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A Blue Wave Is Needed for Guys Like John

Florida is in desperate need of criminal justice system reform.

By Opio Sokoni, MSCJ, JD

John A. Bogins, a nonviolent, low level drug offender, is sentenced to thirty years in prison in the state of Florida even though he has never raped, killed or beaten anyone. When the Federal government began trying to make sense out of the harsh reality that the drug war has placed us in as a country, states like Florida remained stuck. At this point, the facts show that Blacks are treated harshly by police, judges and prosecutors while Whites are given alternative sentences or even worse, they are allowed to walk free - to go home and be with their families. Blacks do not use or sell drugs more than whites. However, Blacks are searched more, arrested more, jailed more and given harsher sentences for doing the same thing Whites do.

Jasmine Bogins is with her father John Bogins at a Florida correctional facility.

This is because, as one book titles it, there are black robes but white justice. The criminal justice system in the United States has been used as a tool of punishment, control and political defeat. The way in which the system works also creates negative economic issues beyond measure. It breaks up families and has pushed so many poor black communities and families onto life support.

Florida Star story about John was published several years ago.

When a parent goes to prison, children are often left in situations that can break apart their innocence. But, too many judges and prosecutors have shown their lack of care for children when they give parents 30 years in prison when a just sentence would have been treatment and wrap around services - you know, like Whites get.

This election may allow there to be some change. There is a person running for governor who is not afraid of talking about this. He understands the importance of restorative justice. But, what will he do if elected? This is no time to be a centrist. And, from what I have observed, Gillum is bold and will bring this issue home. There is also ballot Measure 4 (The Voting Restoration

*Please see Justice, **page 6***

CAMPAIGNING IN JACKSONVILLE

Florida Senator Bill Nelson, former Vice President Joe Biden, Tallahassee Mayor and Democratic nominee for Florida Governor Andrew Gillum, and Chris King of Orlando, Fla. Gillum running mate for Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket, visited UNF on Monday, October 22, 2018. See inside for story and pictures. **Photo by Frank M. Powell, III**

ACT OF TERROR

Explosive Devices Sent to Obama, Clinton, Waters, CNN and Top Dems

By Stacy M. Brown

Multiple suspicious packages were intercepted in various locations around the United States on Wednesday.

Those targeted include vocal critics of President Donald Trump and his administration policies.

Former President Bill Clinton and former presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, Former President Barack Obama, former attorney general Eric Holder and former Obama administration member John Brennan were all the targets of the packages that contained white powder and explosives.

U.S. Capitol police intercepted a suspicious package at a processing facility that was addressed to outspoken Trump critic and high-ranking Democrat, California Rep. Maxine Waters. "

"I have been informed by U.S. Capitol Police that my Washington, DC office was the target of a suspicious package that has been referred to the FBI. I am appreciative of the law enforcement entities who intercepted the package and are investigating this matter. I unequivocally condemn any and all acts of violence and terror," Waters said in a statement following news of discovery of the package.

Democratic New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo also was reported to have received a suspicious package as did CNN, which evacuated its New York City office. Earlier, a package also was sent to billionaire investor and major Democratic donor George Soros.

EWC HOMECOMING

Photo by Michael Jennings

Edward Waters College 2018 Homecoming King Kennard "Boogie" Mahone (EWC football linebacker), escorts his Queen Cheerleader Dominique Wallace, during last week Homecoming. See story and photo on page 12.

Six People Shot Near Jax. Jaguars Game

On Sunday, Oct. 21 six people were wounded in a drive-by shooting on A. Philip Randolph Boulevard and Pippin Street -- about a half-mile away from TIAA Bank Field, JSO said.

Ron Lendvay, director of investigations for the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, said several shots rang out about 12:35 p.m. Sunday on a boulevard in the stadium's general area and that five men and one woman were hit by gunfire. All were rushed to hospitals, and the sheriff's office tweeted that three of the victims were in critical condition. The victims ranged in age from their 20s to the 70s, according to Lendvay.

Jacksonville City Councilman Reggie Gaffney, who represents the district where the shooting occurred, told local media he was aware of crime problems in the neighborhood and urged a greater law enforcement presence there.

"In talking to the sheriff's department; they are going to beef up patrols ...We have a crime issue," Gaffney said. "Every other week and every other month out there, it's too much."

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GO VOTE

WE CANNOT AFFORD TO STAY HOME THIS ELECTION. GET OFF THE COMPUTER AND FACEBOOK AND GO VOTE TODAY!

Community News

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

El-Beth-El Development Center / El-Beth-El Divine Holiness Church 38th Successful Role Model Banquet October 17, 2018

Carla Page and Richard Lynn received the Mother Dean Hall Legacy Award 2018

2018 HONOREES: Dr. Diana L. Greene,Dr. Patricia S. Willis,Dr. Albert Chester ll,Jackie Simmons,Dr. Fabienne M. Naomi,Dr. Ephraim Riggins Pharm D.,Dr. Erta C. Livingston,Aaron W. Bebernitz,Hank Coxe Esq.,Chad Bullard,Paul Tutwiler,Dr. James H. Vick ll
Mother Dean Hall 2018 Legacy Award: Carla L. Page, Richard Lynn

2018 YOUTH HONOREES (each student received $100.00 Scholarship): Jacob Baxley, Kingston Robinson, Jordan Smith, Mahib Raham, Iyarie Andrea Eguigure, Zubair Fayyaz Alam, Angeliby Mary Escobales, Mariana Tejada, Shyanne Bryant, Kyla Hardy, Aniya London, Jelecia Ashanti , Ellena Haynes, Mileidy Vasquez, Yesmi Montoya

University of Florida Black Alumni to Host Florida-Georgia Tailgate

The University of Florida Association of Black Alumni Jacksonville chapter (UF ABA Jax) will host its first FREE Gator Nation tailgate and watch party on Saturday, October 27, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The event will take place at the Veterans Memorial Arena plaza, the official site of the University of Florida Alumni Tailgating. Our gathering will be set up near the main entrance doors on A. Philip Randolph Blvd.

This party is open to the public. BYOB and lawn chairs, play yard games, dominoes, dance, win Gator swag and more. Cherry's Seafood (The Red Truck) and My Season's Barbeque food trucks will be on site. We will have a TV to watch the game when it kicks-off at 3 p.m.

UF ABA Jax is offering parking spaces for purchase at $70.00 each, located within a 10 minute walk from our tailgate. Please buy in advance by emailing Marques Wilkes at ufabajax@gmail.com. We will not sell spaces on game-day.

OBITUARIES:

Leroy Smith Jr. passed away Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Rodney L. Brown passed away Wednesday, October 24, 2018

Kevin John Lavar Blair passed away Monday, October 22, 2018

Wadell Brown passed away Monday, October 22, 2018.

David Nathaniel Henry passed away Saturday, October 20, 2018. Memorial Service will be held, Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 11:00 AM, 4409 Soutel Dr, Jacksonville, FL 32208

Pierrette Leger passed away Saturday, October 20, 2018

Maxjulien Augustus Rowland passed away Saturday, October 20, 2018.

Floyd Johnson passed away Friday, October 19, 2018

Elois Powell passed away Friday, October 19th, 2018.

Deacon Joseph Roberts passed away Thursday, October 18, 2018. Viewing to be held Thursday, October 25, 2018 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at 6665 New Kings Road, Jacksonville, FL 32219 Funeral service to be held, Friday October 26, 2018 10:00 AM at Dayspring Baptist Church, 5654 Dunn Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32218

Helen Brit passed away Thursday, October 18, 2018.

Jackie Laverne "Toasty" Gilyard passed away Thursday, October 18, 2018. Funeral service will be held 2PM Saturday, October 27th, 2018 at the First Baptist Church of Yulee 86584 Pinewood Drive Yulee, FL 32097. Visitation will be held from 5:00 -7:00 PM, Friday, October 26th, 2018.

David Lee Thomas passed away Thursday, October 18, 2018. Viewing will be held Saturday, October 27, 2018 at 3031 Moncrief Road, Jacksonville, FL 32209 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Frankie Lee Holland-Stephens passed away Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Ruth Harris Irving passed away Tuesday, October 16, 2018

NEED HELP?
CITY SERVICES MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST
SHERIFF OFFICE (JSO)
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Non-Emergency: (904) 630-0500

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SOCIAL SERVICES (904) 630-0696
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DUVAL COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
(904) 630-1916
DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
(904) 390-2000
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
(904) 630-2469

Church Events:

New Bethelehem Missionary Baptist Church - 99th Church Anniversary Banquet Sunday, Oct. 28th 4:00 p.m. For banquet tickets, call (904) 764-5727. Location: 1824 Prospect Street, Jacksonville, FL 32208.

New Bethelehem Missionary Baptist Church - celebrates their 99th Church Anniversary beginning Nov. 8 - 9, 7PM & Sunday, Nov. 11th, at 11AM. Location: 1824 Prospect Street, Jacksonville, FL 32208.

Horns of Zion Ministries hosts their Annual Women's Shut-In on Friday November 9, 2018 from 9 PM to November 10, 2018 at 7 AM. Breakfast will be served following the Shut-In.

The Healing Place Ministries is hosting an empowerment workshop geared towards Christian women on Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 10:30AM. Event to be held at the Deerwood Library located 10599 Deerwood Park Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

Community Rehabilitation Center (CRC) - Hosts weekly food give away every Tuesday from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Location: 623 Beechwood Street, Jacksonville, FL 32206

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! Vote on November 6, 2018 in this mid-term election. Duval voters are poised to create history by coming out to vote. This election can change our communities, our families and our children's lives for the better. To register to vote or check your eligibility visit: https://www.duvalelections.com

Staff Directory

OWNER/PUBLISHER
Clara McLaughlin
MANAGEMENT
Rinetta M. Fefie
GENERAL MANAGER
Opio Sokoni
LAYOUT EDITOR
Denise J. Williams

Also, thanks to all the other important staff members & volunteers that are not listed here.

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"The Church Where Everybody Is Somebody"
Bishop Lorenzo Hall, Pastor

723 W. 4th St. Jacksonville, Florida 32209
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3575
Jacksonville, Florida 32206

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: Gospell75@aol.com
Website: Greaterelbethel.org

Come join Bishop Dr. Lorenzo Hall, Sr. every Wednesday & Thursday from 12:00 PM 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

New Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church
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"The church where God provides Hope, Help & Healing"

Rev. Dr. Marion A. Wise, Senior Pastor

H.O.P.,Hour of Power (Sunday School).....9:30 a.m.
New Member Class Sunday Morning.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship .....11:00 a.m.
T.N.T, Tuesday Night Teaching (Bible Study).....7:00 p.m.

Church (904) 764-5727 – Fax (904) 764-5901
Email: newbethlehemmb@att.net * Web: newbethlehemmb.com

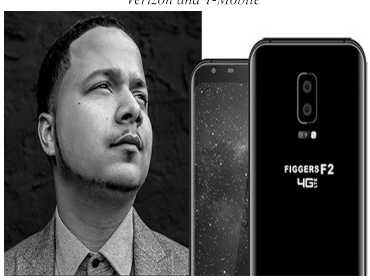
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Veterans Day Parade
November 12, 2018
Start Time: 11:00 AM
Downtown Jacksonville along Bay Street

Jacksonville Light Boat Parade
November 24, 2018
St. Johns River in Downtown Jacksonville
1001 Museum Cir
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Meet the First African American Entrepreneur to Develop His Own 4G LTE Smart Phone

Freddie Figgers, CEO and founder of Figgers Communications, owns the first and only Black-owned telecommunications firm competing head-on with AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile



Freddie Figgers is an inventor, computer programmer, software engineer, and entrepreneur. He is the youngest person in history to hold a FCC license, which allows him to operate his own cell phone company.

Founded in Quincy, Florida, his company, Figgers Communications, has already developed and is soon to released the Figgers F2 4G LTE smart phone. Competing head-on with the new iPhone and other popular smart phones, this elegant device has a 5.7-inch (18:9) JDI full lamination screen that is thin, bright and offers stunning visual effects. The silky technology innovation brings super-fast screen response speed, and has zero night time glare with blue light filter technology that is easy on your eyes.

It has dual camera technology with 13.0 megapixel capacity so that users can get high-quality photos. It also has a 5.0MP assistant camera that can create a sense of depth to your photos.

Even more, the phone's long battery life comes from the power-saving combination of the Super AMOLED display. The device comes with 5V2A quick charge technology, meaning that you can get an 80% battery charge after just 12 minutes of charging. Freddie's company does a lot more than just develop and sell smart phones. As a telecommunications company that is directly competing with other major networks, he also offers competitive plans.

The most basic plan is for Seniors and only costs $15/month, but the plan for unlimited talk, text and 4G data is $60/month.

Freddie was abandoned at birth, but was adopted by a loving family when he was just 2-days old. At the age of 9, he received a broken computer that he was able to fix within a week. When his father developed dementia and would often wonder off and get lost, Freddie designed a smart shoe for his dad with GPS tracking and a two-way communicator.

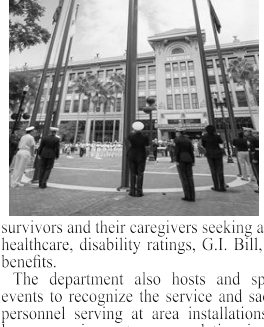
At the age of 12, he landed his first job as a computer technician working for the city of Quincy, Florida. At the age of 15, he started his own cloud computing services company.

By the time Freddie reached his 24th birthday, he had over 80 custom software programs designed, built, and executed. He has since sold every one of them.

All of this led up to him eventually launching Figgers Communications, the only Black-owned (and minority-owned) telecommunications firm in the United States that is competing with major networks like AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile. His company owns four utility patents and two design patents in the industry. For more details about Figgers Communications, visit www.Figgers.com

For more details about Freddie and/or to watch a 2-minute video about his story, visit www.Figgersinc.com

MAVD Doubles Number Of Veterans Served In First Three Years Of Curry Administration



The Military Affairs and Veterans department (MAVD) works diligently to meet the needs of members of the armed forces, veterans and their families, assisting them with filing claims and applying for social and educational assistance.

Staff assist veterans, their survivors and their caregivers seeking access to pensions, healthcare, disability ratings, G.I. Bill, and other earned benefits.

The department also hosts and sponsors city-wide events to recognize the service and sacrifice of military personnel serving at area installations, as well as the large, growing veteran population in Jacksonville and throughout northeast Florida.

In recent years, the Military Affairs and Veterans department has experienced tremendous growth and success in the services it is able to provide local veterans. In fiscal year 2014-15, the department served 4,917 veterans from Duval County. Three years into the Curry administration, the department served 9,980 veterans during fiscal year 2017-18, more than doubling the number of area veterans they serve.

JACKSONVILLE PREPARES TO HOST LARGEST NEUTRAL SITE COLLEGE FOOTBALL RIVALRY

No. 7 Bulldogs and No. 9 Gators to square off on Saturday, October 27

The City of Jacksonville will host the annual Georgia-Florida football game on Saturday, Oct. 27th 3:30 p.m. at TIAA Bank Field where the University of Georgia Bulldogs will take home field against the University of Florida Gators. The annual tradition has taken place in Jacksonville since 1933 and is considered to be one of college football's most significant rivalries.

"For nearly a century, this legendary game continues to be a long-standing tradition for our city that holds a special place in not only the hearts of Georgia and Florida fans, but many Jacksonville residents as well," said Mayor Lenny Curry. "Each year, Georgia-Florida week puts Jacksonville on the national stage; showcasing what an incredible city we live in. As possibly the greatest college football rivalry in the nation, it is truly an honor to host these two prestigious institutions right here in Jacksonville."

In celebration of the annual rivalry, weekend festivities will include not only the game, but other events and activities such as the 23rd Annual Georgia-Florida Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony presented by Ruth's Chris Steak House, RV City, and the Georgia-Florida Fan Experience.

The Fan Experience will kick off with a free Friday night concert in the Flex Field at Daily's Place featuring country music star Corey Smith. Opening for Smith is local musician Sol Rydah. On Saturday, the Fan Experience, opens from 9 a.m. until the end of half-time, featuring interactive games and sponsor activations.

For the first time in college football history, ESPN's College Game Day and SEC Nation will broadcast live from the same game. Georgia-Florida will host both pre-game shows on Saturday in the Sports Complex. College Game Day will bring hosts Rece Davis, Lee Corso, Kirk Herbstreit, Desmond Howard, David Pollack, and Maria Taylor to Jacksonville. The SEC Nation desk will feature hosts Laura Rutledge, Tim Tebow, Marcus Spears, and Paul Finebaum. This is SEC Nation's third consecutive year at the game, and this will be College Game Day's first time since 2005.

Fans are reminded that parking lots open at 8 a.m. and gates to TIAA Bank Field will open at 1:30 p.m. Ticketholders are encouraged to enter the stadium early to catch the game flyover performed by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels. Fans are also reminded that security will include metal detectors and bag searches. The TIAA Bank Field "Clear Bag Policy" will be enforced for the Georgia-Florida game.

The City of Jacksonville will host six Sideline Safety Zones presented by UF Health in the Sports Complex and throughout downtown Jacksonville. These zones will provide free assistance ranging from first aid, transportation, local information, directions, telephone service, cell phone charging stations, snacks, water and more.

Due to tailgating and weekend activities, game day traffic is expected to be heavy and fans are strongly encouraged to arrive five hours early. Fans should consider utilizing transportation alternatives such as the JTA Gameday Xpress or the River Taxi. Information regarding pricing, stop locations and other transportation services can be found online.

For a complete listing of weekend events and activities along with locations and hours of operation for the Sideline Safety Zones presented by UF Health and city transportation services, visit GAFLjax.com.

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office is committed to providing the most current public safety and traffic information for the 2018 Georgia-Florida weekend festivities. JSO coordinates with the City of Jacksonville, the University of Georgia and the University of Florida to provide the information fans need to make the most of the weekend. For live game day traffic updates, passengers are encouraged to follow JSO on twitter @JSOPIO.

STAY CONNECTED!
Official ESPN game day hashtag: #UFvsUGA
Traffic and Safety Updates
Twitter: @JSOPIO
Facebook: Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Weekend Activity Updates:
Twitter: @FLvsGA
Facebook: /FloridaGeorgia
Instagram: /FLvsGA

University of Florida:
Twitter: @GatorsFB
Facebook: Florida Gators Football

University of Georgia:
Twitter: @FootballUGA
Facebook: Georgia Football

This event is produced by the City of Jacksonville with the support of Allstate, Geico, UF Health, AT&T, Merrill Lynch, Bank of America, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, Carvana, Monster Energy, Lowe's, Rubenstein Law, RJ Young, PRI Productions, Jacksonville Aviation Authority, Fresh Cravings, Charleston Mix, and iHeartMedia

Len Mattiace Foundation is partnering with Duval County and Communities in Schools to Launch "Stop the Bullying Campaign"

The PGA TOUR contributed $8,000to the Len Mattiace Foundation Stop the Bullying Campaign. These funds will specifically be used to award a school each month for their passion for the campaign with $1,000.

The kids will be engaged every month, on different subjects within the campaign, to express different ways to bring the awareness out. Creating posters, service projects, class and community interactions are just a few options they will have. They will even be empowered to name the campaign in the month of November. We are all excited to change the mindset of the current condition that plagues so many kids so often. It's the Len Mattiace Foundation's position that no child deserves this type of treatment, and we are proud of Duval County Schools for stepping up to bring this issue to light.

Quote from Len Mattiace...."bullying and cyber bullying is worse now than ever due to the technology that's out there. And the ability for kids with a click of a button to damage others is so prevalent and common now. I am excited that my Foundation along with our county will be helping improve the situation, making a difference with every student and changing lives in our community. I also look forward to visiting different classrooms throughout each month, connecting with the kids, and together we will spread the message of unity, care and compassion for all." Coming up this December is our 3rd Annual Pro-Junior Championship at TPC's Sawgrass. Last year, we successfully raised over $13,000.00 to directly benefit The First Tee of North Florida. The year prior, we raised just over $10,000.00. With much enthusiasm, we embarked upon a journey for charity with hope of making this event an annual tradition to grow the game we all love.

It was an easy decision to choose The First Tee of North Florida to contribute our funds to because of its strong mentoring programs implemented to teach children life lessons and leadership skills with an opportunity to learn the game of Golf.

Initially, my team and I envisioned utilizing the game of Golf to create a fun atmosphere where some of the greatest to play the game can come together with our best rising juniors and college players. What better way to grow the game than to have our next generation pros spend a day on the greens with those who've already accomplished greatness? Not to mention an experience our juniors will never forget. With this strong collaboration supported by similar passions, The Pro-Junior Championship came to fruition.

Our unique format comprises 50 teams of two with a pro and a junior to make up each team. Every player pays an entry fee of $100-$150, which all goes directly to The First Tee of North Florida. Through corporate support, we raised $13,000.00 for the Pro Purse, $3,000.00 for a Pro's Skins game, and a Hole-In-One prize. Over 50 prizes were donated for our juniors to compete for; to include gear, equipment, gift certificates and various other gratuitous items. As the players finish on the course, a Luncheon awaits them in TPC's clubhouse, which consists of catered lunch, a guest speaker and a presentation of awards. Additionally, we host a Welcome Party the night before to kick-off the big event. Our Welcome Party and Luncheon truly compliment the event with a fun opportunity for our players to relax, socialize, and enjoy the game of Golf.

Additionally, I host a monthly golf event entitled "The First Tee Series" at different North Florida country clubs each time. This unique event matches local amateurs with local youth in a scramble format. Some of the youth come directly from The First Tee of North Florida. Our event on October 7, 2018 at the Ponte Vedra Country Club raised over $4,000 to go directly to The First Tee of North Florida. Our next event is scheduled to take place on November 4, 2018 at Timuquana Country Club.

Our Stop the Bullying Campaign is at the forefront of our mission. In an effort to counter the violence that's plaguing our Jacksonville youth communities, we partner with Duval County schools to create after-school programs for students that are fun, interactive, engaging, and stress-free. Not only are we keeping our youth off the streets after school, we are raising awareness about the stark bullying epidemic by creating a safe environment structured to educate. These programs implement strategic lessons to help students understand diversity, all the while instilling a mindsight of inclusion.

Tips for Turning History into Your Story

If you have ever thought about exploring your family history, now can be the perfect time as October is National Family History Month. To get started, these four simple tips can help you unlock new understanding and make meaningful connections. You can also consider sharing these tips with loved ones so they can join in on the fun, too.

Call Your Family

In almost every family there is someone who knows all about the familial tree and history. You might be unsure of the exact date your grandparents were married, but someone else may know. Building knowledge of your family history can be an excuse to call your mom, your grandma or even your great aunt. They likely have stories and photos you don't have and would likely be willing to share them.

Start a Family Tree

Starting a family tree can be the next step to learning about your family history. Building out your tree online can be simple with a service like Ancestry, which has been turning history into your story by transforming names into family and distant places into home for more than three decades. With more than 20 billion records and 3 million family history subscribers, the service provides all the information and tools you need in one place to make discovery fun and easy. Enter what you know about yourself, your parents, your brothers and sisters then add your grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. If you aren't sure about dates and places, make an educated guess then upload photos and stories.

Message Cousins

As you continue to explore your family tree, you may find other relatives have already researched pieces and parts of your family tree. Maybe a fourth cousin has your common great-grandparents in their tree with photos and stories about their lives. Find out what other information they might know or share what you know about your branch of the family tree.

Take a DNA Test

DNA testing has revolutionized the way people discover family history. With a service like AncestryDNA, you become part of a genetic network that includes more than 10 million people. In addition to providing ethnicity estimates, the service also compares your DNA to the people in the network and matches you to anyone sharing enough DNA with you to point to a recent common ancestor within the last 8-10 generations. To make those connections even easier to find, attach that family tree you built to your DNA results, and find more information at Ancestry.com.

(Family Features)
Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Edward Waters College Student Shines at FlBlogCon

Dennis Jackson, no relation to this author, has been honored with recognition at the recent Impact Biz Jax Business Expo winning finances to help him in starting his business "Primal Instinct." A clothing line he has dreamt about for years. He will soon not only graduate with his degree, but with a well established business. It is hopeful that business majors at other HBCUs follow suit. One of the testaments to a successful business program is how many students before graduation actually have a business.

Mr. Jackson has also had the opportunity to attend and participate in the recent Florida Blogging and Social Media Conference in Orlando, Florida held at the internationally known and respected Full Sail University.

The 8th Annual conference is attended by business owners, bloggers, social media experts, Podcasters and entrepreneurs. In a digital world where content is King and engagement is Queen HBCU students are learning that their online presence defines their ability to be hired or put on a waiting list. That list being the waste basket or recycle bin of computers.

Opportunities like FlBlogCon are important for HBCU students to create, build and establish their Brands and creating an online presence based on a foundation of business, collaboration and relationship building.

Business opportunities are important because they open doors for increased networking, business mentorship, collaboration and future educational and business connections.

Technology conferences for HBCU students are valuable even in some cases more than classroom engagement because they allow for real and relevant interaction with business professionals. Real people not videos or webinars.

Classroom instruction is great, as a past professor at Edward Waters College teaching Educational Technology, Social Media and STEAM, the lack of exposure can mean the difference in being able to "code switch," engage in conversations related to business and technology.

Lacking communication skills could deny HBCU students the chance to sit at the tables of industry, business, commerce and even to be employed.

HBCU students have opportunities today to participate in unique and blended learning chances that can provide employment before the student graduates with a degree.

Mr. Jackson being involved with Impact Biz Jax, and

networking with technology business owners like Aida Correa (Love Built Life), William Jackson (My Quest To Teach) and Sharon Johnson (The Madisel Group).

Aida Correa, business mentors small business owners on Social Media, web development and the artistic side of tech (STEAM). She is a speaker at national and international WordCamp conferences. With exposure, networking and connections HBCU students like Mr. Jackson can build their PLN – Professional Learning Networks and participate in many more conferences.

The growth potential allows for scalable development and increased visual exposure for future investments and expansion. HBCU students when the opportunity presents itself should acquire business mentors, advisors and expand their business partnerships.

The next technology event in Florida is WordCamp Orlando, Florida where William Jackson (My Quest To Teach) and Aida Correa (Love Built Life) are speakers and organizers for the KIDSCAMP. It is hoped that more HBCU students participate in events that HBCU institutions sponsor, invest and pay for their students to attend. Preparing them for the real world of business, technology, commerce, STEM and STREAM. WordCamp Orlando https://2018.orlando.wordcamp.org/

Impact Biz Jax https://myquesttoteach.wordpress.com/2018/09/05/impact-biz-jax-building-and-encouraging-business-ownership-and-entrepreneurialism/

YES ON
AMENDMENT 4
AND NO MORE

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DUVAL COUNTY EARLY VOTING
OCTOBER 22 - NOVEMBER 4

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS MAIN OFFICE
M-F 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sat-Sun 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
105 East Monroe Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

All Early Voting Sites below will be open
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

ARGYLE BRANCH LIBRARY 7973 Old Middleburg Road S. Jacksonville, FL 32222	PABLO CREEK REGIONAL LIBRARY 13295 Beach Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32246
BEACHES BRANCH LIBRARY 600 3rd Street Neptune Beach, FL 32266	REGENCY SQUARE BRANCH LIBRARY 9900 Regency Square Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32225
BRADHAM & BROOKS BRANCH LIBRARY 1755 Edgewood Avenue West Jacksonville, FL 32208	SAN MARCO BRANCH LIBRARY 1513 LaSalle Street Jacksonville, FL 32207
EWC SCHELL-SWEET COMMUNITY CENTER 1697 Kings Road Jacksonville, FL 32209	SOUTH MANDARIN BRANCH LIBRARY 12125 San Jose Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32223
GATEWAY TOWN CENTER 910 West 44th Street Jacksonville, FL 32208	SOUTHEAST REGIONAL LIBRARY 10599 Deerwood Park Boulevard Jacksonville, FL 32256
HIGHLANDS REGIONAL LIBRARY 1826 Dunn Avenue Jacksonville, FL 32218	UNF UNIVERSITY CENTER 12000 Alumni Drive Jacksonville, FL 32224
LEGENDS COMMUNITY CENTER 5130 Soutel Drive Jacksonville, FL 32208	UNIVERSITY PARK BRANCH LIBRARY 3435 University Boulevard North Jacksonville, FL 32277
MANDARIN BRANCH LIBRARY 3330 Kori Road Jacksonville, FL 32257	WEBB WESCONNETT REGIONAL LIBRARY 6887 103rd Street Jacksonville, FL 32210
MURRAY HILL BRANCH LIBRARY 918 Edgewood Avenue South Jacksonville, FL 32205	WEST BRANCH LIBRARY 1425 Chaffee Road South Jacksonville, FL 32221
OCEANWAY COMMUNITY CENTER 13215 Saga Avenue West Jacksonville, FL 32218	

ANYONE REGISTERED TO VOTE IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND LIVING IN DUVAL COUNTY MAY VOTE AT ANY EARLY VOTING SITE DURING EARLY VOTING.

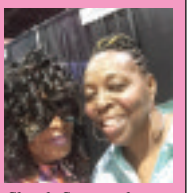
ELECTION DAY - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH 7AM -7PM

YOU MUST VOTE IN YOUR PRECINCT ON ELECTION DAY. FOR POLLING LOCATION INFORMATION: http://bit.ly/duval18

The Southern Women's Show

Recap through Photos | Photos by Opio Sokoni

The Southern Women's Show in Jacksonville took place on October 18 - 21 at the Prime Osborn Convention Center. It was fun days of food sampling, great jewelry deals, great hats and clothes, delicious cooking shows, creative fashion shows and lots more.



Shanda Suggs and guest
Photo by Shanda Suggs

CEO/Owner Clara McLaughlin at the Southern Womens Show in Jacksonville, Florida

EWC President's Distinguished Speaker Series features Activist and Poet Nikki Giovanni

Photos by Shanda Suggs

Stay Woke: The Edward Waters College (EWC) President's Distinguished Speaker Series commenced on October 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. on the EWC campus, featured world renowned author, poet and activist, Nikki Giovanni. The speaker series is a student and campus-wide academic and experiential engagement initiative intended to present a robust and varied collection of distinguished and scholarly speakers to the EWC campus community. The new initiative seeks to engage the views, ideas, and espoused ideals expressed by national thought leaders, authors, entertainers, activists, advocates, athletes, educators, business leaders, and opinion shapers who will be featured as a part of the series.

"The primary aim of the series is to broaden the perspectives of our college community and widen our students' overall academic experience beyond the classroom," said EWC President & CEO, Dr. A. Zachary Faison, Jr. "We intend for this vehicle to serve as a platform to provoke meaningful discussion, reflective and critical thinking, and provide enriching insight and illumination into the critical issues of our time," President Faison said.

The series is aptly titled 'Stay Woke,' as a timely colloquialism, evincing a focus upon the continuous expansion and development of the overall knowledge base of EWC's academic community while also interfacing intentionally with culturally-based issues and promoting socially conscious and socially responsible activism in a millennial and post-millennial era.

Accordingly, the incomparable Nikki Giovanni, is an award winning American poet, writer, commentator, activist, and educator. One of the world's most well-known African-American poets, her work includes poetry anthologies, poetry recordings, and nonfiction essays, and covers topics ranging from race and social issues to children's literature. She has won numerous awards, including the Langston Hughes Medal and 7 NAACP Image Awards. She has been nominated for a Grammy Award for her poetry album, The Nikki Giovanni Poetry Collection. Additionally, she has been named as one of Oprah Winfrey's 25 "Living Legends and authored three New York Times and

Poet Nikki Giovanni

Los Angeles Times Best Sellers. A frequent lecturer and reader, Giovanni has taught at Rutgers University, Ohio State University, and currently at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where she serves as a University Distinguished Professor.

"Indeed, it is truly an honor for EWC to welcome Dr. Nikki Giovanni as our inaugural speaker for this highly anticipated series and we anticipate that this exciting new initiative will accelerate the academic focus of our students, while creating an environment that attracts even more scholars to the educational experience at Edward Waters College" said President Faison.

Communications Scholars of EWC with Poet Nikki Giovanni

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POLLS ARE OPEN 7AM - 7PM

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Justice

Continued from page 1

Amendment) which, if passed, will restore rights to all felons – except for violent and sex offenders.

Some may remember the Three Strikes craze back in the 90s which added decades onto federal prison sentences for felons. States followed suit and introduced Habitual Offender Laws. Blacks are placed in prison for life for petty crimes. If you watch the documentary, "Slavery by Another Name," you will then get an idea of how long Blacks have been accosted by the criminal justice system. After slavery, the system was used to place Blacks into the system. Misdemeanors were made into felonies to trap, control and even make money for private industry. It was all done under the guise of law and order and upholding the U.S. Constitution.

The 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution allows those individuals to be slaves by law. "Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." It's a glaring loophole which has been used by racist police, judges and prosecutors to harm Blacks in multiple ways.

We need good people with great ideas. California will allow all non-violent prisoners under the Three Strikes Act to seek parole. As many as 4,000 non-violent prisoners will be eligible for release under the new regulations, which the state will begin crafting in January, the AP reports. John Bogins, and people similarly situated, would benefit from this law if implemented in Florida. An application for clemency was submitted for Bogins several years ago but Republican Governor Rick Scott does not have the heart to convene that board in a way that will free those who (they believe) will get out of prison and vote against him. The party that fought to end slavery is now filled with those who support the Jim Crow laws that keep people from voting, owning protection for their homes and living free from a criminal justice system that preys upon citizens. It is time for a blue wave if that means an end to a system that takes a nonviolent, loving father away from his daughter as the courts did John and people like him.

Rally attracts students, faculty and members from the community

Senator Bill Nelson, Former Vice President Joe Biden, Tallahassee Mayor and Democratic nominee for Governor For The State of Florida Andrew Gillum, and Chris King of Orlando his running mate for Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket UNF - Monday, October 22, 2018

Democrat Mia Jones, candidate for Duval Tax Collector

Lisa King's Chair of Democratic Party Duval County and State Senator Audrey Gibson

Tallahassee Mayor and Democratic nominee for Governor For The State of Florida Andrew Gillum, and Chris King of Orlando his running mate for Lieutenant Governor on the Democratic ticket, and Pastor Gundy of Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church. Jacksonville, Florida - October 18, 2018. Photo by Frank M. Powell III

Story by Hannah Lee
Photos by Frank M. Powell III

A crowd rallied for a blue change Monday afternoon at UNF. Close to 400 people attended the Florida Democratic rally in the Field House to promote a blue ticket this year for the ballot.

Mayor Andrew Gillum, U.S. Senator Bill Nelson, and Vice President Joe Biden headlined the rally and gave students and Jacksonville citizens a surge of confidence in their vote.

Doors opened at 2:15 p.m., however the line of people trailing around the Arena started around 1 p.m.

30 minutes after the scheduled time, local community democrats spoke to the crowd. Mia Jones, candidate for Duval Tax Collector, Tracye Polson, candidate for state representative, Donna Deegan, a former local news anchor, and Audrey Gibson, Jacksonville Senate minority leader, all spoke about how Gillum would be the best thing for Florida.

"As we get ready to countdown these next 15 days, we don't have time to sleep right now," Jones said. "We don't have time to eat right now. All we have time to do is to vote, vote, vote."

Nancy Soderberg, a UNF adjunct-professor and candidate for Florida's 6th District and Nikki Fried, candidate for commissioner of agriculture, also spoke to students.

"When we vote this year we are going to have our first African-American governor, we are going to have our first African-American attorney general, we are going to have our first female agriculture commissioner," Fried said.

Austin Belet, the president of UNF College Democrats introduced Chris King, Gillum's running mate. King encouraged people to not only vote Gillum and Nelson but for all the democrats that spoke at the rally.

After King, Nelson then Gillum got on the stage. While Nelson primarily focused on the environment, Gillum on a variety of issues regarding gun control, healthcare and education.

"When a parent drops their child off at school, they shouldn't have to worry about if when they pick their child up he will be alive or in a body bag," Gillum said. "Enough is enough is enough."

Gillum also stated that 44 percent of people in Florida cannot make ends meet.

The last person to show was former Vice President Joe Biden. Biden appeared not only to sponsor Nelson and Gillum, but also to uplift Democrats spirits.

"Pick your heads up," Biden told event-goers. "Take this county back. Take it back now."

Early voting started Monday as well. At the end of the day, the Early Voting site on campus received 88 votes.

Early voting ends Nov. 4 and the general election will be on Nov. 6.

Source: https://unfspinnaker.com/72114/top-story/rally-attracts-students-faculty-and-members-from-the-community/

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SPORTS

Falcons Outlast Giants Behind Ryan's 379 yards to Win

By Darrell Baker
The Florida/Georgia Star

The Falcons would rely mostly on Matt Ryan and the passing game to outlast the Giants in a slow-paced tug-of-war to win 23-20 Monday night in Atlanta. Ryan completed 31 of 39 passes for 379 yards and a touchdown. The Falcons also got a lift from kicker Matt Bryant's replacement, Giorgia Tavecchio who made field goals of 40, 50, and 56 yards. Julio Jones also had nine catches for 109 yards.

The Falcons would start the game with the first possession on a drive that didn't last long. After driving for one first down, the Falcons drive was shut down after Giants linebacker Olivier Vernon sacked Matt Ryan on third down of their first drive.

The Giants would then start on their own 19 after receiving the Falcons punt on 4th down. Giants quarterback Eli Manning who threw for 399 yards and a touchdown, would get the Giants offense clicking and down to mid-field where he would be sacked by Falcons defensive tackle Grady Jarrett for a 7-yard loss. The Giants were forced to punt two plays later.

This would be the theme throughout the first quarter with each team battling it out to a stalemate on offense and defense. The Falcons would eventually win the race to put points on the scoreboard late in the second quarter when Ryan who spread the ball around all night to multiple receivers, hit receiver Marvin Hall on a deep 47-yard pass down the middle of the field for a touchdown and the Falcons were up 7-0. The Giants were eager to answer on their next possession after the Falcons touchdown. Manning would connect with tight end Rhett Ellison on a 78-yard deep pass down the center of the field, setting the Giants up for their own touchdown, However, Manning would sacked again by Grady Jarrett, his second sack of the night. The Giants would have to settle for a 31-yard field goal by kicker Aldrick Rosas to cut the Falcons lead to 7-3.

Matt Ryan

Tevin Coleman

Provided photos/Atlanta Falcons

The Falcons wanted to keep their offense engaged with every possession no matter how much time was on the clock and with just 47 seconds left to play in the half, the Falcons would have success with a short scoring drive. Kicker Giorgia Tavecchio would increase the Falcons lead with a 40-yard field goal and the Falcons would lead 10-3 at into halftime.

Tavecchio would also nail a 50-yard field goal at the beginning of the fourth quarter on a 43-yard scoring drive the Falcons started as the third quarter ended. The field goal would increase the Falcons lead to 13-6 and the Falcons would again add to their lead on their next possession, getting a bit more breathing room to lead the Giants 20-6 after Tevin Coleman's 30-yard rush through a large hole opened up by the offensive line halfway through the fourth quarter.

The Giants just wouldn't go away, later in the fourth quarter; they would go on a 9-play 78-yard drive and come away with a touchdown after a 2-yard run by Saquon Barkley. The Giants would fail on a 2-point conversion attempt and come within eight points of the Falcons 20-12 lead with just under 5 minutes to play in the game.

The Giants, trailed all night and managed to get within three points of the Falcons in the late in the fourth quarter. With the score 23-12 late with just 9 seconds left on the clock, Manning would find Odell Beckham Jr. in the back comer of the end-zone for a touchdown. Barkely's two-point conversion would narrow the Falcons lead to 23-20 but with just four second left to play in the game, it was apparent the game was over.

Atlanta was good enough to just hold off the Giants for their second win in a row 23-20. The Falcons are now 3-4 and the Giants go to 1-6 dropping another game for the second week in a row.

Vikings destroy Raiders on Senior Night

By W. Earl Kitchings

When you invite a guest to your home, you usually make an effort to be extremely hospitable; however, the Vikings chose to treat Rickards with a barrage of ways to score, and a defensive effort that allowed only 25 total yards on the night en route to a 47-0 blowout.

Raines (7-1) scored three times in the first and second quarters, to make it 40-0 at halftime.

In their opening drive, behind the running of Brandon Marshall (10-112 yards), Raines found themselves in the Rickard's "red zone". On third down at the 7-yard line, Quarterback Barron Coates scored to begin the scoring parade. Seventeen seconds later, defensive lineman Jaren Wilson scooped up a fumble by Rickards quarterback Greg Winters, and returned it 25 yards for a touchdown that made it a 13-0 game at 9:21 in the quarter. Within a two minutes of that score, Coates found Davian Holliman (3 receptions – 31 yards) on back-to-back passes, with the Holliman taking the second pass 23 yards for the third score of the first period.

Photo by Frank M. Powell, III

For the entire first half, the Vikings wreaked havoc on the Raiders, limiting them in offense to minus 9 yards rushing and only 26 yards passing. Flexing their defensive will on the visitors, Rickards only crossed into Raines territory once [in the entire game].

Returning to the aerial assault for the Vikings, senior Matt Drayton (2 receptions - 80 yards) who had missed several games with an injury, found the end zone in the first 46 seconds of the second quarter, on a Coates 10 yard strike, extending the lead to 26-0.

The Vikings defense stuffed another Raiders drive once again, creating another punting situation. Fielding the ball at his own 34-yard line, punt return specialist Darvarius Thomas caught the ball on the bounce, darted through defenders on the right side of the field, cut back across the field, on a 66-yard return, which made it Raines 33-0.

Coates' (10-13-1, 156 yards, 3 TDs) final touchdown was a 10-yard strike to Jacourey Rivers just before halftime.

With a 40 point advantage, the second half was played under the 35 point rule, which means the game clock runs non-stop. With neither team scoring in the third and most of the fourth quarter, it appeared the game would end on that point. On their last punt of the game, the Rickards punt travelled about 15 yards, and thinking Raines would let it roll dead, the entire stadium was shocked! Thomas playing heads-up football, took another bouncing punt at the Raiders 35-yard line, in stride, going untouched for the final score, ending the game 47-0.

The next game again places Raines in the visitor's posture as they travel to Tallahassee to take on the Lincoln Trojans on Thursday night.

A win against another 7A school should guarantee the Vikings home field advantage throughout the entire playoffs. Should that happen, the odds are good that Raines could be returning to Orlando….for a repeat performance.

SPORTS OPINIONS

The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

Photos by Michael Jennings/The Florida-Georgia Star
Fans of the week: Business man, Frank Corleone chilling on the sideline with internet sensation Nino Brown.

By Michael Jennings
Sports Photo Journalist

Well, you got some GOOD news and some BAD news. I'm going to tell you the BAD news first because it's only going to get better. As of right now, the Jacksonville Jaguars are not playing GOOD football. They fell short again last Sunday 20-7 to the Houston Texans. The offense looked horrific; starting with a fumble in the 1st quarter by Blake Bortles. With a couple of dropped passes by WR Keelan Cole, it looked like the Jags lost the game before halftime for the third straight game in a row. It got so UGLY, head coach Doug Marone benched Bortles in the 3rd quarter and put in 2nd string QB Cody Kessler. "I just literally did it to try to get a dam spark from this football team….to put everyone on notice that they have to focus, and go out there and play better." said Marone.

I could tell the morale of the team was better getting a break from Blake, but overall, Kessler was all but mediocre getting his chance to captain the ship. Several media members reported shouting between players at the beginning of the post-game. The "open locker room" period switch makes it obvious that there is tension on the compound.

"Y'all walk in here, y'all see how it is in here, there is no secret what's going on in here right now", said All Pro corner Jalen Ramsey. "Ain't nobody gone say it, because we can't, it ain't no secret what's going on, it ain't right, right now"

The GOOD news is that this downward slope of BAD football can only get better. The GOOD news is next week the Jags travel to London (aka The Land of Milk & Honey). The Jags are undefeated in London and have never lost a game across those waters. The Jags travel to face the reigning Super Bowl Champs - the Philadelphia Eagles. It's just something special about that place to where this Jacksonville team, like Popeye, seems to always eat their can of spinach, punch Bluto in the chin, and get the win.

Even with all the athleticism you see from these gladiators out on that gridiron, the elite game of the NFL is 93% mental. Yes, the team whom had such high expectations at the beginning of the season is in disarray. But, you would be surprised the power that a nice big "W" will do to get that momentum train back on track and going in the right direction. This week we get to see the new latecomer to organization - Carlos Hyde. The Jags just recently acquired him from the Cleveland Browns. His angry style of running should blend in nice with the offense.

One things for sure, the Jags team must get off to a good start. Being outscored 57-0 in the 1st half of 3 consecutive losses must end. Maybe then Coach Doug Marone will let Blake Bortles off punishment and back to the starting position. The quarterback sets the climate of the team. With good plays, it will put some salt and pepper on the morale of this team and get us back in contention to win the AFC South.

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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.

Sojourner Truth Biography

Women's Rights Activist, Activist, Civil Rights Activist (c. 1797–1883)

Sojourner Truth is best known for her improvised speech on racial inequalities, "Ain't I a Woman?" delivered at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in 1851.

Sojourner Truth's Speech at the Women's Rights Convention

In May of 1851, Truth delivered an improvised speech at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in Akron that would come to be known as "Ain't I a Woman?" The first version of the speech was published a month later by Marius Robinson, editor of Ohio newspaper *The Anti-Slavery Bugle*, who had attended the convention and recorded Truth's words himself. It did not include the question "Ain't I a woman?" even once. The famous phrase would appear in print 12 years later, as the refrain of a Southern-tinged version of the speech. It is unlikely that Sojourner Truth, a native of New York whose first language was Dutch, would have spoken in this Southern idiom.

Even in abolitionist circles, some of Truth's opinions were considered radical. She sought political equality for all women and chastised the abolitionist community for failing to seek civil rights for black women as well as men. She openly expressed concern that the movement would fizzle after achieving victories for black men, leaving both white and black women without suffrage and other key political rights.

Sojourner Truth Library & House

The Sojourner Truth Library is located at the State University of New York New Paltz, in New Paltz, New York. In 1970, the library was named in honor of the abolitionist and feminist.

The Sojourner Truth House is a nonprofit organization sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ located in Gary, Indiana. Founded in 1997, the organization serves homeless and at-risk women and their children by providing shelters, housing assistance, therapeutic programs and a food pantry

When and Where Was Sojourner Truth Born?

Sojourner Truth was born Isabella Baumfree in the town of Swartekill, in Ulster County, New York. Truth's date of birth was not recorded, as was typical of children born into slavery, but historians estimate that she was likely born around 1797.

Family

Sojourner Truth was one of as many as 12 children born to James and Elizabeth Baumfree. Her father, James Baumfree, was a slave captured in modern-day Ghana; Elizabeth Baumfree, also known as Mau-Mau Bet, was the daughter of slaves from Guinea. The Baumfree family was owned by Colonel Hardenbergh, and lived at the colonel's estate in Esopus, New York, 95 miles north of New York City. The area had once been under Dutch control, and both the Baumfrees and the Hardenbaughs spoke Dutch in their daily lives.

Life as a Slave

After the colonel's death, ownership of the Baumfrees passed to his son, Charles. The Baumfrees were separated after the death of Charles Hardenbergh in 1806. The 9-year-old Sojourner Truth, known as "Belle" at the time, was sold at an auction with a flock of sheep for $100. Her new owner was a man named John Neely, whom Truth remembered as harsh and violent.

Over the following two years, Truth would be sold twice more, finally coming to reside on the property of John Dumont at West Park, New York. It was during these years that Truth learned to speak English for the first time.

Around 1815, Truth fell in love with a slave named Robert from a neighboring farm. The two had a daughter, Diana. Robert's owner forbade the relationship, since Diana and any subsequent children produced by the union would be the property of John Dumont rather than himself. Robert and Sojourner Truth never saw each other again.

In 1817, Dumont compelled Truth to marry an older slave named Thomas. Their marriage produced a son, Peter, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Sophia.

Early Years of Freedom

The state of New York, which had begun to negotiate the abolition of slavery in 1799, emancipated all slaves on July 4, 1827. The shift did not come soon enough for Truth. After John Dumont reneged on a promise to emancipate Truth in late 1826, she escaped to freedom with her infant daughter, Sophia. Her other daughter and son stayed behind.

Shortly after her escape, Truth learned that her son Peter, then five years old, had been illegally sold to a man in Alabama. She took the issue to court and eventually secured Peter's return from the South. The case was one of the first in which a black woman successfully challenged a white man in a United States court.

Sojourner Truth's early years of freedom were marked by several strange hardships. Truth converted to Christianity and moved with her son Peter to New York City in 1829, where she worked as a housekeeper for Christian evangelist Elijah Pierson. She then moved on to the home of Robert Matthews, also known as Prophet Matthias, for whom she also worked as a housekeeper. Matthews had a growing reputation as a con man and a cult leader.

Shortly after Truth changed households, Elijah Pierson died. Robert Matthews was accused of poisoning Pierson in order to benefit from his personal fortune, and the Folgers, a couple who were members of his cult, attempted to implicate Truth in the crime. In the absence of adequate evidence, Matthews was acquitted. Because he had become a favorite subject of the penny press, he decided to move west. In 1835 Truth brought a slander suit against the Folgers and won.

After Truth's successful rescue of her son, Peter, from slavery in Alabama, mother and son stayed together until 1839. At that time, Peter took a job on a whaling ship called the Zone of Nantucket. Truth received three letters from her son between 1840 and 1841. When the ship returned to port in 1842, however, Peter was not on board. Truth never heard from him again.

Fighting for Abolition and Women's Rights

On June 1, 1843, Isabella Baumfree changed her name to Sojourner Truth, devoting her life to Methodism and the abolition of slavery.

In 1844, Truth joined the Northampton Association of Education and Industry in Northampton, Massachusetts. Founded by abolitionists, the organization supported a broad reform agenda including women's rights and pacifism. Members lived together on 500 acres as a self-sufficient community. Truth met a number of leading abolitionists at Northampton, including William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass and David Ruggles.

Although the Northampton community disbanded in 1846, Sojourner Truth's career as an activist and reformer was just beginning.

In 1850, Truth spoke at the first National Women's Rights Convention in Worcester, Massachusetts. She soon began touring regularly with abolitionist George Thompson, speaking to large crowds on the subjects of slavery and human rights. Truth delivered her famous "Ain't I a Woman?" speech at the 1851 Ohio Women's Rights Convention. She continued to tour the state from 1851 to 1853, working closely with Robinson to publicize the antislavery movement in the state.

As Truth's reputation grew and the abolition movement gained momentum, she drew increasingly larger and more hospitable audiences. She was one of several escaped slaves, along with Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman, to rise to prominence as an abolitionist leader and a testament to the humanity of enslaved people.

'The Narrative of Sojourner Truth: A Northern Slave'

Sojourner Truth's memoirs were published under the title *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth: A Northern Slave* in 1850. Truth dictated her recollections to a friend, Olive Gilbert, since she could not read or write. William Lloyd Garrison wrote the book's preface.

Advocacy During the Civil War

Sojourner Truth put her growing reputation as an abolitionist to work during the American Civil War, helping to recruit black troops for the Union Army. She encouraged her grandson, James Caldwell, to enlist in the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. In 1864, Truth was called to Washington, D.C., to contribute to the National Freedman's Relief Association. On at least one occasion, Truth met and spoke with President Abraham Lincoln about her beliefs and her experience.

True to her broad reform ideals, Truth continued to agitate for change even after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. In 1865, Truth attempted to force the desegregation of streetcars in Washington by riding in cars designated for whites.

A major project of Truth's later life was the movement to secure land grants from the federal government for former slaves. She argued that ownership of private property, and particularly land, would give African Americans self-sufficiency and free them from a kind of indentured servitude to wealthy landowners. Although Truth pursued this goal forcefully for many years, she was unable to sway Congress.

Until old age intervened, Truth continued to speak passionately on the subjects of women's rights, universal suffrage and prison reform. She was also an outspoken opponent of capital punishment, testifying before the Michigan state legislature against the practice. She also championed prison reform in Michigan and across the country.

While always controversial, Truth was embraced by a community of reformers including Amy Post, Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, Lucretia Mott and Susan B. Anthony — friends with whom she collaborated until the end of her life.

When Did Sojourner Truth Die?

Sojourner Truth died at her home in Battle Creek, Michigan, on November 26, 1883. She is buried alongside her family at Battle Creek's Oak Hill Cemetery.

Legacy

Truth is remembered as one of the foremost leaders of the abolition movement and an early advocate of women's rights. Abolition was one of the few causes that Truth was able to see realized in her lifetime. The 19th Amendment to the constitution, which enabled women to vote, was not ratified until 1920, nearly four decades after Sojourner Truth's death.

SOURCE: https://www.biography.com/people/sojourner-truth-9511284

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Opinions, Announcements, and More

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MORE "BOOS," LESS "BOO-HOOS" ON HALLOWEEN

TIPS FROM FLORIDA'S POISON CONTROL CENTER IN JACKSONVILLE

Before the kids head out for trick-or-treating on Halloween, the Florida/USVI Poison Information Center – Jacksonville wants to remind you of a few tips so your holiday has more "boos" and less "boo-hoos."

"The most common calls we receive over Halloween are about glow sticks and glow jewelry," said Dr. Jay L. Schauben, Director of the Florida/USVI Poison Information Center – Jacksonville. "Kids play with them, bite them or break them open, and parents can panic. The main ingredient in the glow-in-the-dark products is mildly irritating to the mouth. Parents can give us a call at 1.800.222.1222 and our Specialists in Poison Information will tell you exactly what to do."

The poison control center in Jacksonville is offering advice to avoid potential Halloween "horrors":

Glow Stick Safety:

Poison centers receive twice the number of calls regarding glow sticks/jewelry in October than other months.

- Remind children not to chew or break open glow sticks or other glow products.
- Glow stick liquid is minimally toxic in small amounts.

o Can cause skin irritation
o Can cause mouth irritation and nausea if swallowed
o Eyes are especially sensitive to glow stick liquid

Costume Cosmetics and Face Paint:

The primary concern with cosmetics and face painting products is allergic reactions and skin irritation.

- Only use products intended for use on the skin.
- Test makeup on a small area of skin first (like an arm or leg) to check for a potential allergic reaction prior to applying it to the face.
- When applying makeup to the face, avoid the eye area.
- If makeup has a bad smell, throw it out – it could be a sign of contamination.
- Remove makeup and colored hair sprays before bedtime, to prevent eye and/or skin irritation.

Trick-or-Treating Tips

A few good reminders after the kids get home with their collection of candy.

- Inspect candy and toys to avoid choking hazards.
- Remind kids they should only eat treats that are in their original, unopened wrappers.
- Keep candy and chocolate up and away from pets. Candy with the artificial sweetener xylitol in it can be deadly for dogs.

Using Dry Ice Safely:

It's fun and adds to the spooky factor, but using dry ice incorrectly can lead to serious burns.

- Handle dry ice properly. Wear gloves to prevent frostbite.
- Don't place dry ice directly in punch bowls or cups. It can burn the mouth and throat if consumed.
- Don't store dry ice in an unventilated room. Don't close your car windows when transporting dry ice.
- Ingestion or skin exposure can cause significant damage.

Florida's Poison Control Centers are available 24 hours a day to provide free, confidential, non-judgmental information and treatment advice, including holidays. If you or someone you know has been exposed to a potentially harmful substance, call 1.800.222.1222.

For more information or to schedule an interview, the media may contact Brie Burge, Media Relations/Education Associate, at 904.244.7978 or burge@poison.ufl.edu.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

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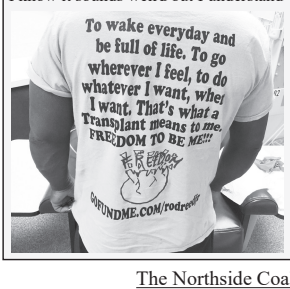
Hello, my name is Roderick Reed, Jr. I'm 34 yrs old, been on dialysis since 2013. I've been on the transplant list since 2014 but I'm on status 7, meaning I'm on the list but I don't move up until the funds are met to satisfy my doctors. I know it sounds weird but I understand it, the medication isn't cheap. Anyway, I do the walks, I advertise my GoFundMe account but I don't push it cause I know other people have their own problems and needs for that money. My family has helped me with getting things I need, housing, transport, food, and clothing because I've been on disability and can't really work in my field of choice. I've tried working but had to wait on my ticket to work to be able to be hired. I am still seeking gainful employment as I'm writing this. Just wanted to let you know a little more about me. If there is anything else you need from me just email. Thank you!
Email: rodreedjr@gmail.com



The Northside Coalition of Jacksonville

REACTION TO THE RECENT VIOLENCE IN JACKSONVILLE

The President of the Northside Coalition of Jacksonville says,"We must begin to use every tool at our disposal, to stop the violence and increase the peace."

Ben Frazier says closing the "Gun Show Loophole" is one of the tools that would reduce the availability of guns on the street.

Frazier also said "These violent incidents should also open the door to frank discussions and honest dialogue about the contributing factors of violence:

1. Lack of economic investment and development in disadvantaged neighborhoods
2. Unemployment and poverty
3. A Failing healthcare system
4. Problems with the public school system
5. Apathy for the plight of those who are severely affected

Frazier said, "We should be careful to not respond to the daily news of bloodshed and violence, with partisan politics and divisive in fighting."

"Our struggle is not about politics, but about saving lives and on that point, we should be united"

"Residents, public officials and those in the private sector, should strive to create a new partnership, in an effort to stop the madness," Frazier said.

Contact person: Ben Frazier, President NCOJ
Phone: (904) 662-2748, Reach us by email at northsidecoalition@gmail.com
www.northsidecoalitionofjacksonville.com

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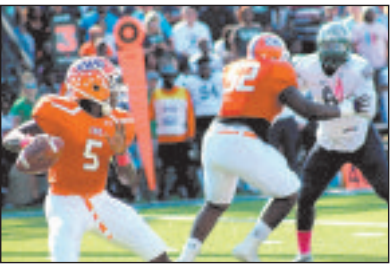


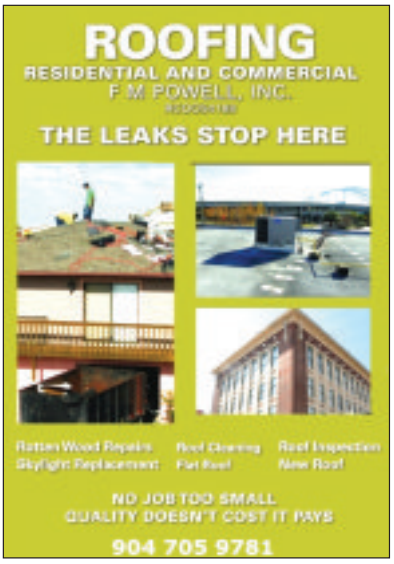
Photo by Michael Jennings/The Florida-Georgia Star
Edward Waters College quarterback Derrick "Noodles" Jones (5), standing strong in the pocket attempting a completion.

Pushing Toward Promise

By Michael Jennings
The Florida Star Photo Journalist

It was homecoming again for Edward Waters College (EWC) as the Tigers took on Ave Maria University (AMU) for a Mid-South Conference showdown. EWC jumped out to an early 14-0 lead off the legs of freshman running back #28 Jacquez Pelham. Momentum swung with only 25 seconds left before halftime. After an AMU touchdown, David Beeks fumbled a kickoff return to give the Gyrenes great field position deep in Tiger territory. This happened after a 17 yard TD pass put Ave Maria up 28-14. Tigers never really seemed to rebound as AMU gathered up 13 more unanswered points to give them a 41-14 victory over the Tigers. Even though EWC suffered a crushing defeat this 2018 homecoming, they have a lot to look forward to - being stacked with young, hometown talent. Coaches have been raving about #5 Derrick "Noodles" Jones from Lee High and #9 linebacker Elijah Spivey out of Raines. They both came on as true freshmen and made an immediate impact. EWC is led by head coach Greg Ruffin. He has given this football program a total makeover from last year's 0-10 record. The Tigers seem to be headed in the right direction. Next year homecoming will be played in a new renovated stadium in their own backyard. I'm not a prophet but I see a bright future for this football team. And, with the city's support, the Tigers will have a different swagger when we bring the boys back to Kings Road!!!

— Michael "Slim" Jennings is an NFL Super Bowl champion from Jacksonville, Florida



WE BETTER VOTE!

With this midterm, we must move from inheriting a legacy to leaving a legacy. Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Howard Thurman, Mary Singleton, Asa Phillip Randolph, Dr. Eartha M. White, and Ernest Hill, Sr. are all gone. We are their descendants and we must carry the torch in this election. We are our ancestors' wildest dreams; therefore, **NO MORE EXCUSES!** As a child growing up on the East side of Jacksonville, FL my mother would often call my brother and I to come home maybe once or twice. As mischievous kids, we would sometimes ignore her request. However, when she said "you boys better" come home", we knew then she was serious. **SO THIS ELECTION SEASON WE BETTER VOTE!** We want an increase in our wages, we better vote! We want an effective health care system, we better vote! We want improved public education for our children, we better vote! We want safer neighborhoods for our families, we better vote! We want an environment free from pollution and waste, we better vote!

We must leave a proud and enduring legacy for generations to come. Every hope and aspiration our forefathers imagined are on the ballot on November 6. Governor, State Attorney General, Tax Collector, United States Senator, United States Representative, are all races that will be on the ballot. The restoration of rights for ex-felons (Amendment 4) is on the ballot. As been demonstrated, elections have consequences. We cannot afford to "let the chips fall where they may."

There have been enormous sacrifices to get us in this season. Our grandchildren and great grandchildren will read about this time. We want them to feel proud and remark that there were great people who gave of themselves so that life would be better for us. In order to respect and honor their lives, we must re-mediate the course of dead end jobs, sub-par public education, and a healthcare system in disarray. We Better Vote! In the words of President Abraham Lincoln: "Elections are for everybody; however, if we turn our backs to the fire and burn our behinds, we will just have to sit on the blisters." I don't know about you, but I think blisters hurt and I would prefer not to endure that type of unnecessary pain. I say, no more sitting on the sideline or simply sitting out during an election.

It's our time now to inherit the legacy of our ancestors who voted in spite of not having numbers in their favor. Our job this election and beyond is to make our voices heard, demand equality for all citizens, and ensure our presence is felt throughout each and every county in the state of Florida. We must vote, we better vote! Everything our ancestors fought for and in some cases died for is on the line in this season of voting.

Si Se Puede.
Tony Hill
Former Florida Senator

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