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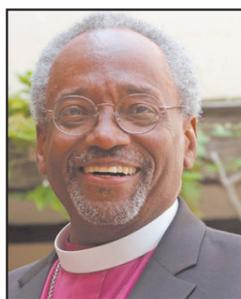
# Royal Wedding 2018



Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex emerge from the West Door of St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, in Windsor, on May 19, 2018. (Provided photos)



Meghan Markle's mother Doria Ragland



Preacher Michael Curry gave a long heart felt speech at Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding.



Oprah Winfrey Arrives at the Royal Wedding.



Sheku Kanneh-Mason performs for millions at the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle.



Serena Williams brings her husband, Alexis Ohanian, to the royal wedding.

## Stacey Abrams Makes History Winning Georgia Democratic Primary in bid to Become First Black Female Governor

On Tuesday, Georgia Democrats selected the first black woman to be a major party nominee for governor in, choosing Stacey Abrams, a liberal former State House leader, who will test just how much the state's traditionally conservative politics are shifting.

The general election is sure to draw intense national attention as Georgia voters determine whether a black woman can win in the Deep South, a region that has not had an African-American governor since Reconstruction.

Abrams, 44, will face a Republican candidate in the high-stakes mid-term contest in November.

Lt Gov Casey Cagle won the Republican primary on Tuesday, and will face Georgia's secretary of state Brian Kemp in a run-off on 24 July to decide her eventual opponent.

She will face either Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, the top Republican vote getter Tuesday, or Secretary of State Brian Kemp. Mr. Cagle and Mr. Kemp will vie for their party's nomination in a July runoff.

Abrams was raised in Gulfport, Mississippi, with her five siblings.



Stacey Abrams

She moved to Atlanta as a teenager with her parents, a college librarian and shipyard worker who both attended Emory University to study divinity and become United Methodist ministers.

She became the first African American female valedictorian of her high school before earning her undergraduate degree from Spelman College. She also received a master's degree from the University of Texas and a law degree from Yale University.

## Jacksonville International Airport Expecting Busy Memorial Day Weekend

JAX airport security checkpoint wait times expected to increase with new flights and additional passengers

With the upsurge of travel this Memorial Day weekend and a double-digit increase in flights and passengers, wait times at security checkpoint may be longer than expected. Jacksonville Aviation Authority recommends travelers arrive at least 2 hours prior to departure time from

Jacksonville International Airport.

If picking someone up, the free Cell Phone Lot offers a relaxing place to wait. Located adjacent to the JAA Administration Building, it contains a flight information board, vending machines and access to a public restroom.

Once the passenger has arrived and is waiting at the curb, it's a short 2-minute drive to pick them up.

## Chicago City Council Backs Obama Presidential Center plans

The effort to build the Obama Presidential Center in a park on Chicago's South Side where Barack Obama's political career began cleared its biggest hurdle yet Wednesday when the City Council signed off on the proposal.

The vote was widely expected, but was still historic for both the city where the nation's first black president started and for the state where the only presidential library is that of the president who freed the slaves.

The city's plan commission and zoning board voted in favor of the proposal to build the center in Jackson Park in recent days.

The significance of the vote was not lost on

the aldermen and Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

"We are stewards of a future that will tell a story about (how) America actually embraced its future, its diversity, its common sense of values," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel after the council voted 47-1 to approve the measure and before he stepped out of the council chambers to call Obama with the news. "We will have a home for that future and we built it together."

The project remains under federal view because the park is on the National Register of Historic Places and the center's foundation must secure a contract to lease the parkland from the city.



A Gospel Choir performed at the Royal Wedding on May 19th.

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# Church News

Listings are due the Tuesday before the next issue.  
Email submissions preferred. Send to: [Info@TheFloridaStar.com](mailto:Info@TheFloridaStar.com)

## River City Church Happenings!!

### New Bethlehem MBC Celebrates Their Pastor's 5th Year

Rev. Dr. Marion A. Wise and First Lady Nikasha Wise celebrated their 5th year as Senior Pastor and First Lady of New Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 11:00 am & 4:00 pm.

Pastor Emeritus Joe Calhoun was the speaker for the morning worship service and Bishop Dwayne Blue, St. James Baptist Church, Madison, FL was the speaker for the evening worship service.

Pastor Calhoun's message was "Many called but few chosen" and his text was from Acts 9:15-18. Bishop Blue's message was titled "I'm staying in the race" and his text was from Hebrews 12:1-3. Both men of God had the congregation clapping & waving their hands, patting their feet and standing with powerful AMENS.

The members of New Bethlehem showered their Pastor and First Lady with words of admiration and gifts of love. A delightful meal was served after the evening service.



Pastor & First Lady Wise



Bishop Dwayne Blue & Pastor Wise



Rev. W. L. Phillips & Pastor Wise

#### Members in Celebration



Minister DeAngelo Lester



### Staff Directory

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Telephone: (904) 359-0661  
Home: (904) 358-8932 Cell: 710-1586

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Tuesday.....Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.  
Thursday.....Joy Night, 7:00 p.m.

Email: [Gospel75@aol.com](mailto:Gospel75@aol.com)

Website: [Greaterelbethel.org](http://Greaterelbethel.org)

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

### Greater Macedonia Baptist Church of the Northside



**Senior Pastor  
Dr. Landon L. Williams, Sr.**



1880 W. Edgewood Ave.  
Jacksonville, FL 32208.  
Phone: (904) 764-9257 • Fax: (904) 768-1736  
[www.gmbc.net](http://www.gmbc.net)

### 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.  
**Rev. Dr. Marion A. Wise, Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Joe Calhoun, Pastor Emeritus**  
(904) 764-5727 - Church  
Email: [newbethlehemmb@att.net](mailto:newbethlehemmb@att.net) \* Web: [newbethlehemmb.com](http://newbethlehemmb.com)



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Florida Star and Our Impact Radio Program

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# Black Magic Live Art Museum Event Showcases Local Talent

By Candice L. Smith

May 19th, 2018 marked the 2nd annual Black Magic Live Art Museum Event. This event was created and put together by the Tiffany Funches and Chelsey Pough of Isupportdreams Inc. group—an organization that creates an atmosphere for creative expression for the youth and young adults in Jacksonville, Florida.

This year's event took place in Jacksonville's very own somewhat hidden treasure WonderlandJax. This establishment was created specifically for the artists in Jacksonville, Florida. Attendees of the Black Magic 2 Live Art Museum event offered positive remarks about this year's location, stating the experience began upon arrival.

Driving up to the location attendees noticed a warehouse with different compartments. After climbing a few steps strategically placed along a long wooden platform, guests then had the choice of climbing another set of stairs or taking the elevator which is an experience not all Jacksonville natives are used to but definitely adds to the whole artistic experience.

Music could be heard from outside building, and if the Honey Dripper House and Hazelnut Grill food trucks didn't keep you outside, the vibrations from the beat lulled you inside. High Fashion models from Jacksonville's very own Lone Fashion Model Agency greeted every guest upon arrival and gracefully collected tickets.

Guests were then free to explore an open space filled to the brim with black expression. Immediately to the left were hanging works from photographer Alfonso Jarrod. His collection included a "lady in Red" series-- a tribute to strong black women that he felt magnified their beauty and a fan favorite entitled "Infinity Waters"; a moment he captured while at the beach during sunrise. Jarrod admits that he loves sharing his perspective of the world through his camera lens and hopes to start conversations with his works.

Dominic Haynes better known as Rex-D, a designer who provided the audience with some live art using only

trash bags and duct tape. He was inspired by episodes of the television show, Project Runway and various YouTube videos. Rex-D admits that he was nervous but definitely up for the challenge. During the showcase last year, he presented a full collection of his designs but stated he wanted to do something a little different this year. He really wowed the crowd with how quickly he was able to construct a two piece gown together. He's looking forward to the day when he can see his brand everywhere and dress his favorite muse, nationally acclaimed songstress Rihanna for one of her many glamorous events.

Alexis Harley debuted her collection of paintings "The Mind of A". She admits that all of her paintings were inspired by her imagination. Her series of paintings are filled with vibrant colors but are layered with so much meaning. A few of her many pieces spoke to the emotions of fear and control. Harley's been in the art world for 4 years and started her journey after taking an art class during her freshman year in college. Since then, she has developed a great love for artistic expression. She stated that she doesn't really have a style just yet but rather, just paints whatever makes her happy. She admits that she is still developing as an artist. Harley is an artist to keep up with because in a few years she will be more refined and will speak volumes with her work.

Jacksonville native, Aset is a self-taught artist who showcases her artistry through painting. Her featured work can be purchased at Zsa Zsa Lapree Art Gallery in Jacksonville, Florida. Aset admits that she's only been painting for two years, however her earlier works were debuted at last year's event. Since then, she has created an entirely new collection featured at this year's show. Aset has a unique artistic voice that speaks volumes about the beauty, sensuality and complexity of Black women.

Attendees of the BMLAM constantly admired the works of Kiations "Adam and Eve" three-piece set. Kiations admits that what she ended up with was not her initial vision but the end results speak volumes about her skills.

## Local Jacksonville Artists Selected to Present their Work in South Africa

by Kandice Clark

Congratulations are in order for several Jacksonville artists who were a part of the annual "Through Our Eyes" art exhibition presented by the Ritz Theater & Museum. This exhibit is one of the most exciting and eye opening displays of black art that Jacksonville has to offer. The current exhibit "Journey to South Africa: A Cultural Exchange" began in February 2018 and challenged artists to create powerful images of struggle and resistance. Among the many interpretations of struggle and resistance were portrayals of overcoming, blunt reality, and the power to persevere in challenging circumstances.

To be chosen as an artist for this exhibit is always an

honor. This year's exhibit was unique in that the selected artists will have an opportunity to present their original work to another continent! In September, the artists selected from the juried art show will have their work displayed in a museum in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

The artists who were presented this most prestigious opportunity are: Rhonda Bristol, Richlin Ryan, Christopher Clark, Overstreet Ducasse, Annelies Dykgraaf, Dania Frink, Marsha Hatcher, Etta Haygood, Mal Jones, Erin Kendrick, Yuzly Mathurin, Gil Mayers, Traci Mims, Ahyanna Nakia, Suzanne Pickett, Adrian Rhodes, Pablo Rivera, Weldon Ryan and Marcus Williams. Many of the artists intend to travel to the exhibit to view their work. For most, this is their first international show.

To find out more about these talented artists you can visit the "Through Our Eyes" exhibit at the Ritz Theater which will be open to the public until June 8, 2018.

## Christian Cochran Named Wounded Warrior Fellow for Congressman Lawson

Christian Cochran will serve as the Wounded Warrior fellow for Rep. Al Lawson's (FL-05) district office in Jacksonville. Cochran, who served in the United States Army Reserve, will assist with casework and provide support for the district's veterans, active service members and their families.

"As a veteran, Christian has first-hand knowledge of the needs of our servicemen and women," Rep. Lawson said. "His extensive military experience will prove to be a strong asset to our staff. I look forward to working with him during this fellowship." Cochran, a native of Quincy, Fla., says he is eager to work in Rep. Lawson's district because of his desire to give back to the city and people who contributed to his upbringing and success.

"What drew me to this Wounded Warrior Fellowship opportunity was that it is in the Fifth District – my home," Cochran said. "There are several veterans in the area who need our assistance, and I will do my part to assure their needs are met. I look forward to serving our community."

In 2009, Cochran joined the United States Army Reserve, serving in the 912th Human Resources Company in Tallahassee, Fla. He has served in multiple capacities in the Reserves, but most notably serving as assistant custodian of Postal Effects at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, Operation Joint Guardian. Cochran has also worked in law enforcement, on the state and local levels. He earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration from Columbia Southern University in Alabama, and his master's degree from Liberty University in Virginia.

The Wounded Warrior Fellowship Program was established by the House of Representatives to provide employment opportunities for wounded or disabled veterans within member offices and with the goal of training a new generation of veteran leaders for government service.



Christian Cochran Wounded Warrior Fellow

## Lawson Statement on Failure of Republican Farm Bill Vote

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Al Lawson released the following statement today on the failure of the GOP Farm Bill vote on the House Floor:

"I voted 'no' on the Farm Bill because it fails our nation's farmers and working families. This destructive bill would have cut \$23 billion in SNAP benefits from children, seniors, students, veterans, 23,000 active duty service members and working families.

We now have an opportunity to go back to the bargaining table, in a bipartisan manner, and get it right. Rather than abandoning farmers who are struggling with economic uncertainty and denying food to those who struggle with hunger each day, now is the time to create a balanced bill that honors our responsibilities to the 16 million men and women in agriculture and the 41 million Americans who are food secure. My vote against this bill ensures the stability of the social safety net and agricultural programs that benefit the residents of Florida's Fifth Congressional District."



U.S. Representative Al Lawson, Florida's 5th congressional district

Other artists that were featured included works from photographer Larry Key, Sonye Locksmith, Dante Jennings, FOXX, and Tavian Teage.

The "House of Xhaos Dance & Co." presented art in the form of dance, Share and Seed Academy blessed the audience with their artistic expression through song and Ebonie, Keisha and Johnakesha presented a fashion runway show like you've never seen before. Most runways shows send their models down the catwalk while blasting house or techno music, these ladies sent their fashions down with their voices. It was a great experience that allowed you to enjoy fashion with a message.

The hosts of the evening were none other than iOne Fashion model Takerra and Taryn "LoveReigns" Wharwood. LoveReigns is a poet that has been performing for over 10 years and is the cofounder of "The Cypher" and open mic poetry event.

Along with the art and entertainment were vendors that offered a taste of Jacksonville's hidden treasures. Unapologetically Single is definitely one of those treasures that celebrate the single black woman. This organization brought an array of items that included buttons with clever slogans, journals, natural soaps, apparel, and beauty products that are very affordable.

The Elite Group which is a company that specializes in event management, marketing and promotions for small business clients came to show support as well.

Many attendees had nothing but positive remarks about the event. First time attendee Sharletta Stephens stated that the BMLAM "was the best event she's attended all year" and she was happy to have been invited.

Writer, Producer and Rap artist RIZM attended and thought that it was awesome that black artists got together to support each other. "It was good to see that black people were able to get together and showcase their artistry in a positive environment. This doesn't happen enough here in Jacksonville. The artwork was phenomenal."

## A JAZZ FEST SO NICE, IT'S FEATURED TWICE

*Historic Posters Feature Artist and Fan*



Since 1980, the Jacksonville Jazz Festival has presented itself each year with striking visual imagery through the event's official poster. Throughout the years, talented local artists have contributed their unique touch to what has become a much anticipated and collectible piece of art. This year, the Jacksonville Jazz Festival is proud to feature two poster designs created by local artist Jeff Whipple.

A rarity compared to previous years, the 2018 posters pay homage to the jazz performer and fan. Each piece of art incorporates Whipple's distinctive and highly recognized three-line motif.

"I use three lines because three repetitions of an element are a pattern, and that implies a definite design," said Whipple. "Think of it like a bass player repeating three notes to hold a jazz song together. Or, as Lou Reed said, 'One chord is fine. Two chords are pushing it. Three chords and you're into jazz. I also use the three lines as a life symbol because the basic perception of something living is a pattern of movement. If viewers understand that the three lines represent something about life, they will create their own ideas about what it means in this poster.'"

In creating these images, Whipple sought to pay homage to the audiences that enjoy jazz, as well as the musicians who keep America's music strong. Each poster design features a Jacksonville connection – Liz Gibson, a jazz enthusiast and locally acclaimed artist widely recognized for challenging the perception of human limitations; and Jacksonville native, jazz drummer and GRAMMY Award winner, Ulysses Owens, Jr. For more information about the posters, visit Jax-JazzFest.com.



*About the Artist:*

Jeff Whipple creates art that engages viewers in imaginative contemplations about the weirdness and beauty of our brief appearance in the infinity of time. A nationally recognized artist and playwright, Whipple has won dozens of awards in professional art competitions and six state-sponsored artist fellowships. This spring, he won a \$25,000 artist grant from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation. Jeff Whipple earned a MFA in visual art and has taught at several colleges. For more information and thousands of visuals: <http://www.jeffwhipple.com>

# 45 Years & Still Standing Strong

*45th Annual Minister & Wife Anniversary and Appreciation*

*Charlie & Ida McClendon*

**"45 Years & Still Standing Strong"**

*I Corinthians 15:58*

**Theme Colors: Black, White & Silver**

**June 2nd - 8:00am - 1st Annual Charlie E. McClendon Appreciation Golf Tournament**  
Julington Creek Golf & Country Club | \$55 per Golfer (Captain's Choice)  
Payment due by May 27th (see Kerry Myrick)  
**- 6:00pm - Appreciation Fellowship (Golfers & Leaders only)**

**June 3rd - 8:00am - Continental Breakfast**  
**- 9:00am - Appreciation Concert**  
Featuring Halal of 9th St. Church of Christ, Winter Garden, FL and all Northside groups  
**- 10:30am - Mass Worship**  
Featuring Wesley Leonard, Minister of Southside Church of Christ, Orlando, FL and Xerxes Snell, Minister of 9th St. Church of Christ, Winter Garden, FL  
**- 12:30pm - Appreciation Dinner, Program & Shower**  
**- Evening Worship will be immediately after the program**

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*Standing Steadfast and Keeping Steadfast*

Charlie E. McClendon, Senior Minister | Al Jackson, Minister  
4736 Ave. B Jacksonville, FL 32209 | 904-765-9830 | jaxnscoc@bellsouth.net

**Charlie and Ida McClendon**  
**"45 Years & Still Standing Strong"**  
**45th Annual Minister and Wife**  
**Appreciation**  
**Sunday, June 3rd, 2018**

Winter Garden, Florida. Worship service will be followed with an appreciation dinner, program and shower. A full day of celebration in honor of Charlie and Ida McClendon's 45 years of leadership and dedication working for the Lord!

You do not want to miss the opportunity to honor God's best and be blessed!!! "45 Years & Still Standing Strong"

**THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!!**

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

*I Corinthians 15:58 NKJV*

On Saturday, June 2nd at 8:00, join us for the 1st Annual Charlie E McClendon's Appreciation Golf Tournament and Appreciation Fellowship at the Julington Creek Golf and Country Club, Jacksonville, Florida. For more information about Golf Tournament please call the church building.

For more information about the Northside Church of Christ 45th Annual Minister and Wife Appreciation please contact the Northside Church of Christ at 904-765-9830.

JACKSONVILLE, FL – "45 Years and Still Standing Strong", still working, still focused on the vision, still saving souls and keeping souls saved! Come celebrate Charlie and Ida McClendon's 45th Annual Minister and Wife Appreciation, Sunday, June 3rd at the Northside Church of Christ, Jacksonville, FL.

The celebration will begin at 8:00am Sunday morning, with a continental breakfast and 9:00am Appreciation Gospel Songfest featuring our guest group Halal of the 9th Street Church of Christ from Winter Garden, Florida and all Northside Church of Christ a cappella groups singing praises "early" in the morning. At 10:30am, the appreciation worship service will feature two powerful and inspiring gospel ministers, Wesley Leonard, minister of the Southside Church of Christ, Orlando, Florida and Xerxes Snell, minister of the 9th Street Church of Christ,

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# Looking for Victory for Victoria in the National American Miss Florida Pageant

Victoria McClary (9) recently qualified as a State Finalist in the National American Miss Florida Pageant. The event will take place on June 8 - 10, 2018 at the beautiful Hyatt Regency in Jacksonville, Florida. The pageant is held for girls ages 4 through 18 in five different age divisions. The newly crowned Miss Florida Jr Preteen will receive a \$1000 cash award, the official crown and banner, a bouquet of roses, and air transportation to compete in the national pageant at Disneyland in California. She will also tour Hollywood. She has a chance to represent the state of Florida for the entire year.



Victoria's talent during the competition will include a dance routine. But of course – she is talented. She is a member of the North Florida Twirling Academy, Gyminators Gymnastics Tumbling and the Girl Scouts. She also loves salsa dancing with her baby brother Justin and cooking with her mom and dad. She also loves spending time with her grandmother and family every Friday which she calls treat day.

Contestants will compete in four overall categories including Formal Wear Modeling, Personal Introduction, Interview, and Community Service Project. National American Miss also offers optional contests such as the Top Model Search SM, Talent, Actress, and so much more!

National American Miss is dedicated to celebrating America's greatness and encouraging its future leaders. Each year, the pageant awards thousands in

cash and prizes to recognize and assist in the development of young ladies nationwide. All activities are age-appropriate and family-oriented.

The National American Miss Pageant System is the largest in the Nation. The focus of this organization is to create future leaders and to equip them with real-world skills to make their dreams a reality. The program is based on inner beauty, as well as poise and presentation, and offers an "All-American spirit of fun for family and friends." Emphasis is placed on the importance of gaining self-confidence and learning new skills, such as good attitudes about competition, as well as setting and achieving personal goals.

Sponsors for little Miss McClary includes the Jaguars, Burger King, Dick's Sporting Goods, McDonalds, Juice Crab Restaurant and Popeye's Chicken. To learn more about the pageant go to [www.namiss.com](http://www.namiss.com). Good Luck Victoria!

# Youth

## 5000 Role Models of Excellence Provides Incentives to Graduating Seniors and Student Leaders



**Pictured above l-r** Mr. Michael Bostic-Jones (Raines High), Kenneth Lee (Lee High), Christopher Champine (Lee High), Brenton Thompson (Wolfson High), Jeffrey Johnson (Ribault High), Xavier Davis (Ribault High), Pernell Gray (Ribault High) and Mr. Lawrence Hills (District Supervisor)

The 5000 Role Models of Excellence conducted its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony and Dinner at William M. Raines High. Students from the Raines High Culinary program catered the event. The celebration honored 5000 Role Models of Excellence student leaders and graduating seniors who have gone above and beyond for the 2017-2018 school year. Adult Role Models who serve as mentors for the students enrolled in the program and Site Directors who head up each of the 12 school programs were also honored. The event was held at William M. Raines High, which along with Highland Middle School, will be the two new expansion sites for the 2018-2019 school year. This will make a total of 14 schools comprised of 7 middle schools and 7 high schools spread throughout Duval County. Currently the program has 425 registered minority male student members from Duval County Public Schools. Initially founded in Miami, FL by Congresswoman Frederica Wilson, the program has been in Duval County for three years.

The initiative looks to provide exposure to minority male students educationally, vocationally and culturally. In its third year in Duval County, the program has partnered with female compliment programs at six of the twelve current sites. Amongst awards received during the ceremony included a custom backpack designed by BlendedDesigns, a custom 5000 Role Models of Excellence class ring designed by Rhodes Graduation-Jostens and over \$7,000 in scholarship funds. Lawrence Hills, District Supervisor for the initiative stated, "this was an opportunity for us to honor those students who have worked extraordinarily hard in the classroom and/or improved their citizenship in an effort to become a leader in their schools and community." Please visit the website at <https://www.duvalschools.org/5000Rolemodels> for more information on the selected schools for this initiative.

### Sollie Mitchell's 1<sup>st</sup> 100 Years

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### Friends and Neighbors of Sollie Mitchell:

In honor of Sollie Mitchell's 100th birthday, there will be a celebration of his life on June 30th. This great gentleman's incredible journey is an inspiration and should be commemorated. The celebration will take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

During his 35-year career with the railroad, Sollie Mitchell worked in numerous capacities which have included a Pullman Car Porter, Chair car attendant, white print operator clerk, accountant clerk and a driver for CSX Chairman of the Board Prime Osborne. He was a member of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and he also served as secretary of the Jacksonville BSCP under the leadership of A. Philip Randolph. Sollie Mitchell was also the chair car attendant on the historic Freedom Train for the 1963 March on Washington which was directed by Mr. Randolph.

He is also the oldest and third highest ranking mason in the state of Florida has been an active member and officer of the J. S. Coppock Lodge #190 since 1956. In 2010 the Sollie Mitchell Lodge #377 was named in his honor. A philanthropist for many causes, Sollie Mitchell has received awards that triple his years of life and on December 9, 2017, in recognition of his life works Sollie Mitchell received the Florida NAACP's Anthony C. Hill Labor Award.

To take part in the celebration we are asking the following:

- Table for 10** \$500.00
- Tickets** \$ 50.00 each
- Full page ad in Souvenir Booklet** \$100.00

The deadline for tickets and ads is May 21st.

To purchase tickets and/or ad, contact us at 354-0344. Checks should be made payable to APRI.

With much thanks and appreciation,  
Friends of Sollie Mitchell's 100th Birthday Committee

More information forthcoming on Sollie Mitchell's 100th Birthday Celebration. June 20 actual birthday, Special Events TBA. June 30 Birthday Celebration, Hilton-Doubletree Downtown 11:00 am-2:00 pm. Committee Chairman, Former Senator Anthony "Tony" Hill, labor and fraternal order committee members: Cynthia Appling, Jerome Ballard, Arthur Finley, James Gillard, Belinda Garmany, Brenda Kelly, James Kelly, Doris Orr-Richardson, Marsha Dean Phelts, Delaney Williams.



**AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY INC.**  
**CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH**  
Free Family Event with partial support from the City of Palm Coast  
**Saturday, June 16, 4 - 8 p.m.**  
**The Cultural Center - 4422 US 1 North**  
**Palm Coast, Fla. (386) 447-7030**  
DJ James Barnes \* Royal Pointe Dancers \* Frank Ross \* Tony Felton  
PC UMC Gospel Choir \* Heavenly Warrior Drummers \* Mt. Calvary Liturgical Dancers  
**Food + Bounce Houses + Service Providers + Vendors**

## JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION AT AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL SOCIETY

Palm Coast, Florida - The African American Cultural Society, Inc. will again host an observance of Juneteenth on Saturday, June 16, 2018 at The Cultural Center, 4422 US 1 North, Palm Coast, Florida. Juneteenth is the only nation-wide holiday celebrating the end of slavery in the United States. All are welcome to join this free cultural event partially supported by the City of Palm Coast. The day's program will begin at 4 p.m. including food, bounce houses, entertainment, service providers, and vendors. Parents are encouraged to bring children for an educational and entertaining experience. Freewill donations will be gratefully accepted at the observance and online at [aacspc.eventbrite.com](http://aacspc.eventbrite.com) to help defray expenses.

For more information, please contact Joseph Matthews, President, at 386-447-7030 or by e-mail at [Info@AfricanAmericanCulturalSociety.org](mailto:Info@AfricanAmericanCulturalSociety.org). Visit [AACSPalmCoast](https://www.facebook.com/AACSPalmCoast) on Facebook.



### What is the Edward Waters College Promise?

The EWC PROMISE is a commitment to our local county high school graduating students seeking a four-year bachelor's degree without financial and transportation barriers.

The Edward Waters College Promise Program is the **First Program** in the nation established by a four-year institution for a debt-free freshman year. It is the first Promise Program by a Historical Black College or University. #EWCisFirst

### Who is eligible to apply for The Promise?

The Promise is for graduating, first-time-in-college, high school seniors, who seek a degree in the fields of Biology, Business, Communications, Criminal Justice, Elementary Education, Mathematics, Music, or Psychology.

### How do you qualify for The Promise?

- Complete the EWC admissions application for the fall 2018 term. To apply, go to: [www.ewc.edu](http://www.ewc.edu). Contact: Admissions Office: 904-470-8200; [admissions@ewc.edu](mailto:admissions@ewc.edu).
- Complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid Form (FAFSA)** and be eligible to receive the federal Pell grant with the estimated family contribution (EFC) of zero. FAFSA website: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) and EWC's FAFSA code: **001478**.
- Receive an acceptance letter from the EWC Office of Admissions.
- Must be a commuter student.





Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex and Meghan Markle, Duchess of Sussex

## Prince Harry and American Actress Meghan Markle Exchange Vows in Blackest Royal Wedding Ever

By Lauren Victoria Burke

Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, an American actress with an African American mother, were married on May 19 after exchanging vows at St. George's Chapel in the Windsor Castle in England about an hour from London.

The ceremony was striking for its racial diversity in a royal family not known for it. The blend of African American and British culture noted by many onlookers resulted in a memorable ceremony with cutting edge aspects and several obvious historical firsts for the British royal family.

It wasn't just the entrance of tennis champion Serena Williams wearing Versace or Oprah Winfrey in a pink Stella McCartney dress and hat, it was the music, the style and the words spoken at the ceremony. Gone was the predictable stuffiness that often accompanies royal ceremonies; the wedding's diversity made the affair even more regal.

The bride's mother, Doria Ragland, stood nearby,

sometimes shedding tears, as the only blood relative on Meghan's Markle's side of the family to attend the wedding. Markle's father, Thomas, was too ill to attend the ceremony after a recent heart ailment.

Sheku Kanneh-Mason, a Black 19-year-old classic cellist from Nottingham England, who was the first Black musician to win the BBC Young Musician of the Year award in 2016, performed at the wedding. Kanneh-Mason performed "Sicilienne," "Après un rêve" and "Ave Maria" during a break in the ceremony when the royal couple had to depart the altar to sign a registry in a backroom and out of the sight of their guests.

During an address focused on the power of love, that BBC commentators defined as "spirited," Bishop Michael Curry, the head of the U.S. Episcopal Church, brought the Black church to the royal wedding. Curry began and ended his speech quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. saying, "Martin Luther King was right: We must discover love. And when we do, we will make a

new world."

Karen Gibson directed The Kingdom Choir in a performance of "Stand By Me." The Ben E. King song is a R&B standard from 1961.

"A Black woman in an updo directing a Black choir in 'Stand By Me' after a Black preacher gave a three-point sermon, complete with altar call, might be the official end of the United Kingdom. This is the real 'Brexit,'" tweeted former Obama White House official Joshua DuBois.

As the newly-minted British royal couple left St. George's Chapel with family following and entered a carriage after the ceremony, The Kingdom Choir again sang. This time it was an Etta James styled version of "Amen (This Little Light of Mine)," a 1920s gospel song that was popular during the Civil Rights Movement.

"Black bride. Black pastor. Black choir. Black cellist. African chants. Folks clapping and singing 'This Little Light of Mine.'" Even a horse named "Tyrone." This is the Blackest royal wedding evuh," tweeted Dr. Stacey Patton, as the church ceremony ended.

## Democrats Must Invest in Black Voter Outreach to Flip Red States to Blue States, Experts Say

By Jeffrey L. Boney

This November, all 435 seats in the United States House of Representatives and 35 of the 100 seats in the U.S. Senate will be up for grabs, making this one of the most crucial midterm elections in recent memory. Thirty-three of the 100 seats in the Senate will be regular elections, while the other two seats will be special elections, where the winner will serve a six-year term from January 3, 2019, to January 3, 2025.

If Democrats are able to successfully flip 23 Republican-held House seats, while holding on to all of their current seats, they will take back the House in 2018. Things are a lot closer in the U.S. Senate; Democrats only have to successfully flip two Senate seats to take the Senate back.

Every major election cycle there are always discussions about turning battleground states that have traditionally been "red states" into "blue states."

Here in the U.S., a state is referred to as a "red state" or "blue state" depending on the party that those voters in that state traditionally choose during elections. If the majority of voters consistently choose the Republican Party, then that state is deemed a "red state," whereas if the majority of voters consistently choose the Democratic Party, it is considered a "blue state."

In order for Democrats to turn traditional "red states" into "blue states" in November, they will need increased voter registration and strong voter turnout in the Black community to make that happen. Focusing on these two important factors could effectively flip battleground states like Texas, Nevada, Tennessee, Utah, Arizona, Mississippi, and others from 'red states' to 'blue states'. More importantly, there are 39 gubernatorial elections and many other local, county and statewide races that will also be impacted by this 2018 election.

While there are many U.S. House and Senate races that

already have a clear cut favorite before the race even begins, there are many other races in battleground states that could significantly change the overall look of Congress.

U.S. Congressman Beto O'Rourke (D-Texas) has become a formidable opponent in his extremely competitive race to unseat Republican incumbent U.S. Senator Ted Cruz in November. According to a recent Quinnipiac University poll that was conducted in mid-April, the Senate race shows O'Rourke trailing Cruz by only three percentage points, which is well within the margin of error. O'Rourke is also beating Cruz on the fundraising end, hauling in a reported \$6.7 million in the first quarter of 2018 alone.

A win by O'Rourke would completely change the political dynamics in the state of Texas, and would energize the Democratic Party in other states across the nation.

— Read the full story online at [theFloridastar.com](http://theFloridastar.com)

## May is American Stroke Month: What to Know Now

For patients experiencing ischemic stroke -- the leading cause of disability in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- the time it takes to receive treatment is critically important for avoiding irreversible brain damage. While getting evaluated by a specialist used to take up to several hours, new in-ambulance technology being tested by hospitals nationwide is helping patients get evaluated within minutes.

May is American Stroke Month, and a good opportunity to learn how a new technology known as In-Transit Telestroke (ITTS) may transform the field of stroke treatment. With ITTS, stroke neurologists can examine patients by using video technology from ambulances, decreasing the time between a patient's onset of symptoms and crucial treatment.

"In the case of strokes, every moment counts, and thanks to ITTS, we're able to deliver treatment faster than ever before," says Gary Belt, M.D., stroke neurologist at Atlantic Health System's Overlook Medical Center in Summit, N.J., a not-for-profit multihospital system and the first in the country to implement ITTS technology.

Recent research highlights the benefits of this technology: patients evaluated with ITTS in ambulances while in-transit to the hospital can be



treated with the brain saving drug alteplase 13 minutes faster than those patients not assessed until they are in the emergency department (referred to as door-to-needle, or DTN, time), according to a recent study by researchers at Overlook Medical Center and Atlantic Health System and published by the journal "Stroke."

The first-of-its-kind study assessed 89 presumptive stroke patients in ambulances over 15 months from January 2015 through March 2016. Atlantic Health System paramedics responding to neurological emergencies used an InTouch Xpress device -- a portable unit with a high-definition camera, microphone and screen -- allowing video communication with a stroke neurologist who performed a neurological evaluation of the patient while in-transit to the emergency department. Once the patients arrived at

the participating hospital's emergency department, the neurologist assumed care and, when indicated, administered alteplase, a tissue plasminogen activator (TPA) that breaks down blood clots to restore blood flow to the brain.

"We are constantly looking for ways to treat stroke patients as quickly as possible, as each passing minute of lost blood supply translates to more brain damage," says John J. Halperin, M.D., senior study investigator and chair, department of neurosciences at Overlook Medical Center. "Our observations suggest that pre-hospital evaluation with telestroke may provide a scalable, affordable way to speed stroke treatment, as well as more rapidly direct patients to the centers capable of performing the procedures that will serve their needs best."

— StatePoint



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Photo courtesy of Getty Images

# 5 Fun, Educational Summer Activities for Kids

## FAMILY FEATURES

Summer may be a break from formal education, but keeping kids excited about learning can be an easy way to keep them active and engaged instead of zoned out on screen time.

The National Summer Learning Association estimates that kids can lose up to two months of learning during the summer but involving kids in educational summer activities can prevent them from forgetting skills they learned during the school year.

Encourage your kids to keep learning outside of school with these fun and educational summer activities.

### Visit a Science Museum

Spend a rainy day enjoying a science museum, which offers hands-on experiences to make learning fun. Kids can build on what they've already learned and apply new discoveries when they return to school in the fall. Many museums offer

special prices for families, which makes it an opportunity for the whole family to bond. Once you get home, talk about favorite exhibits or lessons and ask kids to express those memories on paper in the form of a journal entry or colorful drawing.

### Head to the Zoo or Aquarium

At a conservation-oriented destination like an Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited zoo or aquarium, kids can learn about the importance of environmentally friendly practices, animal care and welfare and more. Families can also explore the unique challenges facing endangered species and discover how members are Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE). After learning about animals that need help, kids can visit [zebrapen.com/aza](http://zebrapen.com/aza) for fun games that reinforce what they learned. Kids can also draw their favorite animals, real or imaginary, and take a photo to enter Zebra Pen's AZA SAFE contest. Prizes include

zoo or aquarium tickets and items from the Zensations product line.

### Go on a Nature Hike

Hikes provide abundant nature lessons, giving kids a chance to get some exercise while exploring and appreciating their surroundings. Visit a national or local park to get some fresh air and learn about preserving nature. Along with a picnic lunch, bring along information about local wildlife and plants, and have kids search for each item on the list as a scavenger hunt. Back at home, test their memories by having them create a collage of all the things they found.

### See a Show at a Children's Theater

Experiencing live theater is a positive way to introduce kids to new cultural experiences. Because they're typically short in run time, most shows can hold the

attention of kids of all ages while conveying important life lessons. Pick a show with lots of interaction that can allow kids to stay focused and maybe even participate in the show. Acting out their favorite scenes, illustrating favorite characters or writing a new scene or different ending are all ways to keep the learning going after the curtains close.

### Join a Library Program

Special summer programs at libraries can give kids a chance to enhance their reading skills. Many local libraries offer contests that challenge kids to read a certain number of books during the summer and include a series of incentives for reaching certain milestones. The reading component is often supplemented with crafts and activities to make reading fun. Extend the challenge even further by choosing a favorite book and asking kids to write or draw a sequel that takes those characters on another exciting adventure.

## Capture Life's Moments



In addition to getting out and exploring new things, encourage daily writing, coloring and expression by asking kids to creatively capture their summer experiences. Teaching kids to write and draw about things they find fun is a great way to reinforce what they've learned and foster a love for writing.

Letting kids get creative begins with the right supplies. For example, Zebra Cadoodles and Starters come in different designs to get creativity flowing.

Make summer adventures more memorable by encouraging kids to capture them through these ideas:

1. Write about experiences in a journal or diary.
2. Mom and Dad can join in on the fun by writing or creating their own bullet journals using Zebra Sarasa Fineliners, Mildliners and more. Bullet journals can be perfect for planning summer activities.
3. Take photos to share with friends and family both online and in-person.
4. Draw pictures of the favorite parts of the day. An option like Zebra Zensations Colored Pencils are perfect for writing, coloring, sketching and expressing creativity for every craft and project. They're refillable and triangular-shaped, so they won't fall off the table.
5. Share experiences on social media.
6. Collect drawings, writing entries and photos to create a summer keepsake or scrapbook.

Find more ideas for capturing summer experiences at [zebrapen.com](http://zebrapen.com).

**Have a story you want to share?  
Email us at [info@thefloridastar.com](mailto:info@thefloridastar.com)**

## SPORTS

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# 5 Reasons The Braves Are in First Place

By FGS Sports

Raise your hand if you put money on the Atlanta Braves to be atop the NL East on May 25. While optimists believed the Braves would be much-improved in 2018, most believed 2018 would be a rebuilding year. Alas, just nine weeks into the season and Atlanta rules. It's time to admit that the Braves are for real, and it's time to look at the possible reasons why.

## Surprise Power

Heading into the season, one of Atlanta's biggest weaknesses appeared to be their lack of power. Besides Freddie Freeman, it was hard to believe any one on the roster was a lock for 10 or 15 home runs. However, the Braves are fourth in the National League with 57 home runs to date, and second in slugging percentage behind the Cubs. A perceived weakness has turned out to be a strength.

## Ozzie Albies

Albies has been the biggest contributor to Atlanta's



Ozzie Albies

surprising power this season. At age 21, he's one of the youngest players in the majors, but he's also been one of the best. Among National League players, only the Nationals' Bryce Harper has more home runs to date. He's driven in nearly as many runs as Freeman while also playing the role of table-setter, leading the league in runs scored.

## The Bullpen

For teams that are in the process of rebuilding, the bullpen is usually the last piece of the puzzle to fall into place. Having the third-highest

bullpen ERA in the NL last year, there were many questions surrounding the Braves' relief pitching this season. Until now, Atlanta has used six different relievers in 20 appearances in 2018, and all of them have an ERA under 3.00. Another good sign that their pitching is deep and they can rely on anyone coming out of the bullpen.

## The Nick Markakis Revelation

The Braves expected the 34-year-old Markakis to be a steady and consistent part of their lineup this season, but



Nick Markakis

they did not expect him to have arguably the best season of his career. Currently, the outfielder has an OPS (on-base plus slugging) over .900 and he has provided more than adequate protection for Freeman. If Markakis stays consistent and continues to produce, he has a fair chance to contend for a batting title and set a new career-high for home runs.

## Everyone Else

Atlanta is getting contributions from nearly everyone on the roster. Catchers Kurt Suzuki and Tyler Flowers have been more productive offensively and defensively than last season. Outfielder Ender Inciarte has struggled at the plate, but is still making an impact with his speed and defense. Ryan Flaherty and Johan Camargo have both helped to fill the void at third base. And, rookie Ronald Acuña Jr. has hit the ground running after his promotion to the big leagues. He has been impressive in left field and has added to the excitement surrounding this surprising, young team.

## In Brief

### NFL Players Must Stand During National Anthem

On Wednesday, May 23, NFL owners unanimously approved a new national anthem policy that requires players to stand if they are on the field during the performance but gives them the option to remain in the locker room if they prefer.

According to the new policy, teams will be fined if a player or any other team personnel does not show respect for the anthem. That includes any attempt to sit or kneel. Teams will also have the option to fine any team personnel, including players, for the infraction.

### Former Atlanta Hawks Coach Heads to Bucks

Former Atlanta Hawks head coach, Mike Budenholzer, is headed to the Milwaukee Bucks. Budenholzer, who had a 213-197 record with the Hawks, spent the last five seasons with the team and made the playoffs in four of his five seasons.

### 93-Year Old Hits Hole-in-One

Ben Bender, 93, had been playing golf for 65 years when he hit his first-ever hole-in-one on the 152-yard third hole at Ohio's Green Valley golf course last month. And then he said he would retire from the sport.

Bender never aced one until this final round. "I'd come close to some hole-in-ones, but this one was level on the green before it curved towards the hole and went in," Bender said. "I was in awe watching it. I played a few more holes, but my hips were hurting and I had to stop. It seemed the Lord knew this was my last round so he gave me a hole-in-one."

### WR Beckham Jr. Takes Batting Practice with Rays

New York Giants wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. showed up at Tampa Bay's batting practice against the Anaheim Angels last week in California. Beckham, who supposedly was invited by Rays' pitcher Blake Snell, wore a vintage "Devil Rays" jersey with Snell's name and number 4 on the back. Not only did Beckham show good form, but he launched a few dingers, too.

### We Hardly Knew Ya, José Bautista!

After only 12 games and 40 plate appearances, the Atlanta Braves released their third baseman, José Bautista, on Sunday, May 20. By Tuesday, May 22, he was starting in left field for the New York Mets. During his time in Atlanta, Bautista went 5-for-35, striking out 12 times with two home runs. Johan Camargo and Ryan Flaherty will platoon at third base for the Braves for now.

Florida, USF Will Play Three-game series beginning in 2022

Beginning in 2022, at the Swamp (aka Ben Hill Griffin Stadium), the Florida Gators and the USF Bulls have agreed to a three-game series in football.

The Gators also said the two schools will play 2023 at Tampa's Raymond James Stadium and again in Gainesville in 2025.

It should be an interesting matchup considering USF is now coached by former Gators' assistant coach Charlie Strong. UF's head coach Dan Mullen and Strong worked together for four seasons in Gainesville and were part of two national championship teams (2006, 2008).

UF will pay USF \$500,000 in 2022 and \$250,000 2025. USF will pay UF \$250,000 in 2023. If one of the schools bails out of the series, it would have to pay the other \$2.5 million for each remaining game.

### 2019 NFL Draft to be held in Nashville

The 84th NFL Draft will take place on April 25-27, 2019 in Nashville, Tennessee. The announcement was made at the annual Spring League Meeting in Atlanta.

"Following an exciting and successful event in Dallas, we're thrilled to take the NFL Draft to Nashville," said NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell. "We look forward to working with the Tennessee Titans, the City of Nashville, and the Nashville Convention and Visitors Corp to deliver a memorable celebration of football to our fans and incoming players."

### ESPN's World Fame 100 Rankings

ESPN released its third annual World Fame 100 rankings earlier this week and Tiger Woods is now sixth on the list (up four spots from last year). He is also in the top spot among golfers, with Phil Mickelson, Rory McIlroy, Jordan Spieth, Justin Rose, Sergio Garcia, Rickie Fowler and Michelle Wie all cracking the top 100.

ESPN compiles the worldwide popularity contest through a combination of Google trend score, social media following, and endorsement money.

For a second straight year, the top three (No. 1 Cristiano Ronaldo, No. 2 LeBron James, and No. 3 Lionel Messi) remained unchanged. Brazilian soccer athlete Neymar and tennis great Roger Federer rounded out the top five.

### Stakes Winner Justify Closer to Triple Crown

On Saturday, May 19, at Pimlico Race Course near Baltimore, Maryland, the Kentucky Derby winner, Justify won the Preakness Stakes by a half-length. This was Justify's second major victory in two weeks and is now headed for the triple crown when he competes at the Belmont Stakes on June 2. Long-shots Bravazo (20-1) and Tenfold (20-1) finished second and third respectively.

## Marlins Bats Go Quiet in 2-0 Loss to Mets

By Bryan Zarpentine

FLUSHING, NY - One day after scoring nine runs in a loss to the Atlanta Braves, the Miami Marlins failed to score in a 2-0 loss to the New York Mets on Monday, May 21 at Citi Field.

Mets starter Jason Vargas entered the game with a 13.86 ERA over his first three starts, but managed to keep the Marlins stifled for the first four innings. During the fifth, Miami put two men on base after a walk by outfielder Cameron Maybin and a single by shortstop Miguel Rojas. However, Vargas struck out center fielder Lewis Brinson and starting pitcher Elieser Hernandez to get out of trouble.

"Early on, I thought (Vargas') changeup had good depth to it," Marlins manager Don Mattingly said after the game. "We chased a few early,



FLUSHING, NY - Miami Marlins pitcher Elieser Hernandez throws a pitch against the New York Mets on May 21, 2018 at Citi Field. (Photo by Damion Reid/The Florida-Georgia Star)

I thought."

The Marlins threatened again in the sixth inning against the Mets' bullpen. Miami's second baseman Starlin Castro started the rally with a two-out single. After infielders Brian Anderson and

Justin Bour walked, the Fish had the bases loaded with two outs. However, former Marlins closer AJ Ramos entered the game for the Mets and struck out Derek Dietrich to keep the Marlins off the scoreboard.

Miami had one more chance

to scratch out a run in the eighth, as Castro tripled with two outs. Anderson followed with a hard line drive to left field, but Mets outfielder Brandon Nimmo made a diving catch to end the inning, leaving Castro stranded on third base.

On the mound, Hernandez had another nice outing for the Marlins, albeit in a losing effort. Making his second big league start, the 23-year old from Venezuela gave up just one run over five innings, with no walks and three strikeouts. The first and only run he allowed came on a third-inning double by Asdrubal Cabrera that enabled Mets shortstop Amed Rosario to score from first base.

The Mets tacked on an unearned run off Nick Wittgren in the seventh, and with a 2-0 cushion, Seth Lugo and Jeury's Familia closed out the game to seal the win for the Mets.

## WNBA: Atlanta Dream Defeats Chicago Sky, 81-63

By FGS Sports

CHICAGO - Guard Tiffany Hayes scored a team-high 22 points as she led the Atlanta Dream to their first victory of the season, 81-63, over the Chicago Sky on Wednesday, May 23.

The Dream (1-1) bounced back from a season-opening 101-78 loss with the Dallas Wings and managed to breeze through this game from the outset.

Hayes, who leads the Dream in scoring after two games, paved the way by shooting 4 of 6 from 3-point range. She made more 3-pointers than the entire Chicago Sky roster, which went 3 of 14 from beyond the arc.

"It's a working process for us," said Hayes after the game. "I'm really proud of how we responded from the loss and came out today and got the win."

The Dream outrebounded

the Sky 41-28 and tallied 48 points in the paint, compared to 36 by the Sky. Brittney Sykes scored 13 points, Elizabeth Williams had 11 and Angel McCoughtry added 10 for the Dream.

Allie Quigley had 13 points to lead the Sky (2-1). She was the only Chicago player to reach double figures as the Sky shot just 36.8 percent from the field and a season low of 10 points in the third quarter.



Brittney Sykes

Have a story? Email Debby Wong,  
Sports Editor at: debby@thefloridastar.com

## Stacey Abrams Thanks Supporters After Historic Georgia Gubernatorial Primary Win

## STACEY ABRAMS

## ELECTION NIGHT REMARKS – AS PREPARED



MAY 22, 2018

Good evening, Georgia. I stand here tonight grateful to the thousands of you who have joined me on this drive to history. We are writing the next chapter of Georgia's future. Where no one is unseen, unheard or uninspired. A Georgia where we prosper – together!

I offer my congratulations to Stacey Evans and her campaign and all of her supporters tonight for a hard-fought race. And I know... for the journey that lies ahead, we need every voice in our party – and every independent thinker in the state of Georgia – energized, and by our side to succeed, so I hope you will join our fight for the future.

But our mission is about more than success at the ballot box in November. Our mission is to see beyond the challenges that face us, to create a Georgia where our dreams and aspirations become real and lasting legacies. A state of excellent schools, with jobs that create wealth and opportunity, and good leaders who stand up for all of us. Because that is why we are here. To ensure that all Georgians... from farmers in Montezuma... to mill workers in Dalton know we value them. That educators in Sparta and airport workers in College Park know we see their efforts. That former prisoners across our state working towards more know we believe in their redemption. We are here to ensure that everyone who calls Georgia home has the freedom and opportunity to thrive -- to live their very best lives!

I am a product of the power of that mission. I am the child of a shipyard worker and a college librarian, who were called to become United Methodist ministers. A proud daughter of the Deep South. I grew up the second of six children in a family where we struggled to stay above the poverty line, but we never struggled to know what was right or to believe in our possibilities. My parents instilled in us the core values of faith, family, service and responsibility. Hard work is in my bones.

So is a deep respect for those who wake up early and come home tired but ready to read to their kids - or change clothes for a second job. And all those who are just getting by or are doing well but worry for the next generation. A respect for those who care for their loved ones – or who have earned their rest and retirement. A respect

for our service members, their families and veterans that call our state home. Our campaign, and our work, is for them and their security - as we shape the future of this state we love.

In this tough race to come, we can find it easy to forget about the solid ground beneath our feet. But we must remember we're in the state where the red clay gives life to generations of dreamers. The state where Martin marched on ballot boxes and challenged a nation's conscience. The Georgia that gave us the Godfather of Soul and the queen of the Met - and that sent a peanut farmer to the Oval Office.

Our state's rich, complicated history courses through our memories on nights like tonight. When the unexpected becomes truth, it reminds us of who we are – how we've stumbled and how we've flourished– and it commands that we embrace our obligation to live up to Georgia's tradition of pride and of promise, to remember our complex roots...

Together, we will shape a future with boundless belief and historic investment in our children at the core of every decision we make. That means affordable childcare for families and real pathways of opportunity from cradle to career. Because when all of Georgia's children have a chance to reach their potential, regardless of their zip code or their family's salary, we can reach our potential as a state – and unleash the full power of our people.

That's why public schools must remain the beating heart of Georgia – to propel our young people toward lives of security, happiness and achievement. But even as I speak here tonight, public education is under assault in our state, with our kids and our educators being told to do more and more with less and less.

As the state's 'Public Education Governor,' I will use every tool we have to ensure that we stop shortchanging our children – and sabotaging our futures. Our children deserve better than a basic education. They deserve excellence no matter where they learn; and, together, we will deliver.

We deserve an economy that works in all 159 counties, and gives Georgians the freedom to do more than just survive. We deserve a diverse and inclusive economy, one where everyone can succeed. That gap – between struggle and success – has too often been overlooked by our leaders.

Together, we will renew

the respect for the dignity of work in every field, sector and region of Georgia. Including the staff right here in this hotel, who made tonight possible. Everybody wins when we choose to honor hard work with wages you can raise a family on. We can invite corporations to our communities, and at the same time, invest in the thousands of small businesses that keep our neighborhoods alive.

I will be a governor who brings more than jobs to Georgia – together, we can build career pipelines in renewable energy, spur creativity through a growing entertainment industry, and increase the strength of our trade unions to grow an economy that lifts every Georgian. We can build an economy as strong and diverse as our citizens. A state where we can give our people license to dream and the opportunity they deserve to achieve.

Across Georgia, we are ready for more. I was down in Macon a few months ago, where I met Pam, a proud mother about to send both of her daughters off to college. One wants to teach, the other wants to study criminology. The one who wanted to be a teacher was a few months away from giving birth to her own child. Pam understood that for her daughter to have a brighter future, she would spend the next four years raising her grandchild. A choice she made readily, because she dreamed of more for her girls. She is determined that both her girls pursue degrees she never received.

Then I asked Pam about her dreams – beyond her daughters, beyond her grandchild, what did she dream for herself. And, honestly, she looked at me like I was crazy. Finally, Pam told me she'd been a cashier at the Piggly Wiggly for twenty years, and that's what she'd be doing for the rest of her life. So I asked again, what did she want for herself. She hesitated... and then told me that no one had ever asked her that. And finally she told me: 'There's a building down the road from my house in South Macon, and one day, I'd love to turn it into a daycare facility. To help young women like my daughter not have to give up on their dreams. Maybe even give them a new skill. And help kids get a head start.'

But, she told me, no one would ever loan her the money – because who was she to want so much? I'm running for governor because Georgia must invest in Pam, Inc. To see her dreams as vital and real and necessary and true. Because as excited as we may become when a Fortune 500 offers to come to Georgia, we can grow the Georgia 5000 by investing in our people and their solutions for our state. When they hire 10 more neighbors and serve a generation, we all rise.

With a governor who cares as much about Main Street, not only can Georgians like Pam succeed, but if we give them a chance... they can lift up their entire communities. When Pam and her daughters and her grandchild prosper – we are on our way to a future in Georgia that can inspire us all.

Together, we stand prepared to stand up for Georgians who believe they are in this alone. Single mothers sifting through mounting bills on the kitchen table... college grads battling against crushing loan payments that stand in the way of their ambition... Over the last

decade, I've traveled to rural towns full of anxiety as the ground shifts beneath them... We all know families battling crippling debt - and the very fear that an illness or accident may wipe them out financially – as they try to keep their loved ones safe and cared for...

To these families, and all Georgians I say: I'm with you. I've been there. I'm still there. And I'll never stop fighting for you. For Pam. For Georgia. I am running for you. Because your dreams matter to me – and we can do this better - together.

But we have work to do ... in too many ways, Republican leaders have failed these folks. By being too mean and too cheap to expand Medicaid, by jeopardizing our rural hospitals for political gain, they've put millions of Georgia families at risk. We can do better than that. I want to lead Georgia because I know we can do more: we can protect our healthcare - and safeguard our kids' education and their lives... Together, we can continue to fix our criminal justice system and begin to defend our Dreamers... Build the infrastructure that connects us to one another. Repeal campus carry and expand HOPE.

We can lead a stronger Georgia, a more compassionate Georgia, a bold and ambitious Georgia. We can show the old-guard something new – and fight together for the good of all. I want every Georgia family to have the freedom and opportunity to thrive. You

deserve nothing less, and I know our Georgia can deliver.

But to claim our victory – to write that next chapter and live those best lives - we have a lot of work to do. We have to reach out to those who do not believe their voices matter. Who have been disappointed again and again by promises made and never kept. Who live in counties crushed by poverty and neglect. In suburbs isolated from jobs and opportunity and sometimes, each other. In cities where lack of affordability makes it harder and harder to stay. In the next six months, we will work together to remake our Georgia.

With your help, we will register every last person we know – and we will talk to Georgians from all walks of life to engage them too. Because our campaign will be a coalition that reaches across backgrounds, sharing our constant belief in our capacity to win. And with your hands knocking and your feet walking and your voices speaking out, every Georgian we touch will understand the value and immense power of the vote.

Inaction can be contagious... but so can a passion for change. From our campuses to our neighborhood blocks to our senior centers, a wave is coming – and I know Georgians won't stand on the sidelines.

In the Book of Esther, there's a verse that reminds us we are born for such a time as this. A time to defend our values and protect the vulnerable – stand in the gap and lead the way. A time

to know that this democracy only works – when we work for it. That is what we have done tonight and that is what we will continue to do – all the way to victory in November.

Because we know the power of the possible in Georgia. A Georgia that elected Shirley Clarke Franklin and Brenda Lopez and Jason Esteves and Keisha Lance Bottoms and Melanie Hammett and Sam Park. A Georgia that sees diversity as our strength and acceptance as our birthright.

That's why when I ask for your vote—I'm really asking you to vote for yourself. For the people you know and love, the ones you work beside and worship with. For the Georgians you may never know, but whose fate is undeniably tied to your own. These are the people on my mind tonight. And that's who will be on my mind every day as I go to work for you as your next Governor.

So tonight, we celebrate... we rejoice and say thank you to all who got us this far... and tomorrow we hit the phones, the doors, and the streets to reach every Georgian with our message. This - is our time to build a Georgia where everyone has the freedom and opportunity to thrive... because our best lives are within reach. This is our moment, and this is our chance to lift up Georgia! And if we fight, if we push, if we work, we will win!

Thank you all. Now let's get it done!

## Women on the 2018 ballot are busting perceptions of motherhood and leadership

By Jill S. Greenlee

Associate Professor of Politics, Brandeis University

Motherhood is taking center stage in U.S. politics.

Sen. Tammy Duckworth, the first United States senator to give birth while in office has been seen on Capitol Hill with her newborn nestled in her lap.

Two Democratic gubernatorial candidates, Maryland's Krish Vignarajah and Wisconsin's Kelda Roys, made waves with campaign ads that, in addition to touting their capabilities as leaders, also show them nursing their babies.

A Democratic congressional candidate in New York, Liuba Grechen Shirley, was just granted permission from the Federal Election Commission to use campaign funds to cover the cost of child care while she runs for office.

Plus, women are running for office in record numbers this year. Among their many experiences, roles and identities, many are emphasizing being a mom.

What does this acknowledgment of motherhood tell us about U.S. politics today? As I have discussed in my work as a scholar of gender and politics, women running for office have not traditionally made motherhood central to their candidacies.

Here's why that appears to be changing.

### Mothers of young children

In the past, women who ran for office typically did not have young children. Research shows that women who are professionally best positioned to run for office are less likely to have children than men, and that female officeholders are more likely than their male counterparts to not have children.

If female candidates did have children, they were often adult children – making their role as a mother less intensive and less central to their personal narrative at the time of their candidacy. Scholars have shown that women who hold office at various levels of government tend to do so when their children are older.

Enter Hillary Clinton, whose groundbreaking presidential candidacy made motherhood central to her political appeals and policy agenda. While Clinton fit the traditional mold of a woman by running when her child was an adult, she made motherhood a major theme in her campaign. She spoke about her own experience of raising a child. She elevated the voices of other mothers and drew attention to their concerns.

And she relied on her own daughter, Chelsea Clinton – who gave birth to her second child just weeks before the 2016 Democratic National Convention – as a key surrogate for her on the campaign trail. By focusing on motherhood in so many ways, it's possible that her historic nomination may have empowered more women with young children to run for office.

### Negotiating motherhood

Previously, female candidates with children had to deftly negotiate their role as a mother, rather than fully embrace it. While being a mother fulfills a strong societal expectation associated with womanhood, social psychologists have found that motherhood may be at odds with public perceptions of what strong,

competent leadership looks like.

Moreover, women who highlight their children in campaigns may open themselves up to greater scrutiny. Voters may wonder, "Who is caring for your children while you are governing?"

These are the types of questions that Republicans Jane Swift and Sarah Palin faced during their political careers. These are questions that similarly situated male candidates do not receive.

Ironically, today, women without children may face the highest hurdle. There is some evidence that women running for office who do not have children are judged most harshly by would-be voters because childless female candidates violate traditional expectations of women.

### Running as a woman

Scholarship, that focuses on the issues that female candidates highlight and the types of voters they reach out to, suggests that making motherhood front and center may be a smart strategy. Scholars have found that in some electoral contexts, female candidates who highlight their gender and target female voters can build a strategic advantage.

For example, as the only woman running in the Democratic primary for the Maryland gubernatorial seat, Krish Vignarajah may distinguish herself from her six male competitors when she highlights her role as a mother. Research suggests she might build an advantage if she talks more about issues that affect women and spends more energy courting women primary voters, because these same approaches may be less effective for her male competitors.

### Risks and rewards

The current focus on motherhood in U.S. politics is a mixed bag.

Running "as a mom" may open some female candidates up to the negative impact of gender stereotypes. On the other hand, some recent research suggests that gender stereotypes may no longer hinder women in the ways that they previously have. Other scholars argue that while gender stereotypes shape perceptions of female candidates, many voters ultimately cast their votes for the candidate of their preferred party, making gender and its stereotypes less consequential.

Candidates who highlight motherhood risk oversimplifying their own complex motivations. They may end up perpetuating the myth that women – perhaps because of motherhood – are best at legislating on issues related to family life, thereby keeping them tethered to the home and hearth.

Moreover, images of motherhood seen in electoral politics often reflect just one form of mothering. They do not embrace many other forms of motherhood and mothering across racial, ethnic and other identity groups.

On the other hand, when we ignore motherhood altogether, we do a disservice to all women. And, importantly, we may perpetuate the myth that women cannot or should not, to paraphrase Rep. Patricia Schroeder, "have a brain and a uterus, and use them both."

Source: <https://theconversation.com>

# COMMUNITY

*Opinions, Announcements, and More*

*The views and information expressed in this column are not necessarily the views of the publisher or advertisers.*

NAACP Jacksonville Branch Presents

## THINGS BLACK PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW



The NAACP Jacksonville Branch will list in this column black facts and historical information. Also state, county and city contact information.



According to Tingba Muhammad of the Nation of Islam Research Organization (NOIRG) wasteful Black spending is rooted in slavery. Earlier this year, Minister Louis Farrakhan gave speech on the root of black spending behaviors and what black people need to do to correct some of these bad habits. According to the research 42 million Blacks have a spending power amounting to \$1.1 trillion, which gives each man, woman, and child an annual spending power of \$26,200 dollars. Black spend their money overwhelmingly with white businesses on the following products and services.

- |                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Tobacco                   | \$3.3 billion  |
| 2. Whiskey, wine, and beer   | \$3 billion    |
| 3. Non-alcoholic             | \$2.8 billion  |
| 4. Leisure time spending     | \$3.1 billion  |
| 5. Toys, games, and pets     | \$3.5 billion  |
| 10. Telephone services       | \$18.6 billion |
| 11. Gifts                    | \$10 billion   |
| 12. Charitable contributions | \$17.3 billion |
| 13. Healthcare               | \$23.6 billion |

Another school of thought is shared by blogger Matthew Corbin who wrote 5 *Reasons Why Black People Are Still Broke*. Here are Corbin's 5 reasons:

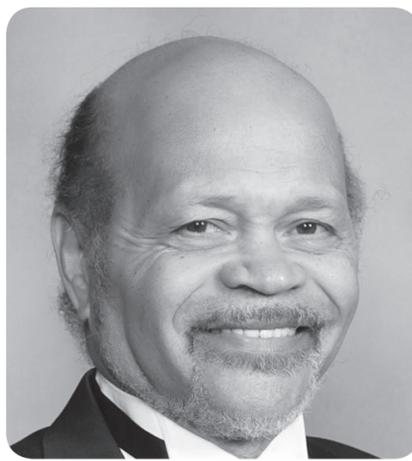
- 1 Black people spend more money than the make
- 2 Black people don't support black businesses
- 3 Black people don't save their money
- 4 Black people don't know how to invest
- 5 Black people aren't working towards getting out of poverty

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Dennis Wade  
Membership Chair

## PASSING



In 1995, a journalist I know was interviewing the First Lady of Virginia, Susan Brown Allen, wife of the new governor at the time, George Allen.

As related to me, Susan Allen began talking about her research into her ancestry with the aim of joining the Daughters of the American Revolution. When the reporter asked if the first lady had done any research on the governor's family, there was a hesitant response.

"You see," the first lady explained, "George's mother was born in Tunisia."

"In Africa?" the reporter responded, surprised.

"No, in Tunisia." Mrs. Allen answered.

"Yes, in Africa," the reporter said.

The reporter's take away from the conversation was very clear. George Allen's mother was born in Africa, which made her "African." And if George Allen's mother was African, didn't that make him an "African American?"

Racial pedigree for many "white" Americans is extremely problematic.

In the 1990s, when I was appointed by the court in Hampton, Va. to take depositions in divorce proceedings and recommend to the court whether a divorce should be granted, racial pedigree was a sticky problem for some "white" people who had to give sworn testimony before me.

Even though in 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the case of *Loving v. Virginia* that laws against interracial marriages were unconstitutional, many jurisdictions allowed parties to a divorce proceeding to swear that they were of the same race. This required under the old law to establish that the marriage had been legal in the first place. The logic was that if you had not been legally married, you could not be legally divorced and entitled to the rights that came with that. Keeping the assertion about race in the deposition testimony in the 1990s was legal nonsense because inter-racial marriages had been taking place legally in Virginia for more than three decades, but some die-hard white supremacist lawyers enjoyed having that language entered into the record for their white clients.

My way of quashing this foolishness was to ask the person stating that both parties were members of the white race to prove that assertion. I would explain to the person

claiming to be white that they had 32 great-great-grandparents, and I would require them to identify all 32 and provide proof of the racial identity of all each of them. I would also explain to them that they were required to swear that their testimony was true to the best of their knowledge. And if they could not prove that they had knowledge as to the truth of their testimony, they would be swearing falsely.

Given the "one drop rule," no "white" person in America can prove he or she is *not* Black, or that he or she *is* white.

Whiteness is a state of mind (and it could be argued that it is a mental disorder). But it has been used to justify the unjust enrichment of one self-identified group of people over others.

Race is ever present in the minds of Americans, whether in the minds of Black folks trying to survive in a racist society, or in the minds of white folk who self-identify as being normative in our culture. But racial classifications have no function as an element of physical science. Humans have intermingled too thoroughly and for too long.

As an example of this, it can be pointed out that while America is focused on the marriage of Prince Harry of England and Meghan Markle, one fact is being overlooked. Both Meghan and Harry have African ancestry. In 1995, PBS posted a report on its "FRONTLINE" website that documented that Queen Charlotte, Prince Harry's ancestor, who was married to King George, III, the King of England during the American Revolution, was directly descended from Margarita de Castro y Sousa, a member of the "black branch of the Portuguese Royal House."

Admittedly there seven generations between Prince Harry and Queen Charlotte, but in America, we have the one drop rule, which makes all these royals Black.

Queen Charlotte's lineage should not be startling given the long history of people with African Ancestry living in England. It has been documented that as early as 1511 a black trumpeter was paid to participate in a procession commemorating the birth of King Henry VIII's only son.

Throughout our history in America, there have been great efforts by some whites to ensure that Black folk are identified as the "other," meaning not like white folk. But the truth of the matter is that there is no "other." We are all connected by our humanity and a common ancestry that confounds notions of racial purity.

And because there are no "others," contrary to what white supremacists would have us believe, we must push back against the notion that whiteness and race are anything other than social constructs, engineered to enrich one group of self-identified individuals at the expense of those who are excluded from that group.

Simply put, most, if not all, white folks are just passing.

*Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.*

### VIRGINIA COLLEGE IN JACKSONVILLE TO HOST COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR JUNE 8

Local campus to participate in national event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PHONE: (904) 520-7400

"With summertime often comes a reminder to get outside and a renewed motivation for healthy living," says Campus President Don Slayter. "We are always grateful for the opportunity to support our Jacksonville community, and this June, we're excited to host the community while promoting something we are all passionate about here at Virginia College—personal health. As a campus, we are dedicated to encouraging one another as well as our neighbors toward healthy choices, and we hope everyone will join us to take a step toward a healthy lifestyle."

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – May 18, 2018 – Virginia College in Jacksonville will host a Community Health Fair Friday, June 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the campus located at 5940 Beach Blvd. The event is free and open to the public and will feature refreshments, a variety of health-related checks and activities for all ages. Additionally, the campus will hold a blood drive on site for those interested in and able to give blood. Attendees 18 and older can enter to win a pair of Jabra Elite 65t True Wireless Earbuds in addition to other prizes.

The event is part of Virginia College parent company Education Corporation of America's national Community Health Fair events being held at 59 other Brightwood College, Brightwood Career Institute and Virginia College locations throughout 17 states.

WHAT: Virginia College Community Health Fair

WHEN: Friday, June 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHERE: Virginia College in Jacksonville – 5940 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32207

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## Black Student Graduates With Two Degrees From Two Different Colleges... on the Same Day

Darrell Landon Kelly

Darrell Landon Kelly, a 24-year old African American from Cincinnati, Ohio, has proven his #BlackExcellence after graduating with two advanced degrees — one Master's degree and another law degree — on the same day but from two different colleges.

On Saturday, May 12, Kelly received an MBA from Xavier University's Williams College of Business, as well as a law degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

"Some kids do great. Some kids do wonderful. But when you go past great and get your master's and turn into a lawyer, you do like the Bible says: exceedingly and abundantly... That's where he went — exceedingly more than we ever asked for," Richard Layson, a family friend, said.

His mother, Lisa Kelly, is very proud of what her son has accomplished and how she supported him and his older sister Jazmone, who is also excelling in medical school.

"I was born to five generations of love, and I passed that on to them. If he's tall, it's because he's standing on tall shoulders. He's big because of the village, because of the friendships. He grew up with love."



Darrell Landon Kelly

Since grade school and high school, Kelly has been excelling both in academics and sports such as football, basketball, soccer, among others. He graduated from Walnut Hills High School at 16 and went on to the Mecca, Howard University, in 2014.

Definitely, excellence runs in their blood. His mother and his aunts all went to college and two of them have master's degrees. His grandmother who went back to college earned her bachelor's degree from Xavier at the age of 73.

Kelly initially heard of a program that would allow him to obtain two degrees at Howard. But he decided to go back to Cin-

cinnati to save money where he attended the University of Cincinnati and Xavier.

Six months before the graduation, he knew that both programs would have the graduation ceremonies on the same day. But he is very much used to juggling multiple tasks. In fact, he had two part-time jobs before, one as a legal extern at Baker & Hostetler LLP and another as a graduate assistant at Xavier.

Kelly is more than grateful for the support his mother gave him.

"It's time for me to stand and leave the nest... She's instilled me with all these tools and has guided me for so long," Kelly said.



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