

IN THIS ISSUE



**SOFLO LIVE/4C
MOTOWN**
Musical portrays
Hitsville energy



**METRO/1B
LAS OLAS**
Affordable
housing reality

NATION

Malcolm X: In death his vision lives

By **KYOTO WALKER**
Special to South Florida Times

The assassination of prominent Nation of Islam leader Malcolm X, 50 years ago, led to the rise of the Black Power Movement and left a legacy of redemption for generations to come, according to one local professor. Malcolm X was assassinated on Feb. 21, 1965. He was 39. Malcolm was a leader in the Nation of Islam, who are also referred to as black Muslims. He was reportedly shot to death by rival black Muslims. Malcolm was survived at the time by his wife, the late Betty Shabazz and their six children, Qubilah Shabazz, Ilyasah Shabazz, Malikhah Shabazz, Gamilah Lumumba Shabazz, Malaak Shabazz and Attallah Shabazz.

Initially a separatist, Malcolm was famously quoted saying, "We didn't land on Plymouth Rock. Plymouth Rock landed on us," a reference to the British pilgrims who allegedly landed at Plymouth rock, a boulder in Plymouth, Massachusetts, an area of America which was colonized by the pilgrims and subsequently the pilgrims forced Africans into slavery to help settle the land.

Malcolm was born on May 19, 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska. He dropped his surname, "Little," which he considered a relic of slav-



PLEASE TURN TO **MALCOLM/3A** Malcom X speaks of the plight of African Americans, Harlem, 1963.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MALCOLMX.ORG

PALM BEACH

Tutu: The second generation

By **DAPHNE TAYLOR**
Special to South Florida Times

Growing up the daughter of the esteemed Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Nontombi Naomi Tutu, a human rights activist, knows the perils of the racist apartheid regime - as she grew up in it. But she never imagined she'd experience anything similar here in the United States. But Tutu, the mother of one black son and two black daughters, says being an African-American male in America brings to her mind the racist regime that ruled South Africa for so many years. Tutu will be the featured speaker Friday, February 20, 2015, at the Raymond F. Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion in West Palm Beach. She will give the keynote address at the William M. Holland Scholarship Luncheon, sponsored by the black lawyer's F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr., Bar Association in Palm Beach County.

In an exclusive telephone interview with the South Florida Times, Tutu, 54, who lives in Nashville, Tennessee, was asked about race relations

in America. "I don't think it's a straight line in terms of race relations. I'm the mother of one black son and two black daughters. They've had experiences (here in the U.S.) I wish they'd never had. I grew up terrified of the police in South Africa. I prayed this would not be how my children would live. And now I have to tell my 17-year-old son to do certain things and act a certain way if he's stopped by the police. He is viewed as a threat because he is a 17-year-old boy in black skin!" she declared. "In that way, we have not moved very far in race relations here in America."

Furthermore, Tutu says many believed it was the end of racial problems in America when President Barack Obama became the first black president. But in reality, she says it was just a beginning. "I was able to vote in that election and it was very important," she recalled of the momentous occasion. "My



Nontombi Naomi Tutu

PHOTO COURTESY OF UDEL.EDU

PLEASE TURN TO **TUTU/2A**

BROWARD



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROWARD COLLEGE

BOARD ROOM: From left to right: Professor Rudy Jean-Bart, Dr. John Glenn, Attorney George Odom Jr., Matthew B. Beatty, Dr. Percy Ricketts, Nevilon Meadows participate in the forum at Broward College South Campus.

From the block to the board room

By **KYOTO WALKER**
Special to South Florida Times

PEMBROKE PINES — Breaking down economic and educational barriers that impede the growth of young black males is imperative for their success, according to Rudy Jean-Bart, an assistant history professor at Broward College South Campus. Jean-Bart organized a panel discussion recently to address the challenges black males face including racial profiling, lack of career opportunities and self-esteem.

The goal of the panel discussion was to generate ideas to help young black males succeed as a part of an initiative called, "From the Block to the Board Room." The forum entitled, "Where Do We Go From Here?" was held at Broward College's Performing Cultural Arts Theatre at the Judson A. Samuels South Campus, 7200 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines, Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Panelists included John Glenn, an assistant professor of English at Broward College South Campus, George Odom Jr., assistant public defender for Broward County, Matthew B. Beatty, the director of communications for the Miami Foundation, Percy Ricketts, a psychotherapist and the founder of the Men's Mental Health Center and Nevilon J. Meadows, founder of Men Under Development, Inc., a community organization that works with at risk males in Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

Jean-Bart said that the panel discussion specifically focused on what could be done as a community to help African-American youth, particularly males, succeed. "Our young black males consistently face many obstacles," he said. "It is important that we get together and dialogue about some of the pitfalls that life will bring their way."

PLEASE TURN TO **BLOCK/2A**

MIAMI-DADE

Georgia Jones-Ayers, fearless community legend, dies at 86

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**
Special to South Florida Times

When nine-year old Sherdavia Jenkins was shot and killed in 2006 while playing with a doll near her family's apartment in Liberty Square, Georgia Jones-Ayers was attending a community meeting at a nearby church. As soon as she heard the news, she left the church, stopped a passing car and had the driver to rush her to the crime scene. Officers attempted to block her from entering the family's home - until she announced her name.

"The crime tape was lifted and she was allowed to go in," said Carolyn Boyce, Ayers' cousin who recounted the story.

Ayers' influence with the police department and with the community rested on her strict "right is right, wrong is wrong" approach that, combined with a staunch fearlessness, earned the respect of people from all walks of life and on both sides of the law. Miami-Dade Commissioner Barbara Jordan said, "Georgia Jones Ayers was the true definition of courage and commitment."

Ayers died in her sleep Tuesday morning after being given what her son, George Jones, called a clean bill of health after a doctor's visit a week ago. "Her illness was her age," he told the *South Florida Times*. She was 86.

Ayers built a legacy of helping first time offenders through her Alternative Program, although she was also known for her ability to effectively mediate between the community and the police department, especially when times were tense.

During the 1980 McDuffie Riots, Ayers attempted to restore calm by venturing into dangerous areas that the police were afraid to enter.

"When other leaders could not stabilize the community, Georgia would step in as the peacemaker and bring calm to turbulent situations. Georgia was well loved by this community and will truly be missed," said Jordan.

Her son, George, said that his mother was "a mouthpiece for the community," and that although

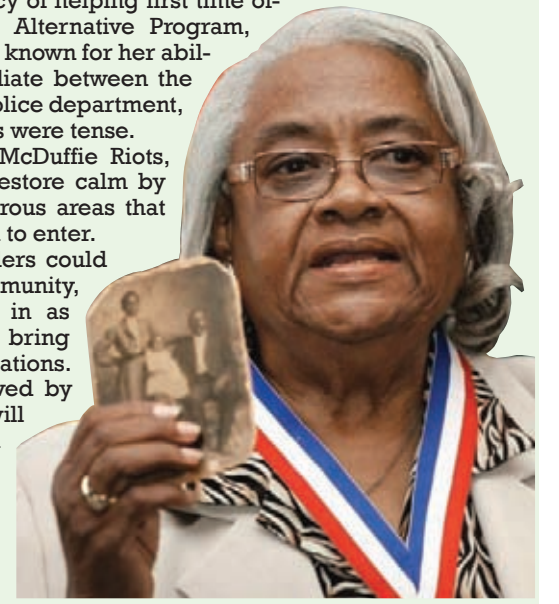


PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGIA JONES

PLEASE TURN TO **AYERS/2A** Georgia Jones Ayers

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Survival of black males considered

BLOCK, FROM 1A

Ricketts said that black men need a forum to express their concerns about the manner in which they are perceived and treated.

"I think it is important for us as a community to engage in activities such as the (panel discussion) in which men in general, but especially black men, can get the opportunity to express their concerns and get feedback from other community members," he said. "As a black man, and as a psychotherapist, who has been working very closely with other black men for almost two decades, I think that many black men today feel marginalized and disrespected in many areas of their lives. They feel invisible, that they have many reasons to be angry."

Marcus D. Davidson, senior pastor at New Mount Olive Baptist Church in Fort Lauderdale, expressed similar thoughts that there are many unresolved emotions that could become volatile, especially in light of the George Zimmerman acquittal and two grand jury decisions not to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson and NYPD officer Daniel Pantaleo, both white, who killed or were instrumental in the deaths of unarmed black men Mike Brown, 18 and Eric Garner, 43, respectively.

"Many people are hurt, angered and in pain regarding the deaths and rulings of the courts," he said. "There is a need for the voices of the people to be heard."

The church held a similar discussion in December entitled, "The Holiday Peace Community Forum," which included panelists from local clergy, politicians, education and youth, as well as Tracy Martin, the father of slain unarmed black teenager Trayvon Martin, to address concerns of black men dying at the hands of law-enforcement. "We are encouraging people in our communities to become more involved," Davidson said. "We can do so by consistently voting, attending (community) meetings and demanding that laws be put in place to protect us all."

Ricketts said that he thinks many believe accountability and justice are not being served in these cases.

"Many believe that events throughout the United States, in which a number of young black men lost their lives, serve to affirm a widespread belief among this group that the same thing could happen to anyone of us or our children," he said. "And that the ones who are responsible



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROWARD COLLEGE

Marnino Toussaint performing a poem

for such heinous acts, will never be held accountable."

Davidson said he hopes the community forums and discussions will bring people together.

Glenn said he thinks the panel discussion at Broward College revealed the sense that people as a whole are all stakeholders in the condition of this society and its citizens, black men or otherwise. "It's necessary to articulate ways to enrich and empower ourselves," he said. "And if nothing else, discussions like this stimulate our intellectual appetites. Most would agree that's a starting point for growth."

Jean-Bart said that there are barriers that impede black males and their ability to achieve personal and academic success. He said that the panel discussion may be useful in producing solutions to overcome these barriers. "(There is) Ferguson, high incarceration rates, high (high school) dropout rates and a host of other social factors that confront black males." "If there is economic development in our neighborhoods, then the desire for education is going to come. There's a need for the black businesses in our neighborhoods to create internships to give our young men and our young women in general an opportunity for employment to prepare them for the future."

Leadership informed by compassion

AYERS, FROM 1A

she retired in October, people continued to call her for help. He said it was not unusual to meet new people at their house who soon became like family because of their relationship with his mother.

Ayers lived in District 2, represented by Miami-Dade Commission Chairperson, Jean Monestime, who said that her program, "hailed as a model, has impacted hundreds of lives throughout Miami-Dade County and allowed many of them to become productive citizens of our community."

Tangela Sears said that Ayers was a close family friend, having attended school with Sears' late grandmother, Beatrice Sears.

"She knew me before I knew her," said Sears, whom Ayers affectionately referred to as 'Lil Bit.' Sears said that Ayers served as a mentor for her, but was so much more. "She always stressed to me that I had to be prepared and could not be afraid when I went into court," said Sears, who like Ayers, advocates for first-time non-violent offenders in court.

Born on Oct. 21, 1928 in Miami, Ayers was said to have an encyclopedic knowledge of black history, especially Miami's black history. The area of Miami that is now known as Allapattah was called Railroad Shop Colored Addition when Ayers lived there as a child. In 1947, her family and the rest of the community were removed from their homes and businesses by the city government after the School Board bought land to construct a school and park for white children.

Ayers founded the Alternative Program with Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Tom Petersen, now a senior judge. Theirs was a 40 year friendship that began in Liberty City.

"She always worked to befriend and be allied with the police department, the prosecutor's office and everyone else. Not everyone could do that but that was a skill she had. When Georgia Ayers walked into a meeting everyone paid attention," Peterson told The Miami Herald. Due to disrepair and constant break-ins at its previous location, a new home for the program has been secured on the grounds of the Miami-Dade Regional Juvenile Justice Center on Northwest 33rd Street and 27th Avenue.

Ironically, Ayers became involved with the criminal justice system after turning her own son into the police.

Sears said that she would refer to that decision often when reminding people of her allegiance to upholding justice.

Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson is among those mourning Ayers' death. "My heart is heavy today. A strong, passionate voice in our community has



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE JONES

Georgia Jones Ayers

been silenced. The disenfranchised found a voice through Georgia Jones-Ayers. She dared to make a difference and didn't care who objected to or disagreed with her remarks," said Wilson.

"Mrs. Ayers was one of Miami's most influential civil rights activists who worked tirelessly to guide troubled young people away from the criminal justice system and encouraged them to lead productive lives. Her work as the founder of the Alternative Programs will always be remembered as well as her contributions to Miami-Dade County's history," said Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez.

Wilson said that the best way to honor Ayers is "by continuing to fight injustice everywhere."

In addition to her son, George, Ayers is survived by son, Cecil Ray Jones, daughter Debra Taylor, nine grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. Services are pending.

Her history helps define her vision

TUTU, FROM 1A

concern was the idea that this was going to be like a magic bullet and that all of racism is eradicated. In reality, it was only the start of a process, but not the end. In some ways it has brought out the worst in some people. We still have not properly dealt with racism as a country."

Tutu says the level of disrespect for the President and his office by Congress is an outrage. "I join many in being very distressed at the disrespect shown President Obama. The level of disrespect is unconscionable. It also disrespects the office of the presidency. It's actually setting up a precedence of disrespect. It's a clear statement of how you view the presidency of our nation. It's not that I want a color-blind world," she clarified, "but that we recognize the humanity in all people. My hope, my prayer, my work is to say that we clearly have a problem. Let's at least start the conversation," she pointed out.

Recognizing the sheer humanity in all people is the legacy she believes her father leaves with us. Archbishop Desmond Tutu, now 83 and retired, spent the majority of his life fighting apartheid and fighting for humanity for all. "His legacy is one of bringing to our attention

over and over again our shared humanity. In the final analysis, every human being is made in the image of God. His legacy is in recognizing the total humanity of all. If we could just start from there, we would all be better off," she said of her

and share our differences and our similarities, our shared dreams." She has taken high school groups, undergraduates, graduate students and other groups. "It's important for South Africans to get to know Americans and for Americans

to get to know South Africans. Why is this important? Because we have a direct impact on each other, and it's important that we not see each other not just as caricatures in the newspaper or on TV. It's important that we know each other's humanness."

Tutu is looking forward to her trip to Florida to share her life's work against global oppression and her story with the audience at the 14th Annual William M. Holland Scholarship Luncheon on Friday, February 20. The luncheon starts at 11:30 am and will be held at the Cohen Pavilion at the Raymond F. Kravis Center, located at 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Tickets to the scholarship luncheon are \$100 for the general public and \$50 for the Judiciary and are available online by visiting www.cunninghambar.org or by contacting Nadine White-Boyd, Esq. at 561-626-4700.

Since around 2000, Tutu has also put together trips to South Africa in order to bring Africans and Americans closer together. "I want people to know



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MOSAIC GROUP

Naomi Tutu



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Nation

Celebrating the life of Malcolm X 50 years later

MALCOLM, FROM 1A

ery, according to information from, <http://www.biography.com/people/Malcolm-x-9396195>. Malcolm articulated the concept of race pride and Black Nationalism in the 1950s and 1960s, according to the site.

Reportedly, detractors called Malcolm a racist and a militant because of his early teachings that blacks had the right to defend themselves against lynching and other atrocities that had been perpetrated against blacks by white people. He publicly referred to white people at that time as the enemy. Malcolm urged his followers to defend themselves, "by any means necessary," according to the website, <http://www.history.com/topics/black-history/Malcolm-x>.

Rudy Jean-Bart, an assistant professor of history at Broward College South Campus, said Malcolm X was a seminal figure in American history whose story is worth discussing because it reflects the power of redemption. "The story of Malcolm X is one of redemption, of promise, of courage and of passion," he said. "The importance of Malcolm X's assassination is that though it took away the physical life of one person, it gave life to the Black Power Movement."

Jean-Bart said Malcolm's courageous efforts helped his visions to live on. "Malcolm X without a doubt was the biggest inspiration of the Black Power Movement,"

he said. "When he died, there were those who felt sorry about the loss of such an important figure, but they also knew that his vision must be carried on."

Jean-Bart said Malcolm's love for his people superseded his love for his own life because he knew he was facing the possibility of death, of someone killing him. "That's courage," he said. "That's impactful. That's transformative."

Community activists Edith Bush said that the time Malcolm spent in prison, where he was introduced to the Muslim teachings, is a testament that anyone can change a negative course in life.

"It's important that people remember Malcolm X because he did a complete turnaround (with his life)," she said. "He went to Mecca and foreign countries to learn about what it meant to be a Muslim."

Bush said in light of tragic events happening today, such as the shooting deaths of three Muslim students in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, it is important to remember Malcolm's legacy even more. "The recent murder of the Muslim students shows that these issues still exist," she said. "Racism still exists, for religious reasons. Malcolm's life should be expounded on because it is up to us to bring out the positiveness of African Americans who made a tremendous impact on our lives."



PHOTO COURTESY OF URBANSPLATTER.COM

PULLMAN NEIGHBORHOOD: Initially constructed to house workers of his railcar company, George Pullman's model community is one of Chicago's most unique neighborhoods.

Senators, congresswoman celebrate Pullman designation

CHICAGO (AP) — Members of Illinois' congressional delegation on Tuesday were celebrating news that President Barack Obama will designate part of Chicago's Pullman Historic District as a national monument. The move will make the area on the city's South Side a part of the National Park System.

The Pullman neighborhood was built by industrialist George M. Pullman in the 19th century for people who worked at his state-of-the-art factory, where they built luxurious railroad sleeping cars. The neighborhood also was the birthplace of the African-American labor movement. Disgruntled Pullman porters, who served sleeping car passengers, organized the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters union in the 1920s.

Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin joined Republican Sen. Mark Kirk and Rep. Robin Kelly in saying they look forward to Obama making the Pullman area a historical landmark.

"As Chicago's first national park, Pullman's 135 years of civil rights and industrial history will be protected and enjoyed for generations to come," Kirk said. "This new national park will breathe new economic life into this community, bringing up to 30,000 visitors and more than \$40 million each year."

Last year, Durbin, Kirk and Kelly introduced legislation to create the Pullman National Historical Park.

"I look forward to welcoming all the new visitors to my district to see the national treasure that is Pullman," Kelly, in whose district Pullman is located, said in a statement.

Pullman is already designated a national historical landmark district, a state landmark and a city landmark.

Homes in the neighborhood were built almost entirely of brick and constructed in Romanesque Revival or Gothic architectural styles, including mansions for Pullman executives and row homes rented to workers. Although most of the original factory buildings are gone, much of the 12-block neighborhood is intact. The Pullman Works administration building and clock tower, which survived a fire and have been rebuilt, serve as a landmark, along with the 1881 Hotel Florence.

The National Parks Conservation Association said an urban national park in Chicago would "bring new stories to the National Park System." And the National Trust for Historic Preservation called the site "one of America's most significant historic places."

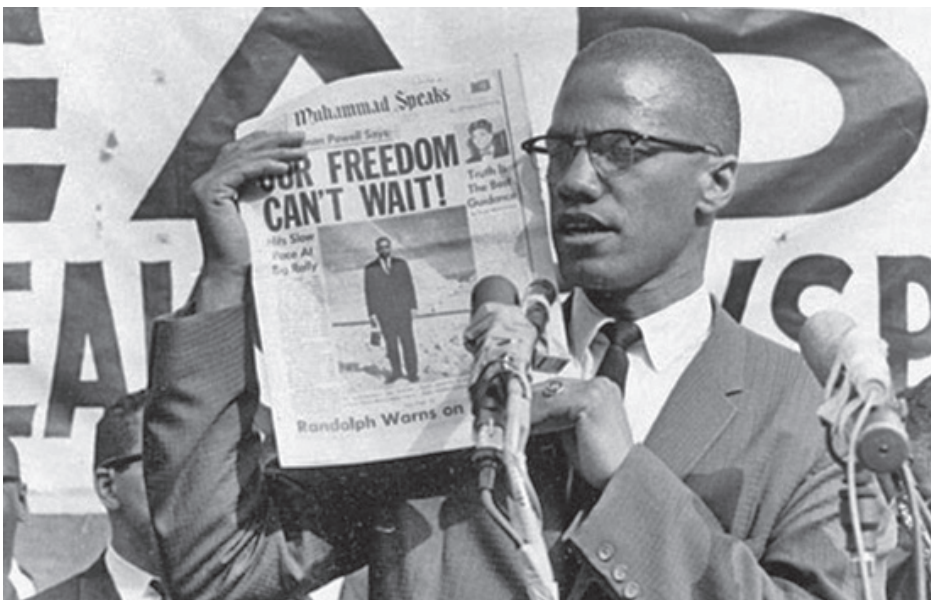


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Malcolm X, 1963.

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Caribbean



Bruce Golding

Ex-Jamaica PM testifies before panel examining deadly raid

By DAVID MCFADDEN
Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Former Jamaican Prime Minister Bruce Golding testified Monday that he personally knew an underworld boss who ran a notorious slum fiefdom from his parliamentary constituency but stopped communicating with him roughly three years before the U.S. sought his extradition.

Testifying before a fact-finding commission examining a bloody May 2010 raid by security forces, Golding said he “cut off all communication” with Christopher “Dudus”Coke in December 2007 when he was informed by police that gangsters were seeking refuge in his slum stronghold. As a West Kingston community “don,”Coke

had long acted as an ad hoc civic leader at the same time he led the feared “Shower Posse”crime gang.

Golding said he was “not aware”if other officials had any conversations with Coke after the U.S. requested his extradition on gun and drug trafficking charges in August 2009.

The U.S. Justice Department had described Coke as one of the world’s most dangerous drug barons. But Golding’s administration resisted the extradition request for nine months, arguing Coke’s indictment relied on illegal wiretap evidence. The stance strained relations with Washington, which questioned Jamaica’s reliability as an ally in the fight against drug trafficking.

When Golding’s administration reluctantly dropped its resistance to the extradition, the May 2010 hunt

for Coke in West Kingston killed at least 76 civilians over a couple of days. The country’s former public defender has said 44 of those may have been unjustifiable homicides. One soldier was killed.

While Golding acknowledged that Coke was a “strong supporter”of his Jamaica Labor Party and was an influential figure in his West Kingston constituency, he asserted Monday that his administration’s objections to the extradition were solely based on the merits of the legal case.

“It proved almost impossible to convince persons, the society at large, that the legal and constitutional issues we were pursuing were not a facade for protecting someone who was connected to the Labor Party,”Golding testified.

At the time, Golding went so far as instructing a Labor Party insider to retain U.S. lobbyists to contest Coke’s extradition even amid reports that loyalists were stockpiling weapons to prevent his arrest. The entire episode led to Golding’s resignation as leader in 2011.

For decades, symbiotic relationships between political parties and underworld figures have been the rule in Jamaican slums called “garrisons,”which were separated into areas loyal both to the dons and one of the island’s two main political factions.

Golding’s testimony on Monday comes two months after the fact-finding commission was convened. The panel of two retired judges and a university professor is supposed to present a report and recommendations to the governor general. It’s not yet clear whether any judicial proceeding will follow the testimony.

During Monday’s testimony, Golding also said he was unaware of any plans by the military to use mortar shells during the West Kingston raid. He testified that Maj. Gen. Stewart Saunders told him no mortars were used. However, after denying it previously, the Jamaica Defense Force acknowledged in 2012 using mortars during the operation.

Stalks of Sensimilla

By CALIBE THOMPSON

Jamaicans revel in the fact that we have trademark exports. In fact, I believe many other islands revel in being associated with some of these too. Reggae music, sprinters and jerk chicken are likely the most prominent, Marcus Garvey and dreadlocks, far less acknowledged by the mainstream.

One of the things we are most renowned for is the weed, the ganja, the herb. Even those of us who do not appreciate the stigma that’s been associated with it all this time, secretly feel a sort of pride of ownership when Jamaican marijuana is referred to.

But now that the US is moving toward legalization of sensi, the world will likely begin to imagine the manufacturer of the stuff looking less like a slim, muscular, middle aged Rasta man living in the mountains of the Real Rock, and more like a white man in an Armani suit. Nothing against white men in Armani suits. It’s just that as one writer reflected,



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

America has been incarcerating young black men, destroying their lives for a meager spliff, while now a bunch of white men are poised to profit from becoming mass market traffickers.

Likewise in Jamaica, for decades, natives who have been fighting to have the herb legalized have been persecuted and vilified by the government and security forces. Now with a nod from the US, our herb farmers

will likely be taken advantage of and grossly underpaid for their precious product, while our Armani wearing friends will reap the overwhelming rewards. There are some in Jamaica fighting to ensure that isn’t the case, that the Jamaican entrepreneurs whose suits look more like a baked in tan from several hard years’work are not overlooked for their payday. But we’ll keep an eye on the progress of this discussion to see how it pans out.

In the meantime, maybe those of us “foreign” Caribbean migrants in Armani suits, should look at how we can effectively exploit and simultaneously take care of our own. Now that we might legally, like Black Uhuru sang, have “a stalk of sensimilla growing in our backyard.”

Calibe Thompson is a personality, author and the producer of The Caribbean Diaspora Weekly. For your free preview of her 2015 collection of writings, Things I Probably Shouldn’t Say, visit www.calibe.net.

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Health

Everybody hurts sometimes

By PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM

I recently lost my first patient. A strange statement for someone who has been practicing medicine for almost 30 years. For the sake of clarity, I have lost patients before while working in the practices of other veterinarians. This was the first patient I have lost from my own practice.

Be it in a daytime practice or an emergency/supportive care facility, veterinarians experience life and death situations on a daily basis. The patients you treat in those settings are by chance. In this case, I was selected by the owner to treat her pet after having experiences with other care providers that for whatever reasons did not meet their needs. Having been diagnosed with a terminal condition, my task was to keep the pet as comfortable as possible during her final days. Part of my duties was also to support the owner as she came to some degree of acceptance towards her pet's decline and death. The owner was a very kind, intelligent, and considerate person, but had challenges in keeping the situation in perspective. Long term loving relationships can result in such challenges. Our first contact was a phone message composed of emotional statements and sobs. Thank goodness for caller ID. I returned her call and we discussed her desire to do the best she could for her pet and keep her at home for her final days. Our discussions resulted in an appointment to develop a treatment and action plan.

We meet as scheduled. My new client was accompanied by one of her best friends and a veritable menagerie of pets. My new patient was an older dog who had a condition that made it difficult for her to eat and drink. She was not in the best of health but maintained her... "spunk"... to be kind. In actuality, that was a very good thing. We are all familiar with situations in which having a fighting spirit is attributed to helping extend life. It is no different with pets. Our plan was developed and instituted and we achieved initial success. My patient was eating and acting more like herself than in a very long time. Things were going well. Frequent phone calls and visits kept the plan going along with adjustments as my patient's condition



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

warranted. Things were good until they were not.

One evening as I was driving to a meeting, I received a call. My patient's condition had taken a turn for the worse. I instructed my client to meet me at an emergency clinic as I made a U-turn and headed towards the clinic. I arrived at the facility and had the opportunity to consult with the doctor on duty about my incoming patient. They arrived and I carried my patient into the facility. She was hospitalized a night and a day prior to being released to return home. Discussions were had and conclusions were reached. We had done our best and decided it was time. My patient's final day was one of being loved and pampered at home.

I arrived at my client's home that evening to perform the procedure to end my patient's suffering. It was sad, but respectful. My patient showed her "spunk" to the end. Conversation and hugs got us all through the moments.

As I departed my heart was heavy with sadness, but I also had a feeling of satisfaction. I had provided not just the services they needed, but the services they deserved. I became more emotionally invested in this case than any in my career. Usually the rule is to keep emotions at arm's length. Sharing the pain and experiences of my patient and client was inevitable. During the weeks of treatment, my client became my friend.

I truly feel I am a better veterinarian and a person as a result of the experience.

Dr. Pierre Bland is the owner of Dr. Bland's Vet House Calls. He can be reached at 954-673-8579 or at doctorblandvet.com.

Brain stents show big promise for certain stroke patients

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin — Stroke experts are reporting a major advance: Stents similar to the ones used to open clogged heart arteries also can be used to clear a blood clot in the brain, greatly lowering the risk a patient will end up disabled.

Patients treated with these brain stents were far more likely to be alive and able to live independently three months after their stroke, doctors said Wednesday at an American Stroke Association conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The treatment was so successful that three studies testing it were stopped early, so it could be offered to more patients. One study also found survival was nearly twice as high for those given the treatment.

"This is a once-in-a-generation advance in stroke care," said the head of one study, Dr. Jeffrey Saver, stroke chief at the University of California, Los Angeles.

An independent expert, Dr. Lee Schwamm of Massachusetts General Hospital, called it "a real turning point in the field." For many patients, "this is the difference between returning home and not returning home," although only certain types of patients can be offered it, he said.

Stroke care "needs to be completely changed" to make the treatment more widely available, said Dr. Walter Koroshetz, acting director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

"This has taken stroke therapy to the same place that heart attack therapy is now," he said.

Most of the 800,000 strokes in the U.S. each year are caused by a blood clot lodged in the brain. The usual treatment is clot-dissolving medicine called tPA. When that doesn't work, doctors sometimes try devices pushed through blood vessels to pluck out the clot, but several studies found they didn't help.

However, newer devices - metal mesh cages called stent retrievers - open an artery much faster and with less damage to the blood vessel. Unlike heart stents, which stay in place to prop the artery open, the brain stents flatten the clot, trap it and are removed with it.

Two brands are sold in the U.S. - Trevo, made by Stryker Corp. of Kalamazoo,

Michigan, and Solitaire, made by Covidien, now part of Minneapolis-based Medtronic Inc. They won approval in 2012 based on their ability to remove a clot - not because there was evidence they made patients better.

Last fall, the first solid evidence that these devices helped patients arrived. A study in the Netherlands that tested a variety of clot removers, mostly stents, found these treatments greatly lowered the risk of disability in patients whose clots were not dissolved by tPA.

Stroke experts said more studies were needed to confirm the success. The three new studies do that; all were stopped early because independent monitors saw better results three months later in those treated with devices after tPA failed to dissolve their clots. Two tested just the Solitaire stent and the third tested a mix of devices, but mostly stents. Patients all sought help fast, had clots that were not opened by tPA, and no evidence of irreversible brain damage on CT scans.

Highlights:

A study Saver led in the U.S. and Europe on 196 patients found 60 percent of those treated with a Solitaire stent were free of major disability versus 35 percent of those given just tPA. Covidien sponsored the trial.

A study led by Australian researchers of 70 patients found 71 percent of those given a Solitaire stent were free of major disability versus 40 percent of those given tPA alone. The Australian National Health and Medical Research Council and others paid for the trial.

A study led by Canadian doctors of 316 patients found 53 percent treated with a stent or other clot-removing devices were free of major disability versus 29 percent of those given just tPA. Ten percent of patients given both treatments died versus 19 percent of those given just tPA. Covidien and others paid for the study, and some study leaders have financial ties to the companies.

The Canadian and Australian studies were published online Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine.

Stent treatment is not for everyone, and it won't help people who had a stroke some time ago. It is not known if stents would help people not given tPA first, or those who seek help too late to get it. The key to surviving a stroke is getting help fast - tPA must be given within four and a half hours after symptoms start.

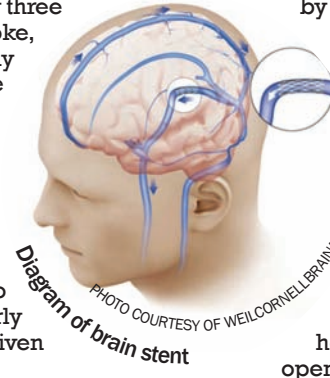


Diagram of brain stent

PHOTO COURTESY OF WEILCORNEILLBRANDMINDSPINE.COM



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Opinion

Remembering 'our black shining prince' 50 years later

"I'm for Truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice, no matter who it is for or against."

--El Hajj Malik el-Shabazz (Malcolm X)

It is sobering indeed for those of us who were alive to actually remember Malcolm X, to realize today that fully fifty years have gone by since his senseless assassination by tragically misguided black men at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem, New York, on February 21, 1965. This means that no one fifty years old or younger—the vast majority of the world's population, has no real idea of who this man was, what he stood for, or why those who held illegitimate and corrupted power decided that he must be eliminated from amongst the living.

To that vast majority who were not yet born might also be added all of those who briefly shared Malcolm's lifetime, but who were only children, too young to understand, at the time he was taken from us.

This makes it incumbent upon us who do remember, if a man of such extraordinary qualities and earthly importance is not to be forgotten by "his-story," to pass on our knowledge, however limited it might be, to our younger and future generations, as no one else will or can do for us. Surely if our young people are being taught to remember and honor criminals like Columbus, and slaveholders like Washington, Jefferson, Madison and so many more presidents, then ALL young people are entitled by birth-right to know about the life and legacy of a man who stands in the pantheon of such heroes and "she roes" as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (who would be assassinated three years after Malcolm, also at the age of 39), Medgar Evers, Paul Robeson, Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore, Marcus Mosiah Garvey, W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells, Sojourner Truth, Booker T. Washington, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, David Walker, among so many unsung millions. Indeed, we must not overlook the everyday heroism of single mothers today, for example, which deserved due recognition.

The story of Malcolm X and his seemingly star-crossed family (his father, widow, and grandson, all having been killed by criminal acts) has been told numerous times in numerous ways, most notably in *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, written by Alex Haley and Malcolm X, the epic film, *Malcolm X*, by Spike Lee, and most notoriously in the controversial biography, *Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention*, by the late Manning Marable, among others.

The quotation above by Malcolm X might be the best capsule of what his life stood for. Although much is made of his younger years, as a petty criminal and convicted felon, the physical and mental fortitude by which he survived those experiences only foreshadowed the man of profound courage, insight, and integrity that he would become. It is the all-too-rare person amongst us, sadly, who is truly strong enough to stand for Truth and Justice, regardless of tribal affiliations, political beliefs, or other compromises of the soul. And he was strong enough to challenge us all to be as honest.

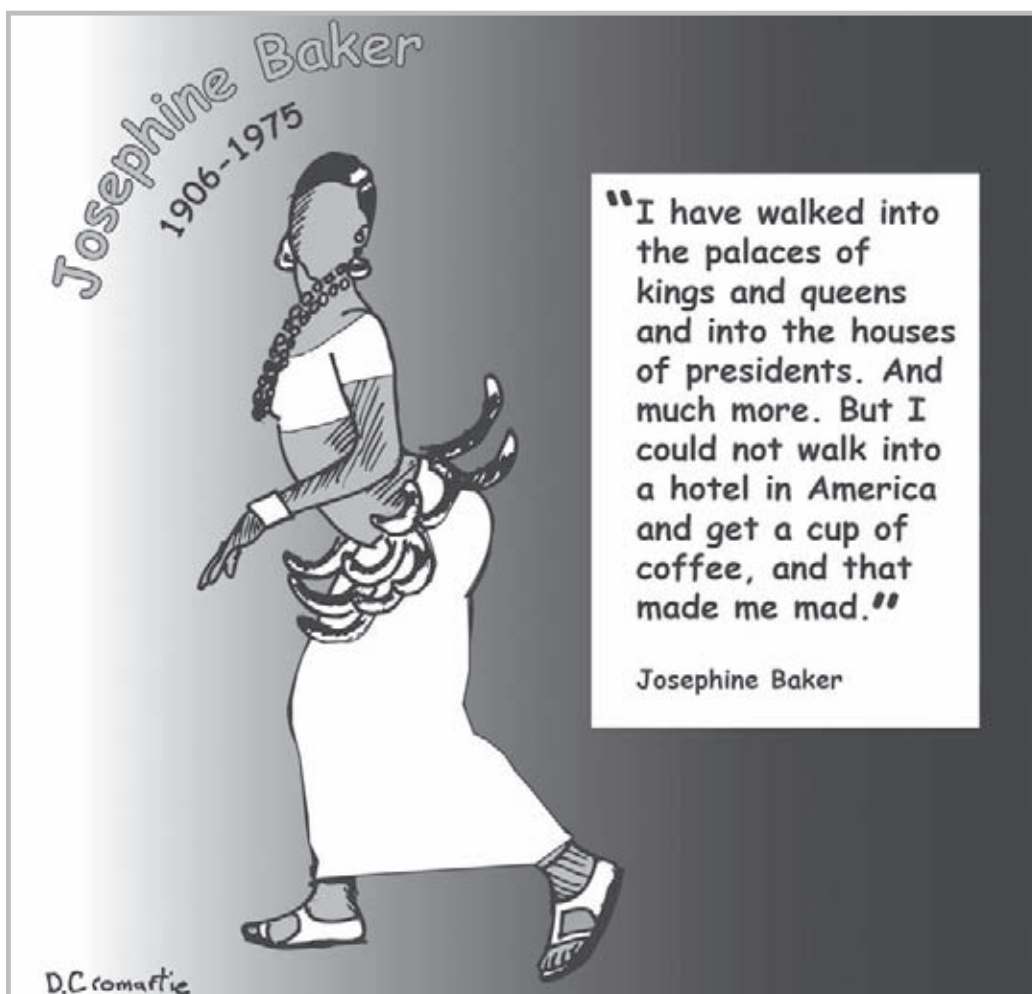
Malcolm X was not a self-serving celebrity, but one of us, whose life and whose growth and maturation as a leader all played out on the public stage. We learned from him as he learned. Most famously, we were part of his awakening, after making the pilgrimage (Hajj) to Mecca, into the deeper teachings of Islam, growing past the easy labeling of people and embracing a more thorough, global view of human liberation. Never forgetting his own roots as an African American, he founded the Organization of African American Unity, recognizing that the venue in the struggle for Civil Rights in America needed to be elevated to a struggle for Human Rights in the United Nations.

This vision of TRUE integration (not assimilation) and harmony has always posed a deeper threat to racist power than even openly stated hatred of white people (which, after all, confirmed their power and importance). El Hajj Malik El-Shabazz had become the speaker of inconvenient truths, on his way to greater knowledge, power, and influence, and for this the exposed liars, incapable of killing Truth itself, decided to kill the messenger



DINIZULU GENE TINNIE

ist power than even openly stated hatred of white people (which, after all, confirmed their power and importance). El Hajj Malik El-Shabazz had become the speaker of inconvenient truths, on his way to greater knowledge, power, and influence, and for this the exposed liars, incapable of killing Truth itself, decided to kill the messenger



before that influence spread too far. But for 50 years, their effort has proven futile.

Malcolm's Truth remains alive, yet still too little known, and it is therefore our obligation and our blessing to continue Malcolm's journey, each in our own way, to face down ignorance, fear, hate, greed, and envy, and thus to honor him and all our departed Ancestors and to make the way right for our next and future generations.

Dinizulu Gene Tinnie is a Miami-based artist, art educator and historian. He may be reached at dinizulu7@gmail.com.

A people without their history are doomed!



AL CALLOWAY SAYS

As a high school student in New York City, I had been around Orientals, mainly Chinese people, with some regularity. Hanging out in the Mott Street area of China Town with Chinese classmates was indeed an education. The first thing that's crystal clear to any visitor is the unmistakable surrounding of most things Chinese, on the streets, in shops and everywhere inside their small apartments.

Most of my friends' parents spoke little English and had very little schooling in China. However, every one of my Chinese friends was a high achiever in school. How does this happen? Culture is how. They were grounded in their language, history and customs, handed down by parents and grandparents.

Colonialism's plantocracy, through the Trans-Atlantic African Slave Trade, made certain to control its free labor source by ensuring only family ties that produced desired breeding and no cultural and other educational affiliation. Spirituality was disallowed save for indoctrination of the slave-masters' religion.

While it's been 150 years since the Emancipation Proclamation that freed black and brown people on paper, the double-cross that Black Reconstruction became and the subsequent brutal Black Codes that finally gave way to terrible Jim Crow, so-called freedom, justice and equality is yet an illusion. Discrimination is a rampant reality.

How do black and brown people get out of this induced quagmire of fear and ignorance that has bred a sub-culture of mass poverty, impropriety and underachievement? Certainly, without knowledge of self there is absolutely no chance for growth and development of the black and brown masses in America.

Knowledge is power. Self knowledge is transformational group power! We must know the truth about who we are. What is our history before slavery? What have been our contributions to the world? Where is this knowledge and how do we get it? Today, ancient African history is not difficult to get. This knowledge is in books, people, and it is said of us that if you want to hide something from us, put it in a book. It is time to dispel that myth.

With a little effort, every household can have this knowledge. Through the following six books whole black and brown communities can become transformed. People must bring just three other things to this endeavor: a dictionary, dedication and time.

Get these six books!

1. *The African Origin of Civilization: Myth or Reality*, by Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop. All evidence shows that ancient Egypt, the first civilization history records, was black in origin.

2. *Introduction to African Civilizations*, by John G. Jackson. "Most Western historians [white] have not been willing to admit that there is an African history to be written about, and that this history predates the emergence of Europe by thousands of years."

3. *The Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race from 4500 B.C. to 2000 A.D.*, by Chancellor Williams. "The New Approach: The first period would begin with 'prehistory,' primarily because Nowe, one of the oldest cities on earth, was begun by Blacks before recorded history."

4. *Stolen Legacy*, by George G. M. James. "The Greeks were not the authors of Greek Philosophy, but the people of North Africa, commonly called the Egyptians."

5. *The Ruins of Empires*, by C. F. Volney. "...There a people, now forgotten, discovered, while others were yet barbarians, the elements of the arts and sciences. A race of men,

now rejected from society for their sable skin and frizzled hair, founded on the study of the laws of nature, those civil and religious systems which still govern the universe." (Written in 1793.)

6. *They Came Before Columbus: The African presence in Ancient America*, by Ivan Van Sertima. "Ivan Van Sertima... reveals to us a compelling, dramatic and superbly detailed documentation of the presence and legacy of Black Africans in Ancient America."

No one has to be a scholar or even a high school graduate in order to grasp this knowledge and be able to impart it to others, especially the children. For those who want to dig even deeper I suggest a few more great books: *Ancient Egypt the Light of The World Vol. I and Vol. II*, by Gerald Massey; *Precolonial Black Africa*, by Dr. Cheikh Anta Diop; *Civilization or Barbarism*, by Cheikh Anta Diop; *Black Women in Antiquity Edited*, by Ivan Van Sertima; and, *African Origins of the Major Western Religions*, by Yosef A. A. ben-Jochannan.

Al Calloway is a longtime journalist who began his career with the *Atlanta Inquirer* during the early 1960s civil rights struggle. He may be reached at Al_Calloway@verizon.net.

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THE POLITICS OF BLACKNESS

BARBARA HOWARD

Are American black Christians blind and silent to global atrocities by radical Islamists?

For the past few years, there have been major kidnappings and murders being committed on Christians and Jews by radical Islamists in countries like Iraq, Egypt, Libya, Syria, France, Denmark and yes, even America. And with the horrible atrocities committed on 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians who were beheaded on camera by ISIS this past weekend, the Pope has even weighed in; yet I don't see any urgent movement by black Christians in America.

I don't even hear any discussions within the black Christian community about the bombing in Boston by the Tsarnaev brothers, Dzhokhar and Tamerian, Chechen students from MIT. It's as if these murders are only done to white Christians, so black Christians have no vested interest in them.

But they do. Just like 9/11 was not about only white Americans, but all Americans, these murders are not only about white Christians, but all Christians.

From 2002 to 2014, Boko Haram, the Islamic terrorist organization in Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger and Chad, captured over 276 young Christian girls, turned them into Muslims and sold many of them for slaves and wives. A few weeks ago, they burned down a town and massacred its people, estimated to be anywhere between 150 to 2,000 — all African — all Black.

Boko Haram could be as many as 10,000 Black radical Islamic terrorists responsible for as many as 5,000 civilian murders, the kidnappings of as many as 500 men, women and children and the displacement of as many as 1.5 million people — all Black and Christian. A quick read in

Wikipedia about Boko Haram would give you chills as to the murderous streaks of the leaders and what they have done in the name of Allah.

Over the past four years, hundreds of non-Muslim Kenyans, both black and white, have been murdered by radical Islamic extremists, the most well-known attack being on the Westgate Shopping Mall in Nairobi, Kenya, on September 21, 2013 where 69 people were killed and more than 175 were injured, according to Wikipedia.

As one of the Trade and Travel Goodwill Ambassadors to Kenya, I watched in horror as the black African gunmen roamed the Mall shooting innocent people — both black and white. I had people in Kenya and prayed they were nowhere near that Mall that day.

I often heard many in the black community celebrate the destruction of the World Trade Towers on 9/11/2001 because they thought that all the over 3,000 people who were murdered that day by Muslim terrorists were white. They assumed that these Muslims were targeting only white folk most of whom they thought were racists merely by virtue of their color.

It's sad to think that a lot of blacks think only in terms of black and white and the murders of blacks only matter if they happen at the hands of whites. So the tens of thousands of deaths of blacks at the hands of other blacks go virtually unnoticed, as do the thousands of whites at the hands of blacks.

As ISIS marches across the Middle East, Northern Africa and now Europe beheading and burning people in the name of Allah, black Christians seem to ignore the

horrors, never thinking they would ever be in jeopardy here in America. Most may watch the news on CNN or MSNBC (as I watch FOX News) with little concern. But should they?

When President Obama started "Am I My Brother's Keeper" program, most thought that was only about black kids, mostly boys. But wasn't that a facetious question that Cain asked God after he had murdered his brother, Abel? The irony must not be lost.

Black Christians cannot afford the luxury of only being concerned about other blacks. This has become a global society and our lives are inextricably linked. Young blacks and whites are traveling to places like Yemen and Libya yearning to be trained as ISIS terrorists. They are slipping back into the country virtually unnoticed, where one day they will become murderers in America like the Islamic terrorists in Paris and Denmark.

Will they only target white Christians and Jews and ignore black non-Muslims? Will black Christians finally notice? Will they care? Do they not know there is a grand plan for Islamic global control? Do they not know that means them too?

When they awaken will it be too late? God help us if it is.

Barbara Howard is a political consultant, radio host and commentator and motivational speaker. She is Florida State chairwoman for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and Trade & Travel goodwill ambassador to Kenya. She may be reached at bhoward11@bellsouth.net.

Contact Us

954.356.9360 • 3020 NE 32nd Avenue, Suite 200 • Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308 • www.SFLTimes.com

PUBLISHER
Robert G. Beatty, Esq.
RBeatty@SFLTimes.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Michele T. Green
MGreen@SFLTimes.com

EDITOR
Andrea F. Robinson
ARobinson@SFLTimes.com

DIRECTOR OF WEB SERVICES
Lonnie Beatty III
LBeattyIII@SFLTimes.com

DIRECTOR OF CIRCULATION & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Robert G. Beatty II
RBeattyII@SFLTimes.com

SENIOR DESIGNER
Michele Jury
MJury@SFLTimes.com

ADVERTISING
Info@SFLTimes.com

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Business



Merging money? Couples living together need a financial plan

PHOTO COURTESY OF ASHY2CLASSY.COM

By **JOSEPH PISANI**
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Budgets are not romantic, but unwed couples who want to live together should break out a calculator before calling the moving trucks.

Creating a financial plan can help prevent arguments and unpleasant surprises, and protect each person from costly financial missteps. And if they merge their finances carefully, couples can make living together a big money saver.

"It's easier to have these conversations before you're under the same roof," says Nancy Skeans, a partner at Schneider Downs Wealth Management Advisors in Pittsburgh.

The number of unmarried couples choosing to live together continues to grow. More than 7 million U.S. households were led by unmarried couples in 2013, up 1.7 percent from the year before, according to estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Alexandra Gambale moved into an apartment with her boyfriend, James Murad, about a year ago. Together for three years, the 24-year-olds decided to keep their bank accounts separate, but split groceries and other monthly bills evenly. She sends Murad money through the mobile payments app Venmo, and then he pays the bills.

"I'd like to think we moved in together because we love each other, but yes, money was a part of it," says Gambale, who works at a public relations company in New York. "We live in a much nicer apartment because we split the rent so we can afford more."

Here's some financial tips for couples who plan to live together:

HAVE THE TALK

Schedule a time to have a conversation about money. Try a Saturday morning, or another day when the both of you don't have other obligations, says Alexa von Tobel, CEO of financial planning website LearnVest.com.

Discuss exactly how much you earn and don't let debt be the elephant in the room. Be ready to detail your debts and to disclose your credit score, says von Tobel.

Although you may not be responsible for paying your partner's debts, you may be impacted if his or her credit card bills or student loans are so large that

your partner can't be relied upon for regular joint obligations, such as rent or utilities.

If you eventually plan to get married, keep in mind that you may end up on the hook for your spouse's debt depending on which state you live in.

"Sitting down and figuring out your finances is a smart way of getting ahead of problems," says von Tobel

SET RULES

Decide exactly what, and how much, each of you will be responsible for. Bills don't have to be split evenly. If one person makes more than the other, maybe he or she can pay a larger portion of the rent and the other pays for groceries. Don't forget to include other monthly bills, such as electricity, gas and cable.

When living together, the ideal situation is to live off one salary, says John Sweeney, an executive vice president of retirement and investing strategies at Fidelity. That's not always possible, but setting a budget close to that amount can help. Both of you will have lower expenses and the ability to save more. And if one of you is laid off, you'll know that you can keep up with expenses with just one salary, says Sweeney.

PLAN FOR BREAKUP

Even if you think your relationship is solid, plan for what happens if it ends. Who will stay in the residence? If you're renting, consider if you should both be on the lease. See what terms the least outlines if one person leaves, as you don't want to be on the hook for a place you can't afford by yourself.

If you plan to buy a home together, couples should first hire an attorney and draw up a purchase contract beforehand. The contract can spell out how much each person will contribute and may include what happens if the relationship ends.

TO COMBINE ACCOUNTS OR NOT?

Merging all bank accounts is not a good idea. But a joint checking account to pay bills or buy groceries can be a good start to test how you both of handle it. "It's a way to practice," says Skeans.

If you're in a more committed relationship, you can try opening a joint savings account for specific goals, such as an upcoming vacation or wedding.

BlackBerry launches Classic phone in last-ditch effort

NEW YORK (AP) — BlackBerry is returning to its roots with a new phone that features a traditional keyboard at a time when rival Apple and Android phones and most smartphone customers have embraced touch screens.

With the Classic, BlackBerry is courting its core customer, the business user. The physical keyboard is something traditional BlackBerry users prefer because they find it easier than touch screens to type with. The company is also emphasizing battery life and security.

"A lot of people say the Classic is aiming for loyal customers. And that is true," CEO John Chen said at the gadget's launch event, tellingly held in New York City's Financial District. But he also invited people who haven't used a BlackBerry "especially people who are young," to try the BlackBerry Classic.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNCUTINDIA.COM



BlackBerry Classic

Pioneered in 1999 with the launch of the RIM 950, BlackBerry changed the culture by allowing on-the-go business people to access email wirelessly. Then came a new generation of competing smartphones, and suddenly the BlackBerry looked ancient. Apple showed that phones can handle much more than email and phone calls. BlackBerry was late in overhauling its operating system to compete.

BlackBerry now holds a small fraction of the U.S. smartphone market after commanding a nearly 50 percent share as recently as 2009.

The company is trying to stay relevant on making hardware even as it tries to transform into an enterprise security and

consumer software company. Whether the Classic will sell enough to keep it in the hardware business is unclear.

"It's going to be a niche product based around enterprise, based around security and pockets of the world where there is still strengths. The future of this company is not the hardware," BGC analyst Colin Gillis said.

The BlackBerry Classic is available - it costs \$449 in the United States and \$499 Canadian dollars in Canada through Amazon.com and BlackBerry.com. It will come later to AT&T and Verizon.

BlackBerry has been expanding its efforts to sell mobile-security software on its rivals' smartphones and tablets to help counter the waning popularity of its own devices.

And on the hardware side, BlackBerry partnered with Foxconn, the Taiwanese company that assembles products in vast factories in China. Foxconn, known for its manufacturing contract work on

Apple's iPhones and iPads, jointly designs and manufactures most BlackBerry devices and manages inventory of the devices in an agreement that offloads much of BlackBerry's manufacturing costs. Foxconn is making the Classic for

BlackBerry.



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Sports

BASKETBALL



Jermaine Ruttley scored 24 points to lead all scorers.

Florida A&M wins its first with 57-50 victory over NC A&T

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Jermaine Ruttley scored 24 points and grabbed nine rebounds as Florida A&M posted its first season win with a 57-50 victory over North Carolina A&T on Saturday.

Jorge Rosa added 22 points for the Rattlers (1-23, 1-10 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference) who went into the game with the only winless record in the NCAA Division I. The team finished hitting 38.8 percent from the field and 70.6 from the free throw line.

North Carolina A&T sank 17 of 51 (33.3 percent) from the field - including just 3 of 14 from distance - and 13 of 21 (61.9 percent) from the line.

Florida A&M led 21-17 at the break and held on in the second half for the win.

Denzel Keyes netted a double-double with 13 points and 12 rebounds for the Aggies (6-20, 3-8).



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FLORIDA A&M SPORTS INFORMATION

Jorge Rosa

Florida State High School Fishing Championship scheduled to begin

FISHING



PHOTO COURTESY OF HIGHSCHOOLFISHING.ORG

The Brown and Murray team, winners of the 2012 Florida State High School Fishing Championship

Staff Report

The Bass Federation (TBF) and FLW, the world's largest tournament-fishing organization, have partnered to present the 2015 Florida State High School Fishing Championship. The tournament is open to any High School Fishing team in the entire state of Florida.

On Saturday, February 28, at Lake Toho, Big Toho Marina, 69 Lakeview Drive in Kissimmee, Florida, the tournament begins.

The Florida state championship is a two-person (team) event for students in grades 9-12. Registration for anglers and their coach, who will provide the boat they compete in, is online at HighSchoolFishing.org.

Takeoff will be at 6:50 a.m. and weigh-in will be held at Big Toho Marina, scheduled for 2:30 p.m. High School Fishing takeoffs and weigh-ins are free and open to the public. For more information about this

event contact the TBF National Youth Director Mark Gintert at (580) 716-4251.

A preliminary list of schools participating will not be available as teams can still register up until the morning of the event.

The top 10 percent from each TBF/FLW state championship field will advance to a High School Fishing conference championship along with the top 3 teams from each of the six 2015 High School Fishing Opens that coincide with the 2015 Walmart FLW Tour. The top 10 percent of each conference championship field will then advance to the High School Fishing National Championship, coinciding with the TBF National Championship and an FLW Tour stop in the spring of 2016.

The High School Fishing national champions will each receive a \$5,000 college scholarship to the school of their choice.

GOLF

Love to return as Ryder Cup captain

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

LOS ANGELES — Davis Love III is getting another chance as captain of the U.S. Ryder Cup team.

Two people familiar with the decision told The Associated Press on Monday night that the PGA of America has selected Love as captain for the 2016 matches at Hazeltine. They spoke on condition of anonymity because it has not been announced.

Golf Channel first reported that Love will be the next captain.

He is to be introduced on Feb. 24, when the Honda Classic is held at PGA headquarters in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Love led the Americans to a 10-6 lead at Medinah in 2012 until Ian Poulter and Europe staged an improbable rally and matched the greatest comeback in Ryder Cup history.

This will be the second straight Ryder Cup that the U.S. gets a repeat captain, and it didn't go so well the previous time. Tom Watson, at 65, was the oldest Ryder Cup captain and returned after a 21-year absence.

But he was out of touch with his team, made a questionable captain's pick with Webb Simpson and benched Phil Mickelson

for both sessions on Saturday. Europe won for the third straight time, extending its dominance.

The Americans appeared to be in disarray all week, and it spilled over into the closing news conference when Mickelson heaped praise on Paul Azinger's winning formula in 2008 and asked why the PGA of America went away from that. With Watson sitting at the table, Mickelson said the captain never took any input from the players.

Out of that mess, the PGA of America organized a task force of players and former captains to build some continuity and tradition, similar to what Europe has done. Out of those task force meetings - the second and most recent one was at Torrey Pines two weeks ago - the PGA decided its best bet was with Love.

Azinger was mentioned as a possible candidate, and Fred Couples had the support of key players. It was not immediately clear if they were considered, or if Azinger wanted the job again. Azinger turned down an offer to be on the task force. Couples won all three times he was captain of the Presidents Cup.

Europe is expected to announce Darren Clarke as its captain. Love and Clarke are close friends.

The Americans have won the Ryder Cup only one time in the past seven tries.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THETHAO.VNEXPRESS.NET

David Love III



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NEWS BRIEFS

Program recognizes Black history, Holocaust

BROWARD COUNTY — The African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC) will host an entertaining program in recognition of Black History Month. Reflecting different cultures both in person and in subject matter, Rabbi Henry of Temple Haim and Pastor Henry Green of Mount Hermon Church will discuss slavery in Egypt and America. Dr. George Peart, a published author on slavery, will add his insights to the presentation.

Providing entertainment will be Pastor Gene Townsel of the Source Christian Fellowship, the Mount Hermon Church Choir, and violinist Alexander Mikchaylovsky.

The free, two-hour program begins 3 p.m. Feb. 28 in the auditorium of the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, call at 954-357-6210.

Hollywood Jaycees host Miss Hollywood pageant

HOLLYWOOD — The Greater Hollywood Junior Chamber (Jaycees) will host Miss Hollywood USA and Miss Hollywood Teen USA Pageants at 5 p.m. March 8 at the Jaycee Hall, 2930 Hollywood Blvd. This event is an official preliminary pageant to Miss Florida USA 2016 and Miss Florida Teen USA 2016.

The winner of the Miss Hollywood USA Pageant will compete in the Miss Florida USA pageant.

The winners of both categories will win a variety of prizes including a sash and crown, an educational scholarship, and other prizes donated by local Hollywood businesses.

The tickets are \$20, which includes entry and a program book. Proceeds will benefit the Hollywood Jaycees Foundation to provide funds to such projects as Thanksgiving baskets for the needy, Lincoln Manor Holiday Party, and the Back to School shopping spree.

Miami Beach Seeks 100 Couples to Say "I Do"

MIAMI BEACH — City officials want engaged couples to be part of Miami Beach's history by participating in a mass marriage ceremony as part of its centennial celebration.

The city hopes to get 100 couples. Those who want to get married or renew their vows during a group ceremony commemorating Miami Beach's centennial are asked to register now. The ceremony will be held at noon March 23 on the beach.

To register or for more information, contact Miami Beach's Office of Tourism, Culture and Economic Development at 305.673.7577 or MurielFoguer@miamibeachfl.gov.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MUNALUCHIBRIDAL.COM

Lighthouse Point Chamber holds candidate forum

LIGHTHOUSE POINT — The Lighthouse Point Chamber is hosting a bi-partisan candidate forum 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 25 at Dixon Ahl Hall, 2200 NE 38th St.

"The LHP Chamber was approached by several city officials requesting us to organize a candidate forum since there are a couple of seats open, said chamber President Rene Sabatini. "After discussing, the chamber agreed to plan and run a forum that would help the Lighthouse Point voters decide who would be best suited to work for them."

Residents interested in submitting questions in advance of the forum can email the chamber at lhpchamberoffice@gmail.com with their questions. All questions will be reviewed prior to the forum and several will be selected to ask live at the forum.

Compiled from staff, wire reports



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSING TRUST GROUP
SENIOR LIVING: The 112 residences at Village Place Apartments were rented by the time construction was completed.

By ANDREA ROBINSON
 arobinson@SFLTimes.com

FORT LAUDERDALE — The trendy Las Olas section of Fort Lauderdale, noted for its boutiques and high-end restaurants, has some new neighbors — senior citizens who are on a budget.

Housing Trust Group, an affordable housing real estate developer in Florida, recently completed construction of Village Place Apartments, a \$15 million, 112-unit affordable housing community for ages 55 and up in Fort Lauderdale. The mid-rise apartment development at 720 NE Fourth Avenue, just blocks from the

popular Las Olas Boulevard area in downtown Fort Lauderdale, is already 100-percent leased.

Sandra Johnson was fortunate to get a unit. She said she's beyond ecstatic.

"It's near everything. It's an amazing place," said Johnson, 60, a clerical worker with the Department of Juvenile Justice. "The people are so very nice. The management, they're just amazing people. You want to live at the place."

Johnson lived just north of downtown, in a high-rise apartment with a beach view. That view came at a price — about \$1,500 per month. Now, she said, she pays about half that amount.

BROWARD

Affordable housing units go up in Las Olas area

She learned about the new place a year ago while browsing on rent.com.

"It's an absolute joy. I can't wait to get there [after work]," she said, "I don't even want to come out."

About 90 percent of the units are for low-income households whose income is 60 percent of the average median income of \$61,800 per year. Another 10 percent of the units are for extremely low-income residents, whose income is 25 percent of average median income. For the 90 percent units, the two-bedroom monthly rental rate is \$903 and the one-bedroom monthly rental rate is \$760.

Matthew Rieger, president and CEO of Housing Trust Group, hailed the new development as the company's "masterpiece."

"This is a standout example of how public-private partnerships can be successfully created to provide much needed affordable and safe housing in Broward County

PLEASE TURN TO HOUSING/2B

MIAMI-DADE

Red hot affair yields funds for scholarships, programs



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRIAN CHAPPELL

The ladies of the Dade County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and DeltaCare, Incorporated, joined more than 300 guests for their fundraiser, The MasqueRED Soirée — A Red Hot Delta Affair on Feb. 7 at Briza on the Bay near downtown Miami. The event was a fundraiser for the chapter's scholarships and programs. Among the dignitaries who attended included U.S. Rep. Frederica Wilson, Miami Gardens Mayor Oliver Gilbert, and Miami-Dade County Commissioner Audrey Edmonson. The event chairperson was Cheryl Adger Fields (above), and the chapter's president is Karen Wiggins.

PALM BEACH

Spady hosts Living Heritage Festival

Event celebrates Black History Month

Staff Report

DELRAY BEACH — In celebration of Black History Month and the 20th anniversary of the beginnings of the Spady Museum, a free cultural festival will welcome guests to Northwest Fifth Avenue in Delray Beach on Feb. 28.

The Spady Living Heritage Day is scheduled from 2 to 10 p.m. and will feature demonstrations of crafts from years past. Guests will also enjoy a junk-anoo parade, food, music, demonstrations, interactive recreation and live performances. This year's festival will take place on the front lawn, on the closed-off street, and in the Williams Cottage of the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW Fifth Ave.

Activities for children will include pony rides, face painting, traditional games, such as horseshoes, sack races, tug-o-war and three-legged race.

The free festival is part of the city's Black History Month calendar of events. February is a month dedicated to celebrating, recognizing and learning about the contributions of African-Americans to the development and prosperity of the United States.

Spady Living Heritage Day sponsors include Palm Beach County, the Cultural Council of Palm Beach County, Tourist Development Council, Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency and Iberia Bank.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPADY MUSEUM

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Spady Living Heritage Festival

WHEN: Feb. 28, 2015; 2-10 p.m.

WHERE: 170 NW Fifth Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444

ADMISSION: Free

MORE INFORMATION: www.spadymuseum.org

MIAMI-DADE



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETER VAHAN

FINISHING TOUCHES: Artist Jen Stark finishes her mural "Meltdown," which is on display at the North Terminal at Miami International Airport.

MIA experiences colorful "meltdown" with mural

Staff Report

MIAMI — Passengers at Miami International Airport can now have a colorful "meltdown" experience when they walk past *Meltdown*, a new, permanent art mural by Miami artist Jen Stark. *Meltdown* greets visitors to MIA with a cascade of color and patterns when they enter the airport's North Terminal on the third floor from the parking garage or the MIA Mover station.

According to Stark, creating *Meltdown* took a little more than a week with the assistance of several volunteers she enlisted to help her paint the intricate mural. "I typically had four assistants per night," said Stark. "One of the last nights I had 10 people. I worked eight nights, six hours a night, for a total of 48 hours."

"We are excited to provide an opportunity for emerging artists like Jen Stark to bring their artistic vision to MIA and use the transformative power of art to enhance the customer experience at the airport," said Miami-Dade Aviation

PLEASE TURN TO ARTWORK/2B

Around South Florida



ELGIN JONES
EJones@SFLTimes.com

MEGA BREACH!

More than \$1 billion has been stolen from banks around the world, including the United States, in what experts believe is the largest breach ever, according to a report by a Russian security firm called Kaspersky Labs. More than 100 banks in 30 countries have been hit. The culprits targeted banks instead of individual accounts for more than two years. The scheme went undetected for years the report said.

Palm Beach County



DEADLY ROBBERY

Lucanes Joseph, 65, was shot and killed outside his Delray Beach home as he prepared to leave for work. Police say the motive was robbery and one suspect has been arrested, but others are being sought. Harut Saroyan, 20, of Boynton Beach, is charged with first-degree murder in Joseph's death.

SAROYAN



STADIUM DEAL

Palm Beach County will have two more spring training teams. A deal to bring the Houston Astros and Washington Nationals to West Palm Beach has been struck. Florida Gov. Rick Scott supports

SCOTT

spending the estimated \$135 million to build a stadium and training facility in West Palm Beach. The county's Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter is already the spring training site for the St. Louis Cardinals and Miami Marlins.



SEXUAL SECRETS

Ted Pace, 61, of West Palm Beach has been arrested for failing to disclose that he was HIV positive to sexual partners. State law requires full disclosure prior to having sexual relations.

PACE

Pace faces three charges in three separate incidents.

Broward County

FAILED DEVELOPMENT

Developer Maria Freeman's Sixth Street Plaza located at Sistrunk Boulevard and Northwest Ninth Avenue has failed. The property has been foreclosed and the Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Agency, which funded the project, is caught up in the legal fight. Freeman has other issues. In an unrelated incident, she is accused of defrauding an Alzheimer's patient out of two nearby lots in northwest Fort Lauderdale. Stay tuned.



RELEASED AGAIN

Former state legislator Mandy Dawson has been released from prison, again. Dawson, 58, had been locked up for failing a drug test while on parole over a 2012 public corruption conviction. She has relocated from Fort Lauderdale and now resides in Daytona Beach. This

DAWSON

was her fourth prison stint since 2013 for failing to meet the violations of her parole.

Miami-Dade County



PLAY BALL!

Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria announced the 2017 Major League Baseball All Star game will be played at Marlins' Park in Miami. The annual game is played at a different ballpark around the country each year and brings millions to the local economy.



LAKES MESS

Former Miami Lakes Mayor Michael Pizzi was charged with bribery and corruption, and promptly removed from office by Gov. Rick Scott. The town held a special election, which was won by former Mayor Wayne Slaton. Pizzi later was acquitted of the charges, and asked to be reinstated. But Scott refuses to do so, and Slaton won't step aside. Pizzi is suing to regain his post through November 2016. It's a mess.

PIZZI

AMPUTEE DISCRIMINATION

Florida Commercial Security Service, a Miami-based company, lost a federal discrimination case in 2014 over the firing of an amputee for not wearing his prosthetic arm while working as a driver. A jury awarded Alberto Tarud-Saieh \$35,922 in damages. Now similar cases are popping up where amputees are alleging discrimination.



TRUMP PARK?

Donald Trump is proposing to assume control of Miami-Dade County's Crandon Park golf course via a 99-year lease. He will make \$10 million in renovations and take over the operations. Crandon Park once had a zoo, but that went away decades ago and now it looks like the public golf course could be no more.

TRUMP

Monroe County

DRONE REGULATIONS

The Federal Aviation Administration is now considering regulating the drone industry. Some of the possible requirements could be licenses to operate drones over populated areas and other conditions. Key West has raised concerns about drones flying over homes and near airports.



KIDNAP, RAPE CHARGES

Douglas Hernandez Morel, 33, of Homestead faces multiple charges including kidnapping and rape. He is accused of forcing a woman into his vehicle and driving to the Keys, where he allegedly raped her several times. The victim convinced him to pull over so she could take her pants off, but she ran to a fisherman and pleaded for help. The suspect threatened the fisherman with a baseball bat and fled with the victim. A Monroe County Sheriff's deputy spotted the vehicle in the parking lot of a nearby plaza and saw the suspect raping the victim. He was taken into custody and is being held without bail.

MOREL



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSING TRUST GROUP

POOL VIEW: Village Place Apartments, located near the Las Olas section of Fort Lauderdale, offers several amenities for senior residents.

Seniors get new affordable housing

HOUSING, FROM 1B

while improving the quality of life for the area's senior residents and increasing property values as well," Rieger said.

Located in the Flagler Village urban redevelopment area, the site includes a mix of 82 one-bedroom/one-bath units and 30 two-bedroom/two-bath units. The architect of the development is Sotolongo Salman Henderson of Miami.

The apartment community includes a gated entrance, community center with wi-fi access throughout, swimming pool and fitness room with exercise equipment. Residents will also have convenient access to The Wave Modern Streetcar transit system that is scheduled to open in 2017.

Project financing was provided by U.S. Bank in the amount of \$38.6 million through its community development subsidiary including a \$13.2 million construction loan; a \$3 million permanent financing loan; and \$22.4 million of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) equity from U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation (USBCDC), awarded by Florida Housing Finance Corporation. The project's funding also included \$125,000 from Broward County Housing.

MIA makeover includes color mural

ARTWORK, FROM 1B

Department Director Emilio T. González. "Once again, MIA is at the forefront of exposing the work of these talented artists to an entirely new audience."

In Starks' own words, "Meltdown is a large-scale mural depicting organic patterns oozing down, creating a waterfall of colors. My artwork concentrates on the hypnotic, time-intensive process of cutting and layering. The patterns I create mimic the repetitive intricate layers of plants as well as the geometric framework of the universe."

Meltdown is Stark's latest project and expands on her previous work of creating complex colorful sculptures from paper and other media. Her work frequently explores ideas of replication and infinity, echoing the patterns and intelligent designs found in nature.

Stark was born in Miami and received her BFA from Maryland Institute College of Art in 2005, majoring in fibers with a minor in animation. Although Stark is most recognized for her paper sculptures, she has explored a variety of media including wood, paint, plexi and animation. She has exhibited globally with major shows in NYC, Los Angeles, Miami, Washington DC, Chicago, Seattle, Thailand and Canada. Her work is included in the Smithsonian American Art Museum's Permanent Collection, The Goldman Collection, the West Collection, the Microsoft Art Collection, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, the Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale and the Museum of Contemporary Art Miami.

This latest installation continues the primary mission of the Aviation Department's Fine Arts and Cultural Affairs Division to humanize and enrich the airport environment

through the commission of contemporary artwork and the presentation of exhibitions that communicate culture, environment and art resources of an international scope, with special emphasis on those destinations



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTS INITIATIVE

Jen's art on escalator at Fashion Outlets of Chicago.

served by MIA.

To learn more about other exhibits in the MIA Galleries, visit http://www.miami-airport.com/mia_galleries.asp.

Dianne Reeves helps celebrate Black History Month in concert

Staff Report

MIAMI — The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts celebrates Black History Month with a special version of Jazz Roots – A Larry Rosen Jazz Series – Soul 2 Soul:Voices of Love, at 8 p.m. Friday at the John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall.

The show, which pays tribute to jazz artists who take their "jazz roots" from the church, stars the reigning queen of jazz vocalists and recent Grammy Award winner Dianne Reeves and SoulTrack's Readers' Choice Award for Male Vocalist of the Year, Phil Perry.

Tickets range from \$25 to \$150 and are available through the Adrienne Arsht Center box office by calling (305) 949-6722 or online at www.arshtcenter.org.

"Black History Month is an important moment for America. And, in the Jazz Roots tradition, we are excited to present these two legendary artists who personify the spirit of our country's rich soulful history," said John Richard, president and CEO of the Arsht Center.

"One of the most important components of our Jazz Roots concert series is the educational program it provides to students throughout the Miami-Dade County school system. I always look forward to Black History Month as it is a great opportunity to focus on the cultural influences that impact this great American art form," said Larry Rosen, Jazz Roots co-creator and producer.

Soul 2 Soul celebrates Black History Month with a special show paying tribute to jazz vocalists who take their roots from the church and have created soulful stylings of their own.

Reeves is the pre-eminent jazz vocalist in the world. Whether appearing with her acclaimed ensemble or performing with

major symphonies, she traverses musical boundaries by combining jazz and pop sensibilities. Because of her breathtaking virtuosity, improvisational prowess, and unique jazz and R&B stylings,

Reeves received the Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for three consecutive recordings — a Grammy first in any vocal category. Adding to her Grammy wins Reeves just received her fifth Grammy for her latest #1 album, and first in more than three years, *Beautiful Life*, which displays her arsenal of talents in each and every song. Ben Ratliff of *The New York Times* has recently applauded Reeves' "astounding skills" and ability to produce excellent records. Adored by audiences alike throughout the world, Dianne Reeves is a natural not to be missed.

As a vocalist and composer, Phil Perry's falsetto, velvety smooth pipes and keen musical sensibilities have made him one of the greatest voices in R&B. It is no wonder that *Down Beat Magazine* once dubbed Perry as "The Pavarotti of



PHOTO COURTESY OF JERRIS MADISON

Dianne Reeves

Jazz." *The Los Angeles Times* raves, "Perry has tremendous range spotless falsetto... sheer enthusiasm... amazing pipes." As a composer Perry was awarded a Grammy for the song *Music for Peace* from the Ernie Watts recording *Musician* for Best Instrumental Record with a Vocal. One of the most in-demand singers on the music scene, Perry remains busy and has a list of enviable credits, having worked with Josh Groban, Patti LaBelle, Dionne Warwick, Peabo Bryson, the late George Duke, Quincy Jones, Barbra Streisand, Dave Koz, the late Bobby Womack, and Rod Stewart. His latest and eleventh album as a solo artist, *A Better Man* was released in January 2015.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TANA LOPEZ

Phil Perry

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Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLICATION OF BID SOLICITATIONS

Broward County Board of County Commissioners is soliciting bids for a variety of goods and services, construction and professional services. Interested vendors can view and download the solicitation documents via the Broward County Purchasing website at: www.broward.org/purchasing - current solicitations and results.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA NOTICE OF MEETINGS

3/3/15 10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3rd Ave., Ft. Laud. •Special School Board Meeting/Expulsions •Regular School Board Meeting
3/10/15 10:00 a.m.	KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3rd Ave., Ft. Laud. •School Board Workshop
3/17/15 10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3rd Ave., Ft. Laud. •Special School Board Meeting/Expulsions •Regular School Board Meeting

Regular School Board Meeting – Public speakers listed on the agenda will be heard at 12 p.m. or as close to that time as possible. **Workshops** – Public speakers will be permitted three minutes each to address a topic at the conclusion of Board Members' discussion on the topic. The times for items on the agenda are only estimates. The actual start times for these topics may vary up to an hour or more depending on the nature of the items and the length of the Board discussions and public comments.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure, which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department, at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department, at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

Telephone conferencing or other telecommunications technology may be used in conducting this public meeting to permit absent Board Members to participate in discussions, to be heard by other School Board Members and the public, and to hear discussions taking place during the meeting.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Date	Meeting	Place
2/23/15 10a	Negotiations Parameters Committee Meeting Purpose: To review the appraisals for one (1) School Board owned and declared surplus real property, and to establish a beginning offer and a maximum not-to-exceed offer for the property, for the purposes of marketing the property for sale.)	KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
2/24/15 9:00a	Legal Services Committee	KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/3/15 9:30-11:30a	ESE - ACE Board Meeting	Baudhuin Preschool 7600 SW 36 th St., #2218, Davie
3/3/15 11:30a-12:30p	ESE - ACE Board Meeting Exec. Board Mtg	Baudhuin Preschool 7600 SW 36 th St., #2218, Davie
3/4/15 6-8p	ESE Adv. Exec. Board Mtg.	JAFCO 5100 Nob Hill Rd., Sunrise
3/5/15 6:30-8:30p	Diversity Committee General Meeting	KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/5/15 4:45-5:30p	Diversity Committee - By-Laws Subcommittee Mtg	KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/5/15 5:30-6:30p	Diversity Committee - School Site Visit Subcommittee	KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/5/15 7p	Facilities Task Force- General Mtg	Plantation High School, Library 6901 NW 16 th St., Plantation
3/5/15 6-8p	Parent/Community Involvement Task Force Conf. Subcomm Mtg	Indian Ridge Middle School 1355 Nob Hill Rd, Davie
3/5/15 1-3p	Wellness and Learning Supports Committee	KCW Bldg., 14 th Fl. Conf. Rm 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/6/15 10a-1p	ESE Policy/By-Laws Committee	Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs
3/9/15 4:30-5:30p	Diversity Committee - School Site Visit Subcommittee	Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud.
3/9/15 10a-2p	ESE - Down Syndrome Task Force Comm- Exec. Board Mtg	JAFCO 5100 Nob Hill Rd., Sunrise
3/9/15 2:30-4:30p	Technology Advisory Committee (TAC)	BECON - MGM Room 6600 SW Nova Drive, Davie
3/10/15 8:30-10:30a	Policy 6308 Instructional Materials Change Committee	KCW Bldg., 13 th Fl. Conf. Rm 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/11/15 6:30-9p	District Adv. Council (DAC) General Meeting	KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/11/15 6:30-9p	ESE Advisory Council Meeting	Piper High School, Sm.Aud. 8000 SW 44 Street, Sunrise
3/11/15 8-10a	Policy 6000.1 Committee	KCW Bldg., 13 th Fl. Conf. Rm 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/12/15 6p	North Area Advisory Council Steering Committee	Pompano Beach High School 600 NE 13 th Ave, Pompano Beach
3/12/15 12:30p	Audit Committee	KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/12/15 9a	Central Area Advisory Comm. Steering Meeting	ISSC 7770 W. Oklnd Pk Blvd., Sunrise
3/12/15 10a-2p	ESE - Down Syndrome Task Force Committee- Gen. Mtg.	West Regional Library 8601 W. Broward Blvd, Plantation
3/12/15 7p	North Area Advisory Council Gen. Mtg	Pompano Beach High School 600 NE 13 th Ave, Pompano Beach
3/12/15 10a	Superintendent's Ins. & Wellness Advisory Committee (SIWAC) (Evaluate RFP for Retirement Plan Administration & Investment Management Services, as well as any other matter the Committee deems important. Telephone conferencing or other telecommunications technology may be used in the conduct of this public meeting to permit absent Superintendent's Insurance & Wellness Advisory Committee Members to participate in discussions, to be heard by other Committee Members, and the public, and to hear discussions taking place during the meeting.)	ISSC (Lobby) 7770 W. Oklnd Pk Blvd., Sunrise
3/13/15 10a-12p	ESE - ACE Board Meeting Exec. Board Mtg	Dunkin Donuts 9740 Griffin Rd., Cooper City
3/13/15 10a-1p	ESE Policy/By-Laws Committee	Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs
3/16/15 6:30-8p	District Adv. Council (DAC) Steering Meeting	KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/16/15 2:30-3:30p	Diversity Committee - Chair, Vice-Chair & Staff Mbr Mtg	Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud.
3/16/15 4:30-5:30p	Diversity Committee - By-Laws Subcommittee Mtg	Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud.
3/16/15 8:30-4:30p	Diversity Committee - School Site Visit Subcommittee	Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud.
3/16/15 10a-1p	ESE - Planning Task Force Committee	Arthur Ashe Campus, Rm. 177 1701 NW 23 rd Ave., Ft. Laud.
3/18/15 6p	Central Area Advisory Comm. General Meeting	Western High School 1200 SW 136 th Ave, Davie
3/18/15 6:30-8:30p	ESOL Leadership Council General Meeting	KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud.
3/18/15 6-8p	Parent/Community Involvement Task Force Mtg	Indian Ridge Middle School 1355 Nob Hill Rd, Davie
3/19/15 7-8p	Gifted Advisory	IBD
3/25/15 4-5p	Supplier Diversity & Outreach Adv. Comm.	ISSC - Rm. #323 7720 W. Oklnd Pk Blvd., Sunrise
3/31/15 6:30-8:30p	ESOL Leadership Council General Meeting	Weston YMCA Family Ctr. 20201 Saddle Club Rd., Weston

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Notice is hereby given that two or more Board Members of The School Board of Broward County, Florida, may be participating.

Obituaries

RANGE FUNERAL HOME - Homestead



NANNIE BELL-LOWERY, 77, Caretaker, of Homestead, died February 11, at Homestead Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Covenant Missionary Baptist Church.

BAIN RANGE FUNERAL HOME - Coconut Grove



DOROTHY P. LEE, 77, Retired Educator, died February 14th at Aventura Hospital. Viewing will be held 5 to 7 pm Friday at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 3515 Douglas Road. The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Omega Service will be at 7:00 p.m. Homegoing service will be 12 noon Saturday. Survivors include: her daughter, Bridgett L. Moody; son-in-law, Antonio; Grandchildren: Jason, Jasmine; and a host of other relatives and friends.



APOSTLE LARRY R. WASHINGTON, Teacher, 66, of Homestead, died Feb. 9th at Kendall Regional Hospital. Funeral will be held 2:30 pm Saturday at Second Baptist Church.

HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens



JOHN ODOM, 58, Salesman, died February 13 at Memorial Hospital South. Services were held.

EDWARD JAMES PEOPLE, 81, Optician, died February 11. Funeral was held 11 am Monday in the chapel.

LAKESIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL



EMILIC AUGUSTE, died February 15. Arrangements are pending.

GREGORY HARDY, 51, Web Designer, died February 3. Services were held.

JOSEPH KAHN, 94, Textile Executive, died February 8. A memorial service will be held in White Plains, NY.

RANGE FUNERAL HOME



AMOS ADAMS JR., 73, Retired Pool Builder, died February 9. Funeral 2 pm Saturday at Mt. Olive M. B. Church in South Miami.

LITTLE D'AVAE MASSAI ARMBRISTER, 5, died February 10. Final Rites and Burial in Nassau, Bahamas.



BISHOP HERMAN EZEKIAL DEAN, 104, Bishop Emeritus, for Church of God of Phrophecy# 1, died February 8. Viewing 5-7 pm Friday and Memorial Service 7pm Friday at Church of God of Phrophecy #1. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Bethel Apostolic Temple.

ELDER SOL (MARK) JOHNSON, 49, Pastor, died February 13. Arrangements are incomplete.



ALBERT DOUGLAS MOORE SR., 97, Retired Assistant County Manager, for Miami Dade County, Florida died February 11. Survivors include: his daughters, Patricia M. McArthur, and Jacquelyn M. Davis; grandsons, Wendell Ford, Jr., Mark W. Ford, Sr., and Derrick Louis Davis; granddaughters, Belinda Moore Brinson, D'Andrea Davis-Carter and L'Chaundra Davis Willis; and a host of other relatives and friends. Viewing 5-8 pm Thursday at Range Chapel. Funeral will be held 12 pm Friday at The Historical Mt. Zion M. B. Church.

JAMES C. BOYD FUNERAL HOME



SHANTA MICHELLE HOLMES, 62, died February 7 at Mount Bethel Ministries.

PRINCESS SHERLAND LORDEUS, 42, died. Funeral was held 10 am Sunday at Shekina Seventh-day Adventist Church.

JEANNE MATHURIN, 54, died. Funeral was held 10 am Sunday at Shekina Seventh-day Adventist Church.

HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK



GEANIE ARNETTE COLEMAN, 56, Bus Driver, for MDPS died February 9 at Memorial West. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at House of God Miracle Revival Fellowship.

MORRIS JONES, 61, Laborer, died February 11, at Aventura Hospital. Funeral is 1 pm Saturday at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

CAREY ROYAL RAM'N FUNERAL HOME



KHYESE COACH, 3, died February 9, at Broward Health Coral Springs. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at Calvary Chapel Of Cypress Creek.

AMINUL HOQUE, 53, Telecommunications Owner/Operator, died February 9, at his residence. Graveside Services were held.



ALFRED RANDOLPH, 58, Minister, died February 14 at Broward Health Medical Center. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Spirit Of Christ Ministries.



CHRISTINE STARR, 74, Retired, died February 12, at Miami Jewish Home. Funeral will be held Saturday at New Birth Cathedral Baptist Church.

WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME



SANTANA AKINS, 21, Security Officer, died February 11. Funeral 1 pm. Saturday at Friendship M.B. Church.

BETTY ANDERSON, 76, died February 12. Funeral 10 am Saturday at Mt. Calvary M.B. Church.

DONNELL HINES, 52, Laborer, died February 13. Funeral 3 pm Saturday at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church.

ROSIE KING, 81, died February 15. Funeral 11 am Saturday at Believer's Life.

PAX VILLA FUNERAL HOME - Miami



JUSLENE STARAM BADEAU, died February 11, in Miami, Florida. Service was held 2 pm Tuesday, at Pax Villa Funeral Home, Fort Lauderdale.

ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME



WILLIE B. REED, 86, of Dania Beach, died February 16. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Saint Ruth Baptist Church, Dania Beach, FL.

JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



DAVID BRAGGS, 83, Construction Laborer, died February 11. Funeral was held 11 am Tuesday at Jay's Chapel.

WILBURN DENNIS, 69 Laborer, died February 13. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Jay's Chapel.



WILLIE B. JOHNSON, 64, Truck Driver, died February 13. Arrangements are incomplete.

MARIE GINETTE JEANTY, 59, Nurse Assistant, died February 14. Arrangements are incomplete.



REVEREND CORNELIA WALTON, Pastor died February 6. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church.

HALL-FERGUSON-HEWITT MORTUARY



ARTIS WILLIAMS PARKER JR., 48, died February 11. Funeral will be held 12:30 pm Saturday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt Chapel.

SAMORI WALDEN, 42 Entrepreneur died on February 15th. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at New Providence MBC. The Church address is 760 NW 53rd Street.

WADE FUNERAL HOME



GERALDINE WRIGHT-PRESTON, 68, LPN Nurse, died February 14 at home. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Wade Funeral Home in the Chapel.

MANKER FUNERAL HOME



REGINALD DEVON KILLINGS, 30, Poet, died February 8, at his residence. Funeral service was held.



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Michele Ferrero, maker of Nutella, dies on Valentine's Day

ROME (AP) — Michele Ferrero, the world's richest candy maker whose Nutella chocolate and hazelnut spread helped raise generations of Europeans and de-

chocolates. The company's products also included Tic Tacs and the Kinder line of products — including the eggs beloved by children for the treat inside.

Ferrero's father, Pietro, started making Nutella when cocoa was still rationed during World War II, Forbes noted in ranking Ferrero and his family 30th on the list of the world's richest billionaires in 2014, worth \$23.4 billion.

The company was one of Italy's most successful, a prime example of the "Made in Italy" brand of food and luxury goods that have defined the private sector in post-war Italy.

Italian President Sergio Mattarella praised Ferrero as one of the leaders of Italian industry, "always ahead of his time thanks to innovative products and his tenacious work and reserved character."

Pietro Ferrero opened his first chocolate laboratory in Alba, in Italy's northwest Piemonte region, in 1942. The business passed to Michele upon Pietro's death in 1949.

Michele Ferrero developed Kinder chocolates in 1968, Tic Tacs a year later and Ferrero Rocher in 1982, according to a biography provided by the company. Eventually, Ferrero introduced the Ferrero Rocher chocolates in Europe and by 1985 began selling them in the United States, according to the company's website.

By 1997, Michele Ferrero handed over the running of the company to his two sons, Pietro and Giovanni. Pietro Ferrero died in 2011 of a cardiac arrest, leaving Giovanni the sole CEO.

Survivors include Ferrero's wife, Maria Franca, and Giovanni.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BASILE.BLOG.ILSOLE24ORE.COM

Michele Ferrero

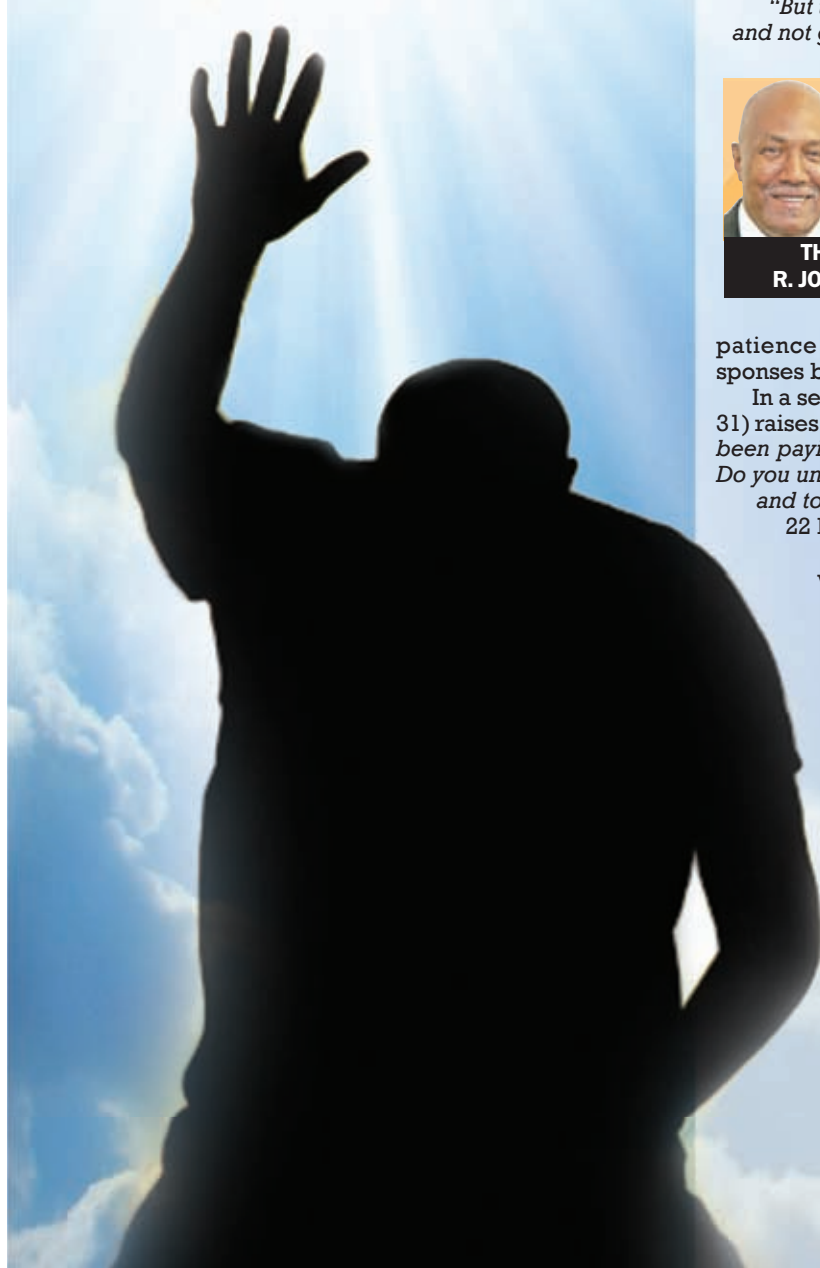
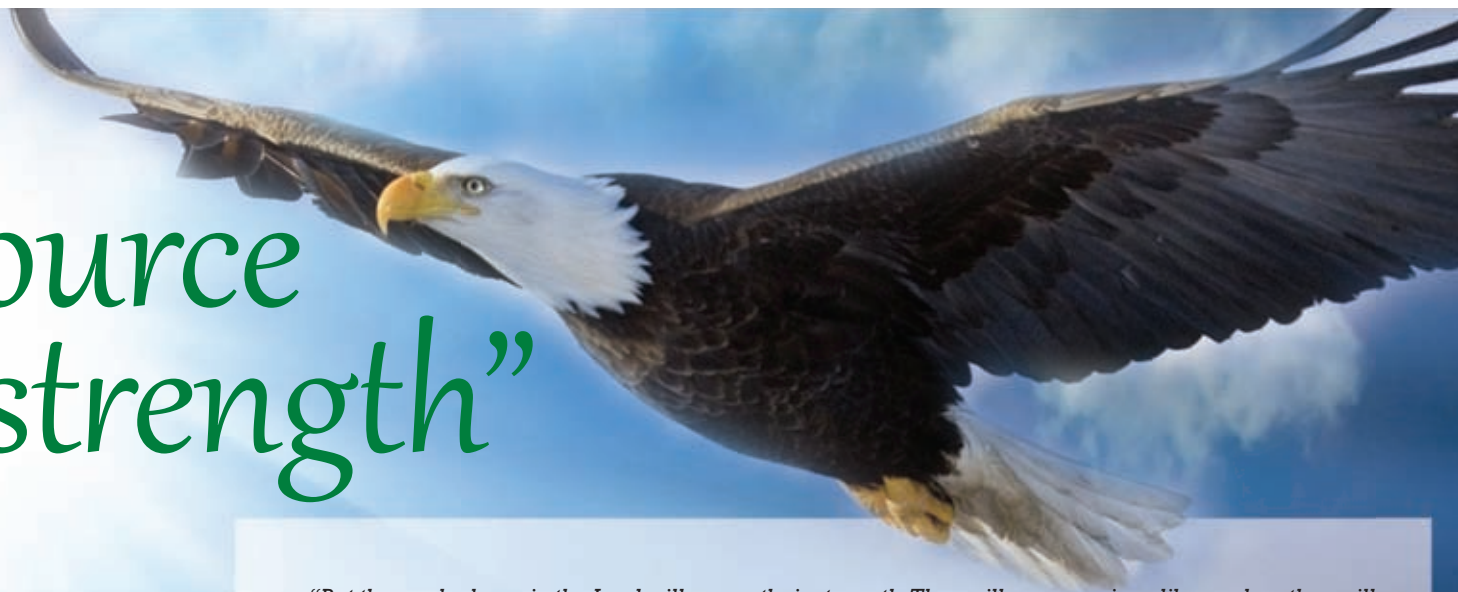
finer Italian sweets, died on Valentine's Day, the company said. He was 89.

Ferrero, who had been ill for several months, died Saturday in Monte Carlo where he lived, surrounded by his family, the company said in a statement.

Ferrero was the patriarch of the eponymous family empire best known for its Nutella and Ferrero Rocher

Prayerful Living

“The Source of our strength”



“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31 NIV)



THE REV. DR. R. JOAQUIN WILLIS

All of us get tired and weak some-time. We burn out. We need renewal and even compassionate people sometimes suffer from compassion fatigue. At times, our patience runs out, our tempers flare, and our responses become curt, if not downright mean.

In a series of messages on comfort, Isaiah (40:21-31) raises some good questions asking, “Have you not been paying attention? Have you not, been listening? Do you understand God is the foundation of all things, and to Him we are like mere ants?” Isaiah (40:21-22 MB)

To God, the kings and queens of this world, its priests, preachers, and political leaders all come and go, and (we) mean nothing to Him, especially when our actions displease Him, It is then He has to replace us.

Who is it that can hold a candle to God? God is so powerful, and is very attentive to detail; He never overlooks the actions of a single soul. God’s strength lasts; God never gets tired; nor does His compassion run out. Even youth get tired and weary, and young men do stumble and fall, but God can and will re-energize them and us all.

It is important to remember God is able to save every one of us, and He can surely save His church. God is wise, and He is never at a loss for words; nor does He wonder what to do about any situation we may face.

God didn’t just create the world. He still upholds it, and He governs all that’s in the world. ISIS can burn a pilot alive, and Jordan can retaliate by killing two of their soldiers. Planes can crash and disappear into the sea. Babies can suffer

brain cancer and men and women can die. President Barack Obama can speak the truth about America’s hypocrisy and upset some people, but God is never at a loss with what to do about all of these things.

When we don’t know what to do, God does. All we have to do is seek His wisdom by turning to His word and study it, meditate on it day and night, and then turn to Him in prayer. He will guide our feet, comfort our hearts and put the right words in our mouths.

God upholds and governs creation. As God grants us new occasions to serve Him in ministry, we are given new anointing to do so, and our lamps are then supplied with fresh oil. He gives us new strength. As He increases our work, He increases our strength. As the struggles of each day come, so, too, comes our strength for that day’s task.

When we don’t know what to do, He does. God gives strength and power to the weak, and if needed He can increase it.

He will give us strength to labor. He will give us strength to wrestle. He will give us strength to resist. He will give us strength to bear up under any burden!

So as goes the struggles of each day, so comes our strength. As goes our trust and patience in God so upwards shall we soar toward Him.

As goes our waiting and trusting in God, He then mounts us upon wings like those of eagles. We don’t need to climb on the wings, because it is our patience and trust in Him that grants us the right to mount. When our souls and spirits rise above our challenges, then shall our souls and spirits rise above the earth.

Those who have true patience show it and are willing to trust and wait on God. Somehow, they find their strength being renewed.

This is when we find the strength to run and not grow weary, and to walk and not faint. As it was for Christ, so shall it be for us. When we know God is “the Source of our strength,” we never give out because He never gives up on us.

The Rev. Dr. R. Joaquin Willis is pastor of the Church of the Open Door UCC in Miami’s Liberty City community. He may be reached at 305-759-0373 or pastor@churchoftheopendoormiami.org

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The cast of RAGTIME. Photo by George Schiavone.

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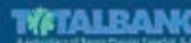
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film 'Fifty Shades' falls flat

By **KIMBERLY GRANT**
Special to South Florida Times

As script to screen goes, it's not easy adapting a beloved story into something that rewards your visual senses. After all, it's the visual representation of a story that makes audiences flock to the theaters. It's also what caused many people to flock to a theater to witness the spectacle that is *Fifty Shades of Grey*.

In the film adaptation, our favorite Anastasia Steele (Dakota Johnson, daughter of Don Johnson and Melanie Griffith) meets and falls in love with dangerous Prince Charming with a sadist edge Christian Grey (played by Jamie Dornan) and finds out about his extra-curricular activities that involve his "Red Room of Pain." Please note that this film is not for the young or the faint of heart. It's intended to be one young woman's journey of love and finding herself.

Expectations were high for this film to be spectacular. However, the long wait caused some astronomical expectations that the film doesn't quite meet. Screenwriter Kelly Marcel, the same scribe who wrote *Saving Mr. Banks*, made sure to highlight every major plot point of the

book. The film zips through every point to dizzying effect so that the 530-page book could be crammed and packaged into two hours. This speedy race makes viewers grip their seats to keep from falling off the crazy emotional train that is this film.

Director Sam Taylor-Johnson is so busy packaging the story into a neat 125 minutes that the story doesn't linger on any scene long enough to make an impact. The nuances, which author E.L. James painstakingly put in the story, are somewhat lost in the film adaptation. It's hard not to muse that *Fifty Shades of Grey* would have had a better chance at really captivating its audience if the first book had been broken up into two films, instead of one really long film.

Still, it's not bad for a film based on a book that started off as fan fiction for the *Twilight* series. Christian Grey is supposed to be Edward Cullen reimagined as a sadomasochist and Bella is reimagined as a strong-willed, funny sarcastic Everywoman. As you can guess, I prefer Anastasia to Bella, who is just plain weak and annoying. Many people, including first lady Michelle Obama have fallen in love with the book series. So, it's disappointing to see that our favorite sadist, Grey, is being played so safe by Dornan. In the book, Christian's ethereal presence that commands cool, calm, collected, and no one lose it; except Anastasia. But, in his portrayal, Christian seems to have lost some of his mysteriousness.

Likewise, Dornan clearly does not have much chemistry with Johnson; especially in the first half hour of the film. They're both great actors, but you can't fake chemistry. It's either there or it isn't.

Johnson, however, really gives Anastasia depth and light. The character is less emotional, stronger-willed, and has a great sense of humor. This Anastasia Steele doesn't sulk about her boyfriend's habits. She tries to accept them with her sense of humor and then encourages a positive change.

The emotional heft that it took to do this film causes this critic to wonder about the well-being of the actress who plays Anastasia. Is she okay? How willing was she to be full-frontal naked on screen? How does she feel filming something that could be considered soft-core porn that doesn't measure up to its literary predecessor's standards? Many actresses drop trou for the sake of artistic expression. But, when the expression is not as artistic as it should be, they've basically wasted their time and effort for a film that's not that great.

The film is still worth the watch. Fans of the book series will recognize familiar scenes. And, audiences who haven't read the book, will appreciate the visual beauty of the film; even though the film is not up to par for the expectations placed on its shoulders from over a year of audience anticipation. Here's hoping *Fifty Shades Darker* will be better.

 KAliciaG@aol.com
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PHOTOS COURTESY OF WALLPAPERUP & IBTIMES.COM
Anastasia Steele (Dakota Johnson) and Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan)

music & pop culture



Berry Gordy's story told through artists of yesteryear

Staff Report

FORT LAUDERDALE — The story of Hitsville USA and the man who made the Motown sound possible is coming to South Florida for a two-week run.

Directed by Charles Randolph-Wright, *Motown the Musical* is the true American dream story of Motown founder Berry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to the heavyweight music mogul who launched the careers of Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Marvin Gaye and so many more.

The curtain raises Tuesday, Feb. 24 through Sunday, March 8, at Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave. Tickets start at \$34.75.

Featuring more than 40 classic hits such as *My Girl* and *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, *Motown the Musical* tells the story behind the hits as Diana, Smokey, Berry and the whole Motown family fight against the odds to create the soundtrack of change in America. Motown shattered barriers, shaped our lives and made us all move to the same beat.

Clifton Oliver and Allison Semmes will star in the leading roles of Berry Gordy and Diana Ross. Semmes and cast-

mate Jarran Muse, who portrays Marvin Gaye, paused during the show in Boston to answer a few questions for *South Florida Times*.

SFL Times: Since taking this role, what have you learned about Hitsville/Motown that you didn't previously know?

Semmes: I knew about the artists of Motown and the classic repertoire but I had no idea about what the company went thru, like the formation, the social change it created and all the challenges the company faced while it produced all of the hits, we know and love.

SFL Times: How did you prepare for your role?

Muse: After reading all the books and other written material on Marvin, and talking one on one with Mr. Gordy, I turned to YouTube to pull up rare interviews and performances.

SFL Times: What is your favorite scene, and why?

Semmes: I love *Reach Out and Touch* because it's the one scene that portrays a live show! I love connecting

Jarran Muse, left, portrays Marvin Gaye. At right, Krisha Marciano (Florence Ballard) Allison Semmes (Diana Ross) and Trisha Jeffrey (Mary Wilson) perform as the Supremes in *Motown the Musical*.

with the audiences and bringing up volunteers. You never know who will come up and sing!

SFL Times: If you could describe this musical in one word, what would it be?

Muse: Elegant

SFL Times: What do you think is so special about the sound of Motown, that makes it live on years later?

Muse: The music is timeless, and just makes you feel good, and groove to the beat.

SFL Times: What is your favorite song/number in the show?

Muse: *What's Going On*

Other cast members include Jesse Nager as Smokey Robinson; Patrice Covington as Martha Reeves; and Leon Outlaw Jr. and Reed L. Shannon, who portray Berry Gordy's boyhood counterpart and the roles of young stars Michael Jackson and Stevie Wonder.

For tickets, visit www.browardcenter.org or call (800) 745-3000.



ON THE COVER

ILLUSTRATION BY MJURY/ FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Clifton Oliver as Berry Gordy, Allison Semmes as Diana Ross

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOAN MARCUS

Shannon L. Reed as Michael Jackson (center) with the rest of the Jackson 5 appear in *Motown the Musical*.

Traditional and audacious grace Grammy red carpet

By LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

Grammy's newcomer Sam Smith looked dapper in a white bow tie and Madonna rocked one of the season's most eclectic red carpets on Grammy night in a bedazzled two-corner black hat and burlesque-esque corset with matching thigh-high boots.

Fashion is always a little crazy at the Grammys, guys included, but first-time winner Smith soaked it all up in a more traditional tuxedo as he managed his nerves going up against some of his idols.

Madonna's big-shouldered shorty outfit was custom Givenchy Haute Couture by Riccardo Tisci. She wore not much underneath, flashing a black thong and fishnets at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. She wasn't a hit with some in the Twitter peanut gallery: "Just got a glimpse of Madonna arriving. Seems to be channeling some mix of the Duchess of Windsor and Mae West," one chimed in.

Rihanna dashed into the live show at the last minute in a poofy, tiered pink confection of silk and tulle from Giambattista Valli that had some online comparing her to a party cupcake. She was dripping in Chopard diamonds.

Beyonce and Miley Cyrus went for black — Cyrus in strategic, sexy cutouts and the queen in a low V-neck embellished gown with a train from Proenza Schouler. Also in black was Gwen Stefani in a stunning strapless black Versace Atelier jumpsuit with a structured spiderweb swirl up top.

Known for leg-baring, Pharrell Williams didn't break from tradition. He was dressed in a gray short suit, matching bow tie and shoes, from Adidas.

Tuxedos aren't just for the dudes these days. Charlie XCX did her white tailed-tux trouser look justice from one of her favorites, Moschino, paired with a bright pink bow tie and blush fur stole.

"I hate boring fashion so I wanted to do something '80s and fabulous," she said. "I like unpredictable."

Katy Perry's tousled lavender hair popped against her silver backless sheer dress. It fell below the knee and had long sleeves and swiny crystal fringe — fresh from the Paris runway of Zuhair Murad. She wore a \$2 million canary yellow diamond ring from Harry Kotlar.

Perry was greeted on the red carpet by Nicki Minaj in black Tom Ford, her décolletage out in a front slit cut to her waist. Ford also dressed Jennifer Hudson in a stunning bright white strapless dress that fell just below the knee, her sassy short hair a perfect complement. So was her Marli diamond choker.

Kim Kardashian's gold John Paul Gaultier screamed bathrobe, but her new shorter 'do looked great. No matter.

"I love how sparkly it is," she said. "I love it."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

From left: Lady Gaga, Mary J. Blige, Katy Perry and Rita Ora.

Ne-Yo's album misses the mark

By DEEPTI HAJELA
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ahh, Ne-Yo. So much talent — the voice, the songwriting. And yet, somehow, *Non-Fiction* (Motown) is such a boring album.

It's a little crazy-making, truth be told. All the ingredients are here — some hot beats; smooth, rich vocals; and the idea of an album as a whole concept rather than a collection of songs. So why isn't it more interesting or compelling?

Maybe it's because this album, his sixth, feels so one-dimensional. There's a song about a woman, then another song about a woman, this one using him for whatever celebrity swag she can get. Oh hey, there's a song about sex with a woman, or preferably two (which interestingly, has a beautiful melody). Aaaaannnd, there's another song about a woman, who decided to move on to someone else and Ne-Yo wishes her well.

Ne-Yo says the songs came from stories, from his life and those of his fans, but they're all saying the same thing.

With his extensive vocal and musical skills, it would likely be fascinating to hear the outcome if Ne-Yo decided to broaden his musical conversation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SWAGSOLDSEPARATELY.COM

Ne-Yo

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Series support is generously provided by Beverly and Bill Parker, along with the Friends of Free Gospel Sundays

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lifestyle



Mercedes Benz f015 concept

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MERCEDESBLG.COM



Interior of the Mercedes Benz f015 concept car.

Coming to a car near you: auto technology at CES

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Self-driving cars garner much of the attention, but in reality, we're years away from tooling around in something like Knight Rider's KITT. Coming sooner to a car near you: smartphone apps on dash displays, cruise control that adapts to cars around it, remote engine starting and more.

At the recent International CES in Las Vegas, 10 automakers and numerous suppliers unveiled technological features that will find their way into cars in the distant and not-so-distant future. Here's a look at some of their wares.

Your car will think. It will react. It will learn.

"This car will take responsibility," said Dieter Zetsche, leader of Mercedes-Benz, as he introduced the company's luxury self-driving concept car of the future.

If that sounds a bit scary, like the prologue to a film in which machines overtake mankind, companies supplying the brains and eyes for these robocars say it's for our own good. Cars already do some of these things, really. Anti-lock brake systems, cruise control and parallel parking assistance are steps toward taking our hands completely off the wheel.

There are 1.2 million traffic-related deaths globally each year, according to the World Health Organization; 32,719 of them were in the U.S. in 2013. As automakers point out, your self-driving car won't get drunk, tired or distracted. And they could

return something many other gadgets have taken away: time.

First, "the car has to become self-aware. It has to be able to see and understand what's happening around it," said Jen-Hsun Huang, co-founder and CEO of Nvidia, which introduced a super-fast processor at the show and has been working with Audi to develop piloted systems and in-car digital displays.

Audi touted a road trip that its A7 piloted prototype — piloted because there still needs to be a driver behind the wheel to assure nothing goes awry — took from Silicon Valley to Las Vegas for the show, without incident, "driven" by chosen journalists sitting behind the wheel.

"We are ready for piloted driving on public streets," said Ulrich Hackenberg from Audi's board of management.

But laws that would allow such autonomy aren't quite ready; neither are answers to questions such as: Can someone sue a driverless car if it's in a crash? If it can't avoid a crash, how will it decide what or whom to crash into? Can a car be hacked and if so, how can it be protected?

Carmakers and suppliers admit there's still quite a bit they and their cars are learning. Mercedes-Benz says their ultimate vision of the future — a sleek carriage that will ferry us to our destinations — exists beyond 2030, at least.

For now, though, your car might be

able to know:

WHERE YOU'RE SHOPPING

Ask Chevrolet's OnStar system for directions to the nearest Dunkin' Donuts, and you might receive a coupon. The carmaker has partnered with the doughnut chain, Priceline.com and the Speedway brand of gas stations for opt-in promotions.

The service can mine data in the car to offer advice on systems that might be close to failing, like a near-dead battery or a fuel system malfunction. Pass along your real-time driving habits to your insurer and you might earn rewards for good driving.

WHAT'S ON YOUR SMARTPHONE:

Being able to plug one's smartphone into a dash display seems obvious with so many plug-and-play options elsewhere, but it hasn't been easy in cars until now. Apple's Car Play and eventually Android's version will let a driver plug in their devices and view their songs, apps and maps on the in-car display.

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR SMARTPHONE, OR SMARTWATCH:

Hyundai's Blue Link system now includes a smartphone app that lets car owners start the car remotely, lock or unlock it, find their car within a mile using GPS tracking (such as in a big parking lot), send a destination to the car's navigation system and send alerts. Have a teenage driver in the house who's borrowing the car? Your car, via your phone, will tell you if the car was started after curfew or if it was traveling above a certain speed limit.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDROIDHEADLINES.COM

Hyundai Blue link

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND IT:

That red light? That slow car up ahead? Adaptive cruise control available in cars soon will be so advanced that the machines will sense when a car ahead is slowing down and safely change lanes to zoom around (on the driver's signal.) If a car up ahead stops or there's a red light, the car will come to a halt. Inside a Volkswagen Golf being tested by Valeo and IAV, who are developing automated software and hardware for cars, self-driving mode brought the car slowly to a stop behind a school bus on a Las Vegas street, the driver's hands off the wheel and feet off the pedals.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF INHABITAT.COM

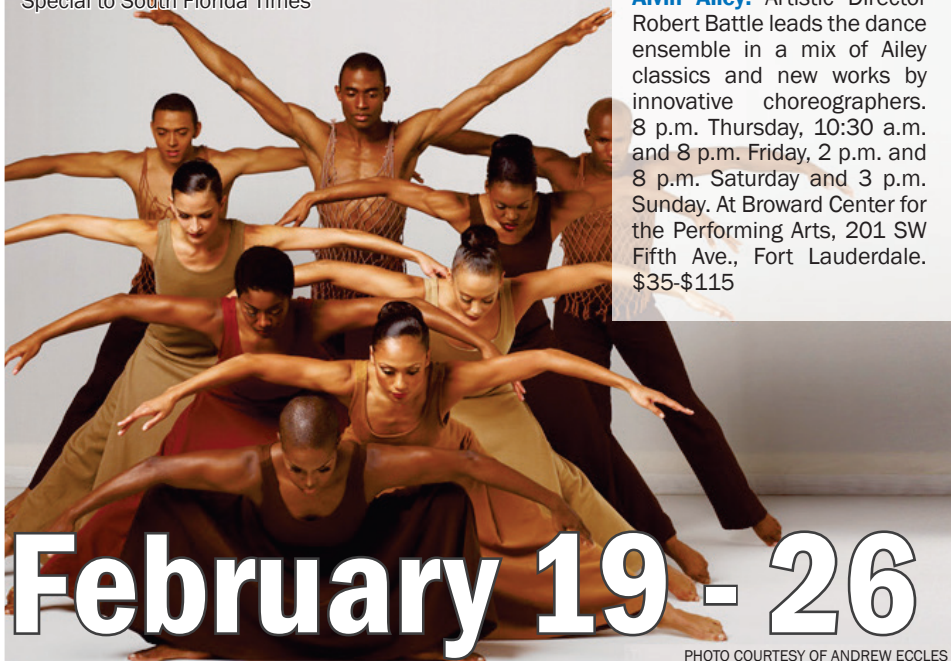
Mercedes Benz f015 virtual experience



Mercedes Benz test drive

events calendar

COMPILED BY **MARISSA CLARKE**
Special to South Florida Times



February 19 - 26

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDREW ECCLES

Feb 19

Alvin Ailey: Artistic Director Robert Battle leads the dance ensemble in a mix of Ailey classics and new works by innovative choreographers. 8 p.m. Thursday, 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. At Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$35-\$115

Feb 20

Soul2Soul Voices of Love: Make it a night of smooth jazz with vocalist Dianne Reeves, who recently won her fifth Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album. Singer Phil Perry also performs. 8 p.m. at Adrienne Arsht Center, 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. \$25-\$150. 305-949-6722 or www.arshtcenter.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF IROCKJAZZ.COM

February 21

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2: This delightful comedy follows Flint Lockwood, who works at his dream job at the Live Corp Company. He's in for a surprise when he learns that his famous machine is still producing food-animal hybrids. The film will be screened outdoors, bring a chair or blankets to enjoy the film on the large inflatable screen. 7:30 p.m. at Weston Regional Park, 20200 Saddle Club Rd., Weston. Free. 954-389-4321.

Feb 21

The Fella Sings Ella: Singer Scott Coulter takes Ella Fitzgerald tunes from the Great American Songbook for a spin. During the performance he'll also discuss Fitzgerald's life. 8 p.m. at Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, 3385 NE 188th St., Aventura. \$35 and \$40. 305-466-8002 or www.aventuracenter.org.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LMI MUSIC PRESENTS.COM AND ALL MUSIC.COM

The House I Live In: The War on Drugs is the focus of Eugene Jarecki's 2012 documentary. Civil rights attorney Michelle Alexander and Charles Bowden of the New York Times are among the participants in this engaging film. David Khun, the producer of the film will discuss the film following the screening. 1:30 p.m. at Mandel Public Library, 411 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-868-7700.

A Night at the Movies: Catch Charlie Chaplin's *The Immigrant* and Buster Keaton's *Cops*, two classic silent films with scoring by the Broward Symphony Orchestra. Following the screening of the films, the orchestra will perform selections from the *Lord of the Rings* soundtrack. 8 p.m. at Bailey Concert Hall and Fine Arts Theatre, 3501 SW Davie Rd., Fort Lauderdale. \$15. 954-201-6884.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TUMBLR.COM

Polynesian Cultural Festival: The 12th annual event is designed to showcase the traditions, cultural expressions and artistry. Expect authentic Polynesian dances, live music and more. Learn about basket weaving, coconut husking and check out the fire knife dance after sunset. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today and Sunday at Jaco Pastorius Park, 4000 N. Dixie Hwy., Oakland Park. \$7, free for children 12 and under. 954-938-9010.

Tamarac Teen Summit: Teens can learn about health, attitude, stress and weight management through presentations at this summit, which features breakfast and lunch. 9 a.m. to noon at the Tamarac Community Center, 8601 W. Commercial Blvd., Tamarac. \$10. 954-597-3674.

February 22

The Florida Youth Orchestra: Bring a blanket and chairs to watch the Principal and Flute choirs of the FYO perform. 4 p.m. at Mizner Park Amphitheatre, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. Free. 954-962-5666.

February 25

Yoga in the Park: Bring your yoga mat, water, and a towel to relax and unwind with a yoga session by the bay. A certified instructor will lead you through the movements and the atmosphere is perfect to reduce your stress before returning to the weekday grind. 6 p.m. at Bayfront Park Amphitheater, 301 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. Free. 305-358-7550.

February 26

Read Along, Sing a Song: Monica Kurtz, teaching artist of the Florida Grand Opera, leads students in a story. During the reading children can pick up an instrument, follow a dance, or sing a song to illustrate certain parts of the story. 6 p.m. at Tyrone Bryant Branch Library, 2230 NW 21st Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 305-403-3308. Reservations required.

Feb 19



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROOKLYNVEGAN.COM

Diana Ross: The legendary singer and actress performs. From her hits with the Supremes to her amazing solo career, it is sure to be a great concert. 8 p.m. at Hard Rock Live, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. \$65-\$85. 1-866-502-7529.

February 19

Historical Black Precinct: Learn about Overtown's Black police officers who served in the pre-civil rights era of the 1940s, '50s and '60s. The museum features police memorabilia, documents, video and stories told by some of the men and women who worked there. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday at Black Police Precinct and Courthouse Museum, 480 NW 11th St., Miami. \$10 admission. 305-239-2513 or www.historicalblackprecinct.org.

Feb 20

Big Night in Little Haiti: Groove to the sounds of Paul Beau-brun and Zing. Experience a band that fuses Haitian roots, rock and reggae for an altogether unique sound. The night also features arts and crafts for the kids and a tour of the gallery's exhibits. 6 to 10 p.m. at the Little Haiti Cultural Center, 212 NE 59th Terr., Miami. Free. 305-672-5202.



PHOTO COURTESY OF REVISTABENNA.ORG

Please email your event to news@sfltimes.com by the preceding Thursday at 10 a.m.

food *A Mediterranean Menu for Outdoor Entertaining*

FAMILY FEATURES — When al fresco entertaining calls for some flavorful inspiration, look to the fresh and abundant offerings of Mediterranean cuisine.

Inspired by its coastal origins, traditional Greek dishes feature a colorful collection of fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes and grilled fare. Whether you're serving friends with a themed event or simply enjoying a homemade meal

with the family, delicious Greek cuisine is perfect for sharing with those you love.

From raw to roasted, pickled to caramelized, the onion is one of the most versatile vegetables, and is commonly found among the many fresh flavors of this fare. Plus, when you cook with the mighty onion, you're serving up a good source of vitamin C.

Turkey and Onion Meatball Kebabs with Yogurt Dipping Sauce

Servings: 6 large or 9 small kebabs

- 1 tablespoon cumin seed
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro
- 1 tablespoon chopped chives
- 3/4 teaspoon honey
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound ground turkey
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 teaspoons lemon zest
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 large yellow onion, peeled and cut in thin wedges
- 1 green pepper, cut into 1-inch dices
- 12 cherry tomatoes

Heat small pan over medium heat. Add cumin seeds to toast. Stir frequently, for about 3 minutes or until seeds are fragrant and slightly browned. Remove seeds to spice grinder or mortar and pestle; grind to moderately fine powder.

In medium bowl, combine yogurt, cilantro, chives, honey, salt and 1 teaspoon ground toasted cumin. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

In second medium bowl, combine turkey, garlic, lemon zest, salt, cayenne and 1 teaspoon ground toasted cumin; mix gently but thoroughly. Shape into eighteen 1 1/2-inch meatballs.

Preheat grill. On metal skewers (or bamboo skewers soaked in water 30 minutes), thread meatball, onion wedge, pepper square and cherry tomato. Repeat. Finish skewer with another meatball and onion wedge.

Grill until meatballs reach internal temperature of 160°F, turning as needed. Serve immediately with dipping sauce.

For mini-skewers, use 2 meatballs, 2 onion wedges, 1 cherry tomato and 1 pepper square on each skewer.

Lentil Salad with Marinated Onions, Roasted Tomatoes and Olives

Servings: 6-8

- 2-3 medium tomatoes cut into eight wedges
- 1 (9.5-ounce) jar whole, pitted Greek olives, drained
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 8 thyme sprigs, leaves removed
- Sea salt
- 1 1/3 cups lentils
- 1/2 medium red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 1/2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 2 garlic cloves, pressed
- 1 medium cucumber, chopped
- 1 (12-ounce) jar artichoke hearts, sliced
- 1/4 cup parsley, chopped
- 3 tablespoons chives, chopped
- 2/3 cup crumbled feta
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- Fresh ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 400°F. On medium-sized baking sheet lined with parchment paper, arrange tomatoes skin side down. Add drained olives to pan; drizzle with 1 tablespoon olive oil and balsamic vinegar. Sprinkle with thyme leaves and sea salt. Roast for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and cool completely.

Cook lentils according to package directions, approximately 20 minutes.

While lentils are cooking, place red onion in small bowl. Pour red wine vinegar over onions and sprinkle with sea salt. Stir and let stand at room temperature while lentils are cooking.

When lentils finish cooking, drain if needed. In large bowl combine lentils, marinated red onion, garlic and remaining olive oil. Mix well and cool completely. When cool, combine rest of ingredients with lentils. Serve cold.

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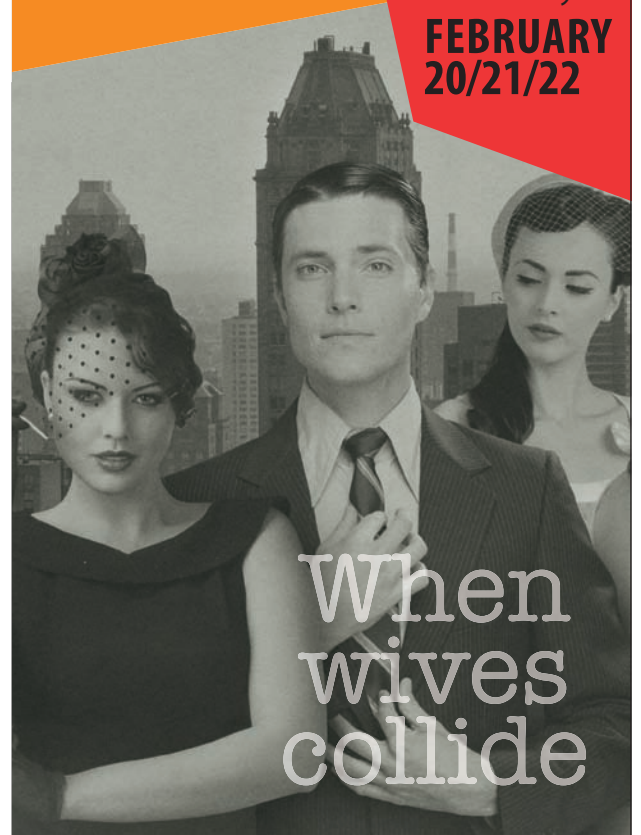
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