Former Soul Train Host

Don Cornelius

Don Cornelius, the creator and iconic host of the long-running Soul Train television show, was found dead in his home of what authorities believed to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Cornelius hosted the musical showcase from 1971 to 1993 in national syndication, and as a writer and producer for the show, he was able to bring stars like Victoria and was subsequently sentenced to three years in prison for spousal abuse against his estranged wife.<n>

In 2009, Cornelius was found guilty of misdemeanor spousal abuse against his estranged wife. He served three years probation and 300 hours of community service. Perhaps most famously, Cornelius was known for coining the catchphrase he used to end each show: “we wish you love, peace and soul!”

Bishop Eddie Long

Bishop Eddie Long of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia, Georgia, infamous for his alleged sexual affairs with young male members of his church and subsequent divorce, again found himself in hot water - this time with the Jewish community after video leaked of him being wrapped in a sacred Jewish Torah and crowned “king”.

The video of the special church service shows Long’s honored guest Rabbi Ralph Messer wrapping Long in a priceless 312-year-old scroll apparently recovered from the Auschwitz concentration camp after World War II. Long was then paraded around the church stage on the shoulders of four preachers so that members were able to applaud their new king.

The general public expressed confusion and skepticism about the event in various social media.

Marine Convicted for Suicide Attempt

An ex-Marine private has decided to fight his military conviction that says he broke the law when he tried to kill himself.

Camp Pendleton, California resident Lazzaric T. Caldwell, 25, had been clinically diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and a personality disorder despite never having been deployed to a war zone. Caldwell was court-martialed after slitting his wrists on base in Japan.

The military said he was guilty of “intentional self-injury without intent to avoid service”. The government maintained order in all of the armed forces.

Caldwell plead guilty to the charge at the time but Caldwell pleaded guilty to the charge at the time but now, he has decided to fight back.

Uproar Over Georgia’s “Chain Gang Road”

It was a clear, sunny day at local businesswoman, Andrea Giggetts, set out to appear on a solo trip to Alabama to visit her newly married client. Although she had hundreds of miles of travel before her, she was undaunted. Mentally, she had prepared for this transition from corporate America to realizing her dreams of entrepreneurship. Spiritually, she knew that “failure was not an option” as she reconvened with pride of black achievers who courageously began private enterprises with success. As she entered into Sasser, Georgia’s “Chain Gang Road” that was smack in the middle of the state, she had no idea what was yet to come.

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Commissioner Brooks Denied Bond for $300 Bribe

A Camden County, Georgia judge has denied bond to Brunswick city commissioner James Brooks, who was arrested last week for accepting a $300 bribe from a man who wanted help in getting a job as a police officer.

The decision comes as the judge decided that because he accepted the money to remove a criminal record for the man, Brooks still may try to intimidate witnesses if released. Authorities are using the incident as a probe into what they believe is more illegal conduct by Brooks unrelated to this crime.

Patti Labelle to Perform at Super Bowl

Patti LaBelle is counted among the artists who will be performing free concerts during the week leading up to the Super Bowl in Indianapolis on February 5, 2012. Several other artists scheduled to appear include En Vogue, Darius Rucker, Funel, St. Ppin Llan, the Richer, Umphrey's McGee, Biet Michaels, and Will Hoge.

A specific schedule was not announced, but even more artists are expected to be added.
Beyond the Rhetoric:
The Department of Education is Drunk with Power and Hell Bent
By Harry C. Alford

Mr. Alford is the co-founder, President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce. Website: www.nationalblackchamber.org Email: hallford@nationalblackchamber.org.

It is not known how often the military prosecutes active duty members for trying to commit suicide, but it is clear that the government has placed a priority on preventing it, whether it be for morale or for political reasons. The military has had an increase in suicide rates among all branches since the start of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In Caldwell’s case, he was sentenced to 180 days in jail and a bad conduct discharge. His single allowed appeal to the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals was denied in December. Caldwell’s lawyer wants to take the case to the highest court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces in Washington.

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Faith In Our Community

NEW FOUNTAIN CHAPEL, A.M.E. CHURCH, 727 Jesu St., is proud to invite you to come celebrate our church and Pastor’s Anniversary, Tuesday, February 14th, Wednesday, February 15th and Thursday, February 16th, 2012, beginning at 7:00 p.m. nightly. To God the glory for the things he has done for us for 95 years with the church and 8 years with Reverend and Mrs. Louis Kirkland. For more information call (904) 354-5021.

CFGC REFRESHING WOMEN/PUSH TV MIN-
ERY – You are invited to a Monthly Luncheon to be held on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church Auditorium, located at 6801 Merril Road, Jacksonville, FL, from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. For more information call (904) 228-6400.

February is observed as Black History Month. Join us every Saturday in the month of February for the 4-part lecture series “The Bible Is Black History” given by Mark Josiah Israel 2pm @ University Park Library. For more info visit www.theptprofld.com

Grief Counselor Rev. Willie Brown, B.S., CBIP, will conduct Grief Resources Classes through February. Classes are open to the public. For more information call (904) 683-9093.

Volunteer Pre-Kindergarten(VPK) – 12th Grade
Volunteer Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) is a quality education program aimed to help your child enter school prepared and ready to learn. Volunteering can be a wonderful way for parents to observe their child’s classroom. All volunteers are essential to our program in order that we may fulfill our educational mission.

The second class session of the year for our 3-5 year old children will begin February 6th. We are in desperate need of volunteers.

For more information contact Deborah West, Director, 1248 W. Edgewood Ave., (904) 683-9093.

Tutoring, Teen Parent Service Center, Field Trips, Extended Day

Stop The Violence Use Your Talents, Inc.
Lion of the Tribe of Judah Ministries, Inc.
Rev. Marquise Hardrick, Pastor
Rev. Marquise & Clara McLaughlin
The Church Directory

Come and join Bishop Lawrence Holl Sr., every Wednesday and Thursday from 12:30 Noon to Noon to join Pastor and Bible Study at the Greater ElBethel Divine Holmes Church, located at 723 W. 4th Street, Jacksonville, FL 32206.

The Church Where Everybody Is Somebody

Funeral Home and Cremation Services
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Funeral and Cremation Services with both affordability and dignity
The "Caring Professionals"
• Complete Funeral (burial or cremation) with Visitation (up to 360)
• Wake / Viewing, and Cremation Service with Urn (includes Service and Standard Casket)
• Direct Cremation $400.00
• Call us now before you make any final decisions

Harold Felder, 6083E – Minister Oliver Greene, Chaplain – Evangelist Priscilla Inn, Chairperson Rev. Willie Brown, CEO
We serve all of Jacksonville and the surrounding areas
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Agape Funeral Home and Cremation Services

Is Your Child Ready for Kindergarten?
Austen Christian Academy for the Development of Excellence and Leadership, Inc.

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

TALK OF THE TOWN!

Celebrates Black History Month

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History installs new officers, Jacksonville’s James Weldon Johnson Branch Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) recently swore in new officers during a celebration held at the historic sanctuary house of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated on West 8th Street. The event was festive and included fun, ice breakers, and other games with prizes awarded to winning teams and individuals. A delicious menu of hors d’oeuvres was served by Mane’s Catering. Serving as mistress of ceremony for the evening was ASALH member, Faiza Sessions. Other members who participated in the program were Constance Timberlake and Vertice Ridley, outgoing president, Khainil Ojoyo and committee member, Ok Sun Burks presented awards for outstanding service to 2009-2011 Officers. Dr. Brenda Simmons, a founding member of the local ASALH, performed the installation of officers in a ceremony which she designed. The officers elected to lead the James Weldon Johnson Branch of ASALH for 2012-2014 are: Anita Shepherd, President; Harold Felder, First Vice-President, Programs; Ok Sun Burks, Second Vice-President, Membership; Lorainne Bloom, Treasurer; Dr. Audrey Mercier, Historian; Elenore Hughes, Parliamentarian; Dr. Ruth Stevens, Chaplin; Dolores Gardner James, Recording Secretary; Alana McNeely, Sergeant-at-Arms; Rosanna Hibbert, Financial Secretary; Hazel Gillis, Corresponding Secretary; and Flora Parker, Assistant Corresponding Secretary.

ASALH is a national organization which was founded in 1915 by Dr. Carter Woodson, the Father of Black History. The mission of the organization is to promote, research, preserve, and disseminate information about black life, history, and culture to the global community. The James Weldon Johnson Branch of ASALH was chartered in Jacksonville on June 8, 1995. The branch presents programs and activities about local and national African-American history, including the annual Black History Calendar. Currently, the Johnson Branch of ASALH meets at 10 a.m. on the 4th Saturday of each month at the Jacksonville Public Library. For more information, visit the website at www.asalh-jaxfl.org. The national organization’s website is www.asalh.org.

ASALH President 2012-2014, Anita Shepherd and outgoing President, Khainil Ojoyo

Jacksonville’s Black History Calendar Honoree Cecilia Ann Washington-Carr. The 2012 Black History Calendar was unveiled recently in a ceremony at the main branch of the Jacksonville Public Library. In keeping with the 2012 Black History theme, the calendar celebrates Black Women in American Culture & History. Twelve African-American women, past and present, were featured in the calendar as having made major contributions to American culture and the nation. The calendar was unveiled in a ceremony which showed the important role African-American women have played in the nation and the world.

New Officers.

Volume Burks, Photographer

As an entrepreneur, Celie’s Angel on My Shoulder by Cecilia Carr Button is an illustrated button depicting a cute, doe-eyed child. The button displays are available in over 250 Publix grocery stores at the Customer Service counters. Cecilia has also painted murals for “Give Kids the World,” a non-profit organization founded by Ponte Vedra philanthropist, Horne Landwirth. Mr. Landwirth also commissioned Cecilia to transform the bare walls of the Hugh H. Jones, Jr. Medical Dental Building of the 1 M. Subseder Center for the Homeless.

Retired from Disney World, Celie currently travels the country for Heart of America Foundation on the READesign library makeover program which is sponsored by Target and CapitalOne.

Congratulations, Celie! You are this week’s TALK OF THE TOWN!

Honoree Cecilia Washington-Carr

Honoree Felicia Franklin

Honoree Deborah Daniel and mother, Grace West!

Engage The Spirit

A weekly forum to explore ancient healing

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Ok Sun Burks Spiritual Life Coach

Ok@naturallyabundant.org

TALK OF THE TOWN!

By Frances Bradley

Volume Burks, Photographer

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

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New Officers.
YOUR DIGITAL PLAYGROUND.

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YOUR DIGITAL PLAYGROUND.

A Community Garden on Moncrief

Dorothy Hughes, Chairperson of the Charles Junction Historic Preservation Society Community Garden invited students from Martin J. Gottlieb Day School to help plant the garden at Saint Clair Evans Academy at 5443 Moncrief Road as Jewish people around the world will be celebrating Tu B’Shevat on February 8, 2012.

“This Jewish Holiday is a reminder of humanity’s relationship with the land and with God” states Rabbi Jess Olitzky, of the Jacksonville Jewish Center.

The Rabbi further explains that human beings have a basic right to a safe, secure and dignified life with healthy food on their plates, a roof over their heads and clothes on their backs.

Planting with these youths allows them to learn to take care of each other.

MAYOR BROWN NAMED ON THE GRIOS’ 100 LIST

NEW YORK, NY-- January 31, 2012-- theGrio.com announced today the third-annu- al theGrio’s 100 list, honoring Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown. This exclusive list honors Black History Month by highlighting the next generation of African-American history makers and industry leaders who have the potential to make a dif- ference in the lives of all Americans.

Brown joins 99 other individuals from across 10 professional fields, including busi- ness, education, sports, science and the environment, media, service and activism, politics, health, pop culture and the arts.

“theGrio’s 100” was officially unveiled by theGrio Executive Editor David A. Wilson earlier today. Individuals from “theGrio’s 100” will continue to be profiled on all platforms of NBC News including “NBC Nightly News,” “Today,” MSNBC, CNBC, and msnbc.com through the end of February.

“This year’s list celebrates 100 honorees that possess a unique set of characteristics that separate them from the rest,” said Wilson. “theGrio’s 100 gives the opportu- nity to shine a spotlight on individuals that are making a difference today, with the potential to make history in the future.”
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Movies, Sports, Concerts,
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Digital 17.2 - Comcast 225
Jamaica Celebrates Reggae Month By Paying Homage To Genre’s Most Popular Icon Bob Marley While Mourning The Loss Of King Stitt

By ARTHUR NIXON
Caribbean News Editor

JAMAICA: Reggae enthusiasts and Rastafarians from around the world are embarking on the pilgrimage to the island this week in commemoration of the birthday of Bob Marley, one of the world’s most influential musicians and one of Jamaica’s most revered sons.

Concerts, historical tours, readings and homely are taking place throughout the island. Some of Marley’s children and his widow Rita are also slated to take part in activities. There are also scheduled concerts in cities in the US, UK and Europe.

The celebrations coincide with February being deemed Reggae Month as well as Marley’s birthday being February 6th. Ironically on Tuesday Jamaica lost another reggae pioneer in the form of Winston ‘King Stitch/The Ugly One’ Sparks. The 72 year old died of cancer.

Marley, who became one of the Caribbean’s most successful musicians and symbols of the Rastafarian movement and the religion’s trade mark dreadlocks, died in 1981 of cancer at age 36. Although many proclaimed him to be a triumphant voice for a new generation of African descendants post Civil Rights, Marley himself was once raced the only child born to a teenage black mother and white father, some forty years her senior.

“I don’t have prejudice against meself,” Marley had once stated about being mixed race.

Marley had once stated about being mixed race.

While Mourning The Loss Of King Stitt

By Lindsay Thompson

NASSAU, The Bahamas - The Commonwealth of The Bahamas and the Federal Republic of Nigeria are seeking to forge ties in tourism and other areas of economic development.

These areas of development were announced by the Excellency Sir Arthur Foulkes, Governor-General as he accepted Letters of Commission presented by Her Excellency Laura Eliza-Blount, according her as Non-Resident High Commissioner from the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas during a ceremony at Government House on Thursday, January 19.

“Today begins another chapter in the continued development of strong, mutually-beneficial bilateral relations and cooperation between our two countries. Our two countries share historical communities that cannot be denied, and which will continue to be promoted,” he said.

Regarding Nigeria as one of Africa’s leading states, Sir Arthur also described it as a leader in the establishment of the New Partnership for African Development; the creation of the Economic Community of West African States, and significant contributions to the United Nations Peace-Keeper Forces in Sierra Leone, Burundi, Faso, Mali, Togo, Ghana and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

He also congratulated Nigeria for its recent contributions to the international community as a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council.

Notwithstanding the differences in size, The Bahamas and Nigeria have partnered politically in several major international fora such as the UN, the African Caribbean Pacific Group and, the Commonwealth, Sir Arthur said. Also, both countries have contributed to the ideals of democracy, human rights and sustainable development.

“Our two countries share historical communities that cannot be denied, and which will continue to be promoted. We too are aware and share with your country many concerns as they relate to the environment, security and energy,” he said.

Nigeria was also acknowledged for making “significant strides” in confronting environmental challenges on an international, national and local level and in actively exploring methods of producing renewable and sustainable energy.

“In this regard, I commend the efforts of your government in your country and, in particular, the programmes and strategies geared towards addressing critical climate change,” Sir Arthur said. And, he also congratulated the Government of Nigeria for its efforts to be among the 20 most developed countries in 2020, despite formidable obstacles.

As The Bahamas is known for its robust tourism industry - the mainstay of its economy, he said the country would welcome opportunities to strengthen its relations with Nigeria in this sector.

“In our hope that, moving forward with these proposals, we can see the fruit of our labor nurtured in meaningful progress for both Nigeria and The Bahamas,” Sir Arthur said.

On January 19 High Commissioner Blount paid a courtesy call to Governor-General the Rt Hon. Hubert Ingraham during a courtesy call at the Office of the Prime Minister.

Bajan Band Making It Big In United Kingdom; Gets Congrats From Barbados Culture Minister

By Sharon Austin Gill-Moore

Minister of Culture, Stephen Lashley, has congratulated Barbadian band Cover Drive for its success in shooting to the top of the United Kingdom charts with its latest single Twilight.

In a letter to the four-member band, Mr. Lashley said, “I would like to extend on behalf of the Government and people of Barbados, to offer you heartiest congratulations on your success to date and to tell you that you have been able to achieve in your young career is truly phenomenal. It is an achievement that has made Barbados proud and represents yet another high point in the cultural offerings of our country.

“What makes it even more remarkable is that this song was only released on January 4, and within a week it became number one on the UK charts. It is a clear reminder to all of us, especially our young people, that success comes with hard work and perseverance.”

Mr. Lashley told the young people “we look forward with anticipation to even greater accomplishments as you blaze the trail of further developing the cultural sector here in Barbados.”

Cover Drive is a four-member band comprising Amanda Raffler, Ray-Ray Armstrong, Barry ‘Bar-Mari’ Hill and Jamar Harding. The band was signed by Polydor Records and the members perform pop, rock and R&B. This group joins a growing number of local artists, including Rihanna, starring on the international music scene.

Elephant Man Arrested On Sexual Assault And Rape Charges

Dancehall star On外婆 ‘Elephant Man’ Bryan was arrested earlier this week at his home in St. Andrew. Jamaica. According to reports gathered by our newsroom, the Willie Bounce singer will be going before the mag- istrate’s court to answer to charges of sexual assault and rape on a woman at his home.
We’re always thinking of new ways for you to save at Publix. This week, we make it easier than ever. Simply spend $100 on groceries. Bring this coupon to checkout for your free $10 Publix gift card.
Celebrating Queen Bess: The Life and Legacy of Bessie Coleman

In celebration of aviatrix, Bessie Coleman, the Bessie Coleman Aerospace Legacy (BCAL) celebrated her birth, as well as commemo-
rated her untimely death on Friday, January 27th and Saturday, January 28th 2012 in Jacksonville, Florida. The public enjoyed two
days jam-packed with events honoring an important woman in American history!

The Bessie Coleman Aerospace Legacy, Inc. (BCAL) is a nonprofit organization, with a mission to ensure that the legacy of Bessie Coleman and her contributions to aviation continue. BCAL is dedicated to ensuring that the next generations of African-Americans know that aviation/aerospace is a career option and as a result are proud of this legacy. Back in 1926, something significant happened in Jacksonville that many people never heard about and the story was put on the shelf to collect dust.

In March 2011, Nancy Fontenot Lawrence, Board Member of the Bessie Coleman Aerospace Legacy and an associate professor at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida was curious to find out why nothing was ever said or done to recognize that a certain individual was ever in Jacksonville. That person’s first visit was to Paxon High School, which, back in 1926, was Paxon Air Field. This was the last place that this individual ever boarded a plane, to participate in a rehearsal for an upcoming performance. About a mile or so away, the plane malfunctioned and the pilot, who was not wearing a seatbelt, was thrown out of the plane and fell to her death. The other pilot, her mechanic William D. Wills, never regained control and crashed on the corner of what today is Edgewood and Broadway, he also died.

The female pilot was Bessie Coleman. Her body was picked up and prepared by Mr. L. Lawton Pratt, who later carried the body to Bethel Baptist Institutional Church for her homegoing celebration.

For those who may not know the great significance of this tragic event, on April 30, 1926, Jacksonville experienced its first aviation crash and in that plane was the first African-American female pilot, Bessie Coleman, whose body was picked up and prepared by the first African-American funeral parlor in Jacksonville, Pratt Funeral Home, and her services were held at the first African-American Church in Jacksonville, Bethel Baptist Institutional Church.

The significant four firsts Jacksonville, FL, are:

- First aviation crash
- First African-American Funeral Home, Pratt Funeral Home, today is Pratt, Hillman and Walton
- First African-American Baptist Church, Bethel Baptist Institutional Church.

FREE PARKING!

SOUTHERN WOMEN’S SHOW
February 17-19
Savannah International Trade & Convention Center
Friday 10am-6pm | Saturday 10am-7pm | Sunday 10am-5pm
$9 Adults | $7 Affiliates | $5 Children Age 9-12 | Under 9 FREE with Paying Adult

Food | Fashion | Celebrity Guests | Health | Beauty | Lifestyle

Discount tickets available at Kroger

www.SouthernWomensShow.com
REAL LIFE STORIES

HOMESTEAD LAWS in Florida protect a spouse and children. When a person, who is the owner of homestead property, dies in Florida and is married, the surviving spouse is entitled to a life estate in that homestead property for the rest of their life (regardless of remarriage). Then upon the death of the surviving spouse, the decedent’s lineal descendents become the owners of the property. This means that the surviving spouse cannot sell or mortgage the property without the consent of the decedent’s lineal descendents (children).

SITUATION: When Mary was 25 years old, she married Will, who was 58 and had two children age 23 and 25. When Will was 61 years old (Mary was 28), Will died. Will was the sole owner of his homestead property which he had owned for many years and it was paid for and clear. Mary was then entitled to live in that homestead property for the rest of her life. Two years later when Mary was 30, she married her high school sweetheart, Frank. They lived together and maintained the property in immaculate condition until Mary died at the age of 78. This was the only home that Frank had ever known other than living with his parents. Frank and Mary had maintained the property in immaculate condition. Therefore, he was surprised when Will’s children (78 and 76) came with an eviction notice to remove him from the property. However, this was the correct legal outcome. While Mary was entitled to a life estate as a result of Will’s death, the same did not apply to Frank because Mary had never been the sole owner of the property.

Florida law is very clear that upon the death of an owner, homestead property passes for the benefit of the surviving spouse who then has a life estate in the property. That benefit does not extend to the new spouse of the original surviving spouse. After the death of the original surviving spouse, the original decedent’s lineal descendents (children and grandchildren) are then entitled to ownership of the property. If Mary had become a joint owner of the property with Will and her name was placed on the deed during their brief marriage, the case would have had a much different outcome.

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Tips To Save Water And Energy At Home

(StatePoint) More Americans than ever before are striving to be environmentally-friendly these days. Not only does conserving water and energy help reduce our imprint on the planet, it can also ease the burden on our wallets.

"Many Americans now are finding new and innovative ways to save on water and energy costs in their homes without sacrificing the type of lifestyle they’ve come to expect,” says Tom Moskitis, Executive Director of the Council for Responsible Energy.

“Little changes can go a long way.”

Here are some easy tips to help you save water and energy at home:

• Wash Full Loads. When it comes to dishes and laundry, wait until you have a full load before running the appliance. And use cold water for laundry and use dry dishes when you can.

• Heat With Natural Gas. A gas water heater can heat water up to twice as fast as an electric one. And a natural gas water heater, near the point of use, eliminates energy loss caused by tank heaters that have unused water cooling in the tank. This can save hundreds of gallons of water over the course of a year. Plus, such tankless heaters last almost twice as long as tank water heaters.

• Go Tankless. For even more efficiency, install a tankless water heater, which burns water on demand. A natural gas tankless water heater, near the point of use, eliminates energy loss caused by tank heaters that have unused water cooling in the tank. This can save hundreds of gallons of water over the course of a year. Plus, such tankless heaters last almost twice as long as tank water heaters.

• Take Low-Volume Showers. Replace your high-volume shower head with an aerated shower head, which uses a mix of air and water to produce a flow that feels as strong but can save up to 60 percent of water compared to an average shower — reducing both your water and energy use.

• Avoid the “Phantom Load.” Appliances such as your TV, DVD player, cell phone charger, computer and other gadgets consume energy just by being plugged in. Unplug them when not in use. If that’s too cumbersome, plug them into a power strip that you can turn on and off with just one flick of a switch.

• Fix Leaks. From dripping faucets to drafty doors and windows, leaks can be a major source of energy and water waste. Being a responsible homeowner or tenant and attending to those annoying home imperfections can significantly reduce your monthly water and energy bills.

For more tips on saving water and energy in your home, visit www.comfortableresponsible.org.

When it comes to your money and the planet, little steps can make a big difference.

Health Notes

ULYSSES W. WATKINS JR., MD
HEALTH NOTES

MORNING SICKNESS DURING PREGNANCY

GENERAL INFORMATION

DEFINITION: Nausea during pregnancy. This usually occurs in the morning but may occur at any time. Most pregnant women experience at least mild morning sickness.

BODY PARTS INVOLVED: Muscles of the intestinal tract; vomiting center in the hypothalamus’ gland.

SEX OR AGE MOST AFFECTED: Pregnant women.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS: Mild to severe nausea- with or without vomiting – usually during the first 14 weeks of pregnancy.

CAUSES: Major hormone changes that take place to permit normal growth of the fetus. Progesterone and other hormones cause involuntary muscles to relax, probably slowing the rate at which food travels through the stomach and intestines. They may also affect the vomiting center of the brain. In addition, blood sugar is lower during early pregnancy in many women, contributing to gastrointestinal upset.

RISK INCREASES WITH: Unknown.

HOW TO PREVENT: No specific preventive measures.

WHAT TO EXPECT

DIAGNOSTIC MEASURES

• Your own observation of symptoms.

APPROPRIATE HEALTH CARE

• Medical history and physical exam by a doctor.

• Self-diagnosis

• Doctor’s treatment, if morning sickness becoming disabling.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS: Hyperemesis gravidarum, a condition of pregnancy characterized by severe nausea, vomiting, weight loss and electrolyte disturbance (trace).

PROBABLE OUTCOME: Usually stops after first 3 to 4 months of pregnancy.

HOW TO TREAT

GENERAL MEASURES

• Keep rooms well ventilated to prevent accumulation of cooking odors or cigarette smoke.

• Don’t smoke cigarettes, and ask your family and friends not to smoke while you are experiencing morning sickness.

• Keep a positive attitude. If you have conflicts that you cannot resolve, ask for help from family, friends or professional counselors.

• Keep a daily record of your weight.

MEDICATION: Medicine is usually not necessary for this disorder. Don’t take any medications during pregnancy without consulting your doctor.

Your doctor may prescribe a trial of vitamin B-6, which appears safe at the present.

ACTIVITY: No restrictions.

DIET: The following may help to minimize nausea:

• Place a small, quick-energy snack, such as soda crackers, at your bedside. Eat it before getting up in the morning.

• Eat a small snack at bedtime and when you get up to go to the bathroom during the night.

• Eat a snack as often as every hour or two during the day. Avoid large meals. Snacks should consist of high-protein foods, such as peanut butter on apple slices or celery, nuts, a quarter sandwich, cheese and crackers, milk, cottage cheese, yogurt sprinkled with granola, and turkey and hick or en bread.

• Avoid foods that are high in fat and salt and low in nutrition.

• Keep a daily record of your weight.

• Call your doctor if you have morning sickness that does not improve, despite the above measures.

• You vomit blood or material that resembles coffee grinds.

• You lose more than 1 or 2 pounds.

Jazz Jam with Soulful Night of Keys on Saturday, February 04, 2012, at the Ritz Theatre and Museum, 829 N. Davis Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Call 904.632.5555 for more information.

Fun with Ace Lacewing, February 4, at 11:00 am. Teen Advisory group acts out the Little Big Red Book, Ace Lacwing: Bug Detective, and leads a craft project for elementary age children. Camp Keefe Country Library, Kingsland. Contact: Rob Nixon, Golden Isles Arts and Humanities Association, 262-4934, productiondirector@goldenislesarts.org.

Michael Feldman’s WHAD’YA KNOW on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at the Florida Theatre, 128 E. Forsyth Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. For additional information contact 904.255.2787.

ArtFusion Sundays, MOCA Jacksonville, this Sunday, February 5, 2012, 333 N. Laura Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Contact 904.366.9911 for additional information.

MAYOR BROWN ANNOUNCES SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM: Held Tuesday, February 7, 7:00 am and 3:00 pm. Meet the Mayor at the Jacksonville Landing on Thursday, February 09, 2012, at 2 Independent Dr. W., Jacksonville, FL 32202. Call 904.632.5555 for more information.

Downtown Top to Bottom Walking Tour: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 at The Jacksonville Landing, Independent Dr. W., Jacksonville, FL 32202. For additional information contact 904.353.1188.

Amateur Night Auditions, on Thursday, February 9, from 5 - 6:15 pm. Contact 904.632.5555 or visit www.rjacksonville.com for all information.


Brunswick's Holy Band Church Celebrates 25th Annual Prayer Breakfast

By ARTHIA NIXON & ANGELA FAVORS-MORREL

The Holy Band Church Prayer Breakfast is a yearly event held at the Holy Band of Inspiration Deliverance Temple Corporate Headquarters located at 2401 Norwich Street in Brunswick, Georgia. The founder of this event is Elder Dr. Thelma Hart. The 25th annual prayer breakfast has taken place since 1986 and is attended by 200 or more guests including Pastors, Elected Officials, and Business leaders of the community and surrounding counties who assemble together in fellowship, prayer and praise to build relationships and pray for the nation, federal, state, city and county elected officials as well as the President of the United States. The annual services feature family, friends and the sick and shut-in. Bishop Iris Wright is the Pastor of Holy Band, and the founders and overseers are Bishop Harry Brown and Bishop Lottie Brown.

Musical selections were provided by the Sons of the Temple. In attendance is Superintendent Bobby Hall, Rev. Dr. E.L. Hart-(Moderator of the Zion Association), Bishop Vincent Williams, Venita Holmes of the Glynn County School Board, Commissioner James Brooks along with other speakers, soloists and praise dancers.

Photos by Angela Favors-Morrell

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

“Not just history... OUR stories”

By Arthia Nixon & Angela Favors-Morrell

Do you know that south Georgia is home to some of the most influential African Americans in our nation’s history. Have you ever heard of Tunis Campbell? If you didn’t know, Mr. Campbell is famous for bringing former slaves who got their freedom to the Georgia Sea Islands.

During the Civil War, General Sherman declared that black people could have all the Sea Islands south of Charleston and all the abandoned rice fields along the river. Each family was supposed to get 40 acres and one government mule.

This was called Field Order 15. Tunis Campbell traveled with the blacks who moved to Saint Catherines’ Islands. 70 set on Ossabaw and 352 set on Sapelo.

Under the Fourteenth Amendment, which established full African-American citizenship, McIntosh County fall of 1867 elected Tunis Campbell, and along with 480 blacks among 170 delegates to the state constitutional convention. He developed a voting block to pass bills to help black people. One of those bills was eliminating imprisonment for debt.

Mr. Campbell was appointed to the Board of Registration in Georgia. He was elected to Congress as a senator in Georgia in 1868 only to be expelled from office because white congressmen agreed that blacks didn’t have the right to hold office. He was able to return to office in 1871, but lost in 1872 and eventually imprisoned in a Georgia labor camp before fleeing the state.

Tunis Campbell (April 1, 1812 – December 4, 1891).

QUICK FACT: Tunis Campbell started working as a hotel steward. He wrote a book on hotel management, the first one about that subject ever written in America.
ANGELO DUNDEE DEAD AT 90: Trained Muhammed Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard

Angelo Dundee, the legendary trainer who took on Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard has died. The man who was considered one of boxing's greatest names in training was 90 years old.

Just a few weeks ago on January 12, 2012 Dundee joined Ali at his 70th birthday party in Kentucky (above). Below, the pair training during on February 8th, 1962 in New York.

Rolex 24 Marks 50th Anniversary

January 26th-29, 2012 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Rolex 24 at the Daytona International Speedway one of the most prestigious sports car races in America.

It was a fan-filled weekend of activities for the entire family there was concerts, autograph sessions, a chili cook-off, wine and cheese party, carnival rides for the kids, and many cars of all makes and models on and off the track. Many drivers with strong NASCAR experience and four full-time Sprint Cup Series drivers competed in this year’s race.

The other competitors make up the owners and drivers with ties to all three NASCAR’S series including Michael Waltrip a two-time Daytona 500 winner.

John Andretti, who is also a star on the popular television show “Grey’s Anatomy”, is also a race-car driver and owner. Dempsey drove last year and earned a spot on the podium. He drove his Mazda RX-8 GT in this year’s race and says he loves driving at night because it is quiet. He is devoted to Mazda he says they are very supportive.

The youngest driver in the Rolex 24 this year was Cooper McNeil, 19; he is a freshman at University of Colorado. McNeil's dad, David was a racecar driver so he has grown up around fast cars his entire life. He drove number 23 WeatherTech Porsche GT3 Cup car.

The youngest driver to ever grace the track at Daytona was Colin Braun at the tender age of 16 and raced this year in the number 76 Krohn Aviation Lola-Ford.

Hawks Honor Basketball Legend “Big Cat”

Team to Honor African-Americans During February Games As A Part Of Black History Month

By ARTHIA NIXON
Georgia/Florida Star

Last week started off with another week of wins for the Atlanta Hawks who have been putting their best foot forward lately.

The team secured two wins early last week before falling to the Grizzlies on Thursday night. However, that hasn’t stopped the Hawks from securing a spot among the top 5 teams in the league according to NBA.com’s Power Rankings.

As of this weekend, the top five teams in order are the Miami Heat, Oklahoma City Thunder, Chicago Bulls, Atlanta Hawks and LA Clippers.

During all February home games, the Atlanta Hawks will be honoring influential African-Americans who have made significant contributions to a variety of industries as part of this year’s celebration of Black History Month. Beginning February 2, during Atlanta's game against the Memphis Grizzlies, the Hawks will honor individuals who are each uniquely different in their contributions and unanimously impactful.

Among the honorees is Earl “Big Cat” Lloyd. On November 1950, Earl “Big Cat” Lloyd made history by becoming the first African American to play in the NBA.

On February 12, the Hawks will welcome Earl Lloyd during their home game against the Miami Heat. Lloyd played seven games before being drafted into the Army. The Washington Capitols folded while he was away and he joined the Syracuse Nationals upon his return, helping to lead them to an NBA Championship.

In 1960, at the age of 32, Lloyd retired as a member of the Detroit Pistons. He spent the next decade as a scout and assistant coach for the team, and in 1971, stepped into the history books again by becoming the first African-American coach of the Pistons and the second black NBA head coach.

Lloyd published his autobiography “Moonfixer” in 2009. For helping break the color barrier and for having an outstanding playing and coaching career, Lloyd was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003.

Imagine basketball without Michael Jordan, Kobe Bryant, LeBron James or even the Harlem Globe Trotters. Yet, there was a time, that the sport dominated by African Americans didn’t have any black players.

Long after the sport was first invented in Montreal, Canada, the NBA did not have any players of color.

One of those who broke down barriers in the sport was Earl “Big Cat” Lloyd. He became one of the first African Americans to play on an official NBA team, hence paving the way the the legions of others who continue to impact the sporting world as we know it today.

“Big Cat” is pictured above during his career and to the left celebrating his feat 50 years later.
Tips To Make Your Wedding Unique

(Start/Point) Your wedding day will likely be one of the most memorable days of your life. Unfortunately, many engaged couples get trapped in planning a formulaic party with bland music and décor; but with some creative planning, your nuptials can be as unique as your relationship.

“Whether you break the mold or go traditional, planning something special is all about customization,” says Mariam Naficy, CEO of Minted.com, an online stationery store that sells the date cards and wedding invitations.

Here are some top customization tips for couples tying the knot:

- Delicious food: To provide the eats will certainly be one of the most important aspects of your special day. Your guests will love a beautiful space you will want to remember for a lifetime, so pick the venue and get more info.

- A&R World Music Expo 2012: For those of you who consistently use the excuse catch phrases “I’m gonna,” “When I,” “As soon as I”, “When my life clears up” or “Hurry up and wait,” when it comes to accomplishing a goal here is your chance to actually do something if the music industry is your cup of tea. You should seriously make plans to attend the A&R World MUSEXPO 2012, April 29-May 2nd at the JW Hotel in Hollywood, CA. MUSEXPO is one of the world’s premiere music, media and technology conferences and will host its eighth annual MUSEXPO event. Registration includes access to complimentary and evening networking breakfasts, lunches, dinners and evening buffet/social events as well as all the interactive panels/seminars and showcase events, as well as the international networking lounge and business center we’ll have at MUSEXPO. Take advantage of the duration of the conference for registered delegates. The who’s who of the music industry world-wide will be there. Go to www.aandrworld.com.

Condolences:
We received word from our friend Billy Wilson of the MAA (Motown Alumni Assoc) that LaRynn Billingslea, the son of Motown Legend Joe Billingslea (of The Joe Billingslea Band “Do You Love Me”) was tragically shot to death around 1:30 a.m. at HRC’s Lounge in Detroit while trying to stop an altercation. It was reported that friends didn’t want to wait for the ambulance and took him to the hospital themselves but in route they became involved in a car accident. Joe Billingslea to the hospital where he died according to police reports. Condolences. Kendrick went to thebcontoursthebcontours.net. Our deepest spiritual meditations go out to the family, friends and fans.

If you have a great idea, say “I do” to your loved one, say “I do” to a special day that’s all you.
How To Beat One's Self

By Daris Howard

"Have you wrestled him before?" he asked. "I just know him." "I hope you're right," he replied. When it came time for our match, he walked dejectedly to the mat. When I lined up across from him he looked up, and I could see the shock in his eyes. "He's you?!" I nodded. "And I'm not out to hurt anybody. Just wrestle." But it ended up being the shortest match I've ever wrestled. It lasted just one minute. When it was over, Howard walked away. He was hurt, but I think he was more hurt by the fact that he was beaten. When I stepped off the mat, my coach congratulated me. "Good job," he said. "You just proved you can beat anyone." I didn't understand what he meant at first, but then I realized that he was right. I had proved that I could beat anyone. It was a proud moment for me. But it was also a moment of realization. I realized that I had to work harder if I wanted to be the best. I had to work harder if I wanted to be the best.

By night time there still weren't any aliens. "Hey, give them time," I said. "They might live a few thousand light years away. They might not get here until tomorrow." "Yeah," one of the boys said. "They might be driving a Chevy space ship and get so stiff they can't move.

Far in the distance, interrupting my story, we heard a mountain lion scream - what perfect timing! I seized on the opportunity to tell my story. "Once upon a time," I began, "there was a boy named Bill. Bill was a normal boy, except he could talk to animals. He could talk to animals because he had a special power. He could talk to animals because he had a special power.

It may have been true that I had been in some very fierce matches, but they were that way because of tough opponents. I had to work harder if I wanted to be the best. I had to work harder if I wanted to be the best.

I drive a Toyota.

They're probably broke down out in the middle of nowhere."

They might be driving a Ford in which case they could be a lot longer than that." "Or," retorted another boy, "They might be driving a Chevy space ship in which case they could be a lot longer than that." "Or," retorted another boy, "They might be driving a Ford in which case they could be a lot longer than that." "Or," retorted another boy, "They might be driving a Chevy space ship in which case they could be a lot longer than that."

...
Malnourished Child Found Running Naked in the Street

A mother and father were arrested after their malnourished child was found running in the street naked.

A 9-year-old child was found wandering around the streets at night, who appeared to be malnourished and naked. Police said the boy had jumped out of the rear window of his house to escape his parents. According to the report, the child weighed only about 35 pounds, which is the size of an average 3-5 year old child. The child was suffering from malnutrition and had severely swollen hands and feet from lack of food. He also had about 100 scars and marks all over his body, showing signs of abuse. Police said he told hospital staff that he had nothing to eat within the last three days. After looking at a picture, a Department of Children and Families judge said, “He looks like he came from Auschwitz.”

The child’s parents, Marsee Strong, 34, and Edward Bernard Bailey, 40, were arrested. They both denied abusing the child, but Strong claimed that the child had been beaten by others. Bailey also told police that he had allowed other people to abuse his child without intervening and Strong admitted in failing to getting him any medical treatment.

Police say Strong and Bailey have history involving the Department of Children and Families. A private instigator was sent from the DCF to check the home last month, but nothing unusual or any signs of abuse were said to have been reported. Every investigator or social worker that have come into contact with the family will be ordered to show up in court.

Neighbors took the incident in surprise and said that they have never seen any problems with the family. Only positive words were used to describe how the neighbors viewed the family.

The child was one of six children living in the home and he was taken to the hospital. The other five children were put in the care of a relative.

Strong and Bailey were charged with aggravated abuse and neglect of a child. Strong is being held on $65,000 bond and Bailey is being held on $60,000 bond.

Investigation continues.

Woman Trades Sex with Child for Pills

A woman was accused of trading sex with a child to another man in exchange for pills.

Debra Annmarie Blackmon, 25, was said to be addicted to prescription drugs and allowed Tony Marcel Hammond, 23, to have sex with a minor in her home in exchange for pills. According to police, Blackmon was the minor’s legal guardian and was suffering from withdrawals. Police also say Hammond provided the girl marijuana.

Blackmon denied encouraging the child to have sex with Hammond, but admit that she was well aware of Hammond have sex with her. Hammond denied having sex with the girl, but later admitted that he did once. According to reports, the girl became infected with an incurable sexually transmitted disease.

Arrests were made on both Blackmon and Hammond. Blackmon was charged with sex trafficking of a minor by legal guardian and child neglect causing great bodily harm. Hammond was charged with sex trafficking, procuring a person under 18 years old for prostitution.
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.

Suspect Arrested for Murder in Virginia

Police were in search of a man responsible for a murder that took place in Richmond, Virginia.

According to reports, a neighbor had come to check on 44-year-old Sarajane Hakopian after not showing up to work. Hakopian was found dead in her home and when police arrived, they said she died from “apparent trauma.” Hakopian’s vehicle, which was a 2005 Kia Sedona van, was also missing. As investigation continued, police began to search for the missing van, which would lead to the murderer.

Brian S. Mallory, 42, was arrested at a bus station in Jacksonville. Police were able to find him after coming across Hakopian’s van nearby. Police say Mallory was the boyfriend of Hakopian. Hokapian’s mother, Betty Savage, said the two were in an intimate relationship, until things got sour. Mallory had become jealous of a friend of Hokapian and began to make threats to her, which started to frighten her.

The motives for the killing is still unknown as investigation continues.

Mallory has not yet been charged with murder, but will be charged with grand larceny in the theft of Hakopian’s vehicle. He is being held without bond.

Mallory has a history of felonies dating back 11 years. On February 1991, he was sentenced to 90 years in prison for robbery, kidnapping, and firearm convictions with 56 years suspended. In January 2006, he was sentenced to seven years in prison for robbery, abduction, and probation violation and was released in October 2009 to be ordered into supervised probation.

Hokapian was loved by many as they described her as generous, kind, and caring. She was very active in the community and also sang in the choir at church, acted in plays at community centers, and took in stray animals. She was always willing go lend a helping hand.

Hokapian had two sisters and three brothers. She also leaves behind two young children. Her mother’s 43th birthday will be on February 10, but instead of celebrating, she will have a funeral service for her daughter.

Your Safety

REDUCING VIOLENCE

• Look for ways to settle arguments and disagreements without violence. Remember: if you resort to violence to settle disputes, a child may well follow your example. Be a good role model.

• Use good manners to help ease tensions that can lead to violence. Teach kids that showing respect for themselves and for the needs of others can prevent crime.

• Report crimes and suspicious activities to police; agree to testify when necessary. If you want to live in a safe community, stand up for what you believe in.

• Don’t support illegal activities, like buying stolen property or using illegal drugs. It’s the wrong message to send to a child, and it involves you in criminal activity. It also encourages more crime that hurts you and your neighbors.

HELPING VICTIMS OF CRIMES

• Don’t blame the victim or tell him or her not to be upset, angry, or afraid. Be a comfort and do what you can to ease the situation.

• If the victim hasn’t told the police, offer to help with a report.

• Offer to help the victim repair damage from a crime, replace a window-pane, install a new lock, replace important papers or help with day-to-day needs like transportation, babysitting, and cooking.

• Be willing to just sit and listen to the victim talk about the crime. It can help some victims to talk, although others will not want to. Don’t try to make a victim talk if he or she does not want to!

• Ask your local police about victims’ counseling and support groups in the area, and encourage the victim to take part.

• Ask what you can do to help in the future, and make it a point to get back in touch.

FLORIDA STAR

CONNECTION

Would you like to stay connected with your loved ones on lock down in jail, or prison? Anyone gone but not forgotten that you want to encourage? Get connected and keep a CONNECTION through our new CONNECTION spot.

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Contact G’ @ 904-766-8834 or Email G@thefloridastar.com send all correspondence to P.O. Box 40629, Jacksonville, FL 32203
BIZARRE CRIMES

who, what, when...huh?

Dog Put in the River While Tied to Dumbbell

A man was arrested after tying a dumbbell to a dog and putting it in the river.

Willie T. Bell, 41, was fishing and swimming while a 2-year-old pit bull was 25 yard out in a river with a 30-pound dumb bell tied around its neck. The dog was anchored down and was swimming in place, while struggling to breathe for air. A police officer, who was driving by in his vehicle, saw the snout of the dog sticking out of the river and went down to confront Bell.

The Officer asked what he was doing to the dog and Bell told him that he was doing it to make it stronger. Bell was ordered to take the dog out of the water and he did as asked. He also told the officer that the dog was in the river for about 15 minutes and when Bell was asked if he would like to be left in the river like the dog was, he said no.

Bell appeared to not be the owner of the dog and it was safely returned to its owner immediately.

Bell was arrested and charged with third-degree felony animal cruelty. He will spend forty days in prison.

Woman Beats Husband For Asking to Use the Bed With Another Woman

A woman is now behind bars after venting out her anger at her husband, who brought another woman to the house.

Marian Searchwell, 56, was in bed in the master bedroom and her husband had come home with another woman. Her husband asked her to leave, so that he could use the bed with the other woman. When Searchwell refused, her husband picked her up from the bed. Searchwell infuriated, then grabbed him by his shirt and his neck and began yelling at him. Searchwell used such force that she left her husband with abrasions on both sides of his neck.

Searchwell and her husband have been married for 5 months and were said to have been separated for the past month. They were still living together until alternative living arrangements would be made.

When authorities arrived, Searchwell was unfortunately arrested for a misdemeanor domestic battery charge.

Other Unusual Crimes Across the Nation

Grandmother Tries to Give Away Grandchild at Gas Station

Houston, TX- 52-year-old Vernice Ruenell Zagerman was said to be harassing motorists at a gas station one night asking if they wanted a little girl. Zagerman was reported to be intoxicated and trying to give her 3-year-old grandchild away to random strangers. One of the people Zagerman talked to, called the police. When police arrived, Zagerman had already fled the station in a cab. Police went after the cab and pulled it over. Zagerman was arrested, but this was not her first time. She has prior convictions for drugs and theft, assaulting a family member, and assaulting a public servant resulting in bodily injury. The mother of the child was away from home in school during the incident. Zagerman faces a charge of child endangerment.

Teen Steals Bicycle After Stolen Car Gets Stuck in Sand

An owner of a 2008 Lexus had called police that his car was missing from his driveway and that his girlfriend’s car had been burglarized. The man also said that there was a Dell laptop, a laptop bag, and paperwork in the Lexus. Police found a vehicle stuck in the sand at a beach and noticed Cole Allen Mason, 17, riding a bicycle down the road. The officers had seen Mason before and knew he did not reside in that area. Another man approached the police reporting a stolen bike and police tracked Mason down in their patrol car. The bike was returned to its owner and the keys to the Lexus was found in mason’s pocket. Mason was said to have driven the stolen car into the sand, where it became stuck, and stole the bike from a man to flee the scene. He was charged with grand theft of a motor vehicle, burglary, petit theft, and grand theft.

Nude Man Stabs Mother and Daughter

Torrance, CA- Police responded to a call made and arrived at a home, where Virgil Tyrone Tate, 31, fatally stabbed a mother and daughter and left a man injured. The surviving man came out to lead the officers to the Tate, who was said to also live with them. The first victim was found laying on the ground with stab wounds. Tate had locked himself in a backroom, where the officers were able to force themselves into. Tate was found naked with the second victim on the ground also with stab wounds. Reports say that Tate and the daughter were planning to get married. Both women were pronounced dead at the scene and the male survivor was taken to a hospital, where he was said to be in stable condition. Tate was arrested on suspicion of murder in lieu of $1 million bail.

Man Mistakenly Arrested Before Day of Birthday?

Chesapeake, VA- A female employee of a Papa John’s restaurant had just told police that she had been robbed with a gun while making a delivery. The police said when they arrived to the scene, they stated seeing two men running into a residence nearby. The officers searched the two men, Brandon Smith, 26, and Brian Faulcon, 27, and arrested them for robbery and the use of a firearm in commission of a felony. When Smith was later being interviewed, his eyes became tearful as he repeatedly said that he did not commit the crime. Him and Faulcon were lifelong friends and Faulcon ran a car detailing business. Smith said he use to play college basketball and volunteered as a high school basketball coach and had no reason to steal. His birthday was on the next day, but he will remain in jail as investigation continues.
Criminal Line-Up

MISSING CHILDREN

Name: Briana Canning  
Age: 17  
Weight: 116 lbs  
Last seen: 1/11/12

Name: Dante L. Sanchious  
Age: 17  
Weight: 153 lbs  
Last seen: 12/14/11

Name: Destinee Rochelle Wilkerson  
Age: 17  
Weight: 120 lbs  
Last seen: 12/04/11

Name: Britney Nicole Fason  
Age: 15  
Weight: 125 lbs  
Last seen: 1/25/12

Name: India N. Williams  
Age: 15  
Weight: 160 lbs  
Last seen: 1/11/12

ON THE LOOKOUT

Armed Robbery Suspect

Police were dispatched to a gas station in reference to an armed robbery.

The complainant stated that two black males ran in the store and robbed them with a gun. Investigation revealed that the suspects took money from the cash register, an undisclosed amount of cigarettes, and unknown amount of scratch off lottery tickets then fled the store. Witnesses at a nearby Denny’s restaurant told police that a subject matching the description of one of the suspects ordered a “to go” meal, was rude, and appeared to be in a hurry.

This is an ongoing investigation.

Anyone with any information of the suspect is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at 1-866-845-TIPS or email at rewards@fccrimestoppers.com. You will remain anonymous and receive a possible reward if your tip leads to an arrest.

MOST WANTED

Name: Jennifer Shanique Casey  
Offense: Grand Theft (Over $300)

Name: William Anthony Watson  
Offense: Resisting officer without violence

Name: James Bernard Kenney  
Offense: Driving with a suspended or revoked license. Habitual traffic offender.

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Citizens with tips are encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at 1-866-845-TIPS. You can remain anonymous and become eligible for a reward.
In today’s fast-paced, wired world, all that separates us from sharing our guiltiest thoughts and darkest secrets with the rest of the planet is a single mouse click or finger stroke across a smartphone screen.

And kids today need to be taught early-on the difference between being honest and sharing too much, say experts.

“Amid the din of oversharing, we mistake spasms of self-revelation for honesty. And in a time of constant confessional disclosures, we are losing our ability to self-reflect and be truly honest,” says Paul Wilkes, a filmmaker, religion and spirituality writer, and author of “The Art of Confession,” a new book that seeks to redefine confession for a multicultural, contemporary world.

But honesty is still the best policy. And here are some ways to teach this concept to those born after the advent of a social networking culture:

• Foster good communication: Your child is more likely to be truthful with you if you have a great relationship. You can strengthen that relationship by being approachable, not judgmental. Talk regularly. Make a family dinner a routine part of your life. Schedule game nights, movie nights and other enjoyable activities do with your children.

• Lead by example: Lying can be convenient, but resorting to dishonesty when talking to your children is always a mistake. You’ll risk normalizing deceit for an impressionable young person. Worse yet, your kids will have good reason to distrust you after you promise that the flu shot doesn’t hurt a bit.

• Encourage a culture of confession: If your child admits to wrongdoing, first be grateful for the honesty. While you must discipline him or her, the punishment shouldn’t be a deterrent for future confession. Hitting, shaming, and generally making your child feel bad will only inspire him to lie in the future. But instead of sending your children to their rooms to play video games, you can help them reflect on how to do better next time.

“Confession is not merely a clearing out of that which is wrong in us,” says Wilkes. “It is a realignment of what is best in us and an intention to live a better life.”

• Nip it in the bud: Bad habits can start early and are often hard to shake, so it’s never too early to correct dishonest behavior in your child. And you can help kids avoid lying by giving them fewer opportunities to do so. For example, if you know who made the mess, don’t ask “Did you do this?” Confront him or her directly about it instead.

• Use literature: There are many excellent fiction and non-fiction books that deal with ethical issues and honesty. Your librarian can help you find something age-appropriate to read and discuss with kids.

Though there may be no portion of the school day devoted to it, honesty can be taught. Make sure you don’t let your kids skip this lesson.
New And Old Ways To Find Friends Who Share Your Interests

Even if you’re the life of the party, making friends who share your enthusiasm for your hobbies is not always easy. Especially for those of us who have unusual interests. Baton twirling anybody?

While not all hobbies will easily win you friends like joining a sports team or forming a band, there are many new and old tools to help hook you up with like-minded people, no matter how obscure your interests are:

**Can’t Beat ‘Em? Join ‘Em**

If your friends never take your book recommendations, or they always decline your invitations to play tennis, it’s time join a club. Check message boards online or in your community for listings. If you don’t find what you’re looking for, post your own ad and start a club yourself!

Taking classes is also an excellent way to meet people with your hobbies. From dancing to photography to cooking, you’ll meet people and learn something too.

**Go Alone**

Having trouble finding a companion for the opera? Get up the courage and attend alone. There’s no shame in pursuing your interests solo. And once you’re there, you’ll be surrounded by people who have at least one thing in common with you. So be very friendly.

After all, there’s no better place to meet someone to take to the next event.

**Go Online**

You may not find anyone in your community who shares your love of model rockets, but there’s an entire world of people out there, who you can meet “face-to-face” online.

“New tools are allowing people around the world to connect online in a very authentic way,” says Jamie Snider, Co-founder of Yowie.com, a video chatting website.

Consider joining a free site like Yowie.com, where users with common interests connect through group online video chats. Hold virtual club meetings and discussions from the comfort of your own home. The site not only enables virtual “face-to-face chats” but also allow you to share other media, like your favorite YouTube videos, mid-chat.

Look for a site that has measures of protection like privacy settings. Yowie, for example, has a reputation scoring system so you can make informed decisions about who you interact with on the site.

**Volunteer**

Volunteering is a great way to meet people who care about the same things as you. Stuff envelopes for a political campaign or serve food at a soup kitchen. There’s plenty of camaraderie to be had when you work with others toward a common cause.

Whether you’re looking to join a club, or just gain feedback on a project, take advantage of opportunities to connect with like-minded folks locally and globally.

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**NEED TO KNOW**

Make sure you get the biggest refund possible. Good tax preparation software, like TurboTax, can help you achieve this.

Put the money toward goals like college, retirement, or eliminating debt. Consider free online services like Mint.com, which help you establish a budget for these goals. Or use desktop software, such as Quicken, to manage this sudden cash flow.

Getting a refund is not winning the lottery; it’s your income, so invest in your future.

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**Wish to give us a News Story relating to the Youth of our Community?**

Send it to:

INFO@THEFLORIDASTAR.COM

OR

TIA@THEFLORIDASTAR.COM
Hot, Hearty Food!

Brrrrr! It's cold outside. After a frosty, fun activity, doesn't a hot, hearty meal sound good? Winter's a time for hot drinks and warm, nourishing foods.

Can you find and circle these cold-weather favorites?

- chicken broth
- meat loaf
- cheese fondu
- casserole
- hot chocolate
- muffins
- baked potato
- roast
- dumplings
- soup
- pancakes
- stew

Find a Favorite Folktale!

Check out these cool folktales:
3. *Anansi the Spider Man* by Philip M. Sherlock.
5. *The Tales of Uncle Remus* told by Julius Lester.

What Animal Has the Thickest Fur?

This animal lives in shallow waters. At one time its family was almost wiped out because people wanted their thick, rich fur. It is what keeps him warm and alive in the icy sea waters. He may weigh 70 to 90 pounds and grow up to 4 and a half feet long. He is part of the weasel family. He likes to eat clams and fish. He rests floating on his back.

Do the dot-to-dot to see him:

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He is a ______ ______ ________ ______.
Florida Ranks 11 in 2012 Quality Counts Report
~ Annual report ranks Florida high in teaching profession and accountability ~

The results in Education Week's Quality Counts 2012: The Global Challenge - Education in a Competitive World released today ranks Florida eleventh in the nation overall. The report gives high marks to Florida in both the Standards, Assessments, and Accountability category and the Teaching Profession category. The data used to derive the financial ranking dates back to 2009 and reflects the impact of the economic downturn on spending for education from that year.

"Florida's education system ranks among the best in the nation, but we still face some challenges. I'm confident we will continue to improve," said Governor Rick Scott.

Similar to previous years, the 2012 edition of the report grades states based on their policies and performance in six main education areas: Chance for Success; K-12 Achievement; Standards, Assessments, and Accountability; The Teaching Profession; School Finance Analysis; and Transitions and Alignment. This year's report updates scores in five of the areas, but does not update Transitions and Alignment. State rankings are based on the average score for all six categories. Florida scored an overall grade of "C+.”

"Floridians truly believe that support for education is the most significant thing we can do to ensure both short-term job growth and long-term economic prosperity for our state," said Gov. Scott in his State of the State Address on Tuesday. "My recommended budget includes $1 billion in new state funding for education."

Florida Education Commissioner Gerard Robinson said that the Governor's budget recommendations come at an important time.

"We know that our educational system has been strained by the economic downturn," said Commissioner Robinson. "The additional investment in a high-quality education will not show up immediately, but it will be a factor in our success as we move forward."

Robinson added that he was pleased with the state's standing in the areas of the teaching profession and accountability.

"Florida is a leader when it comes to education reform. That's evident in our 'A' grade in the accountability area. We are a model for other states when it comes to using high quality metrics to help guide instruction and inform policy. In fact, we're one of only 10 states that have the ability to link teachers and student performance," he said.

Highlights of the 2012 report include

–Florida earned an "A" in the Standards, Assessments and Accountability category and ranked fifth in the nation.
–Florida is one of 10 states to have the capability to link teachers and their student performance data back to teacher education programs.
–Florida is among 29 states to have used education data from international models to shape reform policies.
–Florida ranked first on the equity measure that looks at differences between average per pupil spending among districts at the 95th and fifth percentiles.
–Florida is second in the nation in the equal distribution of funds amongst its school districts.
–Florida ranks fourth in the nation with a "B" in The Teaching Profession category.
–Florida earned points for increasing its graduation index by 14 percentage points from 2000 to 2008.
–Advanced Placement achievement and improvement points increased in this year's analysis. Florida was the fourth highest state in the percent of students who scored "3" or higher on AP tests and third highest for the percentage of increase in successful AP testers.