The release of the SHIBA report coincided with a robust panel discussion. Experts not only expressed disdain for the status quo, but also outlined their views and policies that would remedy the racial discrimination in home buying.

abolished segregation in elementary and secondary school systems and gave rise to the civil rights movement with its marches and sit-ins to abolish civil rights violations in other areas of American life. He illustrated everything from buses to lunch counters to public accommodations to water fountains.

MCM

MIA - RCF D60 Gate New Swing Doors MCC-V-059-A

MCM is soliciting bids for this project under the MCC-8-10 Program at Miami-Dade Aviation Department:

Scope: New exit doors, demolition of curtain wall and all required power and data to operate new sliding doors, ticket counters, display monitors and security system. It also includes removal of outside bollards and new posts and pre-cast fence enclosures.

Packages Bidding: **SBE/Const Trade Set-Aside "A"** Misc. General Work, "B" concrete, "C" Doors/Hardware, "D" Windows, "E" Miscellaneous Metals, "F" Electrical.

Pre-bid Conference (**Mandatory**): Thursday, October 25, 2018 @ 10:00 AM
Location: MCM 4301 NW 22nd Street, Building 3030, 2nd Floor, Conference Room #1
Sealed Bids Due: Thursday, November 8th, 2018 @ 2:00 PM
Bonding required for bids of \$200,000 or higher

For information, please contact MCM's MIA offices, Ginny Mirabal (305) 869-4563.

CITY OF MIAMI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INFORMATION TO BID (ITB)

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

ITB NO. 17-18-058 METROMOVER STATION ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

CLOSING DATE/TIME: 2:00 PM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

(Deadline to Request additional information/clarification: Monday, October 22, 2018 at 5:00 PM)

A **VOLUNTARY** pre-bid conference to be held on the following **Friday, October 12, 2018 at 3:00 PM at the Miami Riverside Center, 444 SW 2nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33130, on the 6th floor - South Conference Room.**

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

For ITB documents, including plans, may be obtained by visiting the Office of Capital Improvements webpage: www.miamigo.com/CITP_procurementtopp.html or Sr. Procurement Officer Anthony Hansen anhansen@miamigo.com

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

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Miami Times photo/Gregory Reed

PANTHERS DOWN ARKANSAS PINE BLUFF, 55-9

FIU Panthers handled business and deciding to focus on team health

DAVID DRUCKER
FIU News

The football team (3-2, 1-0 in Conference USA) outpaced the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff by a score of 55-9. Here are a few takeaways from last Saturday's game at Riccardo Silva Stadium.

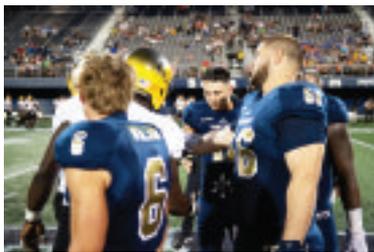
TAMING THE LIONS

Florida International University was a heavy favorite entering the Sept. 29 game. The Golden Lions belong to the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), which is a tier below FIU's playing lev-

el, the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS).

For the Panthers, this game was about handling business and getting the backups experience.

The Golden Lions covered 55 yards on their opening drive and converted a 37-yard field goal. The Panthers responded with a 76-yard toss from junior quarterback James Morgan to junior wide receiver Maurice Alexander for a touchdown. FIU followed that up with a 23-yard field goal from sophomore Jose Borregales and a 52-yard touchdown throw from Morgan to junior wide receiver



Panthers gather during the game.

C.J. Worton. By the end of the first quarter, the Panthers held a 17-3 lead. They went on to score the next 31 points. "As a whole offense, I think we're improving every week.

It's about just continuing to get better and never getting fine with where you're at," said Morgan.

Sophomore running back D'Vonte Price had five car-

ries for 110 yards.

IN AND OUT

Saturday brought major personnel news, both positive and negative.

The bad news: senior line-backer Fermin Silva has suffered an injury and will sit out the remainder of the year. Graduate student Edwin Freeman should see an uptick in playing time in his place.

The good news: senior running back Anthony Jones may return this season, head coach Butch Davis said in the post-game news conference. He did not specify when. Jones and teammate freshman offensive lineman Mer-shawn Miller suffered gunshot wounds in an incident in Opa-locka four weeks ago.

"[Jones returning] would be amazing for us. We've been tight since high school, so we're looking forward to getting him back healthy," said junior wide receiver Maurice Alexander.

COMING UP NEXT

The Panthers have no game this weekend. After that, it's seven straight weeks of Conference USA competition. The team hosts Middle Tennessee State University on Oct. 13 for homecoming.

"Next week is an opportunity for players to get a little bit healthier. We'll have limited practices during the middle of the week and try to get ourselves healthy for the final seven weeks," said Davis.

Dwyane Wade's on his Sweet 16 last-dance tour

The Heat guard shares his decision to return the team for one more

It's the end of September, just ahead of training camp and the Miami Heat and other teams around the league are holding their annual Media Day.

Media across all platforms, (print, radio, online and television) get the coach's overview and expectations for the team for the upcoming season.

There are one-on-one interviews and photo sessions on an otherwise fun and relaxed day.

No pressure, no annoying game-day questions to answer; just players talking through how they foresee their role with the team and how far they think they can go in the upcoming season.

But this particular media

day was not typical for the Heat. You could feel it was different.

This media day came with mixed emotions - happiness that the face of the franchise decided to return for one more season and sadness for the realization that this is the beginning of an end of an era.

The Dwyane Wade era. The legendary Miami Heat star released an emotional YouTube video where he described his struggle with the decision to come back and play one more season.

Did he feel like going through the grind of one more season? Could his body handle it? What about his family and missing out on his son Zaire's basketball games? He says he was about 90

percent sure that he wanted to retire.

Then a talk with Heat Coach Erik Spoelstra changed this mind.

On a poignant Sept. 16, the three-time NBA champion announced that he would be returning to the team for "one last dance."

A "Sweet 16 Dance." His 16th and final season as a professional basketball player.

There was no one-on-one interviews with Wade. He only addressed the press from the podium - the equivalent of group dance like the "electric slide."

The day is generally about the team, but there was one only person that every media member wanted to dance with - Dwyane Wade.

Yes, we needed to talk about the season, but the questions continued to circle back to Wade's impending retirement.

The Miami Heat announced Sept. 18th that it had officially re-signed the storied guard.

HEAT president Pat Riley said, "We are very delighted that Dwyane Wade decided to return. I believe that Dwayne can play a big part in us winning; that's what he is all about. I'm glad he's back."

Wade has played 14 seasons in a Miami Heat uniform. And just to put some per-



spective on how much Wade has meant to this team, here are some of his impressive stats: 876 regular season games (845 starts), averaging 23.4 points, 5.7 assists, 4.8 rebounds, 1.64 steals and 35.4 minutes, shooting 48.6 percent from the field. He's a 12-time NBA All-Star, a 2006 NBA finals MVP. He is the HEAT'S all-time leader in

points (20,473), field goals made (7,426), free throws made (5,226), assists (5,009). He has appeared in 31 post-season series for the HEAT and has 3,954 career post-season points - the 10th most in NBA history.

I could go on but you get the picture. Plus, most of these stats will be changing by the time he completes this season-long "dance."

He's a leader. He's a champion. He's Wade County.

His stats and his leadership speak for themselves, but let's hear from the team.

Spoelstra echoes everyone's sentiment. He's glad that Wade is coming back.

"I felt all along he has more to give. He has more to give to this game."

Coach Spo's first responsibility is to the team and taking them as far as they can go, in a season where the East is open to whomever wants it and is versatile enough to take it. Spo says his team has a lot of (it).

He says Dion Waiters is on pace with his return from ankle surgery. James Johnson's return from hernia surgery is almost at 100 percent. He's excited about the extra work that Bam Adebayo has been

putting in. And to the big question about his relationship with Hassan Whiteside, he says, "I haven't forgotten about the player he's capable of being."

He believes the young team can take their game to another level with the stabilizing guidance of Wade.

He realizes that this is going to be a special season. A magical season in the Magic City.

"I want him [Wade] to know that I'm going to give it everything I have for it to go the way he wants it to."

Udonis Haslem, fellow "Heat Lifer" and business partner, also in his 16th and final season, says "he doesn't know how [he] does it, how [he] comes up with these things." But now he is going to have to think of something, since Wade has called his last season his "last dance."

The two will however continue to be friends as they continue their dance in business.

Justise Winlow, Adebayo, Gorin Dragic, Wade Ellington, James Johnson, Tyler Johnson and Whiteside all look to consume every last bit of knowledge that Wade can impart on the game basketball, his business acumen and his work in the community.

IN GOOD TASTE

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SECTION **C**

THE MIAMI TIMES | OCTOBER 3-9, 2018 | MIAMI.COM

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breastless
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SEVEN PLACES TO PAMPER YOUR
BODY AND SOUL

4C



If you go

"Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom"

8 p.m. Oct. 6

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center,
10950 SW 211 St., Cutler Bay.

COST: \$5

INFO: SMDCAC.org

Arrested 9 times before turning 15

STAGE PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS
YOUTH ACTIVIST SEEKING VOTING RIGHTS

JULIANA ACCIOLY

Miami Times Contributor

In 1965, Lynda Blackmon Lowery was a young woman deeply invested in the eradication of intolerance and prejudice. For her activism, she was jailed nine times before turning 15, and she was one of the youngest participants of the Selma voting rights march in Alabama, the notorious Bloody Sunday.

“

At first I didn't want to do it, I took the book home and thought it was too political in nature.

It was a harsh and demanding first stand at 18 and I was scared to rock the vote.”

Damaras Obi

A chronicle of Lowery's life, "Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom," will premiere this Saturday at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center. The performance will take viewers into the middle of the Civil Rights movement as the teenager-activist animates a range of situations she lived through in the fight for social justice.

Ally Sheedy served as the original director for the play, which is based upon Lowery's award-winning namesake memoir. A one-woman show for four years, the show has been re-envisioned by Fracas-

well Hyman as a six-person ensemble, infused with gospel and freedom songs to convey a broader experience.

Actress Damaras Obi plays Lowery.

"At first I didn't want to do it, I took the book home and thought it was too political in nature. It was a harsh and demanding first stand at 18 and I was scared to rock the vote," said Obi, who is 22. But a meeting with Lowery made her change her mind. "What I had been taught about history was

SEE YOUTH 6C





Carnival Culture

Hundreds came out to cheer on the bands in Miami Junior Carnival on Saturday, Sept. 29 at Central Broward Regional Park in Lauderhill. Children from Trinidad say they are born knowing they were going to, in some way, take part in carnival. "Carnival is our culture."
The adult carnival takes place Oct. 7.

Miami Times photos/Kishanda Burns



This Is Sunday Dinner

It's passing food and sharing stories. It's laughing at memories. It's everyone together around the table. In a word, it's love.

Publix

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SEVEN PLACES TO PAMPER YOUR **BODY AND SOUL**

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YOUR MENTAL, PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH



BALI'S TROPICAL LANDSCAPE

KIMBERLY WILSON
Essence

Do you need a reset? Wellness travel has become increasingly popular, as Black women are now trying to preserve their mental health and sanity, while juggling the obligations that come with living in our society. That means taking time off to reflect, to challenge yourself to try new things, to visit new places and to come back a better version of you. It's a proven fact that time spent taking care of yourself can benefit the mind, body and spirit.

Self care translates to increased happiness, more vitality, increased productivity and lowered stress. And who wouldn't want each of these things?

The numbers in fact, don't lie. It's not only Black women who are taking advantage of this new way to travel. International and domestic wellness tourism accounted for \$563 billion in 2015, according to the Global Wellness Institute (a nonprofit devoted to health and wellness education), and is expected to account for as much as \$808 billion by 2020.

Here are a few places where you can step away from routine commitments and reboot.

SEDONA, ARIZONA

Arizona in itself is beautiful, but Sedona is something else. Known as one of Arizona's treasured spots, this destination offers activities for both the adventure and leisure traveler, and features breath-

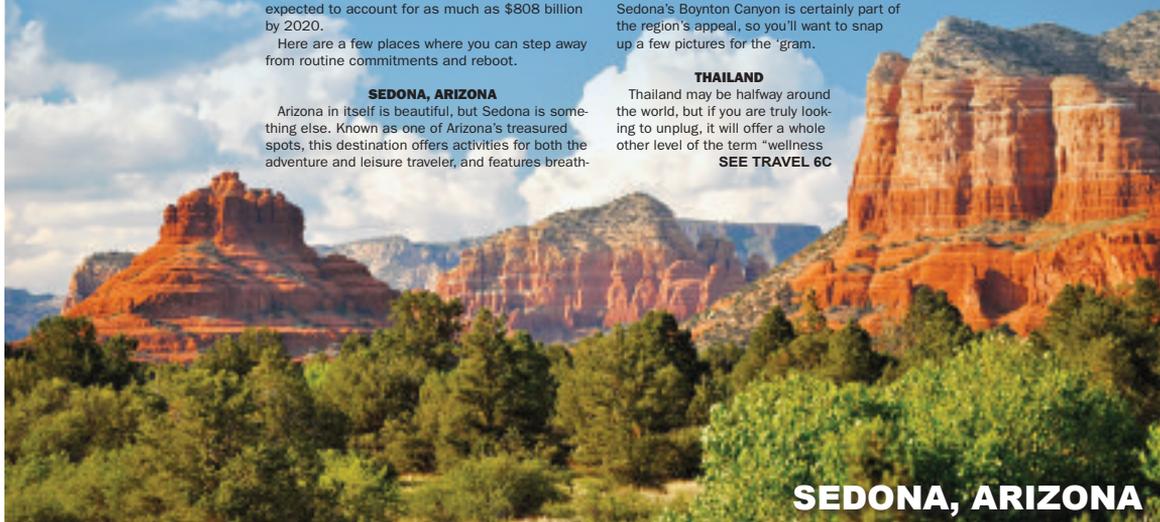
taking scenery suitable for a wellness vacation.

Many who embark upon Sedona are interested in mind, body and spiritual experiences that connect them to the land, culture, and people of a destination. If self care is on your mind, you'll find everything from yoga instructors, reiki practitioners, psychics, and healers of every stripe in Sedona who will open you with welcome arms to a holistic approach of living. Not to mention, the sublime beauty of Sedona's Boynton Canyon is certainly part of the region's appeal, so you'll want to snap up a few pictures for the 'gram.

THAILAND

Thailand may be halfway around the world, but if you are truly looking to unplug, it will offer a whole other level of the term "wellness

SEE TRAVEL 6C



SEDONA, ARIZONA

LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

EVENTS

The Overtown Children and Youth Coalition
Free professional development workshops; now until Feb. 2019; Register: www.overtowncyc.org/workshops. Info: Contact Shari Benjamin at 786-477-5813.

Empowering Resilient Women & Girls

Learn to prepare for hurricanes and other extreme weather events; 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 16; Williams Park, 1717 NW 5th Ave.; Info: RSVP at info@cleoinstitute.org or call 305-573-5251.

Local Vendor Outreach Exchange

Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan; 5-7:30 p.m.; Oct. 3;

North Dade Regional Library, 2455 NW 183 St.; Info: www.miamidade.gov/localvendor.org.

Walk Against Domestic Violence

Registration; 7-8 a.m.; Walk; 9 a.m.; Oct. 6; 16901 NE 19th Ave.; Info: Call Renee Darden 305-948-2940 or email at rdarden@nmbpd.org.

Greater Aviation Association

Students 91st annual gala; 6:30 p.m.; Oct. 13; Trump National Doral Miami Resort, 4400 NW 87th Ave.; Info: Connie Devine at 305-884-4300.

SCHOOL MEETINGS

Miami Northwestern Class of 1963

Breakfast meeting; Oct. 6; Pastime Restaurant, 2469 NW 62nd St.; Info: Call John at 786-222-8380.

Miami Northwestern Class of 1968

2 p.m. every fourth Sunday; 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.

George Washington Carver High School Class of 1966

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

Miami Northwestern Class of 1962

3 p.m. every second Saturday, African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-681-3330.

Booker T. Washington Class of 1967

4-6 p.m. every third Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161

NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-333-7128.

Booker T. Washington Class of 1959

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

Miami Northwestern Class of 1961

Noon every second Tuesday; YET Center, 7090 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-696-11554.

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 N.W. 81st St.; Info: Call 786-512-3641.

Women on the Move Inc.

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

The Miami Central High Alumni Association

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

The George Washington Carver Alumni Association

12:30 p.m. every third Wednesday; Community Center in Coconut Grove, 220 Florida Ave. (near US1); Info: Call 954-248-6946.

The Miami-Dade Chapter of Bethune-Cookman University

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

Tennessee State Alumni Association/ Miami-Dade Chapter

9 a.m. every third Saturday;

African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.; Info: Call 305-336-4287.

The Morris Brown College Miami-Dade/Broward Alumni Association

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

Top Ladies of Distinction Inc.

10 a.m. every second Saturday; Info: Call Betty Bridges 786-320-2891.

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 St.; Info: Call 305-758-1577 or visit www.childrendance.net.

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

BOOK REVIEW

Getting a side gig can help you make ends meet

But there are possible caveats to watch out for, the author says

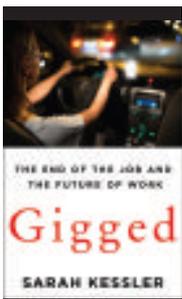
Oh, sure, it bought you what you needed but what you wanted, well, you had to figure that out yourself. A dime here, a dollar there, little chores-for-pay, tasks for Grandma and you made it work. And as you'll see in the new book, "Gigged" by Sarah Kessler, some things never change.

Back in 2011, when she was a reporter for a tech blog, Sarah Kessler became aware of a new start-up that utilized non-traditional workers in non-traditional ways. It was called Uber, and its business concept seemed

unusual. Having grown up in rural Wisconsin, Kessler had no frame of reference so she paid it little heed.

Eventually, though, she began to see that the model Uber was using — modified in so many ways — was being used for a lot of start-ups and could, potentially, benefit a lot of people. Was this gig economy really the way of the future?

It had been around awhile. In the early 1970s, Kelly Girls were available for temp work; becoming a Kelly Girl was advertised as a way to pay for life's extras. But, no



surprise, research showed then — as it does now — that temp working and gig economy jobs are taken more as a

way to make ends meet.

Intrigued, Kessler began following a few people who paid the bills with a string of non-traditional jobs they took for a variety of reasons. She followed a Black man who tried to bring the gig economy to his impoverished and not-so-mobile town. Other profiles were of the young and tech-savvy (or learning). Their backgrounds varied, as did their races. In other words, they fit in with the average gig worker, the numbers of which "grew 47-fold between 2012 and 2015."

While gig-working did, indeed, pay the bills for Kessler's subjects, she also learned that it was not all

good. Yes, there was "independence, flexibility and freedom" but at what price? For workers, it offered often-low pay, few-to-no benefits and no safety net. For employers, it saved money, but the hassles were daunting and "churn" could churn one's stomach...

So is this "what the future might look like?" as author Sarah Kessler says? In "Gigged," she offers some tantalizing clues and more than one caveat.

For anyone who has stuffed envelopes for pennies, or wondered if there's real cash to be made gigging, this book sets it straight. Kessler's subjects made money, but it was hard, hard

work and none of them are still gig-economy workers. Recommendations are sparse. That says a lot.

For business owners, it's more complicated: temp workers and small tasks seem to go hand-in-hand, but Kessler outlines many laws and rules that might make your head rotate like a spin mop. And, as it appears, further legislation is coming.

Readers would be correct in assuming that we haven't heard the final word on this subject. Change occurs frequently. In the meantime, "Gigged" is interesting, informative and timely — and until the dust has settled, that'll have to be enough.

Historic Elk's Hall reopens as 'Arts at the Elks'

Miami space gets new look and new purpose for the city residents

On Sunday Sept. 23rd, the new owner of the Elk's Hall let a few invited guests in to see the newly renovated space, to be known as "Arts at the Elks."

The venue now includes seven art studios, shared work space, a gallery and open space for events. Keith Ward, an African-American businessman with deep roots in the neighborhood, bought the building from Lorenzo Johnson three years ago and decided to give the venue a makeover. It had long been used for parties, wedding receptions, family reunions and various community events, but its 1970's design was worn and dated. Ward said, "The community is looking for a place to have

events in the neighborhood. There will be no need to go to Hialeah or pay the high prices of downtown venues."

Both Ward and Johnson have long histories with the building located at 4949 NW Seventh Ave. in Miami. Their fathers were members and leaders of the Elk's Lodge that once called the building home. "Gentrification is coming, but why not embrace the improvements and let this building continue to be a place where newcomers and old-timers can come and have a good time," said Ward. He has hired Jessica Alvarez of Javi Productions to manage the space. She received eight reservations for events at the



Bobbie Barnwell, Phillip Campbell, Marika Tolz and Ladi Jenkins

Sept. 23rd event. She can be reached at 954-829-2396 or 305-559-5130.

Johnson said, "Keith really took the place to the next level." Judging from the reaction of the guests, Johnson is correct. Ward, along with his friend and electrician, Phillip Campbell created a place where anyone would be proud to have an event. There are new bathrooms, a polished floor, a custom built

bar, security cameras and beautiful lighting. Ward even bought nearby properties for spill over parking. The art on the walls make for a perfect setting.

Although it may not be obvious to some, seventh Avenue north of the 41st Street overpass is changing. There are new storefronts opening that are slowly transforming the once neglected avenue. In addition to the burgeoning

commercial strip, there are tree-lined residential streets with sidewalks and homes waiting to be renovated. Urban living is back and this neighborhood is just a short Uber/Lyft ride away from Midtown, the Design District, Wynwood and Downtown Miami.

The Elk's Hall is back, just in time to join in on Miami's development boom.

Paid advertisement

YOUTH

CONTINUED FROM 1C

alive in the person across from me. We died and were beaten for the privilege to vote, this was a bigger issue than myself, I didn't have time to think about what people had to say or think about me."

In her performance, Obi delves into the world of her character through a series of reflective spoken segments, her testimony delivered in a theatrical way. Anger is recognized as a legitimate emotion and yet, there's no violence onstage.

"One of the key points is that Lowery hated white people the same way they hated her," Obi said. "At first, she was excited about everything, about skipping school, marching. But going to jail, state prison camp, getting beaten on Bloody Sunday, her innocence starts to fade as she sees the reality of the world."

"There are times in rehearsal when I let myself cry," she said. "Sometimes I don't come back out."

The Selma voting-rights campaign in Alabama served as a catalyst to the passage of the Voting Rights Act later



Actors portray the struggle for voting rights.

that same year, but its display of violence and social injustice left an indelible bluish on American history. Protesters were murdered, tear-gassed and viciously beaten and Martin Luther King Jr., and other Black leaders were imprisoned.

"To be out there either you were crazy or you were dedicated," relates Miami-native Mae Christian, one of the

surviving foot soldiers. As a Black woman in her early twenties who dealt with the brutality of segregation on a daily basis, she, like Lowery, says she wasn't fearful of representing her ideals.

"It was dangerous everywhere if you were a Black person anyway," Christian said. "We couldn't even stop to use the bathroom, police would detain you. If two Black people

were standing up talking, they would water hose them in violation of a parade permit. By joining the marchers at least we were protesting. It was a sacrifice; many young people that went came back in body bags."

The 70-minute show is presented by Culture Shock Miami, in collaboration with the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center and the



Lynda Blackmon Lowery



Ally Sheedy

Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs.

There will be a free daytime show on Oct. 5 for local middle- and high-school students and a special performance by Voices of Heritage will precede Saturday evening's performance.

Hyman, known for works like the PBS series "Ghostwriter" and Nickelodeon's "Taina," said that the piece is entertaining as it is educational, charging viewers with the idea that it's pointless to celebrate past triumphs while failing to address the present. Selma changed Lowery's life and the world, but there's yet much ground on the equal-rights

road that needs to be covered.

"Timing is excellent," Hyman noted. "Florida is an important state; the midterm elections are coming up and we want to motivate people to vote now, which is just as important as voting in the big presidential election," he said. "We want to inspire youngsters to stand up for things that are affecting them, show them that they matter and have the power to make changes."

"We have to remember that people bled for this right. We have to honor the sacrifice they made to get the vote and not take that for granted. We need to make sure our voices are heard."

TRAVEL

CONTINUED FROM 4C

vacation." The country, which has a rich tradition of meditation, makes it an ideal place to rejuvenate your body while refreshing your mind. Unlike anywhere else you may travel to in the world, you can expect to experience Thailand's beautiful temples which are stretched throughout every city, golden beaches such as Phi Phi Island and James Bond Island and delicious Thai cuisine. Each city — from Bangkok, to Chiang Mai, to Phuket — offers something different. Experience outdoor activities such as kayaking and river rafting to spotting

been a go-to paradise escape for celebrities — but you don't have to have to be ballin' like Jim Jones to enjoy its benefits. Offering tons of great food options and an abundance of spas, it's not hard to see why it's the perfect wellness destination to kick back and relax. While Coachella may be fun and all, plan a trip here out of season and you can expect healing dry heat, mineral hot springs, unlimited spas, stylish hotels, amazing mid-century architecture and of course, the lush palm trees and incredible views. If all of these won't make you happy, we don't know what will! Did we mention that the destination receives more than 350 days of sunshine per year? So no matter when you visit,

stretches over 277 miles. Easily one of Arizona's most famous landmarks, you'll feel at peace, and almost mesmerized by taking it all in. And don't stop at just the Grand Canyon's North or South Rim during your visit. Your wellness getaway can also include some of the surrounding red rock canyons, luxurious spas, and healthy (yet, delicious) food options, and adventure experiences that will bring out the Lara Croft in you.

COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is synonymous with the word "wellness." A perfect year-round destination, the country hosts a number of retreats throughout the year from world-class holistic health and wellness practi-

specific reason, there's a reason why the locals live by the phrase 'Pura Vida' (the good life). When you come to Costa Rica, you'll be awakened to immersing yourself in nature, and living your best (well) life.

BALI, INDONESIA

Wondering where heaven on Earth is? If you've ever been to Bali, then you already know. The country's blissful environment and lush tropical landscape offers wellness travelers endless opportunity to rejuvenate, both physically and spiritually. In fact, the entire

culture is centered around spirituality, prayer, community and of course, wellness. The 'island of the gods' also offers a diverse landscape of beach, mountains, jungle, rice fields, and urban life — all of which provide a sublime backdrop to beautiful spas, retreats and wellness experiences. Of course, to add a bit of excitement to your visit, you'll also want to make sure to visit the Bali Swing.

CELEBRITY CRUISES

You may not have known, but cruise lines are taking the wellness trend by storm with

circuit training, yoga, healthy food choices and more active shore excursions. So you don't have to feel like you're over indulgent or off-track with your goals once you step on board. Celebrity Cruises even recently revealed their Edge to create a closer connection between you, the sea and the breathtaking world beyond. The Spa's design rivals any of the best spas in the world and its nature-inspired approach to wellness includes an array of spa, beauty and fitness experiences never before offered at sea.



COSTA RICA

(and petting) wild animals on a tropical trek. Or make it a true wellness vacation by indulging in some of Thailand's unique spa treatments, which can cost you between \$5 to \$10 for a one hour massage. After visiting here, you may never want to leave!

PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

Palm Springs has always

you're sure to be kissed by the sun.

GRAND CANYON

Far too often we get caught up in wanting to go abroad to see Earth's natural beauty, that we forget about what's right here in our own backyard. A trip to the Grand Canyon can be the experience of a lifetime, with its vast and stunningly beautiful land, which

tioners that feature world-class yoga, spas and surfing set against a natural landscape of lush rainforests and beautiful beaches. What also attracts so many tourists (whether for wellness, or simply those who want to experience the charm of Costa Rica) is the country's warm water beaches, unique hot springs and volcanoes. Ever been suspended in a jungle canopy? You can do that here too. Regardless of the

Multi-Media Arts Association of Miami presents
African Heritage Cultural Arts Center presents
The COLORED Museum
by George C. Wolfe
Directed and Choreographed by Jemal Boone
Music by Clarence Avant
OCTOBER 3 - 14, 2018
FRIDAYS 7:00 P.M. SATURDAYS 2:00 P.M. SUNDAYS 7:00 P.M.
General Admission \$30
Joseph C. Cabé Auditorium
5430 NW 22nd Ave. Miami, FL 33142
call 321-833-8171 for more information

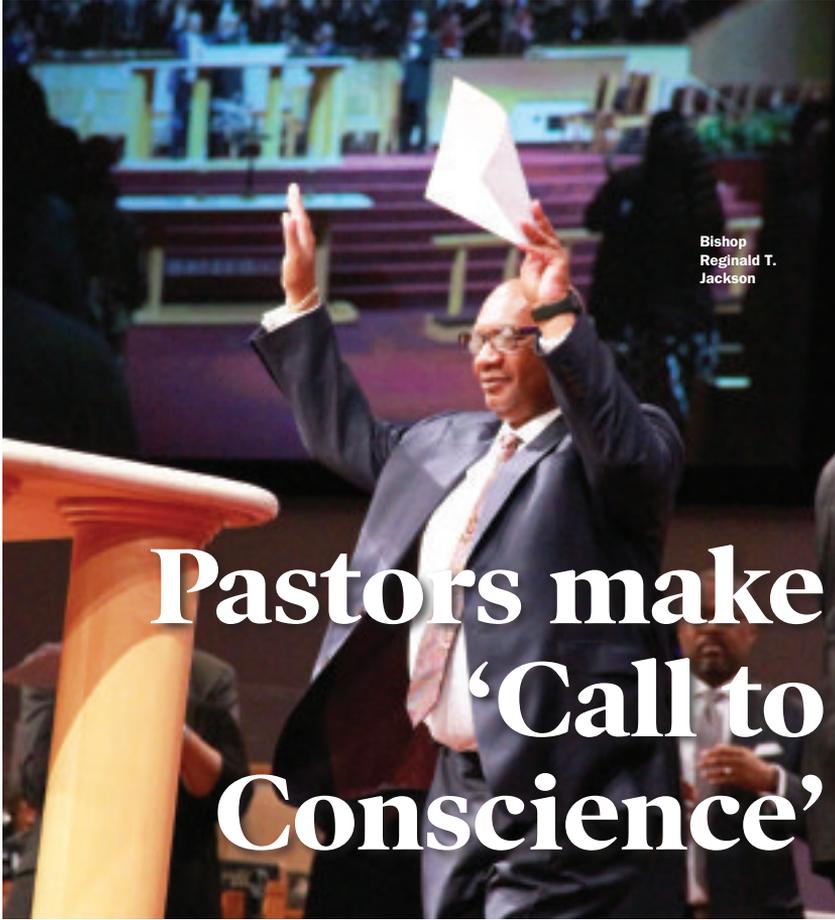
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YOU & YOURS

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D



Bishop
Reginald T.
Jackson

Pastors make 'Call to Conscience'

Roy Lewis/Trice Edney News Wire

BLACK CHURCH SENDS MESSAGE TO TRUMP WHITE HOUSE

HAZEL TRICE EDNEY and
HAMIL HARRIS
TriceEdneyWire.com

As America prepares to return to the polls for mid-term elections amidst racial tensions, continued economic inequities and a president that appears to embrace racism and shun truth, thousands of Black church leaders and parishioners answered a "Call to Conscience/Day of Action" late last month intended to send a message to the White House and beyond.

"Racism is not dead in America. As a matter of fact, it's not even sick. It doesn't even have a

“

There's one thing that's worse than slavery. That's to adjust to it. A slave should be maladjusted."

Rev. Jesse Jackson

cold," said Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, chair of the Conference of National Black Churches, preaching at a worship service the night before a mass rally in Lafayette Park across from the White House Sept. 6.

"We live in one of the most racist times in the history of this country. In spite of the fact that we've come through slavery. There's nothing good about slavery. But slavery provided a forum wherein our oppressors were visible and we could see



Courtesy, Reid Temple AME Church

Reid Temple AME Choir.

them. They were touchable. What makes the difficulties of this time is our oppressors are invisible."

The worship service, intended to stir up those planning to attend the rally, was held at Reid Temple AME Church.

"Tomorrow at Lafayette Park, we not only want the occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue - who is living in the house that Black hands built - we not only want him to see us we want him to hear us," Bishop Reginald T. Jackson told the congregation. Jackson, president of the Council of AME Bishops, is the visionary who called the "Day of Action."

The high-spirited two-day event drew hundreds to a day-long issues symposium before the worship service that drew

more than a thousand. After the rally the next day, bishops and church leaders traveled to Capitol Hill to meet with senators and representatives. The activities recalled a 1960s type movement, an awakening of sorts.

"There's one thing that's worse than slavery. That's to adjust to it. A slave should be maladjusted," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson at the worship service. "It was hard to wake us up until Trump came along. Trump is nothing but a wakeup call."

Richardson, the keynote speaker at the worship service, agreed that Trump is only temporary. But he warned, "He speaks for the oppressors. He speaks for the haters. We need to be aware of the nature of our battle. We will eliminate 45. But

there'll be some young aspiring 45s. They will be inspired by his conduct who'll want to grow up and be like him. We must watch for those who are on the horizon who must come this way."

Franklyn pointed out that Blacks are statistically worse off than any other racial group in America. He then paralleled the current pains of Black people to those suffered by the Children of Israel in the Book of Jeremiah as they suffered an economic crisis.

"The spring harvest has past and the summer has ended and though we have planted, there has been no harvest," he paraphrased the Prophet Jeremiah. "When you do not plant, it is unreasonable to expect a

SEE PASTORS 8D

Sex crimes victims come forward

Survivors encouraged by the Kavanaugh hearings

MATT SEDENSKY and AMY FORLITI
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—The high-profile airing of sexual assault allegations against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has led victims around the country to flood support center lines with calls, come forward with reports of rapes and publicly share long-held stories of their own experiences of being attacked.

For many who had stifled painful memories for years, hearing Christine Blasey Ford share her accusation against Kavanaugh reopened old wounds. For others dealing with a recent experience of assault, it has spurred them to report the crimes or seek counseling or other help.

"Having this in the news all the time has flipped their lives upside down," said Kristin Houlton Shaw, executive director of the Sexual Violence Center in Minnesota, where the number of first-time callers has increased in the past week. "So many different things can trigger people, and this time it's the news."

Kavanaugh has denied any wrongdoing and gave an impassioned defense of himself at a Senate hearing on Thursday. It was Ford's words, though, that resonated with many who survived an assault and were stirred by testimony recounting terror they understood lasts a lifetime.

"It's a real mixed bag and a real mix of emotions about both the power of this moment and the pain," said Jess Davidson, who leads the advocacy group End Rape on Campus and said she has heard from many

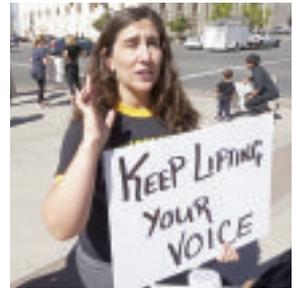


Photo via Associated Press

Woman protests sexual assault.

survivors of sexual assault in recent days who are sharing their stories for the first time. "I don't think there's any way we walk away from the conversation that our country is having this week without seeing a shift."

At the Our Voice rape crisis center in Asheville, North Carolina, executive director Angelica Wind estimated a 15 percent increase in calls from both survivors who were triggered by Ford's testimony and loved ones seeking advice on how to best support victims they know.

Wind said if the national conversation in coming weeks is supportive of Ford, more people might come forward, encouraged by a case in which an accuser is believed. But if not, many won't see the point in airing their stories.

"We're at a crossroads. We can either move forward and do a cultural change where we send a message to survivors that we are here for you. We believe you. It wasn't your fault and there are resources you can access," she said. "Or we can move back to dismantle all the progress we have done."

At TurnAround, which supports sexual assault victims in and around Baltimore, CEO Rosalyn Branson said a help line that typically gets two or three calls overnight got 11 on Thursday, specifically citing the Kavanaugh case. Some were people who had never told anyone of their assaults before.

"They felt the need to talk to someone about what they'd been through in a way they hadn't before," Branson said. "I can't imagine that there's any place that it's not happening. We're all experiencing this together and there are many, many people, more than anyone knows, who have been through it."



Miami Times Photos/ Kishanda Burns

Janean Jones speaks to a community member.

Leaders organize Community Day at Brownsville to promote

More than 50 people stop by Brownsville Transit Village

With less than 50 days to election day, community leaders are helping residents prepare to vote.

State Rep. Cynthia Stafford hosted an event on Sept. 22 that brought out more than 50 people to Brownsville Transit Village to enjoy food and music, register to vote and access state attorney services.

"We wanted to bring programs, resources and services to the community in the community," said Stafford. "Usually you might have to go downtown in order to access state attorney services or go to the DMV if you need



From left, Mary Cowart, Janean Jones and State Rep. Cynthia Stafford.

a driver's license or ID. Well, we brought it here today. It's a day of fun; it's a day of information; it's a day of service."

PASTORS

CONTINUED FROM 7D

harvest, but when you plant you ought to expect a harvest. We, African-Americans, have planted. We didn't just show up here and volunteer. We have been planting," he said citing how Black people led in building America through fighting in wars and even building the White House and U. S. Capitol buildings.

"Seems like the harvest has come but we didn't get any of the harvest. It was enough harvest for everybody, but the harvest was inequitably distributed. The folk who got the harvest, took the harvest and passed it on to their children," he said to the applauding and shouting congregation. "We as pastors, we must focus on what our people are going through. I don't mean the members of our churches. I mean the collective African-American people!"

The next day, Lafayette Square was filled with prayers, songs of praise and calls for social justice Sept. 6 as the Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church hosted a rally across from the White House to persuade President Trump to change his political ways.

The event featured leaders of the AME church and oth-



Rev. Jamal-Harrison Bryant and the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. chat on the sideline during the rally.

er national church leaders - young and old. They made it clear that they are organizing a massive get out to vote campaign that they hope will oust Republicans in Congress who simply have rubber stamped the President's efforts to turn back the Civil Rights clock in many areas.

"We are here today because our cause is right, we are here today because we are sending a message, we are here today because we want to let this country know we ain't going [to] let nobody turn us around," said Bishop Gregory G.M. Ingram,

prelate of the 1st Episcopal District who opened the rally with prayer and statement of purpose. "We are here today because we have gone through so much, we have prayed too long, we have walked too far."

Ingram came to the District with a busload of congregants because he represents churches in Bermuda and much of the Northeastern United States including New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Ingram was among more than a dozen speakers to address the more than 1,000 congregants gathered in Lafayette

Park. Speakers included veterans of the Civil Rights movement such as Rainbow/PUSH president/CEO Rev. Jesse Jackson; Bishop Reginald Jackson, president of the Bishops' Council of the AME Church, who issued and led the call; and Rev. W. Franklyn Richardson, pastor of the Grace Baptist Church in New York and former general secretary of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A. Inc.

Other speakers included Bishop E. Anne Henning-Byfield of the 16th Episcopal AME District; Rev. Stephen

Green, pastor of Heard AME Church in Roselle, N.J.; Pastor Jamal-Harrison Bryant of Empowerment Temple in Baltimore; radio talk show host and civil rights leader Barbara Armwine, and poet and Morgan State University Professor Sheri Booker.

Bishop Reginald Jackson told the demonstrators that even though President Trump recently met with a small group of Black pastors he really hasn't heard from the heart of Black America. "President Trump has heard from the professional prophets but now he is going to hear from God's prophets," he said.

Rev. Jesse Jackson said that the best way to even the political playing field with Trump is at the ballot box. "Nov. 6, that's our date and destiny; Ayanara Pressley, Massachusetts;

Ben Jealous, Maryland; Stacey Abrams, Georgia; Andrew Gillum, Florida; Mike Espy, Mississippi," he said, pointing out major races around the nation with Black candidates.

During a press conference held at the Metropolitan AME Church in Downtown D.C., Bishop Reginald Jackson and other church leaders talked about the importance of the election and how they plan to organize get out to vote rallies in local churches across the country.

"It is so important that the body of Christ, particularly the

Black church, operates with some level of moral authority," said Rev. Jamal Bryant, Pastor of Empowerment Temple in Baltimore. "In the face of depravity and corruption of morality in the White House we have got to speak truth to power, we can not be silent in the church."

Nebo AME Church, said, "the event was keeping with the spirit and the legacy of the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Richard Allen, who spoke out against injustice, spoke out against racism. That was 220 years ago and here we are in 2018 having to have voices spoken loudly against racism, sexism, ageism and the nefarious policies of this current administration."

During a press conference after the rally the Bishops talked about formulating a nationwide campaign to get out the vote. Bryant said that they had received a call from the White House in which Jared Kushner wanted to speak and set up a future meeting. But Bishop Reginald Jackson said the church is interested in real progress - not "photo ops."

Pastor Jamal-Harrison Bryant; Bishop Reginald T. Jackson; Senior Bishop McKinley Young; Bishop E. Anne Henning-Byfield and Rev. Stephen Green answer questions during a press conference at Metropolitan AME Church.

CHURCH Listings

CATHOLIC

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

BAPTIST

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

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

MISSIONARY BAPTIST

New Christ Tabernacle Church
Rev. Harold Harsh
1305 NW 54th Street • 305-835-2578

Walking in Christ M.B. Church
Rev. Larry Robbins, Sr.
3530 NW 214th Street • 305-430-0443

New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church
Elder William Walker
5895 NW 23rd Avenue • 305-635-3866

New Christ Tabernacle M.B. Church
Rev. Harold Marsh
1305 NW 54th Street • 305-835-2578

Valley Grove Missionary Baptist Church
Elder Johnnie Robinson
1395 NW 69th Street • 305-835-8316

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

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
Prophesess Felicia Hamilton-Paramore
630 Sharar Avenue • 954-707-3274

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

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

PENTECOSTAL

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

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

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

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

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

NON DENOMINATION Lively Stone Church of Miami
Pastor David Doriscar
8025 NW Miami Court 754-400-0899

Call 305.694.6210 to place your Church Listing

Gathering All Parents to Prayer

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

Greater New Bethel Baptist Church

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

Sistah to Sistah Connection

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

The Elks Historical Business and Conference Center

Gospel Kickback with entertainment and fine dining; noon - 6 p.m. every Sunday. Call 305-224-1890 for more details.

Metropolitan AME Church

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

Zion Hope Missionary Baptist Church

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

First Haitian Church of God

Food drive; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. every Saturday. Call 786-

362-1804 for more details.

New Day N Christ Deliverance Ministry

Free mind, body and soul self-empowerment and Zumba fitness classes. Call 305-691-0018.

Florida Independent Restoration Ministries

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

MEC Ministries

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

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

FAITH CALENDAR

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

The Universal Truth Center for Better Living

Is having celebration lessons that will give the community the opportunity to adventure in faith from now until Oct. 21. For more info, call 305-624-4991 or visit utcenter.org.

Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church

State Rep. Cynthia Stafford

from District 109 and State Rep. Sharon Pritchett from District 102 will host a Florida Constitutional Amendment Town Hall Meeting; 6-7:30 p.m.; Oct. 3; 2400 NW 68 St; For more info, call 305-953-3086.

Walker Temple Church of God in Christ

Will present their Spiritual Warfare Revival; 7 p.m.; Oct.

18-19; 1781 NW 69th Ter.; For more info, call 305-812-6263 or 305-836-3629.

The Kingdom Agenda Ministries Inc.

Free counseling, tutoring, health screenings and messages of services are being offered by Senior Pastor Felicia Hamilton-Paramore. Call 954-707-3274 for more details.

BREAST CANCER MONTH

Embracing breastless beauty

After two mastectomies, Carla Hill lives without reconstruction

CARLA HILL
Special to The Miami Times



“

I knew I had to take control, and not let this new health challenge overwhelm me. I found a boldness in myself I didn't know I had. First, I made a private appointment with my husband's barber to trim my hair into a close-cropped buzz cut.”

Carla Hill

Photo courtesy of Joe Wesley

Every day I speak to my fears to let them know they are not real. It is my belief that wellness begins in our heads.

Every day I speak to my fears to let them know they are not real. It is my belief that wellness begins in our heads.

The best medical advice I ever received was from my surgeon, Frederick Moffat, at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Before any surgery or chemotherapy began, Dr. Moffat would urge me to begin the healing process in my head - with

my thoughts. This is how I learned to think about and visualize myself back to wellness.

DEVASTATING DIAGNOSES

As a young person, I did all the right things - I didn't smoke, I didn't do drugs, and I took care of my body. One day in the '90s, my mother found me passed out on the bathroom floor after exercising. Shortly after I was

diagnosed with kidney disease. From what? Too many abdominal crunches? This led to a host of medications and treatments, including dialysis, and by 2000, a kidney transplant.

In 2005 I was getting ready for a cousin's wedding. After flipping my then middle-of-my-back, fresh-from-the-salon, blow-dried hair, I felt a lump in my right breast and immediately became frightened. Luckily, I lived in a house with a mother who was really progressive, and encouraged me to be aware of any changes in my body. By this time she herself was

a breast cancer survivor of nearly 10 years. I found out that this lump was stage two cancer.

I knew I had to take control, and not let this new health challenge overwhelm me. I found a boldness in myself I didn't know I had. First, I made a private appointment with my husband's barber to trim my hair into a close-cropped buzz cut. Then I chose a mastectomy without reconstruction - only the right breast. I was young and I had just had the kidney transplant. I didn't want to risk my new perky breast becoming infected, and then

possibly damaging my new kidney. For what? To fill out a Victoria's Secret bra?

In 2007, a mammogram helped me to find my second cancer. The first thing that crossed my mind was that if I needed another kidney transplant, I'd have to be five years cancer free. I was only two years cancer free - with a second cancer! So in 2007, I had my second mastectomy.

DECIDING TO THRIVE

Social media makes us feel that everyone is enjoying a perpetual, bottomless mimosa brunch. While Instagramming can be fun, if you're

not careful, it can make you believe that what you're going through is not the "brunch" of life, but a mere "microwaved egg sandwich" from the gas station!

My kidney transplant and cancer journey (WHEW!) has forced me to be bolder about the way I approach life. I sat in a state of disappointment and "why me" for many years. I wish I didn't have to go through these illnesses, but they've forced me to find courage and strength I would never have tapped into, had my life been "normal."

SEE HILL 11D



On your marks, set, get fit

Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert on Sept. 22 kicked off a 60-day health challenge, a free community event to help residents jump start their healthy lifestyle.

Each week, challenge participants can attend different activities at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreation Center, 3000 NW 199th St. Sessions, which average about half an hour, include trap yoga, power walk aquafit and bootcamp. The challenge is a part of Live Healthy Miami Gardens, a multi-year project aimed at making the city a healthier place to live.

Live Healthy Miami Gardens focuses on bringing the community together, developing a plan of action, increasing coordination, and making change that improves the health of Miami Gardens residents. Miami Gardens is the primary coordinator of the project. Health Foundation of South Florida, a nonprofit grant-making organization, is providing the project up to \$3.75 million in support over six years.

Visit LiveHealthMiamiGardens.com for more information.

Photo courtesy of Miami Gardens



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CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS SAY No to using federal funds to pay for guns

childrensdefensefund.com

Children's Defense Fund envisions a nation in which children and teens feel safe in their communities and classrooms and leaders at all levels protect children not guns.

Betsy DeVos decried for wanting to utilize ESSA funds for weapons

LAUREN POTEAT
NMPA Washington Correspondent

After the unveiling of explosive reports where U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos openly considered allowing schools to use federal funding to purchase firearms and provide firearm training to educators, members of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights have stepped in with an open letter to the same administrator—in protest.

Comprised of more than 200 national organizations working together to promote and protect civil and human rights of all people, the open letter was released on Sept. 17, demanding that “the department immediately publicly clarify, that ESSA funds could not be used for weapons.”

“On behalf of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights... we write to share our significant concern regarding the Department’s reported contemplation of the use of Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants provided to states under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for purchasing firearms and firearms training for school staff,” the letter stated.

Questioning the department’s intent, the letter further went on to explore the risks of increased violence that this option could potentially cause.

“The Department’s con-

sideration of this use for the funding is inconsistent with both congressional intent and evidence-based educational practices, working against ESSA’s purpose to “provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close achievement gaps.” Having more firearms in schools would expose children and school staff to a greater risk of gun violence and make everyone in schools less safe,” the letter continued.

Since issuing these statements in late August, that were said to be sparked by requests from Texas and Oklahoma to tap into federal money to pay for “school marshals,” DeVos has ultimately left the decision to local districts to decide on how they would like to use the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) funding grant money.

In her letter to Congress, DeVos stated that she would not take “any action concerning the purchase of firearms or firearms training for school staff,” however, Marc Morial, president of the National Urban League and a member of the human rights group, reflected that an option’s such as this, should have never even been presented.

“This whole idea is just lousy and makes no sense,” Morial said. “ESSA money should be used to buy books and give disadvantaged youth



Joe Raedle/Getty Images

Activists protest in front of a gun manufacturer that makes an AK-47 rifle, on February 25, 2018 in Pompano Beach, Florida.

a chance at better education. African-Americans already face large amounts of gun violence outside of school, so to even propose such an idea is an added insult to injury.”

“School should be a safe haven for students and there is not one scant of evidence that shows children are safer around guns. The National Urban League does not want or support this,” Morial continued.

The state of New York issued its own memo to school district leaders, stating that it would not allow schools to use federal or state money to buy guns.

“We simply cannot afford to use federal education dollars that are intended for teaching and learning to pay for weapons that will compromise our schools and communities,” New York Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia wrote.

In a report done by CNN, Black Americans (particularly males), were shown to be more likely to die and to be involved with gun violence over their white counterparts, a statistic that the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund general counsel member said. “The only thing that this option will do is place more students at risk, especially African Americans, who experience implicit bias daily. The purpose of ESSA is to improve educational opportunities, not to create more dangerous practices.”

ESSA funds cannot be used for weapons,” Nicole Doolley, a NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund general counsel member said. “The only thing that this option will do is place more students at risk, especially African Americans, who experience implicit bias daily. The purpose of ESSA is to improve educational opportunities, not to create more dangerous practices.”

Tom Joyner Foundation to give HBCU scholarships

Radio host partners with Denny's to fund young filmmaker program

Miami Times Staff Report

Hunger in Black communities will get filmmaker’s attention through a scholarship program fund by the Tom Joyner Foundation and Denny’s Corp. The two have collaborated on the Filmmakers Scholarship program, created for students attending historically black colleges and universities to produce short films about hunger in

their communities.

“You know some of the most successful filmmakers attended HBCUs,” said Thomas Joyner Jr., president and CEO of the foundation. “Spike Lee, Will Packer, Nate Parker – just to name [a] few [who] have benefited from the HBCU experience. This scholarship is an investment in future for the next great director.”

The Tom Joyner Founda-



Tom Joyner

tion since its founding in 1998 has raised in excess of \$65 million to support more than 29,000 students attending HBCUs. Created to aid HBCUs, the foundation has recommended internships, offered matching grant support and career development to deserving students.

The foundation will distribute \$2,500 scholarships to two students attending Howard University and Morehouse College. In addition, two \$2,500 awards will be awarded to students attending any HBCU that is currently supported by the Tom

Joyner Foundation. The total distribution is \$15,000.

Applications for the scholarship may be submitted via tomjoynerfoundation.org from Sept. 1 through Dec. 1. Only full-time students enrolled at fully certified HBCUs can apply for the scholarship. To be considered, applicants must hold a cumulative GPA of 2.5 to 4.0.

Students must write, produce, shoot and edit up to a five-minute short film about hunger in their community, particularly what people are doing to fight hunger. The video

must be uploaded to Vimeo or YouTube and a link submitted along with the rest of the application by 11:59 p.m. Dec. 1. The full scholarship will be awarded to only one student working on the film.

“This is another great example of how our partnership with the Tom Joyner Foundation is stronger than ever,” said April Kelly-Drummond, director of diversity affairs and multicultural engagement for Denny’s. “We’re excited to see what great work these young storytellers will produce.”

Pastor OF THE WEEK

Bishop Glenton Samuels II

PRESENTED BY



Miracles made daily.

Through personal healing and a increased faith in God

God's mercy to Glenton Samuels is evident in his life

ISHEKA N. HARRISON
ishakah@gmail.com

Bishop Glenton Samuels is a walking epitome of 1 Timothy 4:12. The senior pastor of Life Changing Anointing International in Miramar, Samuels has been in ministry since he was 8 years old and holds the record as the youngest person in history to be ordained by Pentecostal

Deliverance Ministries International Fellowship. Now 30, his wisdom is evident, showing that physical youth and spiritual maturity can go hand in hand.

"I'd rather individuals see me for who I am as opposed to how old I am ... I just always loved ministry and had a passion for church and God's people. Younger children, they always shied away

from church and I was more so running to it. I started out singing and playing music and I would constantly feel the hand of God on my life," Samuels said.

That divine hand molded Samuels beyond a keyboardist, drummer and worship leader into a ministry leader who consistently does extraordinary things early in life. He graduated from high

school early with honors and earned dual bachelor's and master's degrees from Johnson University (formerly Florida Christian College) in business and organizational leadership by age 21.

He went on to receive his doctorate in practical theology from Regent University as well as two honorary doctorates of Humane Letters and Divinity from Allen University and New Life Theological Seminary.

In addition to his education, Samuels is a prophet, professor, motivational speaker, author and CEO of Samuels International LLC - a consulting firm that provides branding, public relations, digital marketing, publishing and other services.

He uses all of his gifts and training to lead his family and church in outreach efforts that assist the elderly at nursing homes, provide food to families, train young boys to become good men and offer a safe space for youth to attend events and tutoring.

"Family, transparency, integrity and also outreach are really big for me. Outreach is one of my driving points. We have the up-reach to God, but when it comes to reaching out to one another, especially the community, we lack in that area so we have our vertical alignment together,

but sometimes not our horizontal," Samuels said, noting that God is a relational God who works through people.

This December, Samuels, his wife Delpha and their son Prince Glenton Samuels III, is expected to launch a church plant called Life Changing Anointing of Fort Lauderdale. Delpha will be ordained as co-pastor because Samuels said having her serve alongside him is one of the ways he honors the biblical mandate that family be one's first ministry.

"My intention is to bring my family along with me. We do this as a team. My wife is my helper and I value her opinion. I value her input, I value her discernment and she is my partner in ministry. Even though I am the senior pastor, we are pastoring together. I don't make a decision without speaking to her because areas I am weak in, she's strong and vice versa," Samuels said.

He added that many men have what he considers an error in perception.

"We consider women as the weaker link when in actuality, we need them to fulfill our ultimate plan and call. I think that's where us men see the need of a woman; He saw the need of man and said it's not good for them to be alone.

God said I'm gonna make you a helpmate because I realize you need help," Samuels said.

He said his commitment to the Lord stems from personal experience, sharing he was healed from childhood illnesses including chronic asthma as well as overcoming diagnoses that he wouldn't be able to walk and would have Down Syndrome.

"When I look at my life, I am a testimony ... I'm a miracle and I'm still the youngest to do so many things. It's a blessing. That's why I believe having a relationship with Christ is so important. That's where we receive our vitality. That's what has kept me through some of the toughest situations of my life. It has gotten me to where I am now. It's nothing that I've done, nothing that I've earned or received; it's my relationship. When your relationship is rooted and grounded in Him, it's unquenchable; it's unshakable; it allows you to stand through the tests of time. It's the favor of God and I just can't talk about that enough," Samuels said.

Services are held Sunday at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m., Bible study is Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. and youth fellowships are Saturday at 6:30 p.m. To learn more, visit lifellf.org.



From removed to responsible citizens

Prison inmates thank professor for presenting the Quadrivium Project

CHARLES CARTER
Special to The Miami Times

Something truly remarkable is happening at South Bay Correctional Facility in Palm Beach County.

Inmates are actually becoming responsible citizens while they are yet incarcerated. Through the courageous efforts of Professor Marshall DeRosa of Florida Atlantic University (FAU), inmates are working to make themselves caring and responsible citizens.

The very idea of this groundbreaking movement is made possible by the financial backing of Charles G. Koch of Koch Industries., CEO Group, FAU and

the bold vision of Professor DeRosa who has brought a quadrivium of liberal arts courses to the prison, at no cost to the inmates. This is a first of its kind pilot program that has shown itself to be successful model. It is hoped that it will be duplicated soon in prisons across the state and eventually nationwide.

The quadrivium of courses includes civics, ethics, economics and literature. They each provide a unique yet inter-related aspect to one's general, as well as personal well-being.

The objective of this program is to liberate one's mind by teaching not what



Marshall DeRosa, a professor at Florida Atlantic University, sits in his office during an interview in Boca Raton.

to think but how to think as an individual with respect for the rights of others.

Civics is the main anchor of this quadrivium, where inmates learn about

inalienable rights and duties as American citizens rights that are not conferred upon us by the government or acts of legislation. They are God-given

birth rights.

Ethics, a highly distinguished collegiate course, is taught out of the textbook, Plato - Six Great Dialogues and Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics. No one would ever imagine that inmates (considered by some to be the dregs of society) would actually become enchanted by the teachings of Plato and Aristotle as he learns exactly how to truly become a moral and virtuous person.

Economics expand one's mind to seeing the unseen and to understanding economic laws, thus improving one's lot in life through the knowledge gained. Literature expounds upon the treaties of Alexis de Tocqueville's Democracy in America taking one on a journey from America's early beginning to what it

is today.

After completing the quadrivium of courses, which is about two years long, a graduation ceremony is held where each inmate is proudly presented with a distinguished Civics Education Project certificate. It is arguably a high mark of achievement as well as an honor to complete this program.

We, the graduates of the first Quadrivium Program, would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Professor DeRosa for bringing this project of entitlement into our lives and making us want to become better men, better citizens and better members of society upon our release from prison.

Professor DeRosa, we will forever be indebted to you!

HILL

CONTINUED FROM 9D

I've tried to put my experiences out of my mind so much that I'm always in shock to hear that someone is inspired by my story. Until very recently, I wanted to be unremarkable.

If you asked me how things were going, I'd reply that everything was great! In the Caribbean community you're

expected to push through all your challenges quietly, and with a smile. But anyone going through cancer or any other life-changing disease isn't and shouldn't feel happy about such a diagnosis. They deserve the right to be upset, and to grieve their old body, lost hair and altered sense of self, without judgment.

I'm a good Catholic girl, but I don't believe that God punishes. I don't think that I did something wrong and somebody up high is zapping me

with cancer. I think we live in a world that's filled with things that we can't avoid, that aren't necessarily good for us, and that we just have to deal with the best way we can. I have a support system that's fortified me enough to deal like a champion.

EMBRACING @BRSTLSSBEAUTY

After my second mastectomy, I made the decision to live a breast-less life. I named my new alter ego and social

media handle @brstlssbeauty; I've claimed my "beauty." I have decided that I'm still girly, fashionable, sexy, without breasts or luxurious hair. How truly courageous am I to totally shun traditional beauty standards and define my womanhood in my way?

Chemotherapy has left my husband and I without the prospect of having kids. We have decided aloud that WE are our family. If, how and when we choose to grow this family is no one's business but

our own.

My carnival-loving extended family is from Trinidad and Tobago. Trinis like to use the word "Bachanal." This word can mean all kinds of things. Bachanal can be a great time. It can be a scandalous event. Somebody can actually be Bachanal! I've used my culture to assess the events of my life and I've now embraced my personal bachanal. I don't alter my clothing or my carnival costumes to give the illusion of breasts. I don't hide

the transplant scar across my belly when wearing my scanty regalia at Trinidad carnival. I now channel my bachanal when I'm marching down the road there, and proudly parade in all of my breast-less glory.

To those surviving their own personal battles I say - you are more powerful now than you ever were before. Cause a Bachanal!

This article originally appeared in the Spring 2018 edition of *Island Origins* magazine.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Apostolic Revival Center

Services
Wed. Intercessory 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 B. Heron

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

Brownsville Church of Christ

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

Min. Harrell L. Heron

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.

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 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting

Rev. Dr. C.A. Ivory, Pastor

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

Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Services
Early Worship 7 a.m.
Sunday School 9 a.m.
NBC 10:05 a.m.
Worship 11 a.m.
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) 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 10:45 a.m.

1 (800) 254-ABCBC
305-685-3700
Fax: 305-685-0705
www.newbirthbaptistmiami.com

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

Pembroke Park Church of Christ

Services
SUNDAY Bible Study 9 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY PembrokeParkChurchOfChrist.com

594-962-9327
3707 S.W. 56th Avenue, Hollywood, FL 33023

Hosanna Community Baptist Church

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

Rev. Charles Lee Dinkins

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

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

Richardson

KIMBERLY CARLTENHINA COLLINS, 56, homemaker, died September 26 at Consultative Health Care Center. Service 12 p.m., Friday at Refuge Church of Our Lord.



REV. DR. WILLIAM ALPHONSO BRINGIER, 97, minister, died September 29 at Larkins Hospital of Hialeah. Viewing 3-8 p.m., Sunday at New Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, 1952 NW 48 Street. Service 11 a.m., Monday, October 8 at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.



EUNICE WRIGHT, 85, homemaker, died September 20 at Kindred Hospital. Service 11:30 a.m., Saturday at Greater New Bethel Baptist Church.



MOTHER MAUREN M. ATCHISON, 90, retired nurse, died September 22 at Good Shepherd Care Center. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.



DEACON JOE L. PAUL, 79, retired, died September 30 at Crisp Regional Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Friday at New Birth Cathedral of Faith.



MARIE WILLIAMS, 76, retired nursing assistant, died September 28 at Jackson Memorial Hospital North. Service 3 p.m., Saturday at Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.



JAHNIYA SMITH, 4, died September 30 at Jackson North. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at 93rd Street Baptist Church.



St. Fort's

BRENDA KING-CARTER, 59, social worker, died September 23 at North Shore Hospital. Service 12 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Eternal Rest
ERNEST L. FERNANDEZ, 78, welfare housing superintendent, Service 11:30 a.m., Saturday at Ebenezer United Methodist Church.



FRANK ANDREWS, III, 66, died August 20. Private Service.

Trinity

JOHN GIBSON, 61, musician, died September 21 at North Shore Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at God's Resurrection Ministry.



Eric L. Wilson
JAKE SMITH, 94, veteran, died September 25. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at St. Paul A.M.E., Miami.

Hadley Davis MLK

NAOMI R. HIGGS, 71, professional, died September 29 at U.M. Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Valley Grove Missionary Church.



RAYMOND BURTON, 77, parks and recreation worker, died September 23 at North Shore Hospital. Services 10 a.m., Saturday at New Shiloh Baptist Church.



FRANCES DAVIS, 56, customer service representative, died September 22 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 12 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



ELEANOR ADAMS, 74, died September 24 at Vitas Hospice. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Baptist Church.



Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

ISRAEL NELSON, 78, retired, died September 28 at North Shore Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Saint City Church of God.



Southern Memorial

BETTY JEAN SHARPE REID, 82, died September 24. Viewing 5-8 p.m., Friday at Southern Memorial Funeral Home, 15011 W. Dixie Highway. Service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Range-Homestead

JULIA MAE SNELSON, 56, died September 26 at Baptist Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Full Deliverance Baptist Church.



Eric S. George

SARAH ANN FOX, 82, died September 26. Service 10 a.m., Friday at St. Anne's Episcopal Church Hallandale.



Gregg L. Mason

TERRY LEON WALLACE, 57, died September 25. Viewing 5-9 p.m., Friday. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at New Birth Cathedral of Faith. Interment: Caballero Rivero Dade North.



Range-Coconut Grove

MICHAEL REESE, 59, died September 19 in Jacksonville, FL. Arrangements are incomplete.



AJ Manuel

SHAWN BAILEY, 38, died September 22. Service 1:30 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.
HARLEATHA FORD, 45, delivery person, died September 27. Service 3:30 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.

Wright and Young

ANDREA SHELTON, 38, nursing technician, died September 26. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at St. Mark.



LILLIE MAE JERNIGAN, 86, died September 25. Service 11 a.m., Friday in the chapel.



MARGARET JOHNSON, 90, retired nurse aide, died September 11 a.m., Tuesday, October 9 in the chapel.



THELMA MCKINNEY, 78, nurse, died September 26. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at New Mt. Mariah.

Range

JAMES L. MAULL, 89, retired school teacher for Miami-Dade County School System, died September 25. Survivors include his wife, Alva Ford Maull; brother, Robert B. Maull; sisters, Otelia Oliver (John) and Patsy Trice (Robert); and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Public Viewing 4-7 p.m., Thursday in the chapel; King of Clubs Service at 6:30 p.m.; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Memorial Service at 7 p.m. Service 10 a.m., Friday at the Church of The Open Door.



CLYDEW. CURRY, 76, retired supervisor environmental service for Miami Herald, died September 23. Viewing 5-7 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church in Coconut Grove, FL. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at the church.

NEVILLE AGERTON SYMONETTE, 65, bartender, died September 25. Final rites in Nassau, Bahamas.

Hall Ferguson Hewitt

MAGGIE MAE POLLOCK, 87, died September 26. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



REGINA SMITH, 62, retired, died September 28 at Jackson North. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Liberty City.



In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

LOUISE L. FLOWERS
01/16/1941 - 10/02/1996

It's been 22 long years since you've been gone. It seems like a life time. Words can't express the way we feel. We miss and love you. Love, your husband Willie T. Flowers; daughters, Vanessa, Dorothy, Loretta, Jackie, Angela, Nita, Mary, Cynthia and Cassandra; sons, Willie, Jr., Thomas and Joe; and great and great grands.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

TRAVIS D. RIGGINS "BABY BOY"
01/09/1986 - 10/07/2015

Three years has passed since you left us. Forever in our hearts. Rest on son, until we meet again. Love always, Mom, Dad, Sister and Big Brothers.

"What a time!"


VIRGINIA LOGAN

From January 29, 1938 to February 23, our beautiful Mother, Sister, Auntie, and Friend, Virginia (Lennon) Logan, graced us with her presence, gave freely of her love, and brought joy to our lives. A longtime resident of Key West, Florida, Virginia was born in Barwick, Georgia and died in Houston, Texas. She is survived by her son, Kelvin Eugene Smith, Sr. and his wife, Demelda; grandchildren from previous marriages, Kelvin Eugene Smith, Jr. and Kristopher Matthew Smith; loving sister, Mittie Bastian; brother, David Lennon and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,

LEROY SMITH
10/05/1939 - 05/14/2018

Lee you are gone, but not forgotten. Love by your kids and grandkids.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

JOHNATHAN WILLIAMS
08/15/1982 - 10/04/2014

Of all the gifts Life could send, the best is knowing we would see you again. Your loving family. Dad, mom, sister

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

AURELIA GRIER
10/18/1955 - 10/08/2016

Two years ago God took you. He took my closet friend and left me with a broken heart. God took you home. All I ever wanted in this life was for you to be my beautiful wife.

When a loved one passes on, their spirit never dies. I love you honey. It's your presence I miss, but the greatest pain of all that hurts me so deep, is after giving you my love, I can't have you to keep. Your husband, Clifford and family.

Happy Birthday

In loving memory of,

CORNEL ALEXANDER REEVES
10/01/1947 - 04/23/2016

Seconds turns to minutes-minutes turns to hours-hours turns to days-days turns to weeks-weeks turns to months-months turns to years. You are forever missed and loved by your wife, Mary Reeves, Nicholas and the rest of the family and friends.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

MARCUS M. ANTOINE
06/12/1980 - 10/07/2010

Gone but not forgotten rest in Peace. Your Mom, Claudette

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,

CHAUNDRA Y. RUSSELL
10/06/1975 - 09/30/2016

Forever in our hearts. Forever remembered Forever loved. Your son, Victor, mom, Sarah; dad, Eric; brother, Cedric and family.

Longhorns' first Black player dies at age 68

Miami Times Staff Report

Julius Whittier once remarked that attending the University of Texas and playing football opened up a larger world for him. It could be said Whittier helped open the university to the world.

Whittier was the Longhorns' first African-American letterman, making his debut in 1970, one season after Texas fielded the last all-white national championship team in the history of college football. He starred for two seasons as



Julius Whittier

guard before switching to tight end as a senior in 1972, a season in which he caught every touchdown pass the Longhorns threw.

"And I caught it in the (Texas) A&M game," he said in the 2007 book "What It Means to be a Longhorn." "We had one touchdown pass the entire year."

Whittier died Tuesday at age 68, the school announced Thursday. No cause of death was given, but Whittier had been battling Alzheimer's disease. In 2014, his family sued the NCAA on behalf of college players who suffered brain injuries. The school's Board of Regents dropped its ban on Black players in 1963 but integration was painfully slow and difficult. A few Black players signed with the Longhorns over the next several years, but none stayed long enough to make the varsity in an era when freshmen were ineligible to play under NCAA rules.

Texas recruited Whittier out of San Antonio and his parents were scared of what might happen to him in Austin. "My dad was scared for me," Whittier said in 2007. "He'd known some guys who struck off into 'white' territory and paid for it with their lives."

Whittier landed on a campus of nearly 35,000 students and only 300 were Black. He was a star on the freshman team, and Texas made Whittier available for interviews before his debut season.

"I'm a loner up here," Whittier told the San Antonio-Express News in early 1970, noting his coaches were treating him well but hinting at having problems with some of his teammates.

"Texas seems to recruit a lot of boys from small towns, and most of them have small minds just like their fathers," he said. "They never think about the things that are happening in this country. You never hear them talk about Vietnam or racism. If you want to know the truth, the only people I've met that I can really talk to are the longhairs or hippies. They are really concerned about things like ecology and the war. I'm concerned about those things, too."

A few months later, a group of sportswriters covering the Southwest Conference looked into his social life. The lead of a Sept. 8, 1970, article by The Associated Press noted that "Whittier, Texas's Black offensive guard, is rooming with a white player and occasionally dates white girls."