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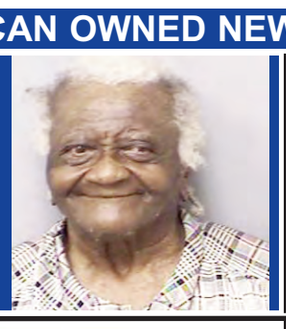

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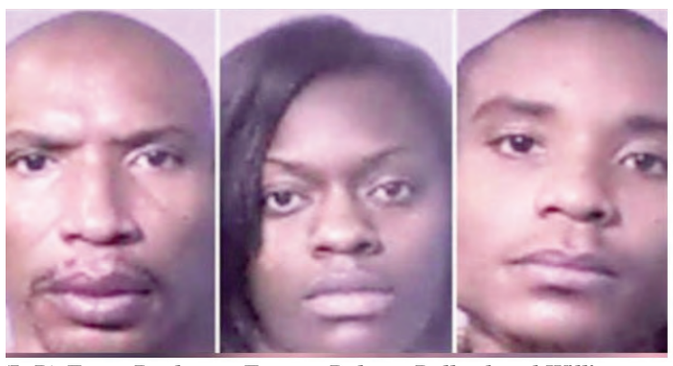
Father and Son Rob Couple and Car-Jack Together

Safety Tips for your Home
See these stories and more in the Crime and Justice Section.

Son Claims Pastor Dad Paid Him To Kill Stepmom, Woman They Both Slept With Also Arrested



(L-R) Tracy Burleson, Tyonne Palmer-Pollard and William Fuller

The trial continues in the case of Tracy Burleson, the Houston pastor accused of orchestrating his wife's death in May 2010. Burleson's wife Pauletta was found shot in the back of head outside the couple's home.

Burleson was later arrested after his son William Fuller told to police that he shot his stepmother because his father hired him to do so. Investigators believe Burleson wanted to profit from his wife's life insurance.

Tyonne Palmer-Pollard, was also arrested in the crime for tampering with evidence. She is said to have helped Fuller after he called her to tell her that he shot his stepmother. According to reports, she picked up Fuller, drove him to get cleaned up and assisted in destroying the gun.

Earlier, Burleson made a public apology to his congregation at First New Mount Calvary Baptist Church for having an affair with Palmer-Pollard. He later found out she was cheating on him with Fuller.

The congregation is said to be distraught over the series of incidents. Mrs. Burleson's shocking death came a week after their church was completely destroyed by fire.

Funeral Held For Unborn Baby Killed After Mom Was One Of 11 Shot At Party

Friends and family members of Shante Hill, the pregnant woman who was one of 11 people shot at a birthday party in Brooklyn say she is still devastated over the loss of her baby boy. Hill was eight months pregnant when she was shot. The injuries she sustained resulted in the baby's death.

A funeral was held at the Solomon and Glover Funeral Home for the baby who never got the opportunity to meet his mother.

Toddrick Ashley, 22 was arrested in connection with the shooting. Witnesses reported seeing him pull a gun from his waistband and open fire. He has been charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. It is speculated that the shooting was either gang related or motivated by people from different sides of town not getting along.

Congresswoman Brown Says it's not So: Local Funds Will Reach Workforce Central Florida

Congresswoman Brown says it is not so! Dismissing threats by Florida Governor Rick Scott to deny funding to the Orlando area's Workforce Central Florida Program, which provides education and job training services to those in the Central Florida community struggling to get back on their feet during these difficult economic times, Congresswoman Brown wants to assure the community that federal funds for Workforce Central Florida will continue, and that it is out of the purview of the Florida Governor to halt the program's funding.

"I convened a meeting today with senior leadership officials at the Department of Labor in Washington to make sure that the important services this program provides will continue unabated while the investigations of the Agency continue, and was informed that the funding provided by the Department of Labor for local work force development programs is distributed through a predetermined in-state formula and cannot be withheld, sequestered, or distributed to other entities in the state by the Governor. The Governor's only authority in this matter is to change the Board.

The Department of Labor, along with Congresswoman Brown will be monitoring the situation to ensure that the funds dedicated to Central Florida are delivered and are being used for their intended purpose of assisting the unemployed and improving training and education programs. The workforce development programs are a partnership between the federal and state government and the state cannot act arbitrarily to stop this funding.

"Indeed, denying funding for the Orlando area's Workforce Central Florida Program unfairly punishes the thousands of Floridians who benefit from the program. With unemployment in the state of Florida at nearly 11%, these individuals, who are working hard to obtain the training and education necessary to return to the workforce, should not be collateral damage in the battle between the Governor and the local workforce leadership," said Congresswoman Brown.

Singer/Actress Vesta Williams Found Dead In Hotel Room

Singer and actress Vesta Williams is dead. The petite vocal powerhouse known for her hit "Congratulations" was found in her California hotel room on Wednesday. According to reports, several bottles of prescription pills were also found in the room.

While an autopsy was pending up to press time, authorities were said to be treating Williams' death as an accident or suicide.

Celebrities taking to social networks to mourn her loss included long time friend Jackee Harry, who played her sister on Tia and Tamara Mowry's hit show Sister, Sister. Williams who in the past has struggled with her own weight is an advocate for the prevention of childhood obesity.

First Lady Michelle Obama Shops at Target

Photo courtesy of AP/Charles Dharapak

The first lady, hard to recognize in a baseball cap and sunglasses, shopped Thursday at a Target store in Alexandria, Va., just outside Washington.

NNPA Chairman Cloves Campbell says new report will empower African-Americans

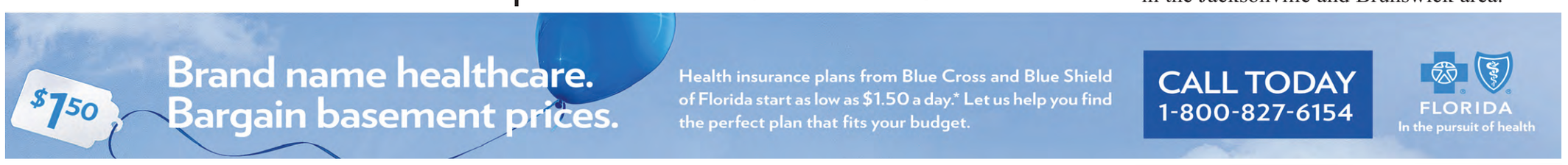
(TriceEdneyWire.com) - By the year 2015, African-Americans will be spending $1.1 trillion a year on products and services.

For more on this story visit the ***www.thefloridastar.com.***

First Free Black TV Network started this week – Bounce TV

This week marks another historic milestone in black media, with the launch of Bounce TV, the nation's first-ever, free broadcast television network marketed exclusively to African-American audiences. Founded by entertainment industry luminaries and businessmen Andrew Young, Martin Luther King III, Andrew "Bo" Young III, television executives Ryan Glover and Jonathan Katz and filmmakers Rob Hardy and Will Packer, the channel targets African Americans primarily between the ages of 25 and 54 with 24-hour programming that includes movies, live sporting events, documentaries and inspirational faith-based programs.

You can see Bounce TV on Channel 17-2 over the air and Channel 225 through Comcast in the Jacksonville and Brunswick area.



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More Than Half of States Fail At Teaching the Civil Rights Movement

Report: 35 States Receive an 'F' Southern States Receive Higher Marks

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 28, 2011 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Though the civil rights movement is one of the defining events of U.S. history, most states fail when it comes to teaching the movement to students, a first-of-its-kind study released by the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) today has found.

The study, Teaching the Movement: The State of Civil Rights Education in the United States 2011, examined state standards and curriculum requirements related to the study of the modern civil rights movement for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. It was conducted by the SPLC's Teaching Tolerance program and includes a forward by noted civil rights activist and historian Julian Bond.

The study compared the requirements in state standards to a body of knowledge that reflects what civil rights historians and educators consider core information about the civil rights movement.

* A shocking number of states – 35 – received grades of "F."
* Sixteen of those states, where local officials set specific policies and requirements for their school districts, have no requirements at all for teaching about the movement.
* Only three states received a grade of "A" – Alabama, New York and Florida – and even these states have considerable room for improvement.
* Generally speaking, the farther away from the South – and the smaller the African American population – the less attention paid to the movement.

The report can be read at: http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/publications/teaching-the-movement

"For too many students their civil rights education boils down to two people and four words: Rosa Parks, Dr. King and 'I have a dream,'" said Maureen Costello, SPLC's Teaching Tolerance director. "When 43 states adopted Common Core Standards in English and math, they affirmed that rigorous standards were necessary for achievement. By having weak or non-existent standards for history, particularly for the civil rights movement, they are saying loud and clear that it isn't something students need learn."

The SPLC issued the report to encourage a national conversation about the importance of teaching the civil rights movement. The report calls for states to include civil rights education in K-12 history and social studies curricula. It urges colleges and other organizations that train teachers to ensure that they are well prepared to teach it.

Most of the states that earned grades of "C" or better are in the South – suggesting that most states view the civil rights movement as something of regional significance or of interest only to black students rather than a matter of national significance.

The study also found that when states teach the civil rights movement, they tend to perform well on teaching leaders and events. They are considerably less likely to include the obstacles that civil rights activists faced, like racism and white resistance, or to mention more than civil rights related-holidays to students before they reach high school.

"An educated populace must be taught basics about American history," said Julian Bond in his preface to the report. "One of these basics is the civil rights movement, a nonviolent revolution as important as the first American Revolution. It is a history that continues to shape the America we all live in today."

Teaching Tolerance is dedicated to reducing prejudice, improving intergroup relations and supporting equitable school experiences for our nation's children. It produces and distributes tools at no cost to teachers, including Teaching Tolerance magazine, online curricula and professional development resources, and multimedia teaching kits that introduce students to various civil rights issues.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, based in Alabama with offices in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi, is a nonprofit civil rights organization dedicated to fighting hate and bigotry, and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of society. For more information, see www.splcenter.org

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CHURCH

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, located at 1824 Prospect Street in Jacksonville, will celebrate their **92nd Church Anniversary** starting with their Annual Banquet on Sunday, October 23rd at the Blue Cypress Community Center at 4:00 pm. Tickets are available for a donation of $30.00, children 6-12 only $15.00. Praise & Worship Service will be celebrated on Thursday night, November 10th with great musical artists from around the city beginning at 7:00 pm. Visiting Churches Night celebration will begin at 7:00 pm on Friday, November 11th with several participating local churches. Sunday, November 13th concludes this year's celebration with Sunday School beginning at 9:30 am, Morning Worship Service begin at 11:00 am and Youth Explosion at 4:00 pm. Contact the Church at (904) 764-5727 for more information.

THE EAST FLORIDA BETHANY ASSOCIATION CHOIR, under the direction of Mr. Darryl Austin, will be in concert at Christ Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church Friday, October 7th at 7:00 PM. The church is located at 2335 N. Davis St. Rev. Dr. Kim C. Anderson, Pastor. The concert is a prelude to the annual Prayer Breakfast.

THE CHRIST TABERNACLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH Annual Prayer Breakfast will be held October 8th at 9:00 AM. The theme is, "Perpetually Praying for The Healing of a Nation." The speaker will be Dr. Stephen J. Thurston, Sr., President of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc. Location Emanuel Missionary Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall, 2407 Division St. Call 554-5524 for more information.

Come join **Bishop Dr. Lorenzo Hall Sr. every Wednesday** and **Thursday** from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM for **Prayer Meeting** and **Bible Study** at **The Greater El-Beth-El Divine Holiness Church,** located at 723 W. 4th Street, Jacksonville, FL 32209.

Listings are due the Tuesday before the next issue. Email submissions preferred. Send to: Info@TheFloridaStar.com

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Speaker:
Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Thurston, Sr.
President of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.
Saturday, October 8, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.
Donation: $35.00
Location:
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DEATH NOTICES

JACKSONVILLE, FL

BAKER, Lorriane, died September 23, 2011.
BALTIERRA, Julia, died September 20, 2011.
BAYLESS, Patricia Wollum Shefner, 84, died September 22, 2011.
BISHOP, Grady B., 91, died September 23, 2011.
BOYETTE, Marcia Marcy, 59, died September 24, 2011.
BROWN, Lloyd, 82, died September 25, 2011.
BUES, Harvey, 79, died September 23, 2011.
BYRD, Samuel, Jr., died September 24, 2011.
CAMERON, Anna, 97, died September 26, 2011.
CARROLL, Charles Finley, 75, died September 21, 2011.
CROSSLAND, Grayson Lane, infant son, died September 21, 2011.
CROSSLAND, Jennifer, 29, died September 21, 2011.
DIXON, Elizabeth Macon, died September 24, 2011.
FORNSHELL, Kenneth E., 88, died September 22, 2011.
GADSDEN, Leo, died September 23, 2011.
GILPIN, Pauline Francis, died September 21, 2011.
GNJIDIC, Gordan, died September 24, 2011.
HART, Jimmy, III, 27, died September 22, 2011.
HAYNES, Nyle C., died September 22, 2011.
HILLS, Ada, 65, died September 26, 2011.
HURST, Catherine, 83, died September 25, 2011.
JENKINS, Tommy, died September 24, 2011.
JONES, David Henry, Jr., died September 26, 2011.
JONES, Herman R., died September 23, 2011.
KOON, Jacqueline Beth Walker, 81, died September 23, 2011.
LITES, Malcolm T., 83, died September 22, 2011.
McCARVER, David L., 91, died September 24, 2011.
McMORRIES, Harriett Costello, died September 23, 2011. *Alphonso West Mortuary, Inc.*
MIDDLETON, Phillip, died September 21, 2011.
NELSON, John "Jack," Woodson, 93, died September 21, 2011.
PETRO, Gary M., 56, died September 23, 2011.
ROBERTS, Nathaniel, 89, died September 25, 2011.
SANDERS, Rachel Diane Murphy, 53, died September 23, 2011.
SHELTON, Daniel Leroy, 86, died September 24, 2011.
SILLS, Henry, died September 21, 2011.
SINGLETON, Raymond, 52, died September 22, 2011.
SMITH, Gayle, died September 26, 2011.
SMITH, Vassie, 75, died September 22, 2011.
SWEAT, June D., 71, died September 23, 2011.
THOMAS, Enoch, 103, died September 21, 2011.
WALKER, Pearlie Fisher, died September 23, 2011.
WALTON, Feddis, III, 82, died September 21, 2011.
WEST, Antonio Lee, died September 22, 2011.
WHITTY, Alton H., Jr., 80, died September 25, 2011.
WILLIAMS, Gerald L., Sr., 77, died September 22, 2011.
WILSON, Michael Mike Scott, 43, died September 23, 2011.
WOODWARD, Carlean, 60, died September 26, 2011.
WYCHE, Dorothy, 65, died September 22, 2011.
YOUMANS, Gary, Jr., died September 22, 2011.

~*~

GEORGIA DEATHS

BARBER, Dollie Mae, died September 20, 2011.
MAXEY, Wyatt M., 91, died September 23, 2011.
REYNOLDS, Charisse, died September 21, 2011.
THOMAS, Taylor, died September 24, 2011.
WALKER, Jimmie Marshall, 71, died September 22, 2011.

The Church Directory
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New Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church
1824 Prospect Street * Jacksonville, FL 32208

Sunday School ….....……..9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning
Intercessory Prayer.....…..10:45 a.m.
Morning Worship .....11:00 a.m.
Youth Church
2nd & 3rd Sundays (Old Sanctuary)
Tuesday - Pastoral Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.

Elder Arnitt Jones, Acting Pastor
Rev. Joe Calhoun, Pastor Emeritus
(904) 764-5727 - Church

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Worship Service . . . . . 10:00 a.m.
Church School . . . . . 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday
"Glory Hour" Bible Study . . . . . .10:00 a.m.
"Jehovah Jireh" Bible Study . . . . . 6:30 p.m.
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Rev. Marquise Hardrick, Pastor

Rev. Marquise & Mrs. Deedra Hardrick

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Sun Morning Worship -10:45 a.m.
Tues Eve Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.
Wed Bible Study - 12 Noon
Wed Feeding Ministry - 2:00 p.m.

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Mathew 28:19-20

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Talk of the Town!

by Frances Bradley

Volume Burks, Photographer

E kaabo (pronounced eh-kah-bow). Welcome.

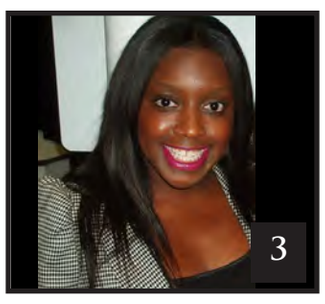
It was a quiet week and weekend. It gave me the opportunity to review newsworthy item that came in during the passing of the guard. It's never too late to honor the accomplishments of young African-Americans who manage to stay the course with a focused eye on the prize.

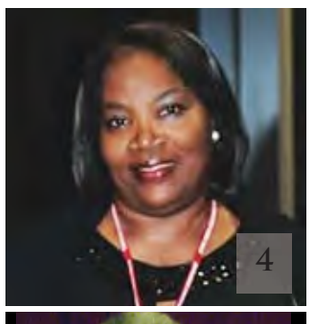
DCPS STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION. Last summer, three Douglas Anderson School of the Arts students brought home the silver and bronze from the NAACP's Afro-Academics, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics held in Los Angeles, California. ACT-SO is an achievement program designed to stimulate high academic and cultural success among African-American high school students. There are 26 categories of competition in the sciences, humanities, business, and performing and visual arts.

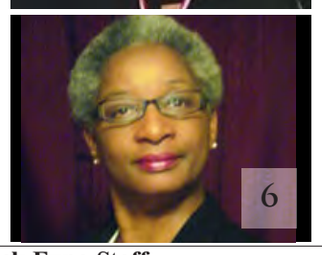
Joshua Abbott, Jahaan Sweet, and Iman Bethel were among twenty (20) Duval County Public Schools students who competed at ACT-SO's 33rd Annual Awards Ceremony, which was held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The three winners were each awarded medals, cash prizes, and laptops during the ceremony which was held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. Joshua, a second place winner, competed in the Dance category. Jahaan, also a second place winner, performed a piano piece in the category of Music Instrumental/Contemporary. Iman's piano performance earned a third place win in the category of Music Intrumental/Classical.

Both Joshua and Jahaan graduated from DA in June and are attending Jacksonville University and The Juilliard School, respectively. Iman is entering her senior year at Douglas Anderson. Other students attending and competing: Marquale Ashley, Imari Bratcher, Courtnee Carter, Morgan Danford, Mariah Downer, Channel Green, Frank Humphrey, Adrian Johnson, Christina Mattis, Erika Murray, Nemia Noble, Tyrone Porter, William Robinson, Deja Seigler, Lauren Smith, Markis Williams, and Shacara Young. All students represented Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Wolfson, Ed White, and Englewood High Schools.

Congratulations to the Joshua, Jahaan, Iman, and all the young men and women who participated in this program. You are this week's TALK OF THE TOWN!







The Florida Black Expo is coming to Town. Mark your calendars for the 2011 Florida Black Expo on October 8, 2011 at the Prime Osborne Convention Center. Celebrating its tenth year in Jacksonville, this year's Expo promises to be as exciting as in years past. Sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida, the Expo presents a variety of business vendors, food vendors, local and celebrity entertainment, seminars, health-related exhibitors, health screenings, and educational themes. Features include the Gospel Best Competition, which will be hosted by Grammy Award Winning sensation, Vicki Winans; Jacksonville's own New York Times best-selling author, Brenda Jackson; R&B singers Joe and Noel Gourdin; actors LisaRaye McCoy and Laz Alonso; CNN and CBS News Political Analyst and Commentator, Jamal Simmons; Hi-Def Hair Show and Competition; the Recycled Fashion Show; and the fun, fun Kids Zone.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida and the Florida Black Expo proudly present "Taste of Jacksonville," a culinary experience featuring chefs of the First Coast, including Top Chef Desserts contestant and Jacksonville Beach native, Chef Erica Davis, along with Chef Amadeus, who has delighted the palates of Jacksonville epicureans for many years.

I have worked with the Expo as a volunteer and Staff over the past ten years. So, of course, I can't miss it. Besides, I have adopted the event as my own four day party, since it falls on my birthday every year (past "gifts" include a serenade from Will Downing, a kiss from Frankie Beverly, and hugs from Earth, Wind, AND Fire. Oh, how could I forget the champagne party aboard a beautiful yacht on the St. Johns)!

Florida Black Expo is a division of Thomas Media Group, publisher of The Black Pages. The company's President and CEO is Darrin Thomas. For more information about the Expo, visit their website at www.blackexposouth.com.

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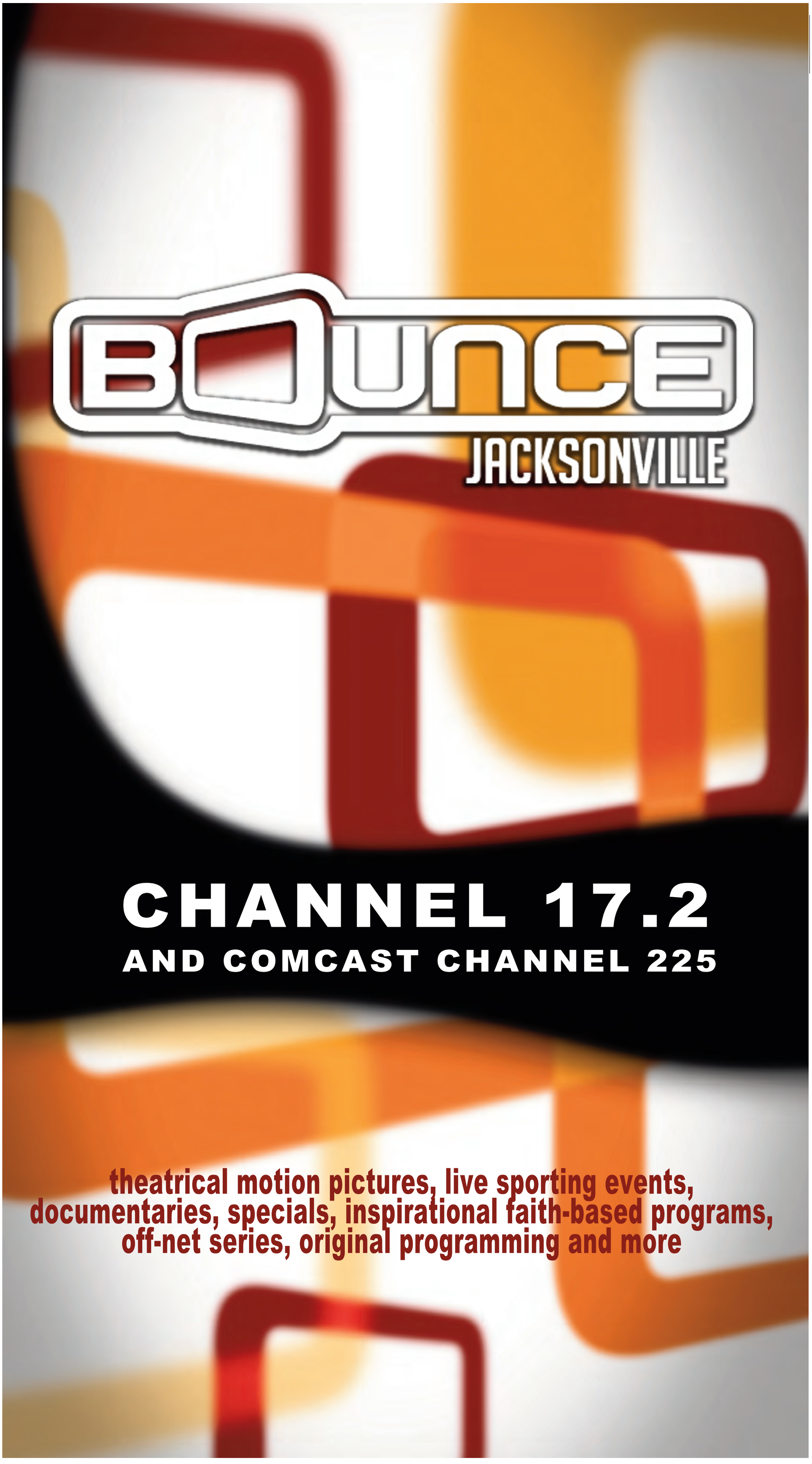
Florida Black Expo Staff
1-Darrin Thomas, 2-Jeannie Jackson, 3-Whitney Chisholm, 4-Thelma Davidson, 5-Volume Burks, 6-Brenda Frinks

2011 Florida Black Expo Celebrity Guests
7-Jamal Simmons, 8-Joe, 9-Vicki Winans, 10-Noel Gourdin, 11-Brenda Jackson, 12-Laz Alonso, 13-LisaRaye McCoy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Around The Area

2011 Women of Color - Ebony & Ivory Gala

Story by Candace Smith and photos by Frank M. Powell, III, both of The Florida Star

The women of color celebrated 11 years of giving back to the community with its Ebony and Ivory Gala on September 17, 2011 at the WJCT television studio.

The Ebony and Ivory Gala is a black tie affair that honors women of the community who have made a difference in health, education, and economic development.

This year the event held a number of special honorees and for the first time in 11 years one special man. Among the honorees for Health and Safety was Sandy Barata, Administrative director with the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Florida. Pauline Rolle, M.D., was also honored for Health and Safety. She is the Medical Director for West Jacksonville Family Health Center for the Duval County Health Department. Director Michele Romolde of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Department is the second woman to receive the rank of Director in the history of JSO. She also received an honorable mention for Health and Safety.

Award honorees for the Education award were Janice Tucker, Vice Principal of Students Services at Orange Park Jr. high school. In here acceptance speech she says, "I do it because I love the kids." Estella Trudy Dixon, a teacher at Martin Luther King Elementary has taught for over 44 years with an extensive background in the education field. She also received the Education award.

In a special video presentation the Women of Color honored the late Gertrude Hoffman Peele. Peele's entire life has centered on education and it all began in her childhood. Because of the hardships she endured during those years made her an advocate for children's education. She devoted her life to showing the importance of education. Her daughter graciously accepted the award with a speech that reiterated the importance of education in Peele's life.

An economic award was given to Lauren Little. Little is the owner of Edible Arrangements of Avondale and the Shoppes at Bartram Park. She is also the 2010 Women in Business Franchisee of the Year, the 2011 Chamber of Commerce Women's Business Center Small Business Leader and listed as one of Jacksonville's Top 50 Business Influencers.

The Distinguished Couple award went to Dr. Floyd Willis, M.D., and Wanda Willis. Dr. Floyd Williams is the Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine at The Mayo Clinic Jacksonville. Dr. Willis is former President of the Duval County Medical Society and is active with the Florida Medical Association. Mrs. Willis serves as the Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Edward Waters College, Jacksonville, Florida. She has also chaired on various fundraisers and annual fund campaigns for local non-profit organizations. Together they are THE power-house couple. They have been married for 25 years.

Along with the awards the Gala also included a silent auction from over 30 donors whose proceeds benefited scholarships and community service activities of the women of color. The Women of Color Cultural Foundation has provided over $138,000 in scholarships.

Two recipients of the scholarship were present and active at the event. Mr. & Miss Universal Teen 2011: Mr. Deandre Jones and Miss. Kesharee Baxter both expressed their deepest and sincerest thanks to The Women of Color Foundation and to all contributors for assisting in furthering their education.

The Women of Color Cultural Foundation presented the Jacksonville B E A M - B e a c h e s Emergency Assisted Ministry with A check for $1000. BEAM is an organization that helps families in the Beaches community. They offer a food pantry service, and provide families with help paying electric bills and rent. This agency also offers free tax preparation services during tax season. They received the Community Service Agency award.

This years Women of Color Cultural Foundation—Ebony & Ivory Gala 2011 was a great success. After the awards were giving and the food was served, everyone celebrated and danced in an evening of elegance.

Honoree Director Michele Romolde, Health and Safety Award Honoree, The late Gertrude Hoffman Peele Family Gayle Pitts, Wyane Ford, Wilma Lauray $1000.00 Reed Education Campus, Mr. Universal Teen 2011 DeAndre Jones, Hazel Martin, Vivian Southwell, Florence Charlton BEAM Honorees (Beaches Emergency Assisted Ministry) $1000.00, Gerald Minnifield Woman of Color, Honoree Janice Tucker, Helen Jackson Woman of Color, Honoreess Floyd Willis, M.D. and Wanda Willis, Honoree Lauren Little, Honoree Estella Trudy Dixon, Jennifer Clayton Woman of Color, and Miss Universal Teen 2011 Kesharee Baxter

Gerald Minnifield Woman of Color

Master and Mistress of ceremony Tarik Minor and Melanie Lawson, WJXT Channel 4

Honoreess Floyd Willis, M.D. and Wanda Willis, first time a male to be Honoree Distinguished Couple Award

Above photo: DeAndrous Wilcox, Jenipher Wiley, Dr Helen Jackson, Jennifer Clayton All Women of Color

Brenda Murray and Frank M. Powell, III

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$35 day of event

A portion of the proceeds to benefit the

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Celebrity Chef Erika Davis
"Top Chef"

Enjoy A Night of Sampling, Signature dishes, drinks and dancing

Celebrity Chef Amadeus
"Extreme Chef"

Shirley's Catering

Crystol's Exquisite Catering

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Bow Leg'z Caribbean & Southern Style Bar-B-Que
Cakes Galore Bakery
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Crims Bar-B-Q
Cupcake Connection Bakery
Essie Ruth's Desserts
Gourmet Punch and More Family Café, LLC
Graestone Organa Gold
Martha's Kitchen
Pasttime Cafe and Catering
Vanetta's Sinclair Famous

CARIBBEAN NEWS

GOLDING TO RESIGN:
Jamaican PM's Decision Comes As Shock Locally And Internationally

The leader of the Jamaica Labour Party, Bruce Golding, will not be seeking re-election at the party's annual general conference in November and will step down as Prime Minister as soon as a new leader has been elected.

Golding conveyed this decision to the party's Central Executive at its quarterly meeting on Sunday. He said he had planned to lead the party into a second term of government and demit office within two years thereafter.

"The challenges of the last four years have taken their toll and it was appropriate now to make way for new leadership to continue the programs of economic recovery and transformation while mobilizing the party for victory in the next general elections," he said.

The same day, Chairman of the Jamaica Labour Party, Mike Henry announced that the Central Executive of the JLP has unanimously voted to reject the decision of Golding to step down as Leader of the Party in November.

Golding was two years old when his father Tacius was first elected as a Member of the House Representatives for West St. Catherine, where he served for 22 years before he retired in 1972. Tacius served as Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and the first Speaker of the House following Jamaica's Independence.

Bruce Golding, became Prime Minister in 2007. He is also the founder for National Democratic Movement.

In May 2008, in an interview with Stephen Sackur of the BBC, Golding declared that any cabinet formed by him would exclude any Member of Parliament whom he knew to be gay. In previous statements, Golding has stated that he and his party strongly opposed public displays of homosexuality in Jamaica and that he felt that they should continue to be illegal in keeping with Jamaican societal norms.

Mayor's Son Among 17 Arrested In Drug Ring

PUERTO RICO: Canovanas Mayor Jose Chemo Soto said that he will not be coming to the aid of his 21 year-old son Christian who was among 17 people detained in a drug ring that was busted on Tuesday. The mayor said emphasized his anger over his son's conduct. Christian was hoping to follow his father's footsteps into politics with the New Progressive party which his father is a part of. The Mayor's daughter, Lornna is a Senator.

Christian and the others are being charges with distributing the marijuana they received by US mail from the USA. The US Drug Enforcement Administration, local post office and Puerto Rico Police Department worked together to bring down the drug ring which had operations in San Diego, Los Angeles and Mexico.

Inaugural State Of The Industry Tourism Conference A Success

ST. MARTIN: The first annual State of the Industry Tourism Conference, organized by the Caribbean Tourism Organization wrapped up in St. Martin last week. The event drew dignitaries, tourism officials and executives from throughout the region. Also in attendance were those in tourism-related industries including those in customs, immigration, air transportation, finance and the private sector.

Secretary General Hugh Riley said that the conference created a forum for some of the industry's sharpest minds to analyze factors that have influenced the state of [tourism] and will provide an informed peek into its future.

The conference bought together some of some of tourism's industry icons as presenters and speakers CEO of British Airways, Keith Williams delivered the keynote address. The panel included Brian Challenger, CEO, Liat; Ian Burns, CEO, RedJet; Vijay Bathija, senior Director of Network Planning, Air Canada; Chad Meyerson, Director of Global Sales, JetBlue; Edmond Rose, Director Commercial & Revenue Planning, Virgin Atlantic; Prof. Avinash Persaud, Executive Chairman, Intelligence Capital Limited; Jacinthe Paré, Partner and Account Group Director, Virginia Tourism Corporation; Coleen Deverteuil, member, Marine Industries Association of South Florida; Nigel Mayes, Vice President, ROUTES; Rafael Cardozo, President, Tambourine Creative; Miranda Joyce, CEO, Sugarfly Marketing; Ryan Manville, Vice President of Corporate Research + Insights, American Express; Esther Buchsbaum, Managing Partner of energi Public Relations and Dan Tisch, President, Argyle Communications.

Pictured are highlights of the event. *(Photos by CTO)*

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The 2011 "FULL FIGURED" King and Queen Pageant

Photos by Frank M. Powell, III, Photographer for The Florida Star

The Full Figure Queen Pageant is back for its 2nd year and it just keeps getting better and better. Under the direction of Brenda "The Promoter" Murray, Jacksonville celebrated the full-figured woman in a very special way on September 11, 2011.

The full figured queen pageant is an annual event that is meant to honor and showcase plus size men and women. This year the pageant was held at the Hyatt Regency hotel in downtown Jacksonville. There were six contestants whose ages ranged from 18-35. These group of women brought with them beauty, class, and talent that included dance, spoken word, and sign language.

We were introduced to the Queens in there opening act. They danced to music by Mary J. Blige, "Just Fine" with lyrics that read: "So I like what I see when I'm looking at me when I'm walking pass a mirror…" With every step that these ladies took one could easily tell that they embraced these words and expressed them through their dance.

If you are not familiar with the world of pageantry and you think all you need to win the crown is a puffy dress, heavy make-up, and a stiff hand wave then your sadly mistaken. The Full Figured Queen Pageant like many others began well before pageant night, and there are many qualifications. Contestants must undergo an extensive interview process, complete a 500 word essay, showcase their talent, and practice, practice, practice. Judging begins the first day you walk in to register. According to Brenda Murray, founder of the Full figured Queen pageant, "This pageant is committed to excellence in every area of all full-figured men and women." The contestants must learn an opening act routine, a runway routine for their casual, business and formal wear, perform their talent, and answer interview questions and all of this is done in front of a room full of people and several judges.

But these ladies were definitely up to the challenge. They walked the runway flawlessly and answered their interview question without breaking a sweat. In the end the crown for Ms. Full Figure Queen 2011 went to Shamika Adams, a native of Jacksonville, Fl. who is a certified HIV/aids testing counselor. Shamika plans to use her time with the crown to give back to her community. She wants to volunteer at several Jacksonville shelters, including the Clara White Mission and Beam (Beaches Emergency assisted Ministry). She will also be making a special appearance at the 2012 MLK parade. Adams also won"best essay" and "Ms. Photogenic". Second runner up went to Kim Davis and Miss Congeniality was won by Charleen James. Every contestant received an honorable mention.

The night was filled with many special attractions and surprises. One contestant, Kimberly Davis received a special surprise when her boyfriend proposed to her during her formal attire walk. Each lady was to be accompanied by their special someone but Kimberly entered alone. Her boyfriend was not in the proper attire to escort her but when she entered he rushed up to her, took her hand and knelt on one knee. A mic was offered to him so the entire audience could share in their special moment.

Other special attractions included, three dance numbers by the Dazzling Diamonds, a line dancing group with women ranging in age from 65 to 80. The group is spear headed by Dr. Dawn McDermott. There was also a special performance by Gregory, The gospel artist. Mr. Gary Thomas of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Foundation made a special speech and also served as a judge. Commentators included Dr. Drake of 92.5, First Lady Kimberly Mckissick of Bethel Baptist and Candace Smith creator of Phatabulous Magazine.

Brenda "The Promoter" Murray is now registering youth for her next upcoming debut, "The Unique Teen King and Queen Pageant. For more information on any of these events please contact her at: www.brendathepromoter.com or call 904-887-4165.

The Dazzling Diamonds Effie Sims, Judy Wells, Myra Bailey, Gladys Davis, Dawn McDermott, Joyce McCall, Mary J. Cobb, Rosa Geiger, Mildred Johnson, Lula Brooks, Gloria Fuller, Olivia Clarke, Joan Bell, Jackie Perry Williams, Gloria Richardson, and Jakki Stubbs

Brittany Kiandra Rena Williams, Franklin Willis, Tarsha Nikka Hagan Watts, King Keenan Sweat, Candace Smith , Toccara Dwan Burgess, The New Queen of 2011 Shamika Adams and Kim Davis 1ts runner up.

The New Queen 2011 Shamika Adams

Monigue Coles Miss Full Figured 2010, Kim Davis runner up 2011 and King Keenan Sweat

Patricia Sewer, Maxine Green, and Brenda Murray The Promoter of the Full Figured King and Queen Pageant . Coming in January, Unique Teen King and Queen Pageant Pre-Teen ages 10 to 12, Jr. Teen ages 13 to 15, and Teen ages 16 to 19. To register, go to www.brendathepromoter.com

Dr. Drank, radio personality of Joy 92.5 FM, Kimberly McKissick First Lady Bethel Baptist and Candace Smith

Terra Monique and Ava Patterson

REAL LIFE STORIES

YOU "WILL" GET ALL THAT YOU DESERVE. When Tommy and Millie got married, he was 60 with four adult children and she was 50 with one adult child. He had substantial assets and he was the total provider for the family . When Tommy made his Will, he left everything to his wife, but if she died first, his estate would be divided equally between his four children and his step-child. However, Millie's Will stated that she would leave everything to her husband, but if he died first, she left each of her four stepchildren $1.00 and the bal ance of her estate, all inherited from her husband, to her son. As life would have it, Millie took ill and just before she died, she called her husband to her bedside and explained to him what she had done. ADVICE: When making a plan, is it possible to make it so that someone else cannot derail those plans?

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Make It Count

By: Farris Long

I sat in an entrepreneurs class last week, enjoying the training and the interaction that was taking place. The class was going very well. Then a few statements were made that hit me like a ton of bricks in the back of a semi. Statement number one, "Take the time frames off your goals." I have always been one to set goals and give them an deadline date. So when the instructor made the statement, I swallowed hard as I waited to hear what was coming next. He asked the class, "How do you feel when you miss a deadline... better yet, what happens when you miss a deadline?" The general consensus in the class was that we get discouraged and either delay the task or don't finish it at all. "RIGHT!!" he replied emphatically. Being a Christian based class, he went on to say , "Have you ever stopped to think that it isn't the goal that God doesn't agree with but the timing?" He was absolutely right.

Let me pause here and say I am not lending excuse nor credence to procrastination or poor planning. I am talking about when we have genuinely done everything possible and things just do not work out when we want it to. Let's face facts... life happens. Some things are simply beyond our control. Just because our visions and goals get delayed doesn't mean they are dead in the water. Often there are things that we need to learn that will prepare us for the acquisition of our goals So what. You're 35 and you thought you would be married by now. So what. You aren't making $50,000 a year yet. Could it be that you haven't learned to properly manage the $30,000 so you are not really prepared for the next level? So again, don't be so stuck on a "timeframe" that you miss the lessons of the journey to the goal.

The second awe inspiring statement was "Celebrate the little successes". There was a young lady in our class who talked about having recently received her associates degree. Sadly right after her statement about her degree, she began to tell us all the "buts" She shared how she had this degree and should be making $20 per hour by now, but no one will hire her because she lacked an additional skill. I was sitting there thinking, "With such a negative attitude, who could blame them for not hiring you? I wouldnt hire you either." The instructor didn't let her get very far down that rabbit trail. He had her tell her story again and stop just before the but. he required her to celebrate the fact that she had done something that a lot of other people had not. She had an associates degree.

Ladies and gentlemen now is the time to do self inventory and ask yourself, "Do I have a BIG BUT???" Your "BIG BUT" will weigh you down and frustrate your efforts to reach for anything beyond your immediate vision and grasp. The reason this hit me so hard was because I had not taken the time to celebrate my successes. Sometimes in light of our personal short comings, we feel like our little successes will never equal the magnitude of our past failures. So we hope that one day we will have a big success that we can celebrate that will blot out our history. I submit to you it is the darkness of our history that makes our little successes just that.... successes. Truth be told, you can not have a point of reference or definition of success in the absence of failure. Failure is required to establish a defining point for success.

By the way, don't let others opinions be the measure of success for you. In the eyes of people nothing you do will ever be good enough. You will never make up for all the mess-ups of your past. So stop trying. They will always refer you back to your snapshot (your past). But let me remind you of two things. 1) Snapshots represent where you have been at a given point and time. When others dwell on where you've been, that generally means they have no clue of how your story is going to end. 2) Speaking of how your story will end... Never forget that your life is a motion picture not a snapshot. The key is moving forward. In fact, the only time you should look back is when you are celebrating how far you have come. The moments of our lives are too valuable to waste. So I encourage you, now more than ever... MAKE IT COUNT!

Health Notes

ULYSSES W. WATKINS JR., MD
HEALTH NOTES
MYASTHENIA GRAVIS
GENERAL INFORMATION

Definition – Disorder of muscles, especially of the face and head, with increasing fatigue and weakness as muscles are used.
BODY PARTS INVOLVED – Muscles, especially around the eyes, mouth and throat, and the extremities.
SEX OR AGE MOST AFFECTED – Adolescents and young adults of both sexes, but more common in females.
SIGNS & SYMPTOMS – No symptoms when not infected.
When infected, it causes:
* Drooping eyelids.
* Double vision.
* Loss of normal facial expression.
* Swallowing difficulties.
* Weakness of the arms and legs.
* Difficulty speaking clearly.
* Breathing difficulty.

Most flare-ups appear after a brief period of normal muscle function, and worsen as the muscle is used.
CAUSES
* **Autoimmune disorder (probably).**
* **Tumor of the thymus (newborns only)**

RISK INCREASES WITH
* Medical history of other autoimmune diseses.
* Some cancers, especially thymus and lung cancer.
* Newborns and infants of mothers with myasthenia gravis. They show symp toms in 2 to 3 weeks.

HOW TO PREVENT – Cannot be prevented at present.
WHAT TO EXPECT
APPROPRIATE HEALTH CARE
* Doctor's treatment.
* Surgery to remove a thymus tumor, if present.
* Plasmapheresis during crisis.

DIAGNOSTIC MEASURES
* Your own observation of symptoms.
* Medical history and physical exam by a doctor.
* Laboratory studies of antibodies in the bloodand electrical muscle tests.
* X-rays of the chest.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS
* Choking from swallowing difficulties.
* Respiratory paralysis.

PROBABLE OUTCOME – This condition is currently considered incurable. However, symptoms can be relieved or controlled. Worsening may be followed by improvement. Life expectancy is reduced but patients usually live many years with the disease.
Scientific research into causes and treatment continues, so there is hope for increasingly effective treatment and cure.
HOW TO TREAT
GENERAL MEASURES
* Maintain as normal a life as possible.
* Join a support group.

MEDICATION –Your doctor may prescribe:
* Anticholinesterase drugs to restore normal muscle function. Excessive dos esmay cause weakness.
* Cortisone drugs at times when symptoms worsen..

ACTIVITY – No restrictions. Remain as active as possible.
DIET – No special diet. .
CALL YOUR DOCTOR IF
* If you have symptoms of myasthenia gravis.
* You develop swallowing or breathing difficulty. (You should have emer gency medication – anticholinesterase drug – available at all times to use if these symptoms develop.)

Community Activities

Announcements, meetings, happenings, and community events scheduled in Jacksonville and the surrounding area

RIVERSIDE ARTS MARKET on Saturday October 1, 2011 at Riverside Arts Market, Jacksonville, FL. Contact 904.389.2449 for additional information.
REGGAE ON THE RIVER: Sunday October 2, 201 1 at The Jacksonville Landing, 2 Independent Dr . W., Jacksonville, FL 32202. For more information call 904.353.1188.
JACKSONVILLE WALKING TOUR: Tuesday, October 4, 2011, from 10:00 AM - 1 1:45 AM, at The Jacksonville Landing, 2 Independent Dr . W., Jacksonville, FL 32202. Call 904.353.1188 for any information.
BOOMSONG SING-ALONG on Wednesday October 5, 201 1, at The Jacksonville Landing, 2 Independent Dr . W., .Jacksonville, FL 32202. Contact 904.353.1188 for more information.
RITZ SPOKEN WORD at the Ritz Theatre and Museum, 829 N. Davis S treet, Jacksonville, FL 32202 on Thursday, October 6, 2011. For additional information call 904.632.5555.
AMATEUR NIGHT AT THE RITZ on Friday October 7, 201 1, at the Ritz Theatre and Museum, 829 N. Davis Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Call 904.632.5555 for more information.
FREE LIVE MUSIC WEEKEND: LYONS, on Friday October 7, 2011 at The Jacksonville Landing, 2 Independent Dr. W., Jacksonville, FL 32202. Call 904.353.1188 for any information.
INAUGURATION OF NATHANIEL GLOVER: Nathaniel Glover will be inaugurated as the permanent 29th President of Edward Waters College on October 15. Glover , graduated from EWC in 1966.
The day following the investiture ceremony a celebration reception will be held before the 10th Annual Fine Arts Benefit Scholarship Concert featuring Multi-Grammy Award Winner Al Jarreau, the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and the EWC Concert Choir . For more information on the inauguration, visit www.ewc.edu/inauguration.

GEORGIA LOCAL SECTION - B

Brunswick Teen Arrested For Shooting Death Of Man, 22

15 year old Carlos White of Brunswick (pictured) was arrested on Monday for the shooting death of Jeremy Lewis, 22. Lewis' body was discovered lying in the roadway with a gunshot wound outside of his gray Chevy Impala after the Glynn County Sheriff's Office responded to several 911 calls of an accident and shooting on Townsend Street, just off Hambersham Street at 10pm on Friday.

Community Mourns Loss Of Church Pioneer

Brunswick is mourning the loss of a 98 year-old woman who made it her business to 'mother the community'. Affectionately referred to as 'Mother', Mamie Culbreath, died on September 21. Culbreath founded the Prayer Band of Holy Band Church in her home with only six founding members. In short order, the group had to relocated to accommodate the amount of people who joined.

Remembered for quoting her favorite scripture of "no weapon for against me shall prosper" and saying "if God said it, He meant it", the South Carolina native served as that national Mother and State Mother of her church for over 50 years. Her service to church included participating in the music and counseling ministries. The mother of nine leaves behind a host of relatives and friends.

The Sax Man Returns For Jazz Festival

Brunswick is gearing up for the Fall Fest Festival is set et for October 23 at 5pm.

Michael 'The Sax Man' Hulett will minster in music at the St Paul AME Church on 1520 Wolfe Street.

The Fall Jazz Festival has become an anticipated event that brings together music lovers and worshippers.

Nigerian Scholar Named Dean At Spelman College

Spelman College has named Dimeji Togunde, Ph.D., dean of the Gordon-Zeto Center for Global Education. The center has been launched under the auspices of the Gordon-Zeto Endowed Fund for International Initiatives, which is supported by a $17 million anonymous gift received in 2008. The center will serve as the hub for Spelman's international programs aligned with curriculum development, international student recruitment, and study-travel abroad.

Togunde comes to Spelman from Albion College where he held the John S. Ludington Endowed Chair in the social sciences as professor of sociology, and served as chair of the department of anthropology and sociology and director of ethnic studies.

"As a distinguished teacher/scholar and strong advocate for campus internationalization, Dr. Togunde understands the need to widen Spelman students' socioeconomic, political, and cultural horizons if they are to function effectively as global citizens," said Johnnella E. Butler, Ed.D., provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "Dr. Togunde brings to Spelman College a wealth of experience in curriculum planning, program development and review, assessment, and strategic planning in international/global and domestic diversity initiatives."

The Gordon-Zeto Center for Global Education reaffirms the College's commitment to offer students engagement with global cultures and to prepare them for leadership roles in an increasingly complex and interdependent global society. Led by Togunde, the center will focus on increasing the number of African students who study and graduate from Spelman, support study abroad opportunities for Spelman students and faculty, and provide senior leadership for the College's international education programs.

"In order to achieve global competency that students need to succeed as future professionals and global leaders, the center will function as an institutional focal point to cohere, enhance, and lead the College's global strategic initiatives embodied in the Spelman College Strategic Plan for 2015: Strengthening the Core, and the College's Quality Enhancement Plan, which is designed to improve student learning through global study-travel experiences," Togunde said.

"The Gordon-Zeto Center is poised to translate the College's global initiatives into action," added Togunde. "Spelman College has positioned itself as a forward-thinking institution; embedded with comprehensive and integrated approaches to global learning by utilizing the Gordon-Zeto Center as a catalyst for forging fruitful international collaborations and synergistic relationships that encourage greater awareness of and involvement with the realities of globalization."

In addition to his role as dean, Togunde will also serve as a professor in the International Studies Program. His academic work intersects the areas of African development, family demography, immigration, and Africans in the U.S. Diaspora. He received his doctorate in development sociology from Cornell University and earned bachelor and master's degrees from Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

Brunswick Teen Sets Sights On The Big Screen

Spike Lee watch out because a new film maker is about to debut his second film right in Brunswick, Georgia. Teenage writer, director, videographer, producer and actor Ryan Blount is back proving that he's no one hit wonder when it comes to making movies.

On Oct 1, 2011 at the Ritz Theatre the cameras will roll and shine a light on his new film Dimensions, a sophomore project to his .film MRN: Revelations which debuted to a nearly sold out theatre, complete with special effects.

Dimensions is a sci-fi action film that takes its characters through time and space through the eyes of a young fugitive who is offered the chance of becoming a hero.

The film stars Neco Trimmings, Victoria Holland, Latonya Billue, John Perry III, Trey Simmons, Marco Baucham, Chris Loving and Jamichael Carroll, with special appearances from some familiar faces in the community.

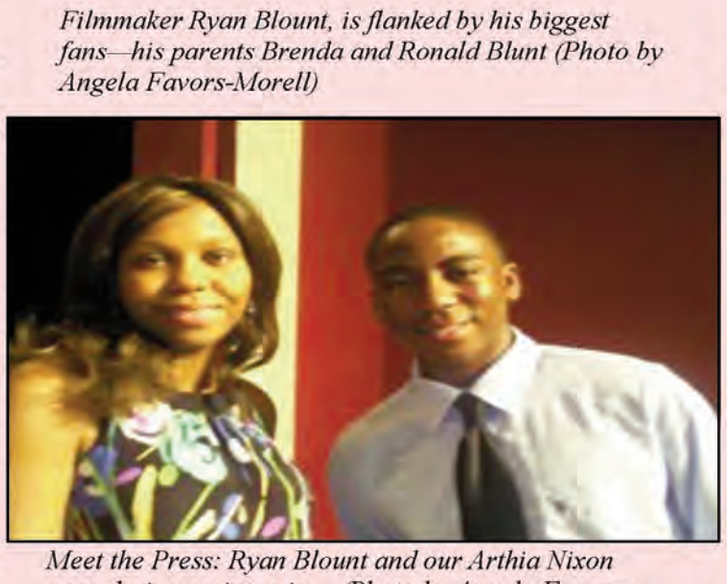
At 18, Blount has about nine years experience in the industry .

"I can do anything with God," he said when asked if he feels he will make it to top. "God gave me that gift."

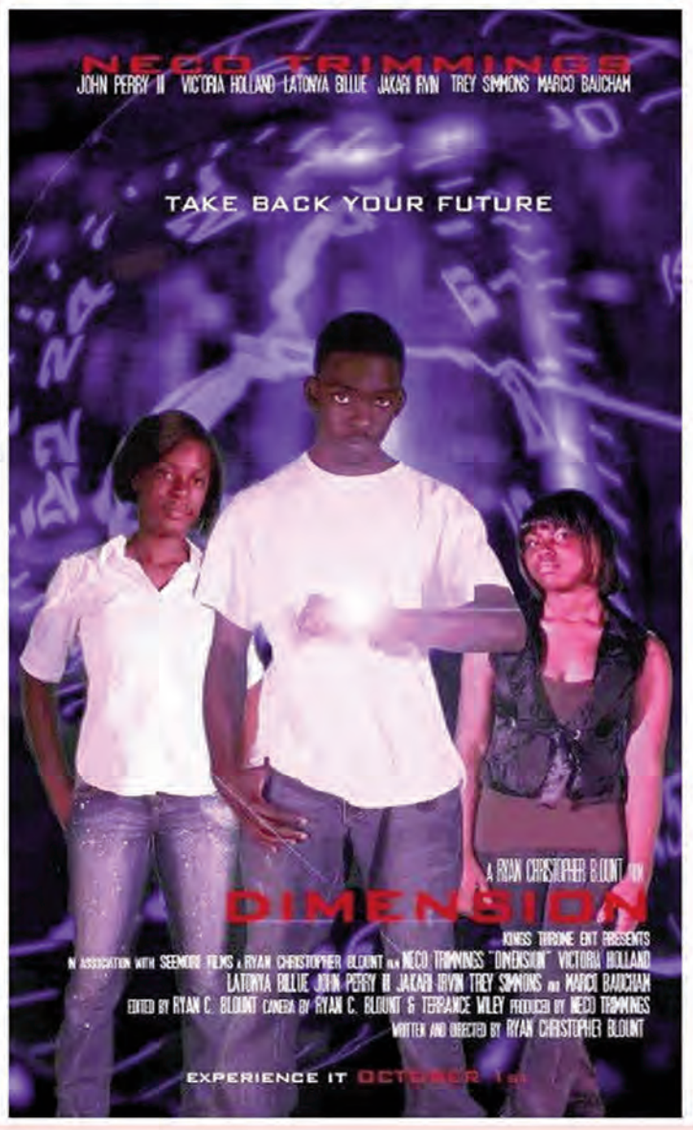
"I feel total elation for him," said Ronald Blunt at his son's first movie premiere. " It's a dream come true for him. Sure I bought him his first piece of camera equipment but its his talent and he is nurturing it. As parents, its just our duty to keep him humble."

Blount has a few awards under his belt. Some have earned him spots at colleges for workshops and others have been cash prizes.

Filmmaker Ryan Blount, is flanked by his biggest fans—his parents Brenda and Ronald Blunt (Photo by Angela Favors-Morell)



Meet the Press: Ryan Blount and our Arthia Nixon pose during an interview. (Photo by Angela Favors-Morell)



SPORTS

Jacksonville Jaguars Inaugurate New Football Field

The Jacksonville Jaguars joined the Police Athletic League, LISC-Jacksonville and the City of Jacksonville to inaugurate the newly refurbished community football in Jacksonville at Flossie Brunson Eastside Park. This is the eighth grant Jacksonville has received for a new or refurbished community field from the NFL Grassroots Program of the NFL Youth Football Fund. The program is a partnership of the NFL owners, the NFL Players Association and LISC (Local Initiatives Service Corporation). The field will be operated by the Police Athletic League of Jacksonville and maintained by the City of Jacksonville.

On hand for the ribbon cutting were Jaguars owners Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver, Jaguars players Jason Hill and Jarett Dillard, members of The ROAR of the Jaguars Cheerleaders, Sheriff John Rutherford, LISC President/CEO Michael Rubinger, City Councilman Dr. Johnny A. Gaffney, PAL Director Lt. Derrick Mitchell, Florida State Representative Mia Jones, Pastor Torin Daley from First Baptist of Oakland Church and other local dignitaries.

LISC Jacksonville, through LISC's NFL Youth Football Fund program and in conjunction with the Jacksonville Jaguars, helped secure $65,000 in funding to begin the project. The City of Jacksonville contributed $190,000 from its Jacksonville Journey Funding for Capital Projects. Council Member Gaffney's Office contributed an additional $40,000. The Lucy Gooding Charitable Trust and Operation New Hope also contributed financially to the project.

The refurbishment effort included laser grading of the surface, a new irrigation system and sod, bringing the area up to ADA compliances standards, new bleachers, goal posts and fencings. Two new basketball courts and a sidewalk area are also being added.

This is the eighth football field that LISC Jacksonville has secured funding for refurbishment and the third PAL field. The eight fields represent a total investment of LISC/NFL funds of nearly $700,000. Wayne Weaver noted, "LISC is a major partner with the NFL and being part of the 'NFL family' here in Jacksonville has allowed the Jaguars organization to access these grants."

High School Football: Tigers Take A Sting From Hornets 40, 26

Our Frank Powell III was on hand to capture these images during the recent football game which saw the Yulee High Hornets win over the Andrew Jackson Tigers. The final score was 40 to 26. Despite that, the young players from both teams kept the crowd going as team cheerleaders bought their spirit.

A Salute to Former State Senator Anthony "Tony" Hill

Florida State Senator Anthony "Tony" Hill is known for his sincere interest in the Florida community. He served as State Senator for District 1 of Florida and because of his love and hard work, Bethune Cookman University and President Trudie Kibbe Reed decided to hold a VIP dinner celebration and program to honor him.

Senator Hill made significant progress for the people he served and resigned early as senator to continue his service to the community by accepting a leadership position with Jacksonville's first African American mayor, Alvin Brown.

The celebration was held on Wednesday, September 28 in the President's Banquet Center for Civic Engagement.

Mr. Hill was presented a plaque by the University as they wanted to acknowledge the many contributions he made.

Omicron, Omicron Daytona Beach Alumni Chapter, Omega Psi Phi, Fraternity, Inc.

Senator Hill with wife and President Reed.

Sen. Tony Hill accepts a plaque from President Trudie Reed and State Rep.Cusack and the B-CU Administrative Cabinet.

Congresswoman Corrine Brown and President Reed with honoree, Tony Hill.

Sen. Tony Hill and Wife and Newly elected Sen. Audrey Gibson with members of the B-CU Royal Court and kings

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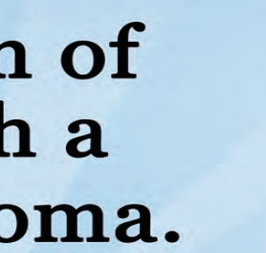

ENTERTAINMENT

Johnny Gill's Live Grammy Museum Event!

By Rych McCain, feedbackrych@sbcglobal.net
Photo by M. Sullivan for WireImage

The Grammy Museum has a series of special programs that they present throughout the year to honor and showcase artists of all musical genres. The museum is located in "LA Live" which is the downtown section of Los Angeles that makes up the pro sports and entertainment district surrounded by million dollar condos and penthouses. This includes The Staples Center, Nokia Arena, Club Nokia, The Congo Room, eateries, movie theater complex, massive jumbo trons to you name it! Last Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011 the Grammy Museum hosted "The Drop: Johnny Gill." Johnny sat down with Vice President of the GRAMMY Foundation Scott Goldman to discuss his career along with the upcoming release of his first album in 16 years, "Still Winning," which will be released on October 11. Jimmy Jam, one of the producers on the album, also joined Gill and Goldman onstage in front of a capacity audience that included Sugar Ray Leonard, Bobby Brown, Ralph Tresvant and Barry Bonds.

L to R Bobby Brown, Johnny Gill, Ralph Trrsvant photo by M. Sullivan, Wirelmage

Following the conversation Gill took the stage to perform new tracks off of the new album including "Still Winning," "Black Box," "My Love," "It Would Be You" where audience members' sports caster Jim Hill, Barry Bonds and Sugar Ray Leonard joined in and Johnny's current single "In the Mood." Johnny was then joined on stage by fellow New Edition member Ralph Tresvant for "Can You Stand The Rain?" before being joined by Bobby Brown for a rendition of "My Prerogative" and "Rub You The Right."

The first single from Gill's new album on J Skillz Records/Notifi Records "In The Mood" is currently #8 on Billboard's Urban Adult Chart and has spent the last fifteen weeks on the R&B/Hip Hop Chart. Producers on the project included the Grammy winning duo of Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Bryan Michael Cox, Wyclef Jean and Troy Taylor. Gill has had an incredible ride breaking into the biz as a teen star solo artists with two #1 hits; "My, My, My," and "Rub You The Right Way" which became R&B classics. He has had the rare opportunity of being a member of a hit singing quintet "The New Edition" and a multi-platinum trio with the late Gerald Levert and Keith Sweat known as "LSG" and now has a new trio project called "Heads of State" with Bobby Brown and Ralph Tresvant as well as still performing solo. Saying that Gill is a very busy man may be an understatement for lack of a better way to describe it.

Even though Gill's dad was a minister and secular music was considered the so-called "Devil's Music" in their household, Gill looks back with pride that his dad fully supported his career choice when the opportunity presented itself. Gill reflects, "Oddly enough, my dad was very supportive of me. I was heavily influenced by my dad. He was a minister but also my dad could wreck a house. He was a singer and just watching how he would have his shoes matching his suit then he would take his pocket square and pull it out of his jacket while he was singing and just throw it in the air and was holding his note and catch it and I was like wow! He could just shut it down so I was definitely influenced by him." Gill also mentioned the fact that his dad rehearsed his two brothers and him Joe Jackson style with discipline but he was the only one who went all the way. With further examination of his upbringing, Gill acknowledges, "When I look back and think about it, I wouldn't be who I am today if wasn't for him and his hard work that he put into to me to become who I am today.

Rych McCain's Hollyhood Notes

By Rych McCain, feedbackrych@sbcglobal.net and Facebook
39th RMHN

Condolences:

We were sadden to learn of the death of singer Vesta Williams who according to authorities died in a Los Angeles hotel room on Sunday, Sept 18, 2011 but wasn't found until Friday, Sept. 23rd.. Authorities said that Williams was staying at the hotel while in the process of moving. Authorities said that several bottles of prescription pills were on the night stand and a couple were completely empty prompting them to suspect an accidental overdose or suicide. It will take six weeks for the results of the toxicology test. Williams was 53 and a powerful singer who scored most of her hits in the 80's including "Congratulation," "Sweet, Sweet Love" and "I'm Dedicated." Our most sacred of meditations go out to Williams' family, friends and fans.

Watcha Gonna Do?

Radio station jocks are talking, internet sites and blogs are a blazed about former superstar singer/songwriter Sylvester "Sly Stone" Stewart being homeless, broke and destitute on the streets of Los Angeles, sleeping in a van. Why are most of us who have followed the now 70 yr old Sly for most or all of his career not surprised? The man has reportedly been on drugs off or on for the last 40 years. Many have been said to have stepped up to help Sly with no success. The help only comes when one wants to help themselves. At what point do you free yourself from being stuck-on-stupid? This man was a musical genius with hits up the ying-yang. Only a higher power can deliver him.

TV:

Actress Danielle Bisutti opened the 2nd season of ABC's "Body of Proof." She plays wicked housewife Vicki Hemington. Catch the show on Tuesday nights at 10/9 Eastern/Central Time. Bisutti is also in the re-occurring role as Pascha on the popular hit web-series "Hollywood Girl." Check out episode 6 titled "Limp of Shame" at www.hollywoodgirltv.com. And if that's not enough, Bisutti has been cast in the feature film "Blind Pass" which will begin shooting in Florida late October.

Movies:

Blackthorn. Magnolia Pictures, Mararia and Arcadia Motion Pictures. Starring Sam Shepard, Eduardo Noriega, Stephen Rea, Magaly Solier, Nicolak Coster-Waldau, Paraic Delaney and Dominique Mcelligott. Directed by Mateo Gill. Screenplay by Miguel Barros. Produced by Andres Santana and Ibon Cormenzana. The legend of Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid has it that they both were killed in a shootout with the Bolivian military in 1908. The positive ID of the bodies of the two men in the house where the shoot out took place was never officially established thus opening the door of speculation that the outlaw duo may have continued living. This film works with the theory that Butch Cassidy survived, took an assumed name of James Blackthorn and is living quietly in a small Bolivian village until circumstances arise to force him on one last adventure outside the law. Western movie buffs; especially Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid fans, will love this one.

Hit me up at
feedbackrych@sbcglobal.net
Study, Observe and Win!
Rych

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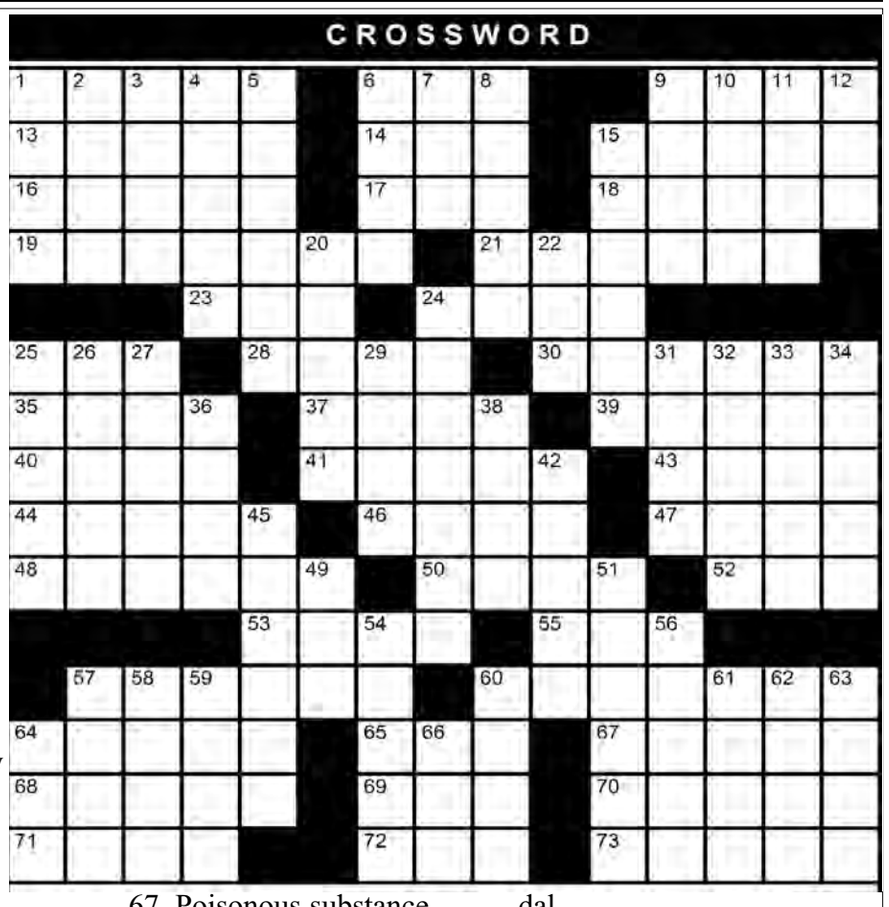
WORLD SERIES



ACROSS

1. One hundredth of a pound
6. Australia's flightless bird
9. *Red Sox hero, Jim ____, played in '86 series
13. Theater in ancient Greece
14. ___ Lonely Boys
15. Honorific for a Muslim woman of high rank
16. Ornamental hair net
17. Romanian money
18. O in B.O., pl.
19. *Winner of most World Series
21. Soak up
23. ENT's first concern?
24. Pat dry
25. *Never aluminum
28. Risque
30. Bests and _____ of the year
35. Pinocchio's claims
37. "____, why not."
39. Specialty
40. First rate or top notch
41. 1982 song "_____ and Ivory"
43. Type of speech
44. Famous sheep Dolly
46. Asian food thickener
47. *Pitcher who lost most World Series games
48. In a sympathetic manner
50. Pharmacy ware
52. Laurie Partridge actress
53. Belongs to us
55. Little piggy?
57. *1994 cause for cancellation
60. *Location of first cross-town World Series
64. Bruce Wayne's Batman, e.g.
65. *Popular wood used for bats
67. Poisonous substance
68. "Home on the _____"
69. Flower garment
70. Lament for the dead
71. Fencer's weapon
72. Take charge of a job
73. Oxidation-reduction, for short

DOWN

1. One of a pocketful, according to Mother Goose
2. "Show Boat" novelist Ferber
3. Glowing gas
4. R&B singer-songwriter
5. Make lovable
6. Building extensions
7. *Baseball catcher who served as spy in WWII
8. Like the suspects in "Casablanca"
9. Do over
10. Hunch-backed assistant
11. Road's edge
12. Emergency responder
15. *Winner of first World Series
20. Wipe out
22. Shoelace knot, e.g.
24. Roads less traveled
25. *The "_____" Sox scandal
26. Garlic mayo
27. Part of mortise joint
29. *Owner of longest World Series drought
31. Repeated musical phrase
32. Young cod
33. Not here
34. Like a disreputable neighborhood
36. As opposed to receive, as in e-mail
38. Engineer, abbr.
42. Wasted on the young?
45. The Plaza Hotel's famous fictional character
49. Exclamation of disgust
51. Enlarged thyroid gland
54. Dominion
56. School in France
57. "____ in the face"
58. Prong of a fork
59. Road ____
60. *____ Music, pitch near the batter's face
61. Canned
62. Garbage in, garbage out
63. Black and white variety of quartz
64. You're or you ___
66. Red or Black ___

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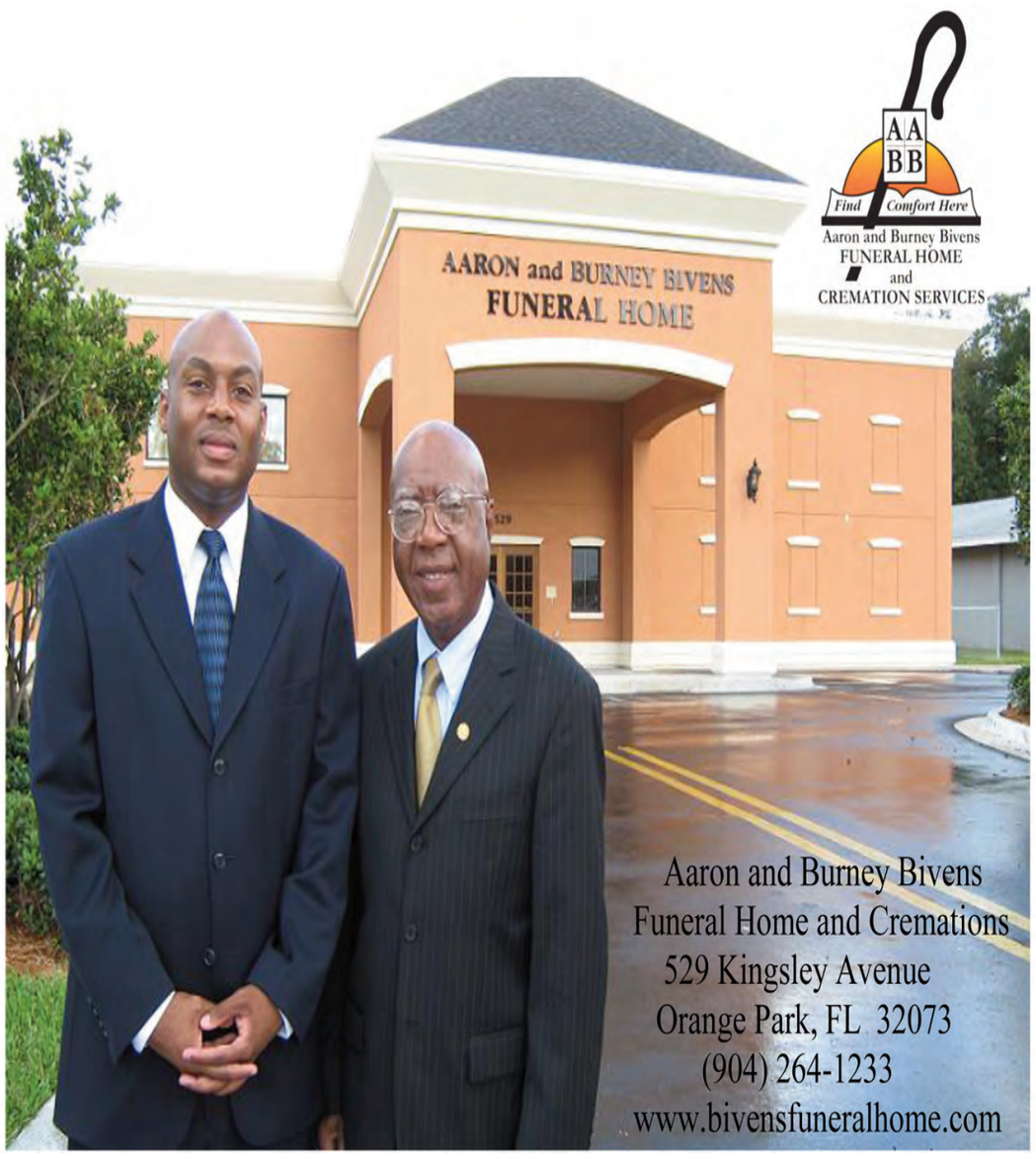
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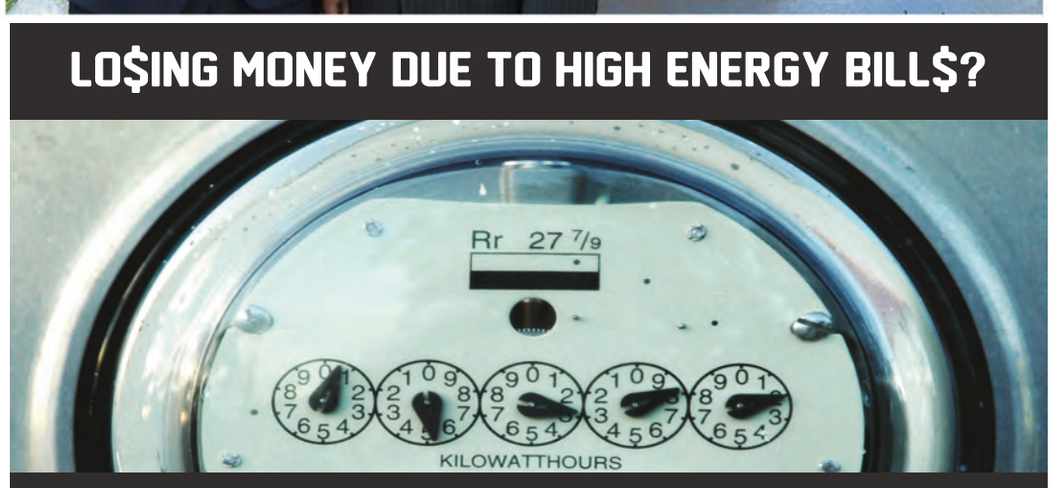
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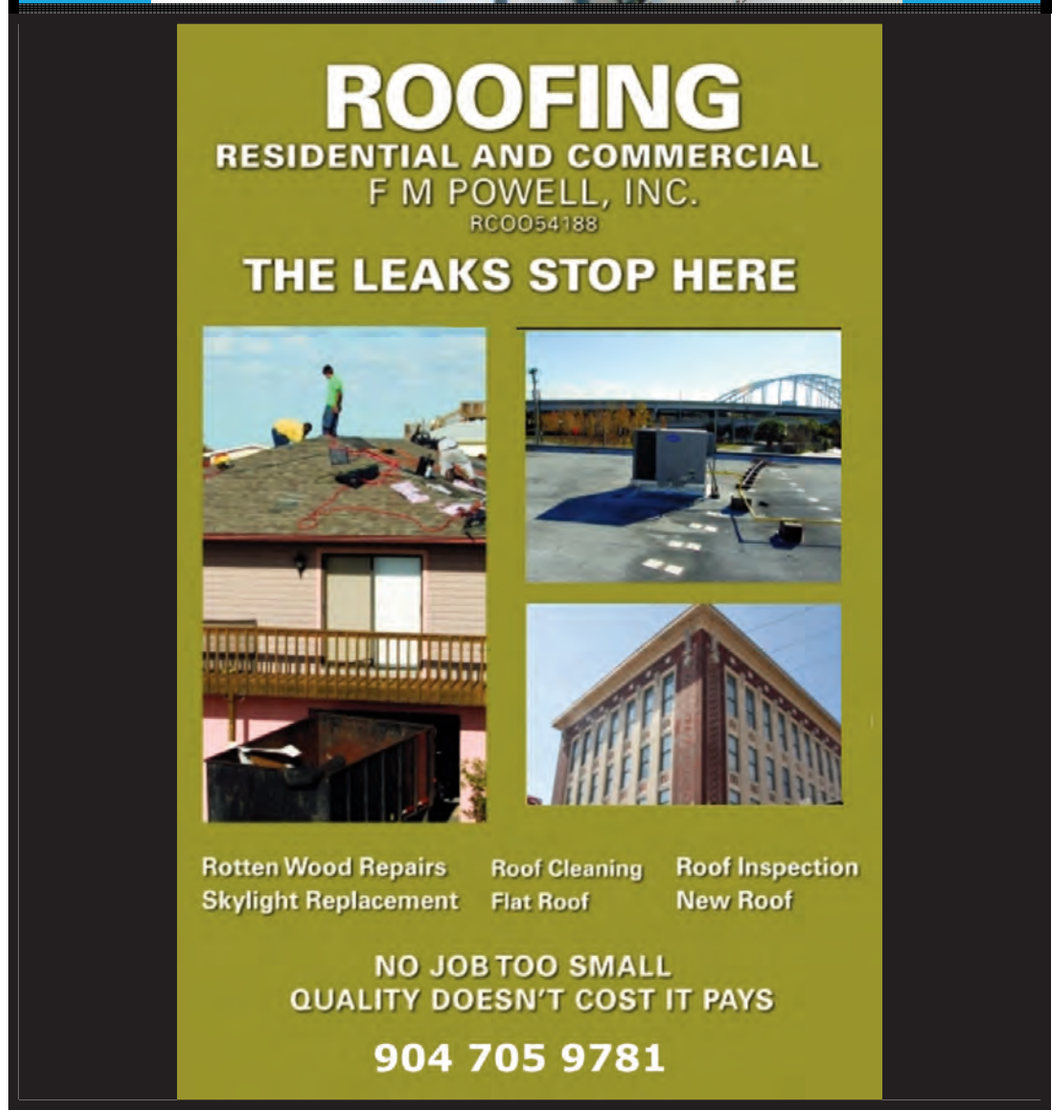
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PREP RAP

Youth Section

Lloyd

Sandy Neal
Freelance Writer/ Photographer

Singer, songwriter, and rapper Lloyd was at Aqua nightclub (hosted by Vlad) this week it was packed and he put on a fantastic show for the ladies. Born Lloyd polite, Jr. in New Orleans but raised in Atlanta, Georgia, he got his start in a group called N-Toon but shortly after began a solo career.

His 1st single "Southside" featured Ashanti, his second album named "Street Love" was released in 2007 it featured in the top ten and the top twenty it featured "You" and "Get it Shawty" his third album "Lessons in Love" gave him his second top ten hit. Lloyd was also featured on Young Money's huge hit song "Bedrock" (nominated at the 2010, Viewer's Choice Awards). Lloyd released "King of Hearts" in June of this year and the first single "Lay It Down" is in the top ten, the hit single Cupid is also on this album, he is signed with Interscope Records.

Lloyd has worked with producers Jazze Pha, Bryan Michael-Cox, and Big Reese just to name a few. He has collaborated with such artist as Ashanti, Plies, Ludacris, 50 Cent, Lil Wayne and many others. You can visit him at www.lloydmusic.com and Please check out his new video "Dedication to my Ex (Miss That) it is hot!

Pop Singer Jasmine Rhey

Local High Schools Field Teams for National High School Cyber Defense Competition

Arlington, VA - Several teams of students throughout Florida have now joined hundreds of others in registering for CyberPatriot IV, the nation's largest and fastest-growing high school cyber defense challenge!

CyberPatriot is the one-of-a-kind national cyber security competition produced by the Air Force Association (AFA), a nonprofit organization headquartered near Washington, D.C. This unique competition is designed to excite, educate and motivate the next generation of cyber defenders and other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) graduates the nation needs.

Cyber security is one of the top national security concerns as today's society rely heavily on computers and networks for many aspects of life, including banking, commerce, transportation, communications, defense and more. CyberPatriot teaches students how to protect these systems while providing them hands-on learning about technology, emphasizing teamwork and leadership, and exercising critical-thinking skills.

These teams undergo online preliminary rounds in the coming months to compete and ultimately win the championship trophy, scholarship money and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC, for the national championship competition, held in March 2012. More than 700 teams have already registered for this ultimate cyber game!

"Because of our unique online competition format, teams from all over the country can compete at one time, creating an exciting and competitive environment," said Bernie Skoch, CyberPatriot Commissioner. "And it's really a great learning opportunity for the students as they get to control computer networks, learning to defend and protect computer systems from cyber threats. This program gives its participants technical skills that are very relevant for their future while we live in a society that relies so heavily on cyber systems."

CyberPatriot III, with Northrop Grumman as the presenting sponsor, had more than 660 teams vying for a chance to compete among the top qualifying teams. Forty-eight states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and U.S. Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Japan, Korea and Guam were represented in the two-track competition. Make sure to track the progress of your local school(s).

Registration for CyberPatriot IV will remain open until October 8, 2011. Public, private, parochial and home schools register in the Open Division, while Junior ROTC units of all Services and Civil Air Patrol squadrons register in the All Service Division. More information can be found at www.usCyberPatriot.org.

How To Make A Great First Impression

(StatePoint) First impressions can last a long time, if not forever!

So whether you're interviewing for a big job, having lunch with soon-to-be in-laws or simply meeting people at a party, the initial get-together can be crucial.

"There's no need to stress about first impressions. Relax and just be yourself," says Michelle Tillis Lederman, author of the new book, "The 11 Laws of Likability," and founder and CEO of Executive Essentials. "The first dialogue with an important new contact can be as easy, enjoyable and fulfilling as a conversation with old friends."

To help people stop stressing over potential social pitfalls, Lederman offers several key tips for social situations.

Be Curious

(c) Getty Images - Jose Luis Pelaez, Inc.

Genuine friendliness can help your relationships at home or at work.

Break the ice in any social situation by asking open-ended questions. Most people love to talk about themselves, so don't hesitate to rely on the tried and true, "What do you do?" Hobbies, interests, and goals are terrific topics that engage people. Be sure to pay attention so you can ask follow-up questions that show you've been listening.

Probe with curiosity, but don't interrogate. If you hit a brick wall, don't panic. Simply change the conversation. "Your goal is to uncover what you might have in common and what value you might bring to that person," stresses Lederman, who is also a faculty member of the American Management Association.

Be Likable

The best interactions we have are with the people we genuinely care for, and people like to do business and build relationships with people they like. To be liked, figure out what makes you uniquely likable and put forth a sincere positive energy when meeting someone for the first time.

Likewise, discover what you like about the person with whom you're talking. They won't always be apparent, but in the face of differences, find commonalities. Focus on parallel life experiences and shared feelings. Happier, more comfortable relationships will be your result.

Be Yourself

"There's no need to fake it," says Lederman. "The real you is the best you, and it's the most powerful tool for forming real connections."

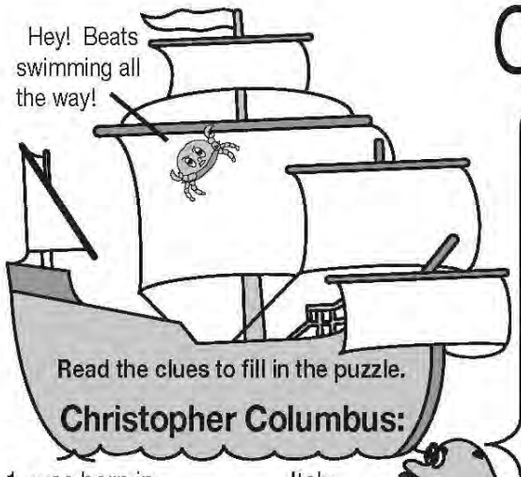
There is no "right" way to interact with new people. Everyone has his or her own style. So show your authentic self and people should respond in kind, laying the bedrock for mutual understanding.

Don't plaster on a fake smile. Even when talking to someone unpleasant, you usually can find something you admire about the person. Concentrate on positives and your conversation will transform for the better.

More tips on making a winning first impression can be found in the book "The 11 Laws of Likability," published by AMACOM Books, or online at www.michelletillislederman.com.

Meeting new people is not always easy but with a positive attitude and a genuine smile you can make those first seconds count in your favor.

Christopher Columbus!

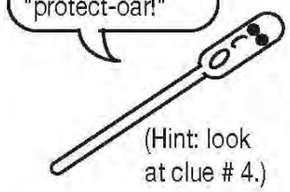


Read the clues to fill in the puzzle.

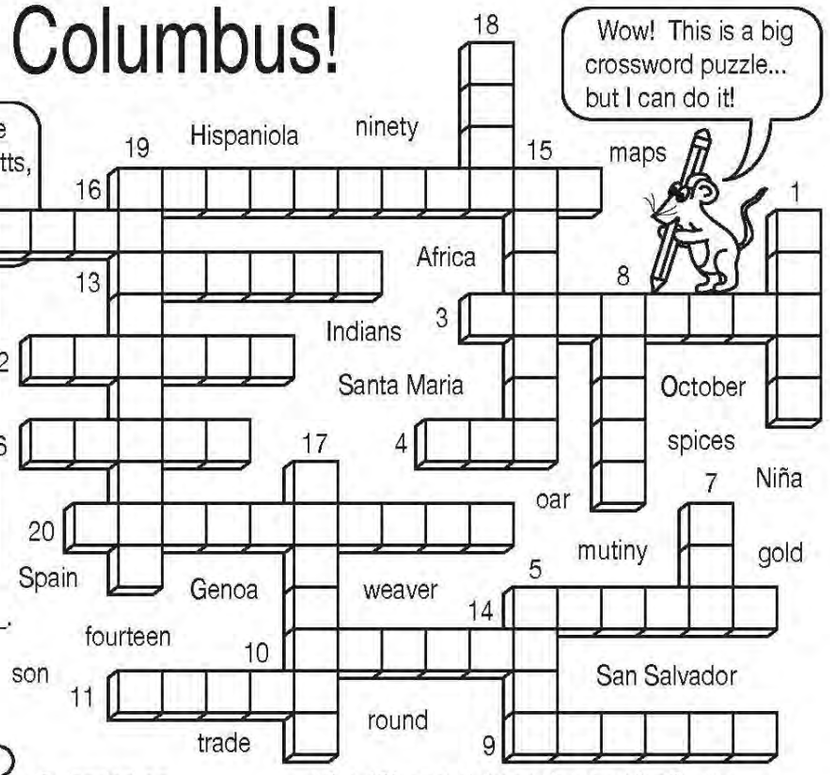
Christopher Columbus:

1. was born in _____, Italy.
2. had a father who was a _____.
3. started to sail at the age of _____.
4. was caught in a battle at sea when he was 25. The ship sank, but he made it to the shore of Portugal clinging to an _____.
5. went on to Lisbon, Portugal, where he and his brother made _____.
6. went on a number of voyages to _____ goods.
7. got married and had a _____.
8. believed the earth was _____.
9. wanted to go to the Far East (China, Japan) to find gold, precious stones, silk and _____.
10. thought he could reach there by sailing west instead of having to sail east around _____.
11. was supported by Queen Isabella of _____.
12. sailed three ships westward: _____, Pinta and Santa Maria.
13. had _____ sailors who slept and ate on deck, often went barefoot.
14. heard mumbles of _____ when no land was in sight for many days.

When we were exploring the harbor of Boston, Massachusetts, we saw the Niña, the Pinta and the Santa Maria bobbing in the water. Of course, they were just copies of the real ships that Christopher Columbus sailed. I was surprised at how small they were. I thought the explorers were very brave to sail across the ocean in them, trying to find new routes and lands.



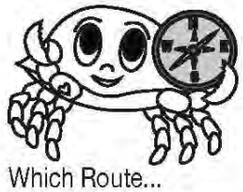
(Hint: look at clue # 4.)



15. landed on _____ 12, 1492 and claimed the land for Spain.
16. changed the name of the first island he landed on to _____.
17. called the friendly people already living there _____ because he thought he had reached the Indies.
18. lost control of the Pinta, as its crew sailed away to look for _____.
19. lost the largest ship, the _____, when it went aground on coral reefs near Hispaniola (now known as Haiti and the Dominican Republic).
20. sailed back to Spain on the Niña, leaving some men to settle on _____.

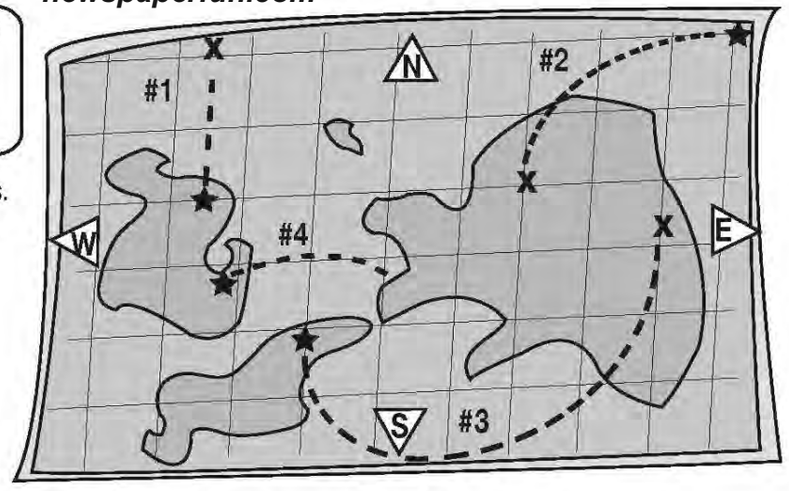
newspaperfun.com

Exploring the World



Do ***you*** like to explore? Do you ever go on walks, hikes or bike rides with your parents to check out new places? What if you had a ship like Christopher Columbus? Where would you sail?

Can you read my fun map? Each square equals 10 miles. Each route starts at a ★ and ends at an X. **Match each description below to the route it is describing.**



Which Route...

1. goes about 25 miles east?
2. goes about 40 miles southwest?
3. goes directly to the north?
4. goes about 20 miles southeast, then 50 miles northheast?

A. Route #1
B. Route #2
C. Route #3
D. Route #4

What Do You Think?

What do you think Columbus was like? **Do you think he was:**

☐ brave	☐ intelligent	☐ wimpy	☐ hard working
☐ curious	☐ a risk taker	☐ stupid	☐ proud
☐ selfish	☐ successful	☐ sailor	☐ adventurous

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PRPRAP

Edward Waters College Celebrates Homecoming

(Pictured l to r)
Homecoming Princess - D'Andra Bryan
Homecoming Prince - Jacoby Hadden
Homecoming King - Kadeem Bell
Homecoming Queen - Jessica Georges

R&B heartthrob Miguel plus comedians Tight Mike and Rod-Z are set to be in town this weekend to celebrate homecoming at Edward Waters College in Jacksonville. Other weekend highlights include a NPHC Greek Step Show, homecoming game against Concordia College-Selma, a Goombay festival and traditional homecoming parade.

"This year's theme is The Renaissance in Tiger Country, symbolizing our College's resurgence, renewal, and rebirth," said a spokesman. "The Homecoming theme also represents the focus of our 29th President, Nathaniel Glover, a proud member of the EWC class of 1966."

While most games are open to the public, some require tickets or student ID for entry.

"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement, nothing can be done without hope and confidence." - Helen Keller

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Great Tips For Busy Moms

(StatePoint) Do you wish for a little more time in your busy schedule to spend with the kids, friends or even just by yourself?

You're not alone.

"Most American moms average nearly 7.5 hours per day on parenting tasks, while dads clock an average of 4.3 hours per day," says parenting expert Dr. Michele Borba. "That's an extra 1150 hours of parenting duty for moms each year."

In fact, nearly 70 percent of working moms have an hour or less to themselves each day, according to the "Moms Who Do More" National Report, commissioned by VTech.

If you feel like your "me time" has been completely tapped out, Dr. Borba is offering some fresh ideas on ways moms can find time for themselves yet still teach, nourish and nurture their children:

• Ask for help. More than 60 percent of moms want help with parenting but are afraid to ask. If you opt out of the "supermom" myth, you'll probably find that other moms feel just as stressed as you. And if you ask for help, you may be surprised by the friends and family members who come to your aid.

• Synchronize activities. Instead of sneaking off to check emails or Facebook, synchronize your online time with your child. A tech toy, like VTech's web-enabled Tote & Go Laptop, will let your child emulate Mommy while having fun. And with 20 learning activities, online downloads and a pretend "social network," this is a great way to teach your child about responsible tech habits.

• Create a "mom-semble." Whether it's your friends, your playgroup or the ladies you see at the coffee shop daily, most moms are going through the same issues as you and want relaxation time with friends. Plan fun events and activities that act as a support system and let you have some girl time while the kids play.

• Pool your resources. Get a small group of moms organized to plan tasks weekly, such as dinner preparation. Everyone splits the ingredient list and takes turns hosting a cooking night. This way, each family gets a week's worth of meals for their families! This is a great way to make tasty, healthy family dinners with a fraction of the effort.

• "Edu-tain" after school. Playtime can easily be repurposed as a learning opportunity for kids, but parents often ignore this in favor of traditional methods. Sometimes, kids need a break. When they return from school, let them de-compress with educational games and toys. For example, a realistic-looking children's laptop with a color screen, like the Brilliant Creations Advanced Notebook, lets grade school children have fun while improving their skills in language arts, science, math, foreign languages and other areas.

For more fun learning ideas, visit www.vtechkids.com.

By making learning fun, moms can have both smart kids and a happy home.

Crime and Justice

A Publication of the Florida Star and Georgia Star

As an African - American newspaper, we basically report on offenses committed by African - Americans. Please note that in our observations, weekly reports show that African - Americans DO NOT commit the largest percentage of criminal offenses in this area.

96-Year-Old Woman Murders 53-Year-Old Nephew

Amanda Rice Stevenson

96-year-old, Amanda Rice Stevenson, was arrested after shooting and killing her 53-year-old nephew, John Rice, while he was lying in bed.

Rice's wife, boss, and neighbor had explained about Rice's frustration of Stevenson. Stevenson lived in the same house as Rice and his wife. The couple had taken her in several months ago because nobody else in their family would take her. She was said to have argued with Rice all the time and even threatened to kill him several times. Rice worried about what she would do as she expressed so much violence through her words.

John Rice

A relative of the family had called the Florida Department of Children and Families several weeks ago in concern of Stevenson being mistreated. When a worker went to the home on September 8, Stevenson told him that she was fine and that she would shoot him if he trespassed. Police said that Stevenson went to the police station the next day complaining about her nephew threatening to evict her. They were also notified by the social worker about the gun threat made by Stevenson. Police went to the home that day, but did not find anything, nor any sign of neglect. No action was taken.

Police responded to a call weeks after the visit to the home in reference to a shooting. Rice's wife had found him shot in the chest in his bedroom. The .357 magnum handgun used to kill Rice was found at the scene. Stevenson was found in a back bedroom and taken into custody.

Stevenson is a retired postal worker and records show that she has at least two prior arrests. She was arrested on an arson charge in 1995, which was dropped later, and she was arrested for passing a bad check in 2007.

Rice had lived in the home for over 30. His neighbor described him as a gentleman and said he would always sit on the porch reading a Bible when not working in the yard. Rice also worked as a maintenance supervisor at Flagler College. His boss said that he was admired and loved by students, faculty, and staff. Rice had three children and at least two grandchildren.

Stevenson is in jail and being held without bail.

Man Murders Housemate

Joseph Wade Robinson

Joseph Wade Robinson, 52, was charged with murder after shooting his housemate, Jimmie Gatlin, 52.

An argument began when Robinson could not find the keys to his house and started to accuse his housemates of taking them, while holding a revolver. He threatened to shoot someone if he still didn't find his keys after coming back

Robinson returned the home a few hours later and began to bang on his housemates' doors, yelling and threatening them. Then Gatlin went to his door to tell Robinson to stop. Robinson turned his gun to Gatlin and shot him in the chest.

Robinson left again and returned just in time before police arrived to the scene. Robinson was arrested and charged with murder and possession of a weapon by a felon. Records also show that he had been arrested in 1986 for drug possession, robbery and burglary and spent 20 years in prison.

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sSSHH! From Actual Police Reports

Did You Hear About?...

EDITOR'S NOTE:
All suspects are deemed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. The Sheriff's Office reports are a matter of public record. The Star seeks to educate in the hope of keeping our community safe.

Man and Teen Arrested in Connection with Shooting

Carlos White

Two male suspects were arrested in the drug-related slaying of Jeremy Deion Lewis, 22.

Lewis was found by police lying in the roadway outside of his grey Chevrolet Impala. Gunshot wounds were found on his upper body and he was taken to a nearby hospital, where he was pronounced dead

Police believe Lewis was shot while he was in his vehicle and managed to drive several blocks before crashing into another car.

Investigation began in order to find leads to possible suspects. A $2,500 reward was announced and police were given information with the help of the citizens. The first suspect arrested was 15-year-old, Carlos White. He was located at his parents' home about 90 minutes after the reward was announced. White will be charged with murder as an adult and without bail.

Jeremy Woods

The second suspect, Jeremy Demarcus Woods, 21, was arrested the next day. He will be charged with murder and armed robbery. He was accused of participating in the shooting with White.

Police say Lewis, White, and Woods all knew each other, and that the crime was drug-related. This is an ongoing investigation.

Teen Leaves Infant with Life-Threatening Injuries

Javarris Jawon Lane

Javarris Jawon Lane, 16, was arrested after severely abusing an infant.

Police responded to a report of an unresponding infant. When police arrived, they found an adult trying CPR on the child. When questioned, Lane told police the child had fallen from bed, while playing a game. The bed was discovered to be only 20 inches off of the ground, which was not high enough to inflict such damages to the child.

Lane was arrested and charged with aggravated child abuse and the child was taken to a hospital in critical condition. Three other children of the home were turned over to their grandparents.

Your Safety

APARTMENT DWELLERS

•Make sure that entrances, parking areas, hallways, stairways, laundry rooms, and other common areas are well lit. Report burned-out bulbs or other problems to the manager.

•Make sure fire stairs are locked from the stairwell side, with an emergency exit at ground level.

•Laundry rooms and storage areas should always be kept locked unless a resident is actually inside.

WHEN YOU LEAVE HOME

•Ask a trusted neighbor to collect your mail and newspaper, and offer to return the favor.

• L e a v e word about when you're l e a v i n g , when you'll return, and how you can be reached in an emergency.

•Put automatic timers on at least two lights (and possibly a radio) to help your home look and sound lived-in.

DARRELL JONES
(A.K.A. P-NUT)

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Bizarre Crimes

who, what, when...huh?

Father and Son Carjack and Rob a Couple Together

Vincent Harrison

Vincent Harrison, 46, and his son, Rakeith Brooks, 30, were arrested after carjacking a couple and robbing them of their items.

Harrison and Brooks had approached a couple at around 4:30 a.m. Brooks pointed a silver pistol at them and demanded of their money and everything they had. When the man replied that they didn't have any money, Brooks hit him in the head with the gun and threw the woman on the ground, where he started to sexually batter her. Then Brooks and Harrison told the couple to lay on the ground and drove off in the couple's blue 2010 BMW, which had valuable items such as cell phones and an iPad.

Police responded later that morning to a call from an apartment, where the resident reported a bullet shooting through her wall. When police arrived, they determined that it was the apartment room next door. The woman next door told police that her friend, Brooks, accidentally fired a gun. Police received consent from her to search the residence and found items stolen from the couple including the keys to the BMW. The BMW was later found in the parking lot of the apartment complex. Police also found out that Brooks and Harrison had tried to sell the stolen items.

Rakeith Brooks

When confronted, both suspects denied participating in the robbery or sexual battery. After the suspects were presented to the victims, they confirmed and identified the two as the attackers. Both were arrested and held without bail.

Woman Drags Officer with Car for Half a Mile

Veronica Renee Elder

Veronica Renee Elder, 20, was arrested after driving and dragging an officer who was dangling from the window of her car.

Elder was pulled over after driving over 20 mph the posted speed limit. Elder did not have a driver's license and when asked to identify herself, she gave him false information. She was then asked to step out of her vehicle, but she refused. Police said when he tried to open the door, Elder stepped on the accelerator and sped off. She did not drive off alone, but with the officer who had pulled her over, whose arm was stuck and hanging off from the window of the car. He was dragged for almost half a mile up to 50 mph. Elder slowed down at one point to let the officer fall from the car.

Police started to search for Elder and eventually found her two days later. When they tried to arrest her, she tried to escape again. But they ere able to catch her right away.

Elder was arrested and charged with battery on a law enforcement officer, resisting arrest with violence, felony fleeing and eluding, and driving with a suspended license. The officer who was dragged by Elder was taken to a nearby hospital where he was treated for minor injuries.

Other Unusual Crimes Across the Nation

Man Arrested After Slapping Police Horse in the Face

Minneapolis, MN- Police were trying to clear people from a block. Some were mounted on horses to effectively move people out of the way by making them nervous. Among the crowd was Mack Stingley, 21, who stood out from the rest by showing no signs of fear. Stingley slapped one of the horses in the face. When the officer of the horse told him to leave the horse alone, he then threw a punch at the horse's face. Stingley was arrested and charged with the misdemeanor charge of assaulting or harming a police horse. This charge is said to happen quite more often than most might think. Police say people assault horses five to six times a year in Minneapolis.

Man Tries to Set Girlfriend on Fire with Gasoline, But Lighter Fails

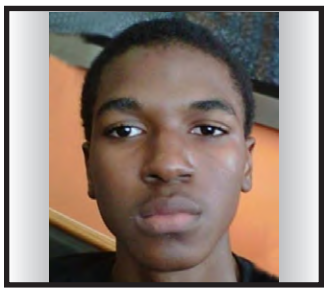
Michael P. Sutherland, 49, was getting kicked out his girlfriend's home because he wasn't paying any of the bills. Two days later, she woke up and saw that her front door was open. When she went to close it, Sutherland appeared and started dousing her in gasoline, report says. He then tried to set her on fire with a lighter, but it would not ignite no matter how hard he tried. So he ran to the kitchen and grabbed a knife, and stabbed her in the chest. His girlfriend was able to escape and called 911, while driving to a nearby hospital. Police found Sutherland shirtless and walking down the street as they were driving to the home. He was reeking of gasoline and was arrested for attempted second-degree murder. He was sentenced to ten years in prison

Man Goes on Crime Spree Immediately After Being Released From Jail

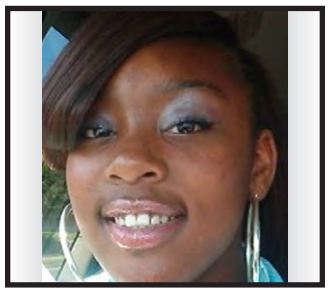
Saraland, AL- Jerry Jones had been jailed for two months on traffic charges. He had just been released and started committing more crimes within just hours. He went to a Walmart and tried to return stolen items at the customer service. An officer was at the Walmart and was called to check on Jones. When Jones was asked for identification, he gave the officer an I.D. of a different person. He was then detained for providing false information and when they searched him, eight stolen credit cards were found. Since his release, police say Jones had somehow obtained crack cocaine and a firearm. Police are also trying to trace back the owners of the stolen credit cards. Jones was also accused of robbing a victim who was just sitting in a car on the side of the street. He was said to have ordered the victim to get out of the car. He made demands of his property and also took his pants. As the victim walked away, Jones fired at the leg of the unsuspecting victim. Jones is back in prison again after he was released on the same day. He is being faced with multiple charges including robbery, assault, and fraudulent possession and use of a credit card.

Criminal Line-Up

MISSING PERSONS



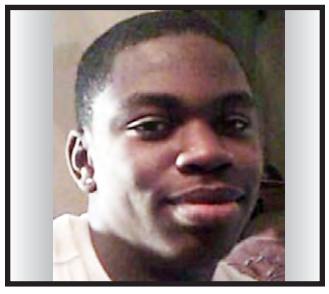
Name: Marlon Dalvin Crawford
Age: 14
Weight: 110 lbs
Last seen: 8/27/11



Name: Tierra Goodman
Age: 13
Weight: 130 lbs
Last seen: 9/5/11

Name: Christina Hudson
Age: 17
Weight: 115 lbs
Last seen: 9/8/11

Name: Sharde Scott
Age: 17
Weight: 145 lbs
Last seen: 9/7/11



Name: Shadain Vivian Thompson
Age: 17
Weight: 145 lbs
Last seen: 9/20/11

ON THE LOOKOUT

Man Steals Large Amount of Madden Video Games from Walmart

This man in the photograph spent about an hour last month stealing a bunch of Madden 2012 games from a Walmart. He left in a white four-door vehicle with $3,200 worth of video games. He first put a number of games into a cart and went to the hardware department, where he took a screwdriver to pop the cases of the video games open. Employees noticed a huge number of games gone and went to check inventory records to see if they were sold. They discovered what had happened after looking at surveillance recordings, but were too late.

MOST WANTED

Name: Julio Carreras
Age: 46
Offense: Aggravated Battery Intended Harm

Name: Frankie Lee Grandison
Age:41
Offense: Agg. Battery Victim Pregnant

Name: Roosevelt Middleton
Age: 57
Offense: Felony Battery

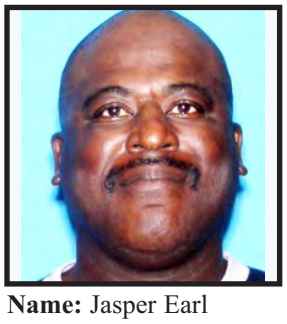
Name: Mario S. Faulk
Age: 31
Offense: Felony Battery

Name: Lester A. Chancellor
Age: 21
Offense: False Imprisonment

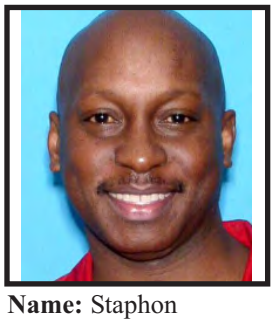
Name: Jamarcus D. White
Age: 21
Offense: Traffic in Stolen Property

PREDATOR ALERT

Name: Larry Amos Dallas
Offense: Lewd Lascivious Battery 12-15

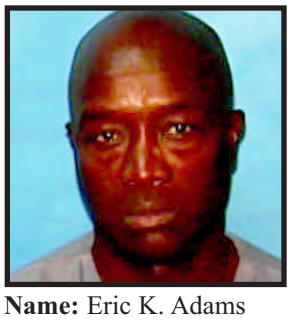


Name: Jasper Earl Wood
Offense: Lewd Lascivious under 16

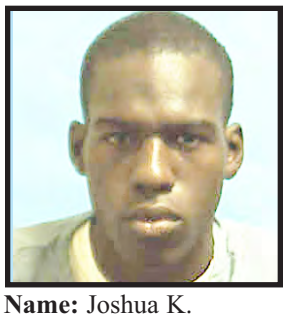


Name: Staphon Leonard Arnstrong
Offense: Sexual Activity with 16/17

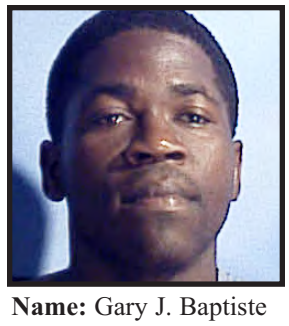
BACK ON THE STREET



Name: Eric K. Adams
Offense: Aggravated Battery Pregnant Victim



Name: Joshua K. Armstrong
Offense: Aggravated Battery w/Deadly Weapon



Name: Gary J. Baptiste
Offense: Robbery w/Gun

Citizens with tips are encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at 1-866-845-TIPS. You can remain anonymous and become eligible for a reward.