

To vote for volts

Miami Gardens wants to take control of lighting

K. BARRETT BILALI
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When Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert III gave his state of the city address in October, one of his themes was "Let there be light."

If the nearly 39,000 voters in the city mail in ballots and approve a referendum vote on special lighting districts, there will be light. And it may be less expensive.

Miami Gardens residents will decide via vote by mail whether control of special lighting districts will transfer from Miami-Dade County to the city.

Ballots were mailed to Miami Gardens taxpayers around Nov. 21. Voters will need to answer the question and mail in the ballot so it arrives by 7 p.m. on Dec. 11.



"There's one measure on the ballot where we're asking them [the county] to give the city control of those lighting districts," said Gilbert during an interview to promote the election on 99JAMZ radio last week.

The mayor and city officials have been actively advocating for the passage of special lighting districts. City officials argue that more lighting will improve quality of life and make movement around the municipality safer during the evenings.

“

Just having a city that's better lit, it's safer. It's better for economic development."

—Oliver Gilbert

"Just having a city that's better lit, it's safer. It's better for economic development," said Gilbert.

The campaign began with a door hanger on all properties in special lighting districts, informing taxpayers that they are in the district and the benefits of approving the measure.

In addition to Gilbert's radio interview, the city has held a town hall meeting to answer taxpayers' questions.

"Right now, you're paying to the county a fee that maintains the lights in your neighborhoods. That's what you are doing," said Gilbert during the meeting at Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex. "In most respects, those lights have not necessarily been what we need. We don't realize how dark the city is, but when you look at our neighborhoods compared to other places, they are dark. And they don't have to be."

Gilbert said that with more control, the city would be able to provide LED lighting, which provides a cost saving to taxpayers.

SEE VOTES 8A

THE OPA-LOCKA

Whistleblower

CHRONICLES

Sexual harassment, water bills and corruption

NYAMEKYE DANIEL
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Just after a Miami-Dade County judge ruled Thursday that former Opa-locka Finance Director Charmaine Parchment was improperly fired for reporting corruption at City Hall, her attorney Michael Pizzi started preparing for a similar case against the city.

Pizzi filed a new lawsuit on behalf of former City Manager Newall Daughtrey on Thursday. Daughtrey was fired on Oct. 2 from his position because he exposed even more corruption in Opa-locka, Pizzi said.

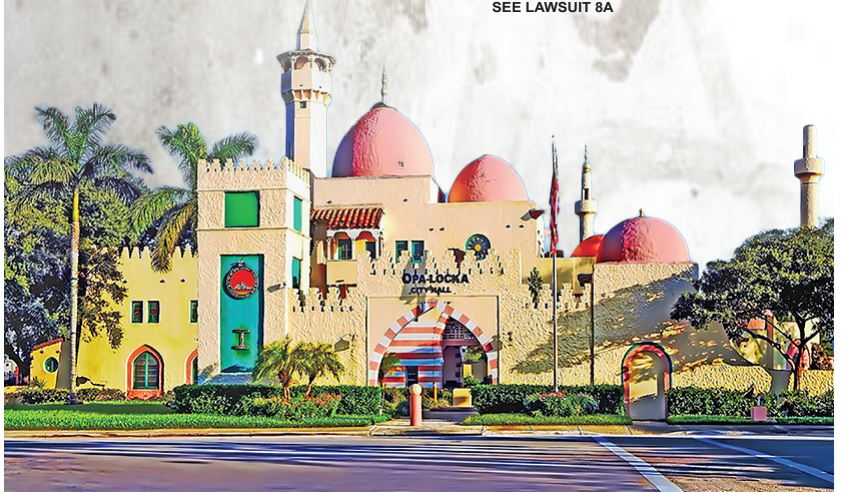
Daughtrey's, like Parchment's suit, was filed citing Florida's whistleblower statute.

Parchment's fight with the city of Opa-locka is not over. She has a pending lawsuit that alleges she was sexually harassed when she worked there. And there are other women who have filed similar lawsuits, which paint the previous Opa-locka administration as gender biased and riddled with corruption, and exposed the torrid operations of city government. Members of the new administration, sworn in last

SEE LAWSUIT 8A

A WHISTLEBLOWER

is an employee who reports to the authorities information about malfeasance, illegality or gross mispending of tax money.



Brenda Snipes rescinds resignation, pledges fight

Broward elections supervisor was suspended by Rick Scott Friday

Staff and Wire Report

Broward Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes has rescinded her resignation after Gov. Rick Scott suspended her, and his action has caught the attention of local and state lawmakers.

Gov. Rick Scott late Friday suspended Snipes even though Snipes had already agreed to step down, which would have been effective Jan. 4. Scott replaced Snipes with his former general counsel even though Peter Antonacci

has no elections experience. Snipes will now be "fighting this to the very end," her attorney said during a Saturday news conference.

"We believe these actions are malicious," said Burnadette Norris-Weeks, who said that Broward County voters should be concerned about what Scott is trying to do in the Democratic stronghold by putting in an ally who could oversee the office into the 2020 elections.

Snipes has been the top

SEE SNIPES 8A



Broward County Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes listens to questions from the media, Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018, at the Broward Supervisor of Elections office in Lauderdale, Fla. Broward County reported their recount results with 52 minutes to spare Sunday.

Joe Covarella/South Florida Sun-Sentinel via AP

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BLACKS MUST CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY | DECEMBER 5-11, 2018 | MiamiTimesOnline.com

EDITORIAL

Scott should rescind Brenda Snipes' suspension

Mr. Senator-elect Rick Scott has already shown Floridians that he cannot keep a promise. Already he has shown that he does not want to unite Florida; he does not want to heal wounds. For him, it's just politics as usual.

At the start of his victory speech Nov. 6, Scott said that after a grueling campaign, it was time to come together. "Americans come together," he said.

On Friday, when outgoing governor Scott announced he was suspending Broward Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes, he showed that he really didn't want Floridians to come together.

Actually, Scott had been showing that since the day after the election that he wants to keep Florida in turmoil and distrust. He filed multiple lawsuits against the Broward Supervisor of Elections' Office, floated the idea that there was rampant fraud in the election process and invited law enforcement to investigate the office.

There were hiccups in Broward but there were hiccups in other counties, too. Palm Beach County's head elections person didn't even finish state-mandated recounts. Seems that more reasons to move to suspend someone.

But on Friday, Scott did what the old adage says: He poured salt into a wound.

Snipes had already resigned her post after 15 years, and said her last day was Jan. 4. Snipes did not have to resign. She was elected by Broward County voters and her term doesn't expire until 2020. But she was gracious to give up the post and ride off into retirement sunset at age 75.

Scott suspended her and put in a white, Republican political card to serve in a non-partisan seat in a mostly Democratic-voting county.

Snipes rightly rescinded her resignation after Scott suspended her. Scott took a situation that was under control and has now created chaos. Whatever problems he had with her performance during the election — mostly not merited — would have been solved by her resignation. Scott blew it. Scott looks and is acting mean-spirited and vindictive. He is definitely starting off his Senate tour on the wrong foot.

After pledging to put the campaign behind him and unite the community, Scott showed himself to be small-minded and petty. He also urged the governor-elect's role to appoint his own pick for the post. After Snipes graciously resigned to allow for a post-election healing, Scott ensured that the racial and political flames would stay ignited and continue. Scott put his personal gratification ahead of the public interest. Scott, you don't have a mandate. Your victory was razor-thin. Given that alone you should have treated more lightly. Stop now and rescind the suspension. Walk away. It is the right thing to do.

Amendment 4 now enters phase two

On voting day Nov. 6, 2018, with Amendment 4, Florida voters abolished the state's archaic, racist, unconstitutional voter rights restoration process. It was a victory for justice and democracy and against racism and felony disenfranchisement. Now, ex-felons will have a portion of their stripped civil rights restored, and become productive citizens who can vote.

A federal judge ruled Feb. 1, 2018, that Florida's system of voter rights restoration is unconstitutional. U.S. District Judge Mark Walker found "the lack of timeliness in administering clemency unconstitutional." He noted, "the clemency board may defer restoration of rights for years or forever."

In Florida, this process has been in place for decades and it has always been managed and controlled by the governor and the Florida commissioner board. For most ex-felons there was a mandatory waiting period of five to seven years to start the process, and it usually took 10 to 15 years to complete the process. Only 10 percent of ex-felons were successful in restoring their voting rights; most stopped trying after 12 years.

For an ex-felon to be considered for a hearing with the Executive Clemency Board, some of the conditions that must be met include (1) pay in full any restitution owed, (2) no pending criminal charges, (3) wait the mandatory period

after those conditions are met, (4) submit the necessary paperwork and clemency application and (5) name of church, doctor and education affiliated with on a regular basis.

Without the work of Desmond Meade, president of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, and other organizations and years of work, Amendment 4 would have never been on the ballot. Meade organized the drive to put the amendment on the ballot, and more than 5 million Floridians (64 percent) voted in favor of the amendment.

This amendment is a great achievement for Florida, but it is also a model for the country.

As many different organizations and different individuals take their victory lap, everyone must remember that the battle is not over.

Republicans still control the Florida Senate, the House, the governorship and all commissioner seats, except for the commissioner of agriculture. The newly elected governor, Ron DeSantis, has already stated that he is no friend of Amendment 4.

Jan. 8, the constitutional amendment goes into effect, but the implementation details must be worked out.

Change in America is always incremental and slow, and this voter amendment for ex-felons will probably be put on the back-burner if the different coalitions do not continue to fight.

—Amsterdam News

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Random drug testing not so random

DUSTIN SEIBERT, *The Grio*

Carolina Panthers safety Eric Reid was the second NFL player to drop to one knee during the performance of the National Anthem in the 2016 season. He did so in solidarity with his then-San Francisco 49ers teammate Colin Kaepernick when he first took up the practice.

Reid, along with Kaepernick, also filed a collusion grievance against the NFL insisting that, during his free agency, he was not signed to a team as a result of these protests. Reid eventually signed with the Panthers while his partner-in-wokeness Kaepernick — despite being statistically better than many current NFL quarterbacks — remains tealease.

Reid is still dropping to a knee during the anthem when most other players seem to have moved right on.

Now, Reid is making news for being drug tested five times across eight games.



The dude just started with the Panthers, which seems like the equivalent of getting a performance review every Friday for the first 90 days of your job.

"This is supposed to be a random system," Reid said Sunday, Nov. 25. "It doesn't feel very random."

The NFL selects 10 players per team, per week to submit

to drug testing. The selection process, done via a computer program, is ostensibly completely random. But USA Today took the time to math it out, breaking down how unlikely it is that Reid would catch that many random tests.

Apparently, there's a 0.2 percent chance that he'd get selected for testing five times in eight weeks. Twitter agrees

that there's nothing random about it.

The inimitable Serena Williams also went through a multiple-testing situation in which it appears she had a target on her back. The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency tested her five times in 2018 alone — about as much as many of her colleagues and more than the male players at her level. Tests never came back positive, because Williams is just that good on the tennis court.

The other thing Reid and Williams have in common: they center their Blackness within their respective sports, and we love them for it.

The NFL, along with any other sports governing body, will continue to alienate the woke Black collective if they don't evolve with the times. Black folks are still a minority in the United States by a long shot, but we are loud. And we aren't about to be quiet any time soon.



Congress: Adapt to the poor's agenda

REVEREND DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER II AND MARY KAY HENRY, *The Huffington Post*

Last month, McDonald's executives looked out the windows of their \$250 million Chicago headquarters and saw an African-American minister from North Carolina and an openly gay female labor leader from Michigan standing with thousands of fast-food workers from all walks of life.

All we asked for that day was a livable, \$15-an-hour wage and the opportunity to form a union. Executives responded by calling the police and having 54 of us arrested for trespassing.

Since our nation's founding, the privileged and powerful have systematically pitted poor people against one another, using race to divide us. They've done so in hopes of avoiding scenarios like the one at the McDonald's headquarters, in which people unite and fight as one.

Now we're facing an even bigger challenge to the powerful few than the solidarity

we shared on the picket line that day. It took place on Election Day, when people of all races, creeds and colors decided not to sit out these midterms.

People turned out in record numbers in support of a bold, progressive agenda that includes affordable health care for all, at least \$15 an hour in wages and the opportunity to join a union, no matter

where you work, along with voting rights and dignity and respect for immigrants. As a result, 39 House seats (and counting) and seven governorships flipped from red to blue.

The Democrats soon taking power must show a commitment to the voters who elected them by swiftly passing ambitious legislation to begin fixing our rigged economy and democracy. To do that, leaders in the 116th Congress will need courage, resilience and a finely tuned moral compass more than bipartisan dealmaking or shrewd political skill. It's time for elected officials to allow everyday Americans — not wealthy donors and big corporations — to define what's possible in our society.

That means Democrats must take immediate action to raise the national minimum wage to \$15 per hour, protect and expand access to affordable health care, give more

working people union-forming abilities, create a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, restore the Voting Rights Act and protect equitable access to the ballot for all.

Rather than play by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's rigged rules and double standards, Democrats must come up with a new playbook that forces Republicans to explain to their constituents why their party supports policies that drive wages down and take health care away, leaving a whole lot of families — black, white and brown — poor, vulnerable and unprotected.

In 1968, when Martin Luther King Jr. brought together leaders ranging from Black Belt sharecroppers and Appalachian coal miners to Chicago farmworkers and Native Americans, he predicted their collective action would be an unsettling force in our complacent national life.



Was U.S. presidency compromised?

CHARLES BLOW, *The New York Times*

I no longer think that anyone in America, including Donald Trump's most loyal supporters, can afford to put off the consideration of the central question of this administration: What if Donald Trump or those closest to him were compromised by the Russians or colluded with them?

There have always been those of us on the left who viewed his presidency as compromised, as terrier-worthy if not wholly illegitimate, because of the Russian interference.

A crime had been committed by Russia and Trump cheered the crime and used the loot thereof to advance his candidacy. That is clear.

The Russians made repeated attempts to contact people in Trump's orbit and in some cases were able to meet with members of the team, as evidenced by the Trump Tower meeting. That is clear.

Members of Trump's team were eager to accept any assistance that



The special counsel, Robert Mueller, is still investigating the alleged connections between Russia and the Trump campaign in 2016.

the Russians could provide. That is clear.

And since assuming office, Trump has openly attempted to obstruct justice and damage or impede the investigation into what the Russians did and whether anyone in his orbit was part of the crime. That too is clear.

But for the people who support and defend Trump, this has already been absorbed and absolved.

They may not like it, but they are willing to overlook it. Indeed, they are so attached to Trump that his fortunes and his fate have become synonymous with theirs. There is a spiritual linkage, a beautiful bond, between the man and his minions.

But what happens if the evidence that the investigation by the special counsel, Robert Mueller, reveals a direct link between Trump and the Russians? How do

Trump's boosters respond?

Last week, when Trump's former lawyer, Michael Cohen, pleaded guilty to lying to Congress about the timeline and the extent of Mr. Trump's involvement in negotiations for a Trump Tower in Moscow, the political earth shifted.

If Trump was lying to or misleading the American people about his efforts to do business in Russia while running for president and the Russians knew — and presumably had evidence — that he wasn't being completely honest and forthcoming, then he was compromised.

I expect Trump to admit nothing, even if faced with proof positive of his own misconduct. There is nothing in the record to convince me otherwise. He will call the truth a lie and vice versa.

The country is about to enter the crucible. This test of our republic is without a true companion. And we do not have a clear picture of how the test will resolve. But, I believe damage is certain.





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Leisure City waits for answers

After an officer-involved shooting, FDLE investigation still ongoing

JANIAH ADAMS
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Two weeks after an officer-involved shooting in Leisure City, there are still questions about what really took place.

On Thanksgiving Day, a 15-year-old foster child was shot in his home by Ronald Neubauer, a Miami-Dade Police Department veteran. The police arrived to the home after responding to a call about a 15-year-old who was acting violently against his caretakers. When police arrived, there was a struggle between the officers and the teen. Neubauer discharged his weapon and shot the teen in the lower part of the torso, according to Juan Perez, MDPD director.

According to the MDPD, Neubauer, 55, has been relieved of duty with pay. He's been assigned to administrative tasks.

This is the second shooting in which Neubauer has been involved this year. He was involved in a shooting that left 29-year-old Jahmal Parker, a mentally ill man, wounded on

family directly affected and the Leisure City community," Cava said in a statement. "We all want answers and to understand what has taken place and why. I am confi-

dent that the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD), under the capable leadership of Director Perez, will take the necessary measures to address the situation after a thorough investigation."

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is investigating the incident.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement is still investigating an officer-involved shooting that took place in South Miami-Dade on Thanksgiving day.



Getty Images

“

I know this is a very difficult and sensitive time and my heart goes out to the family directly affected and the Leisure City community.”

—Daniella Levine Cava

U.S. Highway 1 near the Florida Keys.

Parker's minivan had crashed through a fence and into water. After the crash, he had blood on his clothes. When Fire Rescue workers attempted to check to see if he was injured, he didn't want to be touched. Neubauer raised his voice and threatened Parker, Local 10 reported.

Body cam video shows Parker standing between Neubauer and Richard Bellon, the second officer involved, who stood closer. Parker suddenly turned, grabbed Bellon's taser and pointed it at Neubauer, who put his taser away and pulled out his firearm. Both officers fired their weapons. Parker was airlifted to the hospital.

Prosecutors decided in early October that the officers' decision to shoot Parker was justified.

The home in which the Leisure City shooting took place belongs to Lee and Crystal Bradshaw. During a news briefing, Perez said he could not confirm whether the home is a foster home, but neighbors say the Bradshaws try to help foster children.

MDPD is working with Miami-Dade County's Community Relations Board to address residents' concerns. Members of the CRB said MDPD reached out to them once the incident took place to let them know they were willing to address community concerns. As of late, the CRB hasn't received any concerns from residents.

According to city-data.com, the population make up of Leisure City, which is located in south Miami-Dade near Homestead, is 80 percent Hispanic, 15 percent Black and about 4 percent white. The area is in District 8, which Miami-Dade County Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava represents. She expressed concern for the victim.

"I know this is a very difficult and sensitive time and my heart goes out to the

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New commissioner Alvin Burke swearing-in.

Photos courtesy of Joe Wesley

The new Opa-locka board sworn-in before residents

Initiation possibly marks change for the municipality

NYAMEKYE DANIEL
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More than 400 people braved the unorthodox South Florida weather last Wednesday night to flood the Sherbondy Village Auditorium to witness the initiation of a government in the city of Opa-locka.

Residents, supporters, family, friends and community leaders packed the auditorium despite the fact that temperatures dipped into the '50s. The swearing-in ceremony on Nov. 28 for the new mayor, vice mayor and two commissioners seemingly marked a turning point for the financially troubled municipality who is facing a federal probe and operates under federal oversight.

"Tonight is a historic occasion for the city of Opa-locka, and in many ways, our greater community," said Willie Logan, the master of ceremonies. "I believe the residents are hopeful, encouraged and really excited."

Opa-locka voters on Nov. 6 selected three new members



New commissioner Sherelean Bass is sworn in last Wednesday evening.

The three new members of the commission join former Vice Mayor Joseph Kelley and Pigatt as the leaders of a city that has been trying to crawl away from financial ruin and corruption.

Opa-locka has been on the FBI's radar since 2016 when the agency raided the City Hall. Seven defendants have pleaded guilty to bribery and similar charges since then.

Family members adorned the city leaders with kind words and tales of their ambition.

Davis' mother said she was proud of her son's accomplishment. Davis was born and raised in Opa-locka. He left the city for Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University and returned to serve with Opa-locka's Community Development Corp.

"Son, I wish you strength," said Kara Davis. "I pray that you carry this with your challenges and confidence along with wisdom to choose your battles."

Bass' brother Bishop Isaiah Musgrove reassured voters that picking his sister was the right decision.

"I know her values. I know her virtues, and I cannot think of anything that's more dear [sic] to her heart except her children and the city of Opa-locka," said Musgrove. Pigatt was surrounded by dozens of members from the 100 Black Men of South Florida including the president, Stephen Hunter Johnson, while he was sworn in. 100 Black Men of South Florida is the local branch of a nation-

wide organization that mentors and provides economic opportunities for Black boys and young men.

Pigatt credits the organization for the type of man that he is today.

"When they say it takes a village to raise a child, this is what a village looks like," said Judge Orlando Prescott.

His former mentor, Shaun Topps described the new mayor as a combative and arrogant teenager.

But Pigatt was able to rise above being labeled as a juvenile delinquent to become a Morehouse graduate, said Topps.

The ceremony was replete with fanfare. Pigatt was led down the aisle of the auditorium by the Miami Central Senior High School marching band. The event also opened up with a performance by the Ricky Danco dancers.

The ceremony was even more momentous for Burke. He had taken several stabs in the past at earning a role as commissioner but was unsuccessful.

Burke is well-known in the community. He attended every commission meeting for the last decade and was an avid critic of the previous mayor, Taylor.

"Our citizens turned it around. Y'all wanted a change. You voted for change, and you got change," said Burke.

The new commission met for its first official meeting Thursday, Nov. 29 following ethics training for the rookie commissioners.

STREET Talk

COMPILED BY KISHANDA BURNS, digital@miamitimesonline.com

Why do you think 18 percent of the Black women voted for Republican Ron DeSantis?



DEJOHN "TWIN" BAPTISTE, 22
Miami Gardens



SHEILA JACKSON, 50
Brownsville



RICHARD DUNN, 60
Miami

That 18 percent came from the Black women because they are School-Choice moms. When it comes down to school, that is a sensitive topic for most of them. That is why they voted for him. He promised to expand corporate tax credits just to grow vouchers. They were on his team once he made that promise.

Maybe because he was talking money. This world is revolved around money. It is almost if you can buy someone with it. He did the same thing Donald Trump did when he was running for president, he offered people money or talked about how much money he would put into something in which he probably won't do.

Who knows what goes through a woman's mind? It can be a lot of reasons why they voted for him. One may be because they liked his platform. Sometimes, the Black guy will not get 100 percent of the Black vote. It'll go to the white man.



LOUIS PIERRE, 67
Miami Gardens



ALBERT FRANK, 52
Miami



JUANITA WHITE, 53
Miami

I am not sure why. With women, we will never know. It can be because he has a stronger campaign that pitched to them why they should vote for him. Hopefully, whatever promises that he or his campaign team made, they will keep. They will regret not voting for who they should've voted for.

Money. There's not one Black woman I know that wasn't on Gillum's side. He had an amazing platform. So, to hear that DeSantis had some Black votes only mean that he said something about money that they loved.

If he talks about how wants to increase funding at private and public schools, then I would've voted for him too, especially if I had a child. But, we have to look at reality and realize that it wasn't a collective thing. This man bashed a Black man on national television and it sucks how that didn't bother some people, especially that 18 percent of Black women who voted for him.

WORD ON THE STREET

BRIAN DENNIS

'Your money is not for the grave'

In Lori Hadley Davis' first book, "Faith Through It All," she shares her experiences from childhood to fulfilling her dreams and struggles in the funeral home business.

In her latest book, "Your Money Is Not For The Grave," she breaks down the funeral business like never before and nothing like anyone has ever heard or seen. The book is a must-read and a step-by-step guide on how to not get taken advantage of during your family's time of bereavement.

In the book, she breaks down how shady funeral homes and the funeral directors can be and how they overcharge and take advantage of grieving families during the process of making funeral arrangements.

I love the contents of the book. The book reminds me of this "Word on the Street" column because of how she is breaking down the funeral industry and how she's calling out the practices of those in the funeral business. The only thing that she doesn't do that this column does is call the names of those funeral homes that are doing these shady practices. She goes on to make a distinct connection

between certain funeral directors, churches and pastors who have cut deals to steer business and get kickbacks to one another on the backs of those grieving families.

What's unique about the book is that she provides details on how individuals and families can get through their ordeal when they have lost a loved one. Most importantly, she lets the reader know what to do, whether you are dealing with the Hadley Davis funeral home or not. She is preparing the reader on how to deal with the loss of a loved one and how not to get taken advantage of.

Another thing that Hadley Davis does is that she makes it plainly clear how things should be done and how families should conduct themselves during the time of bereavement. She doesn't criticize anyone

in the book but she does make a keen observation how times have changed from when she was a little girl growing up. She recalls how men would dress up in suits and women would wear nice dresses to funerals compared to how people dress to go to funerals nowadays.

The book gives very valuable information on a subject that most people would consider to be taboo and don't think about until their family has to deal with the funeral director. I'm not telling anyone to read the book because the Hadley Davis funeral home provided a service for my daughter six years ago. And I'm definitely not telling you to read the book because it's putting money in her pocket. I'm telling you to read the book because long before I met Hadley Davis through her niece - my dear friend Valencia "V" Gunder - and before she put those words in a book, she spoke them to my daughters and their mother during our time of bereavement.

Read it because your money is not for the grave.

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of the five-seat city commission and rearranged some titles. Former Commissioner Matthew Pigatt took over the ceremonial position as mayor, while newcomer Chris Davis became the vice mayor by gaining the most votes in the commission race. Also new to the commission are Sherelean Bass and Alvin Burke.

Pigatt resigned in the middle of his four-year term as commissioner for the chance to take the seat. The risk paid off, and now Bass will continue the remaining two years of Pigatt's term. He and the other commissioners will replace former Mayor Myra Taylor, former Commissioner Timothy Holmes and recurring Commissioner John Riley, whose term ended in November. Riley also ran in the mayoral race.

But the ceremony was not only significant because of the revamp of the city government.

Pigatt, 32 and Davis, 31 are the youngest mayor and vice mayor duo.



"Our citizens turned it around. Y'all wanted a change. You voted for change, and you got change."

—Alvin Burke

SNIPES

CONTINUED FROM 1A

elections official in Broward since 2003 when then-Gov. Jeb Bush appointed her. She came under criticism for her handling of this year's elections, as well as its legally required recount in close races for governor and U.S. Senate. She had been elected three times and her current term was not scheduled to end until 2020.

Two South Florida state senators said Tuesday they will make sure Snipes' suspension gets a full hearing when it comes before the Senate. It is up to the Senate to make the ultimate decision on Snipes' removal from office, the *Sun Sentinel* reported.

Sen. Oscar Braynon, D-Miami Gardens, serves as vice chairman of the Senate's Ethics and Elections Committee that hears cases involving the removal of an official from office.

Braynon wonders if Scott's move has "ulterior motives." Sen. Gary Farmer, D-Fort Lauderdale, said consider the suspension "a blatant political move by a lame-duck governor."

The senators said it seems the incoming governor, Ron DeSantis, should appoint who he wants to serve in that office.

The Broward County Commission may look into the handling of the suspension, the *Sun Sentinel* reported.

Scott replaced Snipes with Antonacci, who has held a number of posts at the governor's direction. Antonacci also played a pivotal role in the controversial decision to force the ouster of Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Gerald Bailey in 2015. Antonacci has been president of Florida's econom-



Rick Scott



Sen. Oscar Braynon



Sen. Gary Farmer

“... have an open mind about this whole process. We have always done our work in an air of quality and integrity.”

—Brenda Snipes

ic development agency since last year.

Snipes urged people to “have an open mind about this whole process.” She maintained that “we have always done our work in an air of quality and integrity.”

Norris-Weeks expressed concern that the appointment of Antonacci was being done in order to push ahead with questionable actions ahead of the next presidential election. Scott's administration has been sued several times over election matters including lawsuits over early voting and attempts to purge voters from the polls.

In his executive order, Scott said he was suspending Snipes due to misfeasance, incompetence and neglect of duty. His order cited problems during the recount, including reports of more than 2,000 ballots being misplaced. She also came under fire in 2017 after she destroyed year-old ballots in violation of law. Shortly after the recount started, Scott himself suggested possible fraud, but never offered any concrete examples.

“After a series of inexcusable actions, it's clear that there needs to be an immediate change in Broward County and taxpayers should no longer be burdened by pay-

ing a salary for a supervisor of elections who has already announced resignation,” Scott said in a statement.

During his eight years in office, Scott has rarely suspended elected officials unless they were first charged with a crime. Florida law requires the state Senate to either remove or reappoint county officials who are suspended by the governor.

Democrats in South Florida echoed concerns about Scott's move to suspend Snipes.

Cynthia Busch, chairman of the Broward County Democratic Party, questioned why Scott did not appoint someone from the community and appointed someone who is a “Republican Party stalwart.” Rep. Shevryn Jones, a Democrat from Broward, called the suspension a “play on his politics on his part.”

Chris Smith, a former state senator from Fort Lauderdale, called the decision to suspend Snipes after she had agreed to resign as “spiteful.”

McKinley Lewis, a spokesman for Scott, did not respond to statements from Snipes or her attorney, saying that the governor's “executive order and statement speak for themselves.”

The Associated Press and the *Sun Sentinel* contributed to this report.

NEWS BRIEFS

COMPILED BY MIAMI TIMES EDITORIAL DEPT.

Fatal deputy-involved shooting in Tamarac

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is investigating a fatal deputy-involved shooting on Saturday, Dec. 1, at University Hospital and Medical Center Behavioral Health Pavilion in Tamarac. At about 10:30 p.m., staff from the center contacted the Broward Sheriff's Office and requested help with Jarvis Randall, who was a patient who was aggressive and displaying threatening behavior. One deputy used his bean-bag service weapon to subdue Randall. Three other deputies fired their weapons. Randall was transported to Broward Health North hospital and pronounced dead shortly before midnight.

5 people shot in Overtown, Miami police say

Five people were shot Saturday evening in the Overtown neighborhood of Miami, police said. The shooting happened around 9:30 p.m. near Northwest Fifth Avenue and Northwest Eighth Street. Police found four men wounded by gunshots. Police said numerous shots were fired at the intersection. Paramedics transported the four men to Jackson Memorial Hospital. A fifth man drove himself to the hospital. Their conditions were not disclosed.

Nikki Fried promises audit of Florida gun program

Newly elected Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried is vowing to do a “deep dive” into the state's concealed weapons permit program once she is sworn into office. Fried ap-

peared on several South Florida television news programs on Sunday, Dec. 2, including CBS4's “Facing South Florida with Jim DeFede.” Fried said she wants to require that all background checks be done by full-time employees. She said part-time employees are currently assisting in the reviews. Earlier this year it was revealed that there were lapses in the program run by current Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam. Fried will take over the office on Jan. 8.

Chair set to visit Miami Democratic National Committee

Chairman Tom Perez is beginning a final tour of potential 2020 convention cities. He's expected in early 2019 to announce his choice among finalists Houston, Miami and Milwaukee.

The three cities have put in bids to host the 2020 Democratic convention. South Florida has long been the Democratic anchor in a key battleground state, fueled by a diverse and ever-changing electorate.

Christmas shopping with Miami-Dade corrections

Children in South Florida got the chance to shop with a cop Wednesday, Nov. 29, ahead of Christmas. Target partnered with the Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department to give 15 children a chance to pick out toys. Anthony Cius was one of the children who got the chance to shop with his own corrections officer. He also got a big hug from Bernie, the Miami Heat mascot.

VOTES

CONTINUED FROM 1A

He also said that the city could then incorporate extra crime-suppression measures such as more surveillance cameras in neighborhoods.

LED light bulbs use a fraction of the energy as incandescents, but they require a big up-front investment, said Scott Alan Turner, a writer and certified financial planner. Turner published a cost-benefit analysis on LED lighting last month.

“If you run a single incandescent bulb 5 hours a day for two years, it will cost you around \$32 (depending on your energy rates),” writes Turner. “Most of that money is spent on electricity. If you run a single LED bulb 5 hours a day for two years, it will cost you \$12.”

Special lightning districts are

A ballot to vote whether to keep the county providing light to Miami Gardens or transfer the power to the city is due by 7 p.m. Dec. 11.

LANGUAGE

Your District| Street Lighting Special Taxing District so that the City, instead of Miami-Dade County, exercises ownership and control of the District as set forth in County Resolution [R.No.] and City Resolution No. 2018-01-3314?

The following is a list of the 20 special lighting districts in the city of Miami Gardens: Riverdale, Crestview, Andover, Greendale, Venetian Acres, Lucerne, Scott Lake Manor, Westwood Manor, Stoneybrook, Scott Lake Manor East, Bunche Park, North Dade Country Club Village, Jordan's Landing Multi-purpose, Rolling Oaks, Miami Gardens, Bunche Park South, Liberty Homes, Andover First Addition, Walden Townhomes, Peachtree Lane

required by Miami-Dade Code and are administered by the county. But on Nov. 8, 2016 voters amended the code to allow municipal taxing districts.

TAX HIKE?

Craig Clay, assistant city manager, said at the town hall meet-

ing that there would be no additional fees nor would residents' taxes increase.

“You're paying this assessment now,” said Craig. “It is part of your annual tax bill right now. These bills will continue to be paid through your tax bill.” Clay said if the city takes con-

trol, it would continue to bill at the current rate.

Gilbert also explained how the operation of each special lighting district would be budgeted.

“The budget would be equal to the amount collected from the special lighting districts. It is important to note that costs for each district will be dependent on the needs of that area, so expenditure for each district will vary,” he said.

In all three districts 20 special lighting districts in Miami Gardens. Votes in each district will determine the outcome for the district. But what happens if one of the districts does not pass the referendum?

“For each one of them, it would be 50 percent plus one of the ballots that were mailed in,” said Clay. “So it is possible that some districts could say yes and some districts could say no.”

If a district doesn't receive

the required votes, the district's lighting service would remain with the county.

This voting process is done by mail only and must meet the procedures laid out under Florida's statutes.

“Election for a taxing district is called by resolution by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners but it also needs to be approved by the municipality's governing board as well,” said Suzy Trutie, deputy supervisor of elections, government affairs and media relations.

Miami Gardens City Council and the mayor unanimously passed and adopted the resolution during its regular meeting on Jan. 10, 2018.

“And once both governing boards approve the either transfer or creation of a special taxing district, then we, the elections department, will coordinate the mail ballot elections,”

said Trutie.

Trutie's office will be counting ballots returned on Dec. 11 to determine which of the 20 districts passed. The ballots require a simple “yes” or “no” vote.

“We actually drafted the question on the mail ballot based on that resolution. We print the ballot. We mail the ballots. We receive the ballots. We tabulate them,” said Trutie.

The County currently oversees more than 902 special lighting districts, which provide services to 234,313 properties in unincorporated and municipal neighborhoods, according to its website.

There is a lighting event that voters will not have to approve.

The city will be holding its annual tree lighting celebration on Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the City Hall Courtyard.

“Let there be light,” said Gilbert.

LAWSUIT

CONTINUED FROM 1A

week, promise to clean up City Hall.

Daughtrey was fired after he attempted to collect debts from residents who owed more than \$100,000 to the city for water services. The former mayor, Myra Taylor's business, Vankara Educational Center, owes about \$19,000. The city currently owes millions to various creditors including \$7 million to Miami-Dade County, and is being monitored by a state financial oversight board.

The new lawsuit said the former mayor asked Daughtrey for a “favorable assignment” for her son at City Hall. Daughtrey was also told to cancel a competitive bidding process in order to select a particular contractor, MYLAWN, even though it would cost the city 20 percent more than other bidders.

Daughtrey and his attorney are seeking \$2 million in damages and his job back.

“The people like Daughtrey, who refused to do the special favors, got thrown out,” said

Pizzi. “I will leave it to people to speculate at how other people managed to stay.”

WRONGFUL TERMINATIONS

The Daughtrey and Parchment lawsuits show the extent of the political pressure being placed on Opa-locka employees to participate in unethical behavior, said Pizzi. But people who report wrong doing by their employers are protected.

“The Florida whistleblower statute makes it illegal for employers to take adverse action against employees because those employees either report or participate in investigations about malfeasance, illegally or gross mismanagement of public funds,” said Pizzi, who is a frequent speaker on the Florida whistleblower statute and has filed 10 such cases in the last year alone. “Once the employee does that, it is illegal to retaliate against that employee by taking adverse action against them. The statute is designed to encourage public employees to show integrity and report corruption. Parchment and Daughtrey are classic whistleblowers. They reported corruption and were fired.”

“We are going to have to, for a lack of better word, fire some people, and bring on some people.”

—Sherelean Bass

Parchment was wrongfully terminated and granted Pizzi and Parchment the win on Thursday.

“It has been a very long and hard journey to victory. I want to thank everyone who stood by me and the judge for her sense of justice,” said Parchment. “I hope that my struggle for justice encourages other public servants to be that lonely voice that say no to corruption and yes to integrity.”

HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT

During the past year, three female employees have been fired in Opa-locka in a span of six months, but no males, another lawsuit alleges. They are Parchment, grants administrator, Delia Kennedy and utility billing supervisor, Patsy Williams.

The other two women have also sued the city.

Pizzi filed a gender discrimination lawsuit on Oct. 16, in which he alleges Parchment was denied promotional opportunities; given unequal pay and benefits; and faced a hostile workplace and sexual harassment.

Parchment describes a hostile working environment, where she was discriminated for being a woman. She was

terminated before the issue could be addressed.

According to the \$5-million suit, former Assistant City Manager William Green would often put Parchment in an uncomfortable position.

“Mr. Green frequently came to Parchment's office and closed the door, which made her uncomfortable as if he wanted to socialize,” states the lawsuit. “Mr. Green spoke to Parchment in a condescending manner and was physically threatening.”

The city of Opa-locka is in default in this case because its attorney has not addressed the issue as of Nov. 26, according to Steven Larimore, U.S. Southern District of Florida clerk of court.

It is not the first complaint of gender discrimination against Opa-locka officials.

In May 2017, Pizzi filed a lawsuit on behalf of City Clerk Joanna Flores.

That lawsuit said that Flores had been mistreated “beyond any form of human decency based on her national origin and gender” by late Commissioner Terence Pinder.

NEW GOVERNMENT

Members of the new government said they will be

setting ground rules to stop the cycle of corruption. Newly elected Commissioner Sherelean Bass said she plans to implement an open-door policy to tackle the unethical behavior.

“First of all, we need to have open dialog with all the people in Opa-locka to let them know that we are trustworthy, that they can come to us when they are pressured to do things that are not legal,” Bass said.

Bass also said the Commission is going to have to make decisions about who stays and who goes in order to stop corruption.

“We are going to have to, for a lack of better word, fire some people, and bring on some people,” she said.

Bass said, however, she could not comment on Daughtrey's fate until the “time is appropriate.”

Opa-locka Mayor Matthew Pigatt said the lawsuits just add to the debts the city must pay.

“All lawsuits are paid by the people, either through our high insurance premiums or directly through our tax dollars,” said Pigatt.

Opa-locka Attorney Vincent Brown could not be reached for comment.

BUSINESS

Finance
Technology
Classifieds
Money
Small Business
Careers

SECTION **B**

THE MIAMI TIMES | DECEMBER 5-11, 2018 | MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM



COMMUNITY PITCHES IN TO SAVE LIL GREENHOUSE GRILL

NYAMEKYE DANIEL and
CAROLYN GUNISS
emilnyan@gmail.com

Landlord has started eviction proceedings for back rent

The owners of an Overtown business who were facing eviction have been given reprieve after they turned to the community for support.

Co-owners of the Lil Greenhouse Grill, Nicole Gates and Karim Bryant, took to social media to make a call for action to save their business from closing after receiving a five-day notice to vacate the premises.

Bryant and Gates said after a series of events they believe they are being forced out by owners of the rental property to make way for redevelopment of the area. A representative for the owners say the eviction process is about

breach of contract.

"From the bottom of our hearts thank you!" Gates wrote on the restaurant's Facebook page Nov. 30. "You did it. We reached our goal and thanks to NP CCC and Urban Philanthropies in collaboration with partners for Self-Employment, we also have an opportunity to secure our future."

In a video on Lil Greenhouse Grill's Facebook page, Meisha Hill said the owners are changing the lease terms on Gates and Bryant.

"The new owners may have made it impossible for Chef Karim and Nicole operate at the standards that build this amazing brand," said Hall. "The new owners have made



Nicole Gates

it clear that they have other plans for the properties, and that they are not happy with the five-year lease."

The property belongs to St. John Institutional Missionary



Karim Bryant

Baptist Church, a neighbor of the Lil Greenhouse Grill. The church's pastor, Bishop James Adams said the eviction service is the result of rental payment delinquency.

"It's unfortunate that what has been put forth is not true," said Adams of the video and other narratives he has heard. "We have never demanded anything other than the tenants to pay their rent and follow the terms of the lease."

In the Facebook video, Hall urges viewers to give to a GoFundMe campaign seeking to raise \$15,000 that she said would save the business. The \$15,000 will help the Lil Greenhouse Grill cover back payments and fees through January. The fundraising campaign started on Nov. 23.

While Gates didn't say how much was raised, she said the following in her Facebook post:

"The battle for our lease continues, your generous contributions will do the following immediately:

1. Be given to my attorney to pay back fees, Owed to the landlord, and December's payment, taking us into 2019 with a zero balance.

2. Catch up on product purchases.

3. Assist in payroll for our 8 valuable employees!"

Supporters have been told that they will receive a gift card from the restaurant equal to the amount that they donate to the GoFundMe. The campaign picked up steam, when other Black influencers and professionals asked the Black community to patronize the restaurant to keep it from closing.

SEE GRILL 12B

AFFORDABLE HOUSING MATTERS

DANIELLA PIERRE, affordablehousingmatters@gmail.com

Public housing in Miami may face 'rad'ical changes
Dade county commissioners apply for program, concerns residents

The members of the Housing and Social Services Committee of Miami-Dade County are before us trying to pull yet another fast one on us. I

really thought they would have learned their lesson by now.

The last time something like this happened, the residents of Liberty City ended

up with an approval from our county commissioners to use millions of dollars to build a dog shelter rather than fulfill the real needs of the community: safe, decent and affordable housing. Now, Miami-Dade County Public Housing and Community Development wants to apply for the U.S. Housing and Urban Department's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) to "rehab and preserve" public housing units — well at least their "affordability." However, if the RAD application gets approved, those public housing units like we know them today, will be no more. That's because the rehabbed spaces will be converted permanently to the Section 8 housing



Pierre

program. Culmer Place, Annie Coleman #14, Rainbow Village and others are on the list for the rehab; Liberty Square won't be a part of the submission. Sounds good to some — on the surface. Except Section 8 housing requires 30 percent of your household income and utilities, a little different from the flat-rate you pay in public housing, regardless of income.

LET'S TALK ABOUT RAD

The Housing and Social Services Committee discussed and voted to move forward with the application. I would have preferred that the committee talked with the community about this before taking it to vote. I mean, is the public hous-

ing being eliminated or not? Miami-Dade Commissioner Audrey Edmondson says no, but the last time I checked, when you convert something, it changes its form and overall function. So while the public housing building may still exist, the status of each unit will be different. Once the members of the Model City Advisory Board — led by former state Rep. Roy Hardemon of District 108 — got wind of this, it was shared on Facebook. And within 24 hours, the comment section lit up with questions, misinformation and frustrations about the possible elimination of public housing. But don't blame the Model City Advisory Board for putting out wrong information about RAD; our policymakers, specifically the Housing and Social Ser-

vices Committee members, should have done their part to inform us prior to the item being placed on the agenda.

Edmondson is chairwoman of the committee. If nothing else, she should have put out a statement, tweet or something. However, she failed us and the entire committee did, too. Just like they reached out to the state attorney, Katherine Fernandez Rundle about RAD, they should have reached out to the people who knew about their plans and intent behind applying for Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD). And based on HUD's fact sheet on RAD, Miami-Dade County is already out of compliance because they are required to do two things first: notify

SEE AHM 12B

TECHNOLOGY 

Keep your tech from being complicated

Tips on finding gadgets that easily work for you

TERRY SULLIVAN
The New York Times

My daughter Liz loves gadgets. She even recently reviewed one: the WobbleWorks 3Doodler Create+, a device that's part pen, part 3-D printer. What struck me most is because it's designed as a toy, it slips past our notice as a "gadget." Yet it most certainly is, letting you create objects in the same manner (and using many of the same materials) as a regular, complicated 3-D printer.

As my daughter said, it's "3-D printing in real time." But the pen is fun to use and a great example of "uncomplicated" tech. There's no Byzantine software to learn. In fact, you don't need a computer to use it, and you can get up-and-running quickly.

In many ways, it's a model of how all consumer technology should be, and what sets the tech that stands the test of time from the gear that's forgotten in a year or two: It's uncomplicated.

HOW TO IDENTIFY TECH THAT'S WORTH USING, OR WILL LAST

The key to determining whether some new piece of technology, whether it's a gadget, app or website, will work for you — and better yet, stand the test of time — is how uncomplicated it is, and how easy it is to do what the product is designed to do. Here are a few factors to help you evaluate before you sign up, or spend your money.

Look for simple, clear designs.

Before you buy something, it should be pretty obvious what it does and, generally, how it works. "When a consumer is frustrated on a website," said Jeffrey Zeldman, a web designer, author and entrepreneur, "that means a designer didn't do their job." Which means designers don't always do a good job. It's not your fault. Product designs should make your experience simple and clear. This can

be expanded to any tech product, from desktop computers and TVs to wearable fitness trackers and apps. If you're looking to buy a wireless speaker but the controls aren't clearly labeled and it's complicated to pair with your mobile device, then consider another — there are many to choose from.

Avoid devices or services that confuse you.

Inkjet printers have some impressive features, but the ink cartridges they require infuriate me because it's as if they've been intentionally designed to confuse you. Over the years, most printers I've owned will indicate that a cartridge will need to be replaced, even though I can still print pages of text. The settings of need to be truly accurate measurement of how much ink is left, even though I can print many pages. That means if I throw my ink cartridge out too early, I'm essentially throwing money away. That's just poor, confusing product design — or, even worse, purposely vague product design to get you to needlessly spend money.

Read reviews, then try it out.

"If I'm downloading an app from Apple's app store, I read the reviews first. I study the screenshots there, since they're representative of the app," Mr. Zeldman said. "Maybe I'm interested in downloading a photo app, but if the filters are ugly in the screenshots, I know it's not for me." It's also O.K. to stop using a cheap or inexpensive app after you've downloaded it. "One of the great things about apps is that you can also try out a limited-feature version (only certain elements of the app are turned on), and see if it works for you before you decide to pay for the full product," Zeldman said.

Read the product's manual or help guides.

As a teacher, I find this to be a valuable gauge of how much the company really cares. A stand-



Daniel Cowley/WobbleWorks Inc.

The WobbleWorks 3Doodler Create+ is so simple to use, you may not even consider it a gadget, much less a 3D printer, making it a prime example of "uncomplicated" technology.

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Miami City Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 9:00 A.M., to consider the creation, appropriation and funding of the Children's Savings Account. The funding will come from the City of Miami's Anti-Poverty Initiative Program. The creation and funding of these savings accounts are for new kindergartners entering school and to consider the City Manager's recommendations and finding that competitive negotiation methods are not practicable or advantageous regarding these issues:

Inquiries regarding this notice may be addressed to William Porro, Assistant Director, Department of Human Services, at (305) 416-2181.

This action is being considered pursuant to Section 18-85 (A) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended (the "Code"). The recommendations and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Section 18-85 (A), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and are available as with the regularly scheduled City Commission meeting of December 13, 2018 at Miami City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida.

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

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



#30321

Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk

OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners ("Board") of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday December 12th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m., at the Chapman Partnership Homeless Assistance Center, 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33136, to consider the award of grant funds to **Rebuilding Together Miami-Dade Inc.** a legal entity authorized to transact business/render services in the State of Florida, to provide partial funding for a, "Home Improvement Façade Program."

In accordance with the Board's 2010 Redevelopment Plan ("Plan"), the Board will consider the funding, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to underwrite the expenditures and costs associated with the renovation of residential housing units, within the CRA, envisioned to reduce slum and blight.

Inquiries regarding this notice may be addressed to Jason Walker, Executive Director, OMNI CRA, at (305) 679-8868.

This action is being considered pursuant to Sections 18-85 (a) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended ("Code"). The recommendation and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Sections 18-85 (a), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, and are available as with the scheduled CRA Board meeting of December 12th, 2018 at 5:00pm at the Chapman Partnership Homeless Assistance Center, 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33136.

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

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



#30324

Todd B. Hannon
Clerk of the Board

alone scanner I once bought had a manual that stopped midway through the instructions — not surprisingly, I rarely used

that scanner. Conversely, a digital camera I once reviewed had a number of simple, well-illustrated tip sections built

right into the camera menu, which were invaluable to a novice and even helpful for experienced shooters.

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Miami City Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 9:00 A.M., to consider the award of a contract to the foreign limited liability company listed below through Anti-Poverty grant funds from the Mayor's share of the City of Miami's Anti-Poverty Initiative Program. The Impac Fund, Inc., a Florida Not for Profit Corporation, will aid local businesses with assisting their eligible immigrant employees with the citizenship process through their New American Workforce Program, and to consider the City Manager's recommendations and finding that competitive negotiation methods are not practicable or advantageous regarding these issues:

- The Impac Fund, Inc. – The New American Workforce Program

Inquiries regarding this notice may be addressed to Malissa T. Sutherland, Administrative Assistant II, Office of Grants Administration, at (305) 416-1005.

This action is being considered pursuant to Section 18-85 (A) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended (the "Code"). The recommendations and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Section 18-85 (A), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and are available as with the regularly scheduled City Commission meeting of December 13, 2018 at Miami City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133.

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

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



#30319

Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the City Commission of the City of Miami, Florida on Thursday, December 13, 2018, at 9:00 A.M. at City Hall, located at 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida, 33133 for the purpose of granting the following:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION, WITH ATTACHMENT(S), BY A FOUR-FIFTHS (4/5THS) AFFIRMATIVE VOTE, AFTER AN ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING, RATIFYING, APPROVING, AND CONFIRMING THE CITY MANAGER'S FINDING, ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED AS ATTACHMENT "B," THAT COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION METHODS AND PROCEDURES ARE NOT PRACTICABLE OR ADVANTAGEOUS FOR THE CITY OF MIAMI ("CITY"), PURSUANT TO SECTION 29-B(A) OF THE CHARTER AND SECTION 18-182(C) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAID PROCEDURES; SUBJECT TO NECESSARY UPDATES FOR LEGAL AND FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TRANSFER WITH AUTOMATIC REVERTER PROVISIONS THE CITY OF MIAMI ("CITY") OWNED PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 551 NORTHWEST 71 STREET AS WELL AS 7142 AND 7148 NORTHWEST 5 COURT, MIAMI, FLORIDA (COLLECTIVELY THE "PROPERTY"), AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN ATTACHMENT "A," ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED, TO THE ARK OF THE CITY, INCORPORATED, A FLORIDA NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION, FOR JOB TRAINING; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS, IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE CITY ATTORNEY, AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE AFOREMENTIONED TRANSACTION, OF WHICH THE TERMS MAY BE AMENDED BY THE CITY MANAGER IN ORDER TO MEET THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY, SUBJECT TO ALL FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAWS THAT REGULATE SUCH TRANSACTIONS; RATIFYING, APPROVING, AND CONFIRMING CERTAIN NECESSARY ACTIONS OF THE CITY MANAGER AND DESIGNATED DEPARTMENTS TO UPDATE THE RELEVANT FINANCIAL CONTROLS, PROJECT CLOSE-OUTS, ACCOUNTING ENTRIES, AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS IN CONNECTION HERewith.

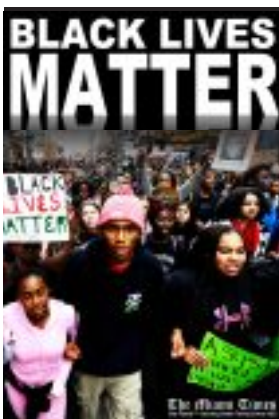
The Miami City Commission requests all interested parties be present or represented at the meeting and may be heard with respect to any proposition before the City Commission in which the City Commission may take action. Should any person desire to appeal any decision of the City Commission with respect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

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



#30320

Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk



SPORTS

Top Black woman executive at NBA to retire

Pamela El lead many campaigns which bolstered the association

SAMARA LYNN
Black Enterprise

Pamela El, the executive vice president and chief marketing officer at the National Basketball Association, will retire from her position at the end of this year, according to a press release.

"It has been an amazing privilege to have worked

at the NBA, and I'm grateful to Adam [Adam Silver, NBA commissioner] and Mark [Mark A. Tatum, deputy commissioner and chief operating officer, NBA] for their support throughout my tenure," said El. "I am particularly proud of the terrific team of marketing experts we've assembled globally — truly a skilled group that is

among the best in professional sports. With this great team now in place, it's the right time for me to transition from a full-time position to focus on board opportunities, my non-profit work, and spending more time with my family and friends."

With the NBA since 2014, El created and led the league's



Pamela El

"This Is Why We Play" Campaign" and helped the NBA further its global presence. She was key in developing the WNBA's "Watch Me Work" campaign, re-branding the NBA G League and also launching the NBA 2K League.

"Pam's contributions to the NBA have been extraor-

dinary," said Tatum in the same press release. "Even before she joined the league in 2014, we benefited greatly from Pam's expertise during her time as head of Marketing for State Farm Insurance, where she established vital partnerships between the NBA and WNBA and the leading U.S.-based insurance company. We are grateful for her incredible impact spearheading marketing strategy for all four of our leagues, and we wish her well in re-

irement after an award-winning career." An alumna of the Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit, El has been named one of the "100 Most Influential Women" by Advertising Age and the "Top 25 African American Women in Marketing" by Target Market News. She holds a bachelor's degree in mass communications/media studies from Virginia Commonwealth University and is also an alumna of the Brookings Institution.

JENNY ZIEGLER, Zsportsreport@gmail.com

Can women be head coaches of NFL teams?

Rice talks females in football league

This [NFL] is a man's world, but it would be nothing without a woman or a girl ... (speaking in my James Brown voice).

Sure, we are on the sidelines as cheerleaders, owners, reporters and such, but there has never been a female head coach manning the sidelines in any male professional sport.

There's always a first time for everything.

Well, hold that thought as we are not there yet.

Recently, Condoleezza Rice was trending on social media when it was reported by NFL insider, Adam Scheffer that the Cleveland Browns were considering the former secretary of state for its most recent head coaching vacancy.

Rice, though hailed as being intelligent, a great leader and a woman of great character, is an unrealistic candidate for the head coaching gig with the Browns, yet she has brought the discussion of coaching opportunities for women in male professional sports to the forefront.

Condi, as she is affectionately called, is also an adamant Cleveland Browns fan. "I love my Browns," she said.

Her love for the team stems from times when her and her father watched games together and cheered on Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown.

But a love of the game does not make a head football coach.



Photo courtesy of the NFL

She acknowledged that she doesn't possess the experience needed to take on such a role and had this to say on Facebook:

"I do hope that the NFL will start to bring women

into the coaching profession as position coaches and eventually coordinators and then head coaches."

Rice went on to say, "One doesn't have to play the game to understand it and moti-

ivate players, but experience counts — and it's time to develop a pool of experienced women coaches."

Though Rice never played the game because she is a female, she knows a little somethin', somethin'.

For three years, she was a part of the College Football Playoff selection committee responsible for determining the top college football teams in the country; ultimately deciding what four teams would compete in the playoff.

How's that for "women don't know jack about football?"

The former secretary of state is wise enough to know that though she is not ready to be a coach in the NFL, there are women who can do the job with the proper training and opportunities.

She has expressed an interest in the role of NFL commissioner. If she can broker peace deals in the Middle East, ceasefires and deal with terrorists and drug lords on behalf of our country — then why not?

She ended her post by saying, "BTW- I'm not ready to coach, but I would like to call a play or two next season if the Browns need ideas!"

At 4-6-1, the Browns could perhaps use a few plays this season as opposed to waiting until next season. I'm just saying.

The league however is making strides, as there are few teams that have opened their doors and are affording women the type of on-the-job-training required to be able to take that next step toward coaching in the NFL.

The Buffalo Bills, San Francisco 49ers, Oakland Raiders, Arizona Cardinals and the New York Jets all have hired females in some form of football operational capacity (offensive assistant, special team's coach, strength and conditioning coach, and assistant coach). Kudos to all of them!

Rice is advocating for more training opportunities for women to get the locker-room credential that will enable them to climb that proverbial NFL coaching ladder.

Given the right opportunities, the sky is the limit: general manager, commission or even president.

The only thing that is standing in the way of a woman coaching in the NFL is air and opportunity.

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- 51**
DISBURSED FIRMS IN OUR PROGRAMS
- 88.29%**
PERCENT OF STAKEHOLDERS PLEASED WITH GOB PROGRAMS & SERVICES
- 225**
TOTAL NUMBER OF OUTREACH EVENTS
- 426**
SCHOOL SITE WORKFORCE REVIEWS

DATA AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BECOMING A VENDOR, GETTING CERTIFIED AS A SMALL/MICRO, MINORITY/WOMEN, AND VETERAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE, OR BECOMING PRE-QUALIFIED TO DO PRIME CONSTRUCTION GOB WORK, CONTACT US TODAY!

Website:
oeo.dadeschools.net

Email:
oeo@dadeschools.net

Phone:
(305) 995-1307

Address:
1450 NE 2nd Avenue
Suite 428
Miami, FL 33132

Stay Connected:

Meeting Notice!
Disparity Study Phase II Public Meeting (Goods and Services & Maintenance)
Tuesday | January 15, 2019 | 5:00 PM
School Board Administration Building Auditorium
1450 NE 2nd Ave. | Miami, FL, 33132

CONSTRUCTION & A/E PROFESSIONAL SERVICES NIGP CODES NEEDED:
SUPPLEMENT FOR GOB PROGRAM

- 91240 - Demolition Services
- 91438 - Electrical
- 91244 - Excavation Services
- 91276 - Striping Streets, Parking Facilities, Lane Div
- 91200 - Construction Services
- 91430 - Concrete
- 91457 - Metal Work
- 77000 - Roofing Materials & Supplies
- 91051 - Masonry, Concrete & Stucco Maintenance
- 90932 - Doors & Windows
- 90900 - Building Construction Services
- 93153 - Lighting Fixtures Maintenance & Repair
- 91450 - Heating, Ventilating & Air Conditioning
- 90600 - Architectural Services, Professional
- 92500 - Engineering, Professional

GOODS & SERVICES NIGP CODES NEEDED:

- 95294 - Transportation Services
- 91059 - Pest Control Services
- 91015 - Elevator Installation, Maintenance, Repair & Inspection Services
- 91869 - Insurance Consultants
- 37500 - Foods Bakery
- 38000 - Foods Dairy
- 38500 - Foods Frozen
- 39000 - Foods Perishable
- 94500 - Financial Services
- 95300 - Insurance and Insurance Services
- 42500 - Furniture Office
- 96149 - Legal Services, Attorneys
- 34000 - Fire Protection Equipment and Supplies
- 20400 - Computer Hardware
- 98800 - Roadside, Grounds, Recreational, and Park Area Services (Landscaping)

Comcast to launch new Black TV networks

Two independent stations to come to the service provider in January

SELENA HILL
Black Enterprise

Comcast Corp. is adding two new African-American majority-owned independent networks to be broadly distributed on Comcast Cable systems beginning in January 2019. The selected networks, AFRO and CLEO TV, will showcase programming that highlights and features Black

communities around the diaspora. The announcement, however, came just days before a federal appeals court cleared the way for Bryon Allen's Entertainment Studios Networks to pursue a \$20 billion lawsuit against the cable operator on the grounds of racial discrimination.

TV One's CLEO TV focuses on lifestyle and entertainment content targeting young



New Black-focused channels to target young women and African diaspora, according to reports.

women of color. AFRO, which is owned by the Florida-based company AfroTainment, features movies, TV series, and other programming representing cultures in Africa and across the globe. In addition to being broadly distributed on Comcast Xfinity, the channels will be offered on Comcast's basic tier digital platform in select markets, making them available to millions of subscribers online. This will provide the networks with a major boost and help fill the void in the lack of

quality and diverse Black-oriented media content.

"The offerings from both AFRO and CLEO TV serve as an excellent complement to the growing catalog of programming choices we offer about global Black communities," said Keesha Boyd, executive director, Multicultural Products at Comcast Cable, in a statement. "We remain committed to delivering a wide array of programming by partnering with independent networks, such as the two

SEE COMCAST 13B

GRILL

CONTINUED FROM 9B

OWNER'S CHANGED

According to Gates, she opened the business, located at 1300 NW Third Ave., in February 2017, after she and Bryant (her boyfriend), signed a five-year lease. That contract was created with the property's previous owner Michael Simkins. The Lil Greenhouse Grill's lease payment is \$2,000 per month.

Simkins' son was a regular customer of the couple when they sold food out of the concession stand at the nearby Gibson Park. He allowed the couple to open the business with no money down and three months rent-free.

"With Mr. Simkins, everything was fine and beautiful," said Gates. "The building was old, and it was reviewed a lot and sometimes needed repairs. He was an advocate for things being done."

Simkins was also an understanding landlord, said Gates. "If things were slow, he would always give us an opportunity to catch up," on rent, she said.

The property is now under Nadlan Management on behalf of St. John. The management company wants Gates to honor the lease terms.

Gates found out that the business was sold

AHM

CONTINUED FROM 9B

all residents at the properties being proposed for RAD; and hold at least two meetings to include comments received from residents and include them with the RAD application. So, based on the events that haven't happened thus far, this item shouldn't even be on Housing and Social Services Committee's agenda so soon, even if it is only to submit the application. This is why, during the committee meeting on Monday, Nov. 19, members of the Model City Advisory board expressed their concerns about the future of public housing and asked them to slow down a bit until the community has a better understanding of what RAD is. In response to the resident's requests, politicians do not ignore us and proceed with business as usual.

I got to give it to Edmondson. She did try to dispel the

bal agreement with the property managers where they would make weekly payments to fulfill the balance. However, things took a turn left one day when Gates went to make a payment.

She said a verbal altercation ensued between her and one of the employees. Gates said the employee kept taunting her about the eviction.

"I was told the owner wants to evict us and that we are not supposed to be in the building," said Gates. "The building should

not be occupied."

Then when given an opportunity to cure the delinquent rent, the agreement is broken by non-performance of the term," said Adams.

Gates and Bryant hired an attorney. Two weeks later, on Nov. 20, they received an eviction notice from the court with the five-day notice to vacate.

"We never denied that we were months behind in rent. I have no problem paying," said Gates.

"The interruption of the terms is at issue. We decided to go public because the time was accelerated," said Gates.

Notice to vacate Shortly after, the owners of the Lil Greenhouse Grill got a letter from the management company stating that they would no longer acknowledge the payment arrangement along with a three-day notice to vacate.

Adams said the couple had been missing payments for months, and he gave them a chance to rectify the situation with the payment plan.

OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

PLEASE ALL TAKE NOTICE that a Board of Commissioners Meeting of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, December 12th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at Chapman Partnership Homeless Assistance Center, 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33136. All interested persons are invited to attend. For more information please contact the OMNI CRA office at (305) 679-6868.

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

#30323 Jason Walker, Executive Director
Omni Redevelopment District
Community Redevelopment Agency

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES COMPENSATION, REMUNERATION OR EXPENSES FOR CONDUCTING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A LOBBYIST WITH THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO ENGAGING IN LOBBYING ACTIVITIES BEFORE CITY STAFF, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES OR THE CITY COMMISSION. A COPY OF THE APPLICABLE ORDINANCE IS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK (MIAMI CITY HALL), LOCATED AT 3500 PAN AMERICAN DRIVE, MIAMI, FLORIDA, 33133.

AT THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2018 AT 9:00 A.M., IN ITS CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL, 3500 PAN AMERICAN DRIVE, THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ITEM RELATED TO THE REGULAR AGENDA:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION, WITH ATTACHMENTS, ACCEPTING THE PLAT ENTITLED "TROPIC TERRACE," A SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF MIAMI, SUBJECT TO ALL OF THE CONDITIONS OF THE PLAT AND STREET COMMITTEE AND THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN CITY CODE SECTION 55-8, AND ACCEPTING THE DEDICATIONS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT, LOCATED AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF NW 20 AVENUE AND NW 38 STREET, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE SAID PLAT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE RECORDATION OF SAID PLAT IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Copies of the proposed Resolution are available for review at the Resilience and Public Works Department, Survey Section of the Administration Division, located at 444 SW 2nd Avenue, 7th Floor, during regular working hours. Phone 305-416-1232.

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

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

Todd B. Hannon
City Clerk

#30317

The Miami Times reached out to Sidney Kahn, owner of Nadlan. But he refused to go into any details about the property.

"We are not allowed to talk about that. I am sorry," said Kahn.

Adams is maintaining that there are no intentions of ill-will.

"Blood sweat and tears is [sic] admirable, but that doesn't preclude the payment of your bills," he said.

The church has a 112-year record of helping the community, Adams said. It has built housing for the poor, affordable housing, and feeds and houses families in need, among other things.

Redeveloping the area is just an extension of its effort.

"Yes we have plans to bring more housing to Overturn for the workforce, college grads and professionals which are needed to sustain local business," said Adams.

When *The Miami Times* spoke to Gates on last Tuesday afternoon, she had to sneak in an interview amidst all business that she had acquired from the social media attention.

"Everyone is responding overwhelming to what happened," she said.

DMS - Rohde Fire Alarm Replacement Project:

On behalf of the Florida Department of Management Services, Turner Construction Company is actively soliciting subcontractor bids for the upcoming construction project: **DMS Rohde Fire Alarm Replacement Project.** The project is located at 1030 NW 111th AVE, Miami, FL 33172 and will consist of fire alarm and security camera system replacement along with a Fire Pump Bypass Line. Bid Packages available include Electrical, Fire Alarm, Fire Protection, Interior Finishes, and MEP work. This project is seeking M/DBE Business Entity participation.

All interested contractors and firms will be required to meet the following:

- * Complete prequalification form prior to sealed bid submission. Directions to complete prequalification form are contained with the bidder instruction forms
- * Insurance EMR must be less than or equal to 1.00
- * Financial Capacity and good legal standing with all authorities
- * Full Compliance with the Bid Documents and Bid Manual
- * Bid Bond to be provided for any proposal \$100,000 or above

Sealed bids are due no later than close of business December 12, 2018. If interested, provide email of interest addressed to the following email to obtain Bid Instruction Forms: esteeves@tcco.com.

Turner is an equal employment opportunity employer: - minorities/females/veterans/individuals with disabilities/sexual orientation/gender identity. VEVRAA Federal Contractor

OMNI REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Commissioners ("Board") of the Omni Redevelopment District Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday December 12th, 2018 at 5:00 p.m., at the Chapman Partnership Homeless Assistance Center, 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33136, to consider the award of grant funds to **Inhabit Earth Inc.** a legal entity authorized to transact business/ render services in the State of Florida, to design, develop, implement and manage the Open Space Initiative including but not limited to a Temporary Urban Farm, Neighborhood Greenspace or Event Space for residents in the redevelopment area.

In accordance with the Board's 2010 Redevelopment Plan ("Plan"), the Board will consider the funding, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 to underwrite the expenditures and costs associated with their open space initiative, within the CRA, envisioned to reduce slum and blight and further the objectives of the redevelopment plan over a two year period within the Omni CRA.

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

This action is being considered pursuant to Sections 18-85 (a) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended ("Code"). The recommendation and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Sections 18-85 (a), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, and are available as with the scheduled CRA Board meeting of December 12th, 2018 at 5:00pm at the Chapman Partnership Homeless Assistance Center, 1550 North Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33136.

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

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Todd B. Hannon
Clerk of the Board

#30325



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30 Street NW 19 Ave
One Bedroom. Section 8 Welcome. 305-754-7776

730 NW 98 St/7 Ave.
Three bdrms., one bath, Section 8 voucher, \$1500 monthly, quiet, secure, 305-305-0106

9902 NW 10 Avenue
One bedroom, one bath, \$950 monthly. 305-213-3066

COCONUT GROVE
Renovated two bedrooms, one bath, Section 8 Ok. 305-987-9710 or 786-697-8371

Furnished Rooms

13377 NW 30 Avenue
\$100 weekly, free utilities, kitchen, bath, one person. 305-987-9710 or 786-697-8371

1341 NW 68 Terrace
55+ Community of Christ. \$500-Walking. All new. Tony, 786-474-2324.

1822 NW 66 Street
\$325 monthly. 305-244-2528 for appointment.

FOR RENT

2373 NW 95 Street
\$90 weekly. Call 305-450-4603

6393 NW 17 Avenue
Clean, one person only, \$350 monthly, first, last and security. \$800 to move-in. Contact Mr. E. Patterson 786-597-8857

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

New Beginning Outreach
Share a room. Open dorm. Move in \$350. 786-443-7306

NORTH MIAMI
Room, free cable. Call 785-287-3836

NORTHEAST MIAMI
Room in Christian home, \$500 monthly. Earl 786-370-0511

NW AREA
Rooms, Rooms, Rooms, \$450 to \$550, plus \$300 deposit. Call 785-317-3892

Houses

3260 NW 213 Street
Three bdrms., one bath, \$1,500 monthly, 305-310-7463.

LIBERTY CITY AREA
One bdrm., cottage, Section 8 okay. 785-322-4642.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
4 P.M.
TUESDAY

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
4 P.M., TUESDAY
305.694.6210

EMPLOYMENT

Part-time Senior Pastor
The Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, established 100 years ago in South Miami, Florida, is prayerfully seeking a bi-vocational (part-time) Senior Pastor, called by God who will serve as spiritual leader of God's people. We are a well-established Missionary Baptist Church: rich in legacy, family and community. We have a membership of 106 mostly seasoned saints.

The chief responsibility of the part-time senior pastor is leading the church to accomplish the mission of loving God, loving others and making disciples through preaching, teaching and leading as stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. Resumes will be accepted from December 1 to December 31. Mail to: Deaconess Daisy Harrell, President
Pastor Selection Committee
6316 SW 59 Place
South Miami, FL 33143

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
4 P.M., TUESDAY
305.694.6210

EMPLOYMENT

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The Miami Times

Mechanic
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3777 NW 24th Rd
Miami, FL 33142

ROUTE DRIVERS
We are seeking drivers to deliver newspaper to retail outlets in Broward and Miami Dade.
Wednesday Only
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Apply in person at: The Miami Times
2529 NW 54th Street

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
4 P.M., TUESDAY

EMPLOYMENT

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Highly motivated, professional individuals for fast paced newspaper. Must type 45 wpm, well organized and computer literate with excellent oral and writing skills. Must have a minimum of an AA or AS degree. Email resume along with salary history to: hr@miamitimesonline.com
The Miami Times

SERVICES

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Unclg drains, doors and lawn service. 305-801-5690

GENE AND SOONS, INC.
Custom-made cabinets for kitchens and bathrooms at affordable prices.
14130 N.W. 22nd Avenue. Call 305-685-3655

FICTITIOUS NAME

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of **ALIGNED SOLUTIONS LLC** located at 3752 NW 205 Street in the city of MIAMI GARDENS, Florida 33055, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated this 5th day of December, 2018.

Let's talk salary and company culture

Expert offers insight and advice on common workplace concerns and how employees could effectively handle them

JOHNNY TAYLOR JR.
Special to USA TODAY

Typically, an employer asks for a salary requirement to identify early in the process job candidates whose salary needs may be larger than what the position can pay.

Putting "salary negotiable" on your application doesn't necessarily put you at a disadvantage unless you appear overqualified for the position. In that case, the recruiter might assume your salary expectations will be too high. But a good recruiter will ask you about your expectations early in the

process – likely in an initial screening interview – so no one's time is wasted.

As for setting a salary expectation, you don't want to undersell your talents, but you also don't want to price yourself out of consideration.

It's always good to consider what you believe your true market value is. Do some homework to determine comparable salaries for jobs in your area. Career websites such as CareerBuilder.com and Monster.com have salary tools that can help you determine your market worth and offer typical salaries for various job titles and



When considering a job salary, employees should be careful not to undersell their talents or ask for a salary that puts them out of consideration for the position.

responsibilities.

From HR's perspective, the key to salary negotiations is to find the "sweet spot" – that is, a salary well within the desired pay range

for the position but that also considers the candidate's education, knowledge, experiences and skill set.

As a job candidate, you probably have

a magic number in mind – whether it corresponds with the job you're currently doing or reflects what you anticipate earning in the job you seek. But

it's important not to overestimate your worth.

Once you've done some research, provide the potential employer with a reasonable range that includes your sweet spot and some flexibility in case the position does not pay as anticipated. Doing some research and using available tools can set you up with a good ballpark number.

Many job candidates do not consider an employer's culture before taking a job. That's a mistake, since finding the right culture fit is im-

portant to your success and happiness at work.

Because there are different types of organizations – from nonprofits to family businesses to public companies – it sometimes can be difficult to figure out a company's overall culture. That's particularly true for large organizations with multiple locations, each with unique workplaces.

But asking a few specific questions during an interview can help you determine whether a company is the place for you.

Start by looking at how the employer treats and recognizes its employees. You could ask whether there are incentive programs for good performance, such as bonuses or pay for performance. How are employees rewarded for their good work?

You also could ask whether the company promotes camaraderie and appreciation through company-sponsored events or perks throughout the year. Are team-building activities scheduled regularly?

COMCAST

CONTINUED FROM 12B

we're announcing today, to better serve our increasingly diverse customer base."

The announcement is part of a bigger deal that Comcast inked with the FCC and DOJ back in 2011 when it acquired NBCUniversal. In order to receive federal approval for the merger, Comcast agreed to launch eight minority-owned and/or-operated networks. This included ASPIRE in 2012 and REVOLUT in 2013 along with four Hispanic-focused channels.

"We are excited to bring AFRO's live content and growing on-demand catalog of more than 300 hours of original programming to millions of Xfinity customers. Comcast's selection of AFRO, which is a recognition of the rich diversity in Black content and culture, solidifies our position as a leader in polycultural Black home entertainment in North America," said Yves Bolognara, founder and CEO of Afrotainment, in the statement.

"We're at a pivotal moment in history where women are making a huge impact in our society and culture, especially women of color," said Michelle Rice, TV One's general manager. "CLEO TV will offer a diverse mix of lifestyle and entertainment content through the unique lens of millennial and young Gen-X women of color, an audience segment that is currently underserved."

On Monday, Nov. 19, a federal appellate court ruled that Entertainment Studios can pursue a lawsuit against Comcast for alleged violations of the Civil Rights Act, according to Variety. The company has also been granted legal clearance for a similar suit against Charter Communications for \$10 billion. Allen, a media titan who graced the May/June 2018 cover of Black Enterprise, claims that both Comcast and Charter refuse to carry his networks because of his race. The comedian-turned-mogul settled a similar suit back in 2015 with AT&T's Direct TV, which now carries seven channels produced by his company.

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the City Commission of the City of Miami, Florida on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. at City Hall, located at 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133, for the purpose of granting the following:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MIAMI CITY COMMISSION, WITH ATTACHMENT(S), BY A FOUR-FIFTHS (4/5THS) AFFIRMATIVE VOTE, AFTER AN ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING, RATIFYING, APPROVING, AND CONFIRMING THE CITY MANAGER'S FINDING IN ATTACHMENT "A", ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED, THAT COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION METHODS AND PROCEDURES ARE NOT PRACTICABLE OR ADVANTAGEOUS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 18-85(A) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, AS AMENDED; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR SAID PROCEDURES; AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$743,000.00 TO THE AGENCIES AS SPECIFIED IN ATTACHMENT "B", ATTACHED AND INCORPORATED, FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES; WITH FUNDS ALLOCATED FROM THE SOCIAL SERVICES GAP PROGRAM FUND, ACCOUNT NO. 00001.910101.882000; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT(S), IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE CITY ATTORNEY, WITH SAID AGENCIES, FOR SAID PURPOSE.

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

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



Todd B. Hannan
City Clerk

#30316

CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Miami City Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 9:00 A.M., to consider the award of a contract to the foreign limited liability company listed below through Anti-Poverty grant funds from the District 1's share of the City of Miami's Anti-Poverty Initiative Program. The Motivational Edge, Inc., a Florida Not for Profit Corporation, for general program funding at their Allapattah Campus, and to consider the City Manager's recommendations and finding that competitive negotiation methods are not practicable or advantageous regarding these issues:

- The Motivational Edge, Inc. – general program funding at their Allapattah Campus

Inquiries regarding this notice may be addressed to Malissa T. Sutherland, Administrative Assistant II, Office of Grants Administration, at (305) 416-1005.

This action is being considered pursuant to Section 18-85 (A) of the Code of the City of Miami, Florida as amended (the "Code"). The recommendations and findings to be considered in this matter are set forth in the proposed resolution and in Code Section 18-85 (A), which are deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and are available as with the regularly scheduled City Commission meeting of December 13, 2018 at Miami City Hall, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133.

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

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



Todd B. Hannan
City Clerk

#30318

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THE FAMOUS TEAM CONTINUES TO MAKE HISTORY ON AND OFF THE COURT

Ant Atkinson, known for his boundless energy, celebrates during a game.



Globetrotters

MAKES A SOUTH FLORIDA STOP

On the court, the Globetrotters are known for entertaining audiences worldwide with their athleticism, humor and lively shows. The funnymen are legit athletes and several players in the roster are Guinness World Record holders. However, perhaps the team's greatest contribution to the game is not the flashy plays, alley-oops and the almost-impossible half- and full-court shots. The Globetrotters made it possible for Black athletes to play at the professional level at a time when race relations overshadowed the Black players' basketball prowess.

Throughout the years, the team has been influential in ushering racial progress for Black athletes and were an integral part of the integration and popularization of the NBA.

"Culturally, we opened a lot of doors," said Louis "Sweet Lou" Dunbar, player and coach for the team, who now serves as the director of player personnel. In 1950, the team helped break the NBA's color barrier, as the first two Black professional players in the league were Globetrotters, explained Dunbar.

Dunbar clarified that the Globetrotters past and present are showmen and legitimate basketball players. He highlighted the Globetrotters' victory against the Minneapolis Lakers in 1948, which showcased the Black players' unique style of playing the game.

"We weren't just a team that liked to have fun. We

The world-famous Harlem Globetrotters gear up for their 2019 Fan Powered World Tour with two South Florida stops in the month of December. Now, in its 93rd season, the team continues to use its platform to make history on and off the court.

FELIPE RIVAS
frivas@miamitimesonline.com

“
We don't see colors;
we see smiles. People
are people to us.”

—Louis "Sweet Lou" Dunbar

can play the game of basketball," Dunbar said.

The Globetrotters helped popularize the NBA in the 1950s, at a time when the league was struggling to sell tickets to the games, Dunbar explained. When the NBA started, the

Globetrotters, which opted to stay as a touring team rather than compete in the NBA, were often invited to play before the games as a pre-show to the game. But people would leave after the Globetrotters performance. To keep the people in the arena, the NBA games would be scheduled before the Globetrotters' games to make sure people stayed for the duration of both

games, Dunbar explained. "Not a lot of people know that," he said.

The team used their signature humor and athleticism to wow audiences nationally and worldwide. But more than just amaze audiences, the team used their humor and basketball skills to help alleviate the racial tensions that existed before and after the Civil Rights era, bringing white and Black audiences together two hours at a time to enjoy the performance.

"We don't see colors; we see smiles," Dunbar said. "People are people to us."

The Globetrotters was established in Chicago in 1926 by Abe Saperstein, who wanted to create an opportunity for Black players to earn money while playing basketball.

The Harlem Globetrotters moniker was initially used as a marketing strategy to make the team seem larger than life. Saperstein picked Harlem as an ode to the Harlem Renaissance, where Black intellectual, social and artistic explosion was taking place at the time.

Today, the Globetrotters continue to make history. In recent years, the team has broken several bas-

ketball-related Guinness World Records, five of them alone in 2018. Overall, the team has broken more than 20 basketball-related world records. Most recently, the team broke five records, including the longest somersault basketball shot made by guard Bull Bullard. The shot was made 58,125 feet away from the basketball hoop.

The Globetrotters are known for their clean humor, which features props, on-court dance contests, altercations with the refs, back-and-forth banter with team members and opponents, among other comedic skits.

The on-and-off court shenanigans are unique in every game, explained Orlando "El Gato" Melendez, 6 feet, 8 inch-forward, who's been with the team since 2008. "A lot of the times the comedy part is improv," Melendez said.

The players' jokes and antics are audience driven, as they interact with fans during the game and make them part of the show, Melendez explained.

"It is hard to say what is the best part of the show," Melendez said. "The fun you can see in the fans' smiles; you can see it in their faces. You see it

SEE TOUR 6C



Orlando "El Gato" Melendez shows his tricks on the basketball court.



Miami Times photos/Kishundra Burns

Festival brings soul and fun to Liberty City

Residents enjoyed the food, music

Miami Times Staff Report

What is a better way to bring in 2018 Soul Basel than to do it with food, music and art.

Community members and business owners filled the parking lot of the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center located at 6161 NW 22nd Ave. at its second annual Art, Blues and Soul BBQ Festival on Dec. 1, which was a free outdoor event.

Vendors showed and sold some of their hand-made items, natural food-grade oils, natural soaps that had come from Ghana, cologne, jewelry, clothes and so much more.

There was also face painting to keep the kids occupied while the adults chatted and danced to some old-school music.

From barbecue to conch salad, lines snaked with people waiting for morsels.

The Art Blues and Soul BBQ Festival was to solely celebrate the arts, sounds and flavors of Black Miami during Art Basel Miami Beach, which runs from Dec. 4 - 10.



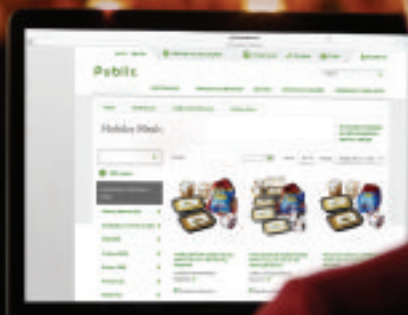
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THE SOCIAL WHIRL

NYAMEKYE DANIEL | EMAILNYAM@GMAIL.COM

We have entered a new month, December, the last month in the year. It is the time when we consider what we have learned this year, and what we plan to do differently next year.

Personally, I live life day-by-day because sometimes the pressures of tomorrow or the things that we can't control can get overbearing.

December is also a time for seasons' greetings. Christmas, of course, is on Dec. 25. Kwanza starts on Dec. 26 and ends on Jan. 1. Hanukkah started on Sunday and ends on Dec. 10. According to bechollason.com, 20 percent of the Jewish population is diverse. They are Black, Asian, Latino or mixed-race.

They were a few days of cool weather in November. Let's see what's in store for us in December. But, we, Miamians, love the heat.

'OUR OWN WAKANDA'

This weekend many carried folding chairs and umbrellas to Liberty City for a day of culture. The African Heritage Cultural Arts Center held its second Arts Blues Soul & BBQ Festival on Saturday. The host, comedian **Chello Davis** referred to the venue as "our own Wakanda," and indeed it was with talent on display. There were performances by **Angela Winbush; Mojo Ike and Val Woods; A. Randolph and the Smash Room Project; Harden Project**; and more.

This week marks Miami Art Week also known as Art Basel Miami Beach. There will be events all week through next Monday. Soul Basel 2018 takes over Historic Overtown



The 1960 undefeated, unscored upon football team. Ransom Hill (28) is in the second row, third in from the left.



Class of 1964-50 year reunion-The 50th Class Reunion of the Albany State University Class of 1964. Ransom Hill (Standing back row, far left).

Dec. 5-8. It will feature exhibitions, pop-up art galleries and special events throughout Overtown. Also, in Overtown is Art Africa, an exhibit that pays homage to Africa and its descendants which will take place Dec. 4-9 at 920 NW Second Ave.

Soul Basel was started in Overtown by **Miami City Commission Chairman Keon Hardeman, the Southeast Overtown / Park West Community Redevelopment Agency (SEOPW-CRA)** in 2014 as a way to help rebrand the neighborhood for

tourism and to add an economic boost.

MIAMI-DADE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GALA

Dozens of Black Miamians dazzled in white at the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce Gala at the Hilton Miami Downtown on Saturday, Dec. 1. The MDCC was created in 1974 as a support system for Black businesses in Miami. It is led by President and CEO **Gordon Eric Knowles**. It has seen the likes of past presidents such as **David Fincher** (1974-1984), **Dorothy Baker**

(1984-2004), **Bill Diggs** (2005-2013). The chamber helps businesses through a membership subscription. It helps in business development operations; promotion of trade missions throughout the globe; networking opportunities at business related forums; and provide business stimulated projects and activities.

Fincher was a police officer who later started his own security firm. Baker was a former schoolteacher. She also served as a professor and administrator at **Florida Memorial College**. **Diggs** is

a co-founder the **100 Black Men of South Florida**, and he now heads the **Alonzo Mourning Foundation** in Overtown.

Community activist **Valencia Gunder, Rapper Luther Campbell, Commissioner Audrey Edmonson and Bishop Victoria Curry** were all honored at the event for their service to the community. In attendance were vice president of Business Connect and Community Outreach for the Miami Super Bowl Host Committee, **Rashaun D. Thomas** and his wife **Shannon Thomas**, community activist, **Tangela Sears; Dr. Delvena Thomas; Hip Rock Star founder Jessica Garrett Modkins; Miami Times columnist, Ishka Harrison; attorney, Donnis Desouza Webb; partner of Messam Construction, Angela Messam; Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert; and many others.**



Davis



Hill

State University). **Davis** played along with three other former Rams at Savannah State: **Horace Graham, Charlie Platt and Edward Stinson.**

A defensive half-back on the football team, he served as co-captain of the 1967 Tigers' Southeastern Athletic Conference championship team. He is a retired high school principal in Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Ransom Hill graduated from Mays High School in 1959 where he played football and ran track. He then went on to graduate from Albany State College where he also ran track and played football. He was a member of the 1960 Albany State football team that went undefeated and unscored-upon. In 1961, he helped lead the men's track and field team to a conference championship. Hill is a member of the Albany State University Sports Hall of Fame.

Mays High School is now Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory of the Arts.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS

The Miami Northwestern Bulls' football team defeated Naples High School Golden Eagles 40-7 in the 6A state semifinals on Friday. Big congrats to **The West**. Our younger players are doing great things on the field, too.

PAGES IN RAMS FOOTBALL HISTORY

Miami has a long history of star athletes scoring big in youth, high school and college football.

Here are some standouts that highlight the pages of **Mays High School** sports history.

Dennis Davis was a football player from Mays High School, Class of 1964. Davis went on to play at Savannah State College (now Savannah

STRACHAN TO BE LAID TO REST

Richard J. Strachan Sr. passed away on Nov. 21. He was known in the community as an educator and musician. Strachan was also a *Miami Times'* columnist. He will be memorialized, Friday, Dec. 7 at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, 2001 NW 35 St., Miami, starting at 6 p.m. The wake will be held at 8841 NW 14 Ave. in Miami, at 9 p.m. The funeral will be held at Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Dec. 8, at 11 a.m.

As we continue to count the days that lead up to the end of the year. Let's not forget to count our blessings as we live, laugh and dance in the whirl.

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Rachel Hill sits with a guide after her experience riding a reindeer sleigh in Finland.

Freezing in Finland

What to do in Finland and the Arctic Circle

RACHEL HILL
racheltravels.com

Riders get face masks and helmets on a snowmobile ride to protect them from the snow and wind.

Okay. I know what you're thinking. What is there to do in Finland and the Arctic Circle?

Follow me.

As a Floridan, I'll claim the presidency of the "I Hate Being Cold Committee." However, visiting Finland's Lapland (literally the Arctic Circle) was one of the most amazing travel experiences you'll ever have.

The beaches of Thailand and Zanzibar are amazing because who doesn't want to lay out in the sun and enjoy a few cocktails and a sunset?

However, consider an entirely new, different, and exciting experience in a country like Finland, who is looking for more people to experience their enchantment and beauty.

Before heading to the Laplands, you'll land in Helsinki, the capital city of Finland. There's a lot to see and enjoy there, including The Design Museum (great for design and architecture enthusiasts), having dinner and cocktails at Boulevard Social, or just walking around and taking in the views. If you're looking for a centrally located hotel, then I highly recommend Hotel Haven for a small, chic, boutique hotel.

To get to the Laplands, you have to take a flight on Norwegian Airlines from Helsinki to Ivalo.

Here are six amazing ways to experience the Arctic Circle of Finland:

Stay at the world famous,

Kakslaurrenanen Arctic Resort: If you've seen photos of people sleeping in these amazing igloos - this is likely the place! There are several types of accommodations that they offer, but I'd recommend staying in a Kelo. Think half cabin half igloo. Don't worry about being cold. The igloo portion of the Kelo has thermal glass that keeps you insulated and warm. Not to mention a sauna inside of the bathroom!

Dog Sledding: Dog sledding is one of those activities that you can only do in freezing temperatures. Mostly because the Huskies that pull you on the sled were created for cold weather. So much so, that even the zero degree temperatures we were in (yes, that's zero degrees Fahrenheit), we were told it was "too warm for the dogs." Whet?! After we would stop, the Huskies would plop in the snow and roll around in it because they were hot! Crazy. The dogs are so super sweet and friendly, so you can pet and take photos of them when your ride is complete.

Aurora hunting: If you come during the peak season, you'll have the opportunity to go Aurora hunting, or finding the Northern Lights! For most of the time we were there, it was a bit too cloudy to catch them.

Take a reindeer sleigh ride:

SEE FINLAND 6C



Sandra Bland tells part of her own narrative

A new HBO documentary explores life and death of a Black woman

ANGELA HELM
The Root

Like me, Sandra Bland hailed from a "girl family." She was the fourth of five sisters. Her siblings' names, like hers, all start with S—Shante, Sharon, Shavon, Sandy, and Sierra. They were a close-knit clan who always had each other's backs, whether it was in Chicago or Villa Park, Illinois, where their mother moved them for better educational opportunities. Sandy—that's what they called her, Sandy—played trombone since elementary school and went to Prairie View A&M, an HBCU in Texas, on a band scholarship.

She had a binder more than two inches thick of plans, of dreams, of visions, of reforming police and young adult interactions. Sometimes Sandy liked to rock out to a little Maroon 5 and Goldplay. She had a video blog. She was in a sorority. She stood nearly

6 feet tall.

Sandy Bland was an American citizen stopped by a Texas State Trooper on July 13, 2015, falsely arrested on a felony charge, faced a \$5,000 bail on a Friday evening, and was dead by Monday, found hanging from a noose. Her story galvanized and even gendered a Black Lives Matter movement, especially when footage was released showing the officer escalating a verbal confrontation with her into a physical one. Sandy, who was only 28 years old, has a name which will forever live on because she dared "speak her truth to power."

On Monday, HBO released its powerful, hard-charging, and explosive documentary, "Say Her Name: The Life and Death of Sandra Bland." In it, we hear directly from Sandy's family, from her legal team, and from the Waller County Texas law enforcement officials, including the sheriff and district attorney, as well as



Photo via The Root

Sandra Bland's death in 2015 sparked national outrage.

from Sandy herself through a series of "Sandy Speaks" video blogs from the months before her death.

"I think it's really eerie and ironic that she's able to narrate her own documentary; it's really something," her sister Sharon Cooper told The Root. "She really leveraged social media for good, even speaking on topics that

aren't even that popular and that make people uncomfortable. But change doesn't come from comfort; it comes from getting uncomfortable."

To be clear, the documentary wasn't able to definitively answer the myriad of unanswered questions surrounding Bland's death. Those answers remain elusive. Sharon says she's made peace with

that reality.

Ten days after Sandra's death, filmmakers Kate Davis and David Heilbroner began working closely with the family and its legal team, tracking the two-year battle between Sandra's aggrieved family and Texas authorities, who never called the family and let them know their loved one was gone.

The family decided to work with the husband-wife team so soon because the family deemed their approach authentic, respectful and empathetic, particularly in the midst of gut-wrenching grief. The family also quickly realized they had to get in front of Sandy's narrative, or someone else would.

"Sandra is one of hundreds of Black women who have been killed or died in custody, and thousands who have been violated, abused, threatened, unfairly profiled and targeted by police," says Andrea Ritchie, author of *Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color*. "The reason her story resonated so deeply and broadly is because it is so familiar to Black women who experience profiling and criminalization on a daily basis, whose compliance with the behavior expected of 'Mammy' has been demanded since slavery, at the price of punishment."

Sandy Bland: Daughter. Sister. Soror. Dreamer. Builder. Thinker. Fighter.

Peter Bailey to visit Miami for movie showing

Journalist releases film displaying victims' struggle amidst hurricanes

STACY M. BROWN
NMPA

MIAMI —Since debuting on St. Thomas, "Paradise Discovered: The Unbreakable Virgin Islanders," is garnering critical-acclaim nationwide.

The film, directed by renowned Virgin Islands author and journalist Peter Bailey, captures Bailey and a cross-section of Virgin Islanders retelling harrowing tales of surviving hurricanes Irma and Maria.

The film is based on Bailey's New York Times Op Ed which he wrote while building a make-shift roof after hurricane Irma destroyed his family's home.

Now, the intrepid author and journalist, a former staffer at Time and Newsweek, well-known for his "NiteCap" conversation series, is setting out on a nationwide screening tour to share what he calls

"one of the most inspiring stories in American history that mainstream media missed," according to a news release.

"Unbreakable is the story of how we as a community gave each other light when nature and the rest of the world left us darkness," Bailey said.

The journalist has dedicated his most recent film to his late father, Joseph Bailey, who died on Sept. 3 after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's.

The film made its U.S. mainland debut in October at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts in Los Angeles as part of the university's "Our Voices" program which invites the brightest minds in filmmaking to discuss their work.

Past speakers include legendary director John Singleton and John Chu. The event marked the first time a chapter of Virgin Islands history was showcased at the nation's



Photo courtesy of Nitecap Media

Peter Bailey and his mother.

most prestigious film school.

"Peter's work is so important to the national discourse today," said Desa Philadelphia, a journalist who heads USC's Voices Program. "There should be many rich discussions centered around the themes he explores in his work," Philadelphia said.

"Unbreakable" made its East Coast debut at the University of Delaware, Bai-

ley's alma mater, to a packed crowd of students, professors and civic leaders.

"I laughed. I cried and identified. Someone is finally telling our story," said an emphatic Sharifa Paul, a high school classmate of Bailey's who drove down from Philadelphia for the event.

Others are calling the film a much-needed education.

"The film taught me a lot about U.S. citizens that I knew nothing about," said Katherine Nails, a graduating senior who serves as managing editor of the University

of Delaware's student-run newspaper. "You learn that for the Virgin Islanders tragedy brought out the best in their community."

Bailey is scheduled to return to St. Thomas on Dec. 7 for another showing of the film at the University of the Virgin Islands. Other upcoming stops on the tour include Atlanta, Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Miami, Providence, Rhode Island and Charleston, South Carolina.

Bailey said his goal for the Paradise Discovered series is to advocate for residents of

the Virgin Islands and rest of the Caribbean to be included into the nation's cultural and political discourse. The first film from the series, "The Anguilla Connection," debuted in Anguilla — his mother's homeland.

"If you close your eyes and think of the Virgin Islands you picture a beach," Bailey said. "There are people on these islands. People with hopes and dreams beyond serving rum punch."

For more information on the tour, visit www.nitecapmedia.com.

Michael B. Jordan punches up

Young Black actor finds his way in film and business

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If Michael B. Jordan's path to this moment was condensed and edited, it might look, appropriately, like a training montage.

Parallel to Jordan's steady rise has been the 31-year-old's expanding sway behind the scenes in Hollywood. His production company, Outlier Society Productions, was among the first to embrace the inclusion rider, adopting the pledge to seek diverse casts and crews just days after Frances McDormand referenced it at the Oscars. Jordan was also influential on a similar agreement by WarnerMedia, making Warner Bros. the sole major studio thus far to sign up.

"He's always been a big-idea guy," says Ryan Coogler, who directed Jordan in "Fruitvale Station," "Creed" and "Black Panther." "He's always been conscious of his own responsibility."

"Creed II" finds Jordan's character, Adonis Creed — like the actor, himself — adjusting to his newfound prominence: reaching the pinnacle of his profession while still having to fight for what he believes in. As Steven Caple Jr.'s boxing drama prepared to open in theaters, Jordan went door-to-door



Katie Reeder for The New York Times

Michael B. Jordan said that after the success of "Creed" and "Black Panther," he found himself wondering "why do I still feel unsatisfied? Why am I so hungry?"

in Georgia urging people to vote in the midterm elections.

"You've been doing one thing for 20 years. Constantly working at it, trying to grow and become successful, or whatever your version of success is. And then you have a moment in time where everything seems to be coming together at the same time. Everything seems to be happening. But you live in a society, in a world that's kind of going to s---," Jordan said in a recent interview. "So to

be able to use one to help the other, is something. To try to find your voice."

It's an answer with shades of Jordan's typical performance: earnest, thoughtful, tinged with pain. Then he exhales.

"I don't know, man," says Jordan. "Honestly, there's a lot going on right now and I'm trying to find my place in all of it, professionally and personally."

A big part of Jordan's quest was "Black Panther," in which he played Erik Killmonger.

LIFESTYLE HAPPENINGS

COMPILED BY THE MIAMI TIMES STAFF
EDITORIAL@MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

EVENTS

The Overtown Children and Youth Coalition

Free professional development workshops; now until February 2019; Register: www.overtowncyc.org/workshops; Info: Contact Shari Benjamin at 786-477-5813.

Roots and Reggae

9 p.m. - 2 a.m.; Every Thursday; 109 SW Second Ave.; For more info, call 954-449-1044.

Art Miami 2018

Kicking off Miami Art Week; 11 a.m.; Dec. 5; Biscayne Bay and 14th Street. To purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/2QpALJU.

Holiday in Sistrunk and 80th Anniversary Celebration

2 - 6 p.m.; Dec. 15; YAA Art house; 821 NW Eighth Court, Ft. Lauderdale; For more info, email Whitney at wwolfgang@ymcasouthflorida.org or call Jandra at 954-467-2444.

SoFlowGlow

Come and GLOW with South Florida artists that are hailing from Miami, Broward and Palm Beach; 8 p.m. - midnight; Dec. 16; 1306 N Miami Ave.

Inner Circle 50th Year Anniversary

The New Year's Day Reggae Jam; 2 p.m. - 1 a.m.; Jan.

1, 2019; Wynwood Yard; 6 NW 29th St.; Search Inner Circle New Year's reggae jam on eventbrite.com.

SCHOOL MEETINGS

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

Women on the Move Inc.

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

The Miami Central High Alumni Association

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

The George Washington Carver Alumni Association

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

The Miami-Dade Chapter of Bethune-Cookman University

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

Tennessee State Alumni Association/ Miami-Dade Chapter

9 a.m. every third Saturday; African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave.;

Info: Call 305-336-4287.

The Morris Brown College Miami-Dade/Broward Alumni Association

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

Top Ladies of Distinction Inc.

10 a.m. every second Saturday; 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 NW 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.

TOUR

CONTINUED FROM 1C

in the entire family, from great grandpa all the way to his great-grandchildren."

In addition, the Globetrotters has introduced the game of basketball to audiences in more than 123 countries and territories, and serve as ambassadors of the game.

"We have introduced the game of basketball to places that had no running water or electricity at one point," Melendez said of the team's global reach. Dunbar echoed Melendez's

comments. Dunbar has traveled to six continents with the team, entertaining more than 10 million fans. "You name it, I have been there," he said of his travels.

The Globetrotters embrace inclusion and diversity and were the first professional team to feature a woman on its roster, Melendez explained.

Melendez, the first Puerto Rican player to be part of the Globetrotters roster, is proud to be part of the traditionally Black institution. "It is a privilege and honor," he said. He places the Globetrotters as the most-important thing to happen to

“

We have introduced the game of basketball to places that had no running water or electricity at one point."

—Orlando "El Gato" Melendez

the game since its creation.

"I would say it is the creation of basketball, then the Globetrotters and then the NBA," he said.

The 2019 Fan Powered Tour will provide ample opportunities for fans to interact with the players and be part of the action before, during and after the game.

The Globetrotters will bring their signature family-oriented show to the Rick Case Arena of Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale on Friday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. and again at the Watson Center of the University of Miami in Coral Gables on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m.

FINLAND

CONTINUED FROM 4C

When you stay at Kakslau-rannen, you'll learn a bit about reindeer and how they help the indigenous people of Finland, the Sami, survive through the terrain and winters in Finland. Then, you can take a reindeer sleigh ride! It's enjoyable but short.

Snowmobiling: Wow! This is one of the coolest things you'll likely ever do! Everyone gets a snowmobile, and you take a ride through the forests and terrain of the Laplands. It's cold, but scenic. No worries, you'll get a face mask

and a helmet to protect you through the ride.

Ice Fishing: Growing up fishing, I was excited about the entire experience of ice fishing. From the resort, they will take you to Inari, which is a town with the largest lake in Finland. From here, you'll follow your guide on snowmobiles and drive out on the frozen lake (I know, it's wild). Then, he will choose a spot to drill holes to start fishing. He'll show you how to drill a hole in the ice, bait your hook, then try to catch your first catch for lunch! Only one person in our group caught a fish, so we decided to film a 'music video' to get over the disappointment.



Mayor Oliver Gilbert



LET THERE BE LIGHT!

On Dec. 11, 2018 Miami Gardens Residents decide if control of Special Lighting Districts will transfer from the County to the City.

Transfer of control will allow the City of Miami Gardens to make needed lighting enhancements, such as LED lights, to improve our neighborhoods.

Illumination of our City matters! Better lighting makes safer spaces. It improves public safety and boosts economic activity.

Improved efficiency and lower maintenance costs can save the City money that can be invested in other public safety tools.

Ballots will be mailed on November 21, 2018 and must be returned to the Supervisor of Elections no later than 7 pm on December 11, 2018.

THIS ELECTION IS VOTE-BY-MAIL ONLY.

To find out more visit the Voter Information page at www.miamidade.gov/elections

DO RELIGIOUS GROUPS NEED BUILDINGS?

**For Black Americans,
yes, they want to own
where they worship**

MICHELLE BOORSTEIN
The Washington Post

For decades, changes in American religious behavior and the District's demographics spurred a slow emptying of city houses of worship. And in recent years, many have shuttered, largely because of skyrocketing real estate prices, an exodus of Black people from the city and millenni-

als' desire for unusual abodes.

But how great is the loss, and how much does it really matter?

The year-old nonprofit Sacred Spaces Conservancy has started quantifying the disappearance of houses of worship in the District's most intensely developed neighborhoods, where the buildings are rapidly being torn down or converted into housing.

To Sacred Spaces, and some researchers of civic life, these buildings have abundant spiritual and communal value, making their decline a cause for alarm. They have pointed to research suggesting places of worship generate the equivalent of thousands or hundreds of thousands of dollars apiece

SEE WORSHIP 8D

Cities like Washington have in recent years become prime "mission fields" for evangelical communities that look to such places as movie theaters, homes, coffee shops and rented spaces for experiential faith rather than a big sanctuary with expensive monthly mortgage payments.





Rosa Parks, after refusing to give up her seat to a white person, was arrested and fingerprinted by a white officer. Her actions led to the boycott of the Montgomery bus system by Blacks.

63 years ago, Rosa Parks took a seat at the forefront of history

Rosa Parks changed the course of American history through actions

PRINCESS GABBARA
The Grio

On Dec. 1, 63 years ago, Rosa Parks refused white bus driver James Blake's order to give up her seat for a white passenger in 1955.

Back then, the Alabama law required "Black passengers to relinquish their seats to whites whenever the 'white section' was full," reports Politico.

After refusing to move to the "colored section," Parks was arrested later that evening, and four days later she was convicted of disorderly conduct. Her act of courage sparked a movement and led to the boycott of the Montgomery bus system

by Blacks.

At the time of her arrest, the 42-year-old seamstress was serving as secretary of the NAACP's Montgomery chapter. She caught the attention of Baptist minister Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., who was only 26 years old at the time.

King's organization of the 381-day boycott ultimately led to the 1956 U.S. Supreme Court Decision (*Browder v. Gayle*) that ended the public transportation segregation laws in the South. In addition, the success of the Montgomery bus boycott helped King emerge as a civil rights leader. Dr. King was tried for conspiracy for the role he played in the boycott, reports

the *New York Times*.

"I did not get on the bus to get arrested," Parks later said of the incident. "I got on the bus to go home."

Following the boycott, Rosa Parks and her husband moved to Virginia before eventually settling in Detroit, where they resided for nearly 50 years. Until her retirement in 1988, Parks worked for African-American Congressman John Conyers as a secretary and receptionist.

In 1996, Parks was awarded the Presidential U.S. Medal of Freedom. Over the course of her lifetime, the "mother of the civil rights movement" received two dozen honorary doctorates, including one from Soka University in Tokyo, Japan.

She died on Oct. 24, 2005, at her east side Detroit apartment at the age of 92.

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 • 305-691-8015

Second Canaan

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

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

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

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

AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL

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

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

PENTECOSTAL

New Faith Deliverance Center COGIC
Pastor Dr. Willie Gaines
3257 NW 7th Avenue Circle • 305-335-4398

New Life Christian Center

Rev. Bruce Payne
5726 Washington Street • 786-536-9039

MORAVIAN CHURCH

New Hope Moravian Church
Pastor Gregorio Moody
6001 SW 12th 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

WORSHIP

CONTINUED FROM 7D

in savings annually through the services they offer the community, including help for the poor and below-market rental rates for community groups.

Yet the full story of the trend's impact is more complex, and even clergy in affected neighborhoods say it isn't just one of loss. It's also a tale of what is happening in the wake of the city's great demographic shifts, as well as how Americans' religious and spiritual practices are changing.

Many of the shuttered houses of worship on Capitol Hill weren't huge engines of economic benefit for the community because they were nearly empty, their members mostly having relocated to Maryland's suburbs as part of an exodus of Black Washingtonians from the city. And the city's gentrifying neighborhoods, according to Sacred Spaces' executive director, Liz Laird, are the ones with the highest number of new congregations — communities of younger and often evangelical residents who are less focused on owning a building and more on service.



Bill O'Leary/The Washington Post

A 2017 file photo shows peeling paint on the door of the South West Arts Club, housed in the old Friendship Baptist church, and rechristened Blind Whino, in southwest Washington.

Cities like Washington have in recent years become prime "mission fields" for evangelical communities that look to such places as movie theaters, homes, coffee shops and rented spaces for experiential faith rather than a big sanctuary with expensive monthly mortgage payments.

American faith is changing. Even worship groups that wind up purchasing property

aren't sure any longer whether they want it to be used for a traditional church building.

It's also not clear that the dwindling number of houses of worship means traditionally religious people are any less devoted in their religious practice, or that the loss has meant an overall reduction in social services such as food for the poor or child care or legal aid in those communities.

thriving ones."

What the buildings' disappearances indisputably means, Lynch said, is the loss of many of the people who were once congregants in them — mostly longtime Black residents, including those who have been priced out of the city. The diversity, historical continuity and community can't be easily replicated, he said.

The history is reflected particularly through certain shuttered church buildings, such as Lincoln Congregational United Church of Christ, a 149-year-old Shaw church that was founded by freed slaves and closed in September.

The Reverend Patrick Walker, senior pastor at the New Macedonia Baptist Church in the Fort Davis neighborhood of Southeast Washington, said his congregation recently debated how to expand to include other parts of the city and decided to buy a small property in Northeast.

But he says he doesn't feel judgment toward religious groups that opt not to buy anything, or opt to sell.

"Our church could lift people up to the same extent if we didn't own a building," Walker said.

The District native says the city has become so transient

that, for younger people, committing to a piece of property doesn't measure success. "Church" means something different, he says.

"I think this is a generation that's comfortable with renting, with smaller spaces, more casual, and they do extraordinary things," he said. "The intimacy in those spaces is envious to me."

In performing its census, Sacred Spaces is guided by new research, including some done by faith-based institutions that aim to measure the societal impact of places of worship.

Often cited is research done in the 1990s by the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice and a nonprofit group called Partners for Sacred Places. It found that an average urban congregation creates more than \$340,000 per year in value through the contribution of volunteer time; rental space at below market rates; and cash and in-kind donations. In 2016, the two groups teamed up again to create a metric that also includes the housing of schools and day-care centers as well as increased foot traffic and argues that each congregation generates \$1.7 million annually, on average, for the wider community.

FAITH CALENDAR

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

The Vineyard 7th Day Church of God International Ministries

Youth Emphasis Weekend; Noon; Dec. 8; 754 Opa-locka Blvd.; Register at bit.ly/2Pmf-p0d.

Faith, Film and Family Night

Hosting an epic Family Night to contribute to the building fund project; 7 - 10 p.m.;

Dec. 8; WHOP Church; 8350 NW Seventh Ave.

You Are Church **Sunday Service; 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Dec. 9; Tuscan Garden Apartments; 1227 SW Third Ave.**

Kierra Shepard: Let's Talk About Love
7 - 10 p.m.; Feb. 16, 2019; First Baptist Church of

Brownsville; 4600 NW 23rd Ave;

For more info, contact Darrell Osirus at osirus.legacy@icloud.com or Kamaya Dean at kamayadean@gmail.com.

The Kingdom Agenda Ministries Inc.

Free counseling, tutoring, health screenings and messages of services are being offered by Senior Pastor Fel-

cia Hamilton-Parramore; Call 954-707-3274 for more details.

Gathering All Parents to Prayer

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

Greater New Bethel Baptist Church

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

Sistah to Sistah Connection

Women's empowerment meeting; 10 a.m. - noon every second and fourth Saturday; Parkway Professional Build-

ing 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



Yonel Bredy, a physical therapist, works with patients to find the right route to recovery.

NYAMEKYE DANIEL
emailnyam@gmail.com

MOVE AWAY THE PAIN

What is the remedy for pain?

According to two recent studies, most Americans are using over-the-counter and prescription medications.

But pain medications do not stop the pain, according to scientists. They just stop the brain from receiving the message of pain. One local healthcare expert says the cure for pain is physical therapy.

"Any type of pain that you can experience can be addressed with physical therapy," said Vania Bredy, co-founder of Bredy Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 59 percent of Americans are dependent on prescription painkillers, a trend that has led to a recent opioid epidemic. And for every 100 prescriptions filled in 2017 in Miami-Dade County, 28 were for opioids.

Doctors at Cleveland Clinic stated that pain medications do not treat the root cause of pain, but instead, they just mask it.

"If you're not doing the other things you need to do to get better, I'm not going to keep prescribing those drugs," wrote chairman of Pain Management at Cleveland Clinic Dr. Richard Rosenquist, when referring to physical therapy. "On their own, they're not therapeutic."

Physical therapy creates

Health experts recommend physical therapy for permanent fix

exercises that help rebuild and restore the body, said Bredy. It is one of the best choices for treating chronic pain or an injury, according to WebMD.

Bredy's practice in Miramar treats patients with chronic pain such as slip discs, major injuries from accidents, or minor injuries from sports.

After being involved in a car accident, Terry Thomas Jr. sustained multiple injuries including fractures to his arm. He was referred to Bredy Physical Therapy following his surgery.

Within two months, Thomas was able to reduce his pain and find more functionality with his joints.

"I've made more progress than I thought possible..." Thomas said.

During physical therapy, patients learn exercises that they can continue after they leave, whether it be at home or after the prescribed



Yonel Bredy and Vania Bredy co-own Bredy Physical Therapy & Sports Rehab in Miramar.

length of the therapy. It can be used on any part of the body.

Patients with onetime injuries usually only need to see a physical therapist two to three times a week for six

to eight weeks. During this time, the patients are pushed to their pain thresholds but with long-term benefits.

"Physical therapy initially will be painful because you are dealing with something that is out of order and now you have to bring that back into order," said Bredy, who co-owns the business with her husband, Yonel Bredy. Her husband treats at least three patients a day with manual therapy.

"But over time the pain decreases, and your body gets so used to doing these activities that the pain essentially goes away," she said. "The goal is to kill the pills and wear you off the painkillers."

What works for one patient may not work for another, said Bredy. "The other person may have a threshold that is greater or less than yours," she said. Her husband works with the patients through their thresholds to find the right route for recovery.

Because medications numb the pain, Bredy has seen patients who have pre-existing issues that were never treated.

"I have 50- and 60-year-old men who come to me, and they are basically crippled," said Bredy. "They have to have knee replacements or hip replacements."

The shortfall is that Americans want results overnight, when it, in fact, takes time to recover, said Bredy.

There is a disparity in Blacks who seek physical therapy, added Bredy.

Physical therapy services can be rendered with or without a referral, so patients can seek help on their own.

The Bredys went into business because of the lack of resources available in the healthcare system during their combination of 30 years in the business.

According to the U.S. Department of Health Office of Minority Health, Blacks are insured at lower rates than other races. They die at higher rates from heart diseases, stroke, cancer, asthma, influenza, pneumonia, diabetes and HIV/AIDS. This is due to the lack of insurance coverage and other socio-economic issues like poverty and lack of education.

"Our people don't like to go to the doctor. They don't like to do therapy," she said. "It's probably because they can't communicate with the person administering the care. If you change the dynamic, and you give them that opportunity then I believe you can create that access."

SEE PAIN 11D



Award-Winning

North Shore Medical Center continues its 65 year legacy of delivering quality healthcare for South Florida's families.

"A" Hospital Safety Grade
The Leapfrog Group

"Gold Plus" Stroke Honor Roll
"Gold Plus" Heart Failure Honor Roll
American Heart and Stroke Associations





NORTH SHORE
Medical Center

NorthShoreMedical.com
305-835-6000 | 1100 NW 95th Street Miami, FL 33150



5000 ROLE MODELS OBSERVE **WORLD AIDS DAY**



Photos courtesy of 5000 Role Models

Students from Coral Gables, Miami Coral Park and William H. Turner senior high schools' 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project participated in an educational teen youth summit that highlighted the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS.

The students visited South Miami Hospital's Victor Clarke Educational Center to mark World AIDS Day on Friday, Nov. 30. The theme of the summit was Know Your Status.

Presenters included Dr. Nelson Adams, chairman of the Department of OB/GYN at Jackson North Medical Center; Dwight Jackson, a funeral director at Richardson Mortuary; Lori Jordahal, STD Program consultant for Miami-Dade County Health Department.

At the end of the program, the Role Model students took the HIV/AIDS Abstinence Pledge.

For 30 years, World AIDS Day, which is observed Dec. 1, has been dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection and mourning those who have died of the disease.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 7 people living with HIV in the United States is unaware that they have the disease. Miami-Dade and Broward counties were Nos. 1 and 2 in the U.S. in new HIV infections in 2014 per 100,000 residents, according to state and federal data.



Nut-cracking a holiday classic



Thomas Armour Youth Ballet's production of the holiday classic, "The Nutcracker" was staged Saturday at the Miami-Dade County Auditorium. Students started preparing for "The Nutcracker" in August, rehearsing weekly. The cast is made up of more than 140.



Miami Times Photos/Gregory Reed

Marvin Gaye and Gregory Hines honored with U.S. postal stamps

The music icon and tap dancer are planned to be honored

NNPA Newswire

Two new stamps planned in 2019 for the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage and Music Icons series honor R&B singer Marvin Gaye and tap dancer Gregory Hines, two of the most influential performers of their generations.

The commemorative stamp design for Gaye, who died at age 45 in 1984, was inspired by historic photographs, the stamp pane resembling a vintage 45 rpm record sleeve. One side of the pane includes the stamps, brief text about Gaye's legacy and the image of a sliver of a record peeking out the top of the sleeve.

Another portrait of Gaye, also inspired by historic photographs, appears on the reverse along with the Music Icons series logo.

Art director Derry Noyes designed the Gaye stamp pane with original art by Kadir Nelson.

Hines' stamp, designed by Derry Noyes, is the 42nd in the postal system Black Heritage Series.

Hines, a versatile performer who danced, acted and sang on Broadway, TV and in movies,



died in 2003 at age 57. "The miniature works of art illustrated in the 2019 stamp program offer something for everyone's interest about American history and culture," said U.S. Postal Service Stamp Services Executive Director

Mary-Anne Pennert. "From legendary poet Walt Whitman to the entertainment genius of Gregory Hines to the majestic beauty of our Wild and Scenic Rivers, this program is diverse and wide-ranging and tells America's story on stamps."

to members of the community. They currently offer free exercise classes for seniors at the Robert Sharp Towers in Miami Gardens and partner with the YMCA North Pointe to facilitate onsite therapy. Bredy said every single person at one point in their life needs physical therapy. "But we don't do that, we end up on pain medications and having all these unnecessary surgeries," she said.

OBIT

Eric S. George

DELETA ALLEN DAWSON, died November 25. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at 19th Ave Church of God of Prophecy, Miami.

EDWARD PETERSON, 69, died November 30. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at House of God Miracle Center, West Park, FL.

Weight Loss Surgery

Improve Your Health. Change Your life.

Weight loss surgery can help improve your health, and in most cases, minimize Type II diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, and other health conditions. Take the first step towards changing your life by joining us for a free lecture on Weight Loss Surgery.

Lecture Date:
Thursday, Dec. 06 | 7 PM
Main Lobby Auditorium

For more information and to make a reservation, call (844) 319-6838.

Visit NorthShoreMedical.com/weightloss to learn more.

NORTH SHORE
Medical Center

1100 NW 95th St., Miami, FL 33150

PAIN

CONTINUED FROM 9D

Only 19 percent of people under the age of 65 have health insurance in Miami-Dade County, according to the most recent data for the U.S. Census Bureau. The Bredys, aware of the disparities, provide free or reduced-cost wellness services

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Apostolic Revival Center

Services
Wed. Intensive 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 8:30 a.m.
Thurs. Fellowship 10 a.m.

Evangelist Eric W. Doss

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

New Vision For Christ Ministries

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

Rev. Michael D. Screen

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

Brownsville Church of Christ

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

Min. Harrell L. Newton

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 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.
Worship 4 p.m.
Mission and Bible

Pastor Douglas Cook, Sr.

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

New Birth Baptist Church, The Cathedral of Faith International

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

1 (800) 254-NBCB
305-685-3700
Fax: 305-685-0705
www.newbirthbaptistmiami.org

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

Pembroke Park Church of Christ

Services
SUNDAY Bible Study 9 a.m., Morning Worship 10 a.m., Evening Worship 6 p.m.
TUESDAY Bible Study 10 a.m.
WEDNESDAY Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Minister Kevin D. Jones, Sr

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

Hosanna Community Baptist Church

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

Wright and Young

PHYLLIS CARSWELL, 61, CEO, died November 27. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at New Birth Baptist Church.



QUANTIA CURRY, 33, medical assistant, died November 26. Service 11:00 a.m. December 8th at Holy Temple #4.



ROSLYN RITCHIE, 79, died November 28. Service 3:30 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



LONZER PONDER, 79, bus driver, died December 3. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at World Truth Worship Center.



EUNICE ANN IVY, 81, retired, died December 3 at Hialeah Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Peaceful Zion Missionary Baptist Church.



VERONICA V. HUNT, 64, cook, died December 1. Viewing 5-8 p.m., Friday at New Jerusalem Primitive Baptist Church. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at the church.



Fred Hunter

TYRONE VINCENT BIVINS, 56, self-employed, died November 21. He leaves to cherish his precious memory, his daughters Nikiya, Britannia, Shakeidra, Dominique, Janeé, Tyneisha, and Shanice; stepdaughter, Shamira; sons Vincent and Tyrone, Jr.; sisters Penelope Bivins and Crystal Bivins (Andre); brothers Darrell Bivins, Frank Bivins, and Timothy Bivins; grandchildren Shaniya, Braylin (preceded in death), Brooklynn, Ya Jaira, Ma'Khaiya, Chase, Carter, Tylia, Nielah, Christopher, Ethan, McKenzie, Ja'Miyah, Halo, Alaya, Jayce; aunts Brenda Mansfield (Calvin), Minnie Lee Witherspoon, Florence Cook; uncles Eddie Perry, John Perry (Yvonne), Jimmie Perry (Naomie), Rodney Perry (Sandra), Albert Bivins, Jr. (Beatrice) and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and sorrowing friends.



Range-Coconut Grove

MARION CULMER WRIGHT, 93, licensed registered nurse, died November 26 at home. Service 10 a.m., Friday at Christ Episcopal Church.



SHANESIA NANCY ELAM, 37, died December 2 at Jackson South Community Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.



ERIC ANDRE DAVID, 65, died November 29 at South Miami Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.

SEE YOUR OBITUARY ONLINE
WWW.MIAMITIMESONLINE.COM

Richardson

MARVINELL WILSON, 66, homemaker, died November 24 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Saturday at Refuge Church of Our Lord.



DR. RICHARD JAMES STRACHAN, 90, retired educator, died November 21 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Ebenezer United Methodist Church.



DEZMON LOSO GILBERT, 40, laborer, died November 23 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Service 1 p.m., Saturday at Jordan Grove Baptist Church.



ADRIENE MCCLARY, 51, homemaker, died November 25 at home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



Paradise

RAY ANTHONY HAMILTON, 62, died November 22 at UM Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at Second Baptist Church.



DONTAVIS WALKER, 26, died November 13 at Jackson South Community Hospital. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Greater William Chapel Freewill Baptist Church.



MAE BELLE HUNT, 81, died December 2 at Jackson South Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.



Hadley Davis Miami Gardens

MARGUERITE BEANTE VIEUX, 62, housewife, died November 28 at Memorial Hospital West. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church.



HENRY LEE HALL, 47, truck driver, died November 29 at Memorial Regional Hospital. Service 2 p.m., Saturday at Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church.



Grace

JORGE GONZALEZ, 65, carpenter, died November 30. Services were held.

JACQUES LINDOR, 63, cab driver, died November 7. Service 11 a.m., Saturday at Stanton Memorial.

Range

BRENDA MARJORIE JOHNSON, 78, educator, died December 2. Service 11 a.m., Monday at New Birth Baptist Church Cathedral of Faith.

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

Hadley Davis MLK

GAIL MARIE SYMONETTE, 65, housewife, died November 27 at home. Service 10 a.m., Saturday in the chapel.



ELLIOTT GUILFORD, 52, structural reservation foreman, died November 27 at Jackson North Hospital. Service 12 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



EVELYN MCCOY, 29, unemployed, died November 28 at home. Arrangements are incomplete.



ROBET JAMES JOHNSON, 71, retired, died December 3 at North Shore Hospital. Memorial service 11 a.m., Wednesday, December 12 in the chapel.



JOHN LAMMONS, 60, retired steward, died December 1 at North Shore Hospital. Service 10 a.m., Saturday at 93rd Street Baptist Church.



AVERY MAREE WILSON, 56, senior accountant, died November 28 at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Services were held.

Hall Ferguson Hewitt

CHARLIE GILMORE, 58, laborer, died November 20. Service 1 p.m., Saturday in the chapel.



EDDIE HARRIS, 95, died December 1. Arrangements are incomplete.

AJ Manuel - FL City

DAVID ERVIN, 53, construction laborer, died November 26. Service 12 p.m., Saturday at Full Deliverance Missionary Baptist Church.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



ARNETT BAKER III bka BAKER SLIM
10/10/1956 - 10/27/1992



DARRYL V. BAKER bka BLIND
09/10/1959 - 12/01/2017

We miss and love you both, Margie Baker, Mom; Sam Baker, Brother and family.

Miami's Pioneer Barber dies



ELDER DAVID L. SNYDER, died Monday, December 3. He was affectionally called Dave by his wife Lena and known to many as "Snyder the Barber".

Snyder was born in Miami, and raised near Overtown's Good Bread Alley, where in the 1940's his family owned and operated Snyder's Grocery Store. In the late 1940's the Snyders moved to Liberty City and expanded Snyder's Groceries. David graduated from D.A. Dorsey High School. Upon graduation he went on to complete Tyler Barber College in Tyler, Texas. He returned to Miami, and under the proprietorship of "Smitty" completed his apprenticeship at Varsity Barber Shop. He went on to open Snyder's Uptown Barbershop serving the community for 65 years then concluding his part-time barbering career at John's Barbershop. Snyder retired from the Florida Department of Transportation after more than 30 years of service.

Known for his laughter and kindness he was a positive influence on everyone he met.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of,



VINCENT BANKS
02/02/1953 - 12/06/2017

One year seems like just yesterday, Vincent, we miss you so very much. I know you are smiling down on all of us. Not one day goes by that we don't think of you! The memories you created for your family can last a lifetime. So until we meet again . . . Gwen, LaTavia, Vernon, Vernon, Jr., Jaylen, Taelynn and Dyrver.

Death Notice



ANITA SMALL JOHNSON, retired chairperson of Generic Nursing at Miami Dade College, died on Tuesday, November 27 in Jacksonville, FL.

She leaves to cherish her memory, husband, Gonzales B. Johnson; children, Glenda Johnson, Gary Johnson, Katrina Small and June Garvin; four grands and six great grands. Final rites in Jacksonville, FL on Saturday. The family is establishing a nursing scholarship in her name at Miami Dade College through the College Foundation in lieu of flowers.

Death Notice



ELDER DAVID LEE SNYDER, 83, barber, John's Barber Shop, died December 3. Survivors include: wife, Lena Snyder, children, Donya Snyder Britt, Darlyne Snyder Biggs and Todd (Erania) Witherspoon; other relatives. Viewing 1-4 p.m., Sunday in the chapel. Service 11 a.m., Monday, December 10 at Jesus Christ True Center of Apostolic Faith, 5007 NW 22 Avenue, Miami, FL. Arrangements entrusted to Gregg L. Mason Funeral Home.

In Memory of
Tony E. Ferguson
Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

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Lifetime Personal Director

Tony E. Ferguson
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