

# Christian Reader

Vol. 16 No. 2

FEBRUARY 2008

FREE MONTHLY

## COULD IT BE LORD?

### America's First Black President Barack Obama – Change You Can Count On!

By Darryl A. Barrs, Sr.  
Publisher / Managing Editor

“There is one thing on this February night that we do not need the final results to know. Our time has come,” Obama said to ecstatic cheers from supporters. “Our movement is real. And change is coming to America.”

Lord could it be so? A Black man, President of the United States of America? We find this hard to believe not because a Black man is incapable of doing the job of President, but this lack of belief centers around White America's willingness to vote for a Black man for President. Racism in the past has declared by its vote – anybody but the Black man. The White House not the Black House.

Now we see front and center, on every television, Barack Obama on Super Tuesday becoming Super Black Man as his supporters chant “Yes we can! Obam-A!” Many thought he would never get this far. His first win in South Carolina was down-played by President Clinton who stated Jessie Jackson won South Carolina, implying Obama would have this one win and fade into the mediocre ranks of typical Black Presidential Candidates.



*“We came together as Democrats, Republicans and independents to say we are one nation, we are one people, and our time has come.” Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama addresses supporters at Hy-Vee Hall in Des Moines after his victory in the Iowa caucus.*



*Waltrina Middleton of Chicago, center, joins the crowd swaying to a campaign video at the Barack Obama election party in downtown Chicago.*

However, this man that President Clinton constantly referred to as a kid, now has to his credit wins in the East, the South, the Bible Belt, the Mid-West, the North and half of California; with states that include South Carolina, North Dakota, Kansas, Minnesota, Illinois, Alabama, Georgia, Delaware, Connecticut, Idaho, Alaska, Utah and Missouri. Barack Obama as a result of Super Tuesday now leads in the democratic delegate count.

Barack Obama does not need America – America needs Barack Obama. He is a millionaire. He can retire from his labors and be secure for the rest of his life. However, he has chosen to give of himself to our country to do a most difficult job that will wrinkle his face and tarnish his shine. He is the most qualified candidate for the job which requires change... He is Change You Can Count On!

If this country denies him the opportunity to serve simply because he is Black, it will be a sad day in America. When you are down in a pit, you are in no position to choose the arm that pulls you out... the hand that operates on your ailing body maybe that of a foreigner whose race you once despised.

see OBAMA page 7

# Congressional Update: Local Funding Initiatives in the 110 th Congress

Congresswoman Brown has long prided herself on ensuring that the Third District receives its fair share of federal funding, and this year is no different. She has once again made transportation and infrastructure projects a top funding priority because they enhance communities and put people to work. The Congresswoman has secured millions of dollars for bus and bus facilities in Jacksonville and Central Florida, a downtown transit circulator study in Orlando, control tower construction at Orlando International Airport, access road improvement at Jacksonville International Airport, taxiway improvements at Gainesville Airport, harbor improvements at JaxPort, and pedestrian improvements on the Northside of Jacksonville.



**Congresswoman Corrine Brown**

Furthermore, she has secured funding for numerous programs that improve local social services, which include: mental health & substance abuse programs; runaway youth and juvenile recidivism reduction programs in Duval County; PCAN health clinics and after school programs in Central Florida; and management programs for offenders with co-occurring mental illness and addiction in Alachua County. Funding has also been secured for cleaning up Hogan's Creek in Jacksonville.

Congresswoman Brown has secured millions in funding for research programs dealing with the St. Johns River at Jacksonville University, Aviation Firefighter Training at Florida Community College at Jacksonville, and High Performance Computer Simulation at the University of Central Florida. Brown has also helped raise significant capital dollars for Edward Waters College.

## Service Academy Nominations

I would like to recommend young men and women between the ages of 17-21 who are interested in a nomination to the United States Air Force, Military, Naval or Merchant Marine Academy. Applicants must reside in the Third Congressional District of Florida.

If you are interested in applying to one of the Academies, write to Congresswoman Corrine Brown at 101 East Union Street, Suite 202, Jacksonville, Florida 32202. Please mark your request "Academy application."

- \* United States Naval Academy
- \* United States Military Academy
- \* United States Air Force Academy
- \* United States Coast Guard Academy
- \* United States Merchant Marine Academy

Congresswoman Brown has also used her senior position on the Veteran's Affairs Committee to ensure funding for construction of a new veterans cemetery and health clinic in Jacksonville, a new veterans hospital in Central Florida, and two new bed towers in Gainesville.

Lastly, as the Chairwoman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Railroad, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, she has advocated on behalf of CSX and the Florida East Coast Railroad, secured federal funding for commuter rail in Central Florida, ensured continued funding for the Military Airport Program at Cecil Field, added FCCJ as an FAA Air Traffic Control Training facility, and authorized programs that cleanup the St. Johns River and improve waste management throughout Duval County.

Sincerely,

*Corrine Brown*

Member of Congress

## Congressional Art Competition

The annual Congressional art competition, "An Artistic Discovery," is open to all high school students who live in the Third Congressional District. Art work must be two dimensional and fall within the following categories:

1. Paintings — oil, acrylic, watercolor, etc.
2. Drawings
3. Collages
4. Prints — lithograph, silk screen, monotype, woodcut and intaglio

Please note that photography, computer generated art, masks and sculptures are not permitted. All work must be no larger than 32 X 32 inches framed. The winning entry will be displayed in the hallway of the U.S. Capitol building. The deadline for submissions is early May. The reception for the winning entry will be held in Washington, D.C. For more details, please contact Alice Smith of my Jacksonville office at (904) 354-1652.



**THE STEEPLE  
H.O.M.E. TEAM  
&  
THE METRO  
FEDERATION OF CHURCHES  
OFFER A SIX-STEP PLAN  
TO SHOW YOU...**



**SERVICES PROVIDED BY:**

- HUD CERTIFIED COUNSELORS
- REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS
- MORTGAGE INDUSTRY EXPERTS
- ACCOUNTANTS

**...HOW TO SURVIVE THE  
FORECLOSURE CRISIS!**

**IF YOU ARE A HOME OWNER  
FACING FORECLOSURE, HAVE AN  
ADJUSTABLE RATE MORTGAGE,  
REFINANCED IN THE PAST 3-YEARS,  
BEHIND IN MORTGAGE PAYMENTS  
OR JUST HAVE QUESTIONS...  
THE STEEPLE H.O.M.E. TEAM & THE  
METRO FEDERATION OF CHURCHES  
CAN ASSIST YOU THROUGH THIS  
CRISIS!**

THE STEEPLE H.O.M.E. TEAM ALSO  
PROVIDES FREE WORKSHOPS &  
SEMINARS AT CHURCHES, COMMUNITY  
CENTERS AND HOME OWNER  
ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

*Protecting Our Neighborhoods  
From Foreclosure,  
Fraud And Scams.*

*Teaching Our Neighbors  
How To Keep Their Homes.*

Phone: 407-592-0196  
E-mail: [info@communitysteeple.com](mailto:info@communitysteeple.com)  
Website:  
[www.CommunitySteeple.com](http://www.CommunitySteeple.com)

## FROM GOD'S CORNER



# “DON'T FORGET TO VOTE”

By Aundra Bryant  
Tallahassee, Florida

I am thoroughly convinced that the Word of God addresses every situation that we face on this Christian journey. At the moment, we are engaged in one of the most heated presidential race in the history of the United States. In keeping with the heavy debate between the Democrats and Republicans over who can best lead this nation, my mind ran back to a sermon delivered by a friend of mine. The title of his sermon was “Don't Forget My Bones”. In his discourse, he portrayed Joseph on his death bed in the Book of Genesis 50: 24-25. “And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he swear to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence”.

There are three reasons why Joseph didn't want them to forget his bones and why we should not forget to vote. Firstly, Joseph's life could have been compared to the gospel tune “sometimes up and sometimes down”. Joseph had gone through many experiences during his one hundred and ten years. We as African Americans have also been through so much but the Lord has been right there by our side. However, we cannot forget to vote on election day because those committed, faithful, and God fearing warriors died for a cause and not because. Remember that Joseph through his dreams helped to sustain Egypt through the famine years. Tell me where would America be if it had not been for the thousands of African Americans who have shaped and molded this nation in every possible way? Don't forget to vote!

Secondly, Joseph knew that God would do his part if the children of Israel would do theirs. In 2008, every person wants quality health care, quality education for their children, a safe community, a successful career and the best for the future generation but we have to do our part which involves casting our vote. We can no longer look forward to possessing the land which the Lord has promised to us, when only half of the registered voters show up on election day. The Lord cannot take you anywhere that you do not want to go. Don't forget to vote!

Finally, as Joseph was taking his last breath, the third generation, his grandchildren, sat at his feet for wisdom and instruction. Joseph's desire was that his bones not be scattered. Joseph knew that he would no longer be there in the flesh but that his legacy would remain the future generation for ever. The 2008 Presidential Race is unique in that for the first time we have a woman and an African American on the same ticket. Yet, the enemy of strife prejudice and division wants to divide us, giving the Republican Party four more years to wash America down the drain. The Word of God says that a house divided against itself cannot stand. I am sure that during the Civil Rights Era, every African American was not in favor of sit-ins, protest, marches and boycotts but we were united for one common cause.

In closing, there was a story told about a little boy who was put off the train for not having a ticket when the train pulled up to the station. The train moved on down the track but suddenly stalled. The engineer tried everything that he could but the train would not move. There was an old lady sitting on the train and she shouted out “Mr. Conductor, I have a suggestion, why don't you try and put the train in reverse and then throw it in forward”. The conductor took her suggestion and the train began to move. The conductor ran back to the old lady and said “It worked, do you have another suggestion?” The old lady said “Why don't you back up and pick up that little boy that you put off?”

The great challenge for us as African Americans in the election season is to not look to the future until we have picked up those lessons of the past.

***J. E. Fralin & Sons***  
**Funeral & Cremation Services**  
*“Serving Your Deserving Community”*



- Burial Insurance
- Pre-Need Plans
- Private Funerals
- Night Funerals
- Veterans Funerals
- Limousine Service
- Direct Burials
- Shipping Specialist
- Chapel Services
- Notary Public
- Cosmetic Restoration Specialists



**James E. Fralin, Sr. L.F.D.**  
President/CEO

**5065 Soutel Drive**  
**Jacksonville, Florida 32208**  
**(904) 924-9400**

**Fernandina Beach, Florida**  
**(904) 491-3301**

Staff:  
**Patricia W. Baldwin, L.F.D.**  
**L. Joyce Meadows, L.F.D.**  
**Faith B. Smith - Mary Nealey Ravnell**  
**Frances K. Cheesebrough - James E. Fralin, Jr.**

Serving North & Central Florida

# Christian Reader

The "Good-News" Newspaper

The *Christian Reader* is a monthly publication that seeks to strengthen our community through the knowledge of God our Creator, Christ our Redeemer, and The Holy Spirit our Guide.

It is our goal never to criticize, condemn, or complain, but instead to inspire, encourage, and enhance the lives of all people through Christian principles, teachings, examples, and knowledge.

Our purpose is to renew the total person - mind, body, and soul, that he/she may be well equipped to experience without hindrance the "life more abundantly" that Jesus promised to all that seek His face and do His will.

Our mailing address is:

**P. O. Box 9604, Daytona Beach, Florida 32120.**

**Darryl A. Barrs, Sr.**

Publisher / Managing Editor

**Gwendolyn E. Barrs**

General Manager / Chief Executive Officer

**Roy L. Campbell**

Principal / Executive Manager

**Charles E. Simmons**

Principal / Executive Manager

## Main Office:

1725 Oakhurst Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32218

Post Office Box 9604, Daytona Beach, FL 32120

**(904) 652-1515** Jacksonville

**(386) 672-7845** Daytona Beach

**(386) 672-7845** Fax

E-mail:

**TheChristianReader@cfl.rr.com**

The Christian Reader is looking for  
Area Managers in your city.

Full-Time or Part-Time

Positions Available.

Call Today

**(386) 672-7845**

## IN THIS ISSUE

Could It Be Lord Barack Obama - First Black President	Page 1
Local Funding Initiatives By Congresswoman Corrine Brown	Page 2
Don't Forget To Vote By Aundra Bryant	Page 3
Black History from the First Century By Pastor Leon R. Bing	Page 5
Why are our Children Suspended from School? By Beverly Brown	Page 9
America Loves ChocolatBrides.com	Page 11
Are Blacks An Endangered Species? By Makeisha Lee	Page 13
Save Black Males At Black Colleges By Tom Joyner	Page 14
Looking For Mr. Right	Page 15
Farewell To First Lady Mary Wilson	Page 17
A/B Honor Student Celebrate Simmons Pediatrics	Page 19
Lynching - An American Tradition	Page 20
Where Is The Monument? By H. Lewis Smith	Page 25
How Do We Know That God Is With Us? By Rev. Dr. Carlton D. Jones	Page 27
Jacksonville Host 133rd Annual Session Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc.	Page 28
Black Inventions	Page 30
The Penalty of Leadership	Page 33
SoulofAmerica.com Top 10 Museums to Visit for Black History Month	Page 37
Editorial Darryl A. Barrs, Sr. Publisher / Managing Editor	Page 39

## THE CHRISTIAN READER

*The Good-News Newspaper*

Serving North Florida and Central Florida

### Main Office

Post Office Box 9604, Daytona Beach, Florida 32120

**(386) 672-7845 Main Office**

**TheChristianReader@cfl.rr.com**

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, A workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

**2 TIMOTHY 2:15**

# Black History from the First Century

By Pastor Leon R. Bing  
Jacksonville, Florida

In honor of Black History Month, I would like to go way back to the first century and tell you about a Black man who has only a few verses of scripture that speak of him, but what they say are powerful.

This man is named Apollos. We are first introduced to Apollos in the book of The Acts of the Apostles, in chapter 18 verses 24 – 28. Let's take a look at this passage in the New Living Translation.

## Acts 18:24-28

**24 Meanwhile, a Jew named Apollos, an eloquent speaker who knew the Scriptures well, had just arrived in Ephesus from Alexandria in Egypt.**

**25 He had been taught the way of the Lord and talked to others with great enthusiasm and accuracy about Jesus. However, he knew only about John's baptism.**

26 When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching boldly in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God more accurately.

27 Apollos had been thinking about going to Achaia, and the brothers and sisters in Ephesus encouraged him in this. They wrote to the believers in Achaia, asking them to welcome him. When he arrived there, he proved to be of great benefit to those who, by God's grace, had believed.

28 He refuted all the Jews with powerful arguments in public debate. Using the Scriptures, he explained to them, "The Messiah you are looking for is Jesus." NLT

Now the name Apollos is the short form of Apollonius. Apollos was a Jew of Alexandrian race who reached Ephesus in the summer of 54 AD, while Paul was on his third missionary journey, and there he **"spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus"**. We know that he was fitted for the task because it is indicated by the fact of his being an **"an eloquent speaker," "he knew the Scriptures well," "He had been taught the way of the Lord" (Acts 18:24-25).**

Apollos was born in the city of Alexandria, in Egypt. Alexandria was a celebrated city in Egypt, founded by Alexander the Great. There were large numbers of Jews living there. Alexandria was famous for its schools, and it is probable that Apollos, in addition to his natural endowments, had enjoyed the benefit of these schools. Because Apollos was well instructed, the foundation was thus laid for his future usefulness in the Christian church.



Pastor Leon Bing

Verse 25 says that Apollos knew only the baptism of John. It is not known if Apollos heard John the Baptist personally, or just the teaching of John as it was being preached throughout the region, one thing was clear, John preached repentance, and baptized with reference to him that was to come after him, and this doctrine Apollos seems to have embraced.

**26 When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching boldly in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God more accurately.**

Now we realize that Priscilla and Aquila wanted to introduce Apollos to the fact that not only had the Messiah come, but He has ascended and sent back His Holy Spirit. But we must also take this fact under consideration. When they heard this "Brother", from Africa speak so eloquently, and bold, and so intelligently concerning the Word, they were eager to take Apollos under their wing and to pour out more knowledge to him!

**27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:**

Now this is where it gets good! This brother is going to rock their world! Apollos was the T. D. Jakes of the first century! Let's first find out a little more about Achaia, pronounced (a-ka'-ya).

Achaia was the smallest country in the Peloponnesus lying along the southern shore of the Corinthian Gulf, north of Arcadia and east of Elis. These cities were on the coast and formed a confederation of smaller communities, which in the last century of the independent history of Greece attained to great importance; they were referred to as the Achaean League. In Roman times the term Achaia was used to include the whole of Greece.

In 146 BC Corinth was destroyed and the League broken up and the whole of Greece, under the name of Achaia, was transformed into a Roman province, which was divided into two separate provinces, Macedonia and Achaia, in 27 BC.

**Many of the Greeks at Corinth were greatly captivated with his winning eloquence, and his going there was the occasion of some unhappy divisions that sprung up in the church.** This is going to lead to a very familiar passage of scripture that many of you are well versed at quoting, but you may not know that a brother by the name of Apollos was the cause of it! Not in a negative way, but because he was such an awesome speaker, it caused some to show a great support for him. But the Apostle Paul had to bring the focus back on where we should have it.

**See FIRST CENTURY page 8**



**ULTIMATE DANCEWEAR**  
And ACCESSORIES

- Praise Garments
- Shoes
- Tambourines
- Streamers
- Flags ▪ Poles
- Banners
- Mime Garments
- Make-Up
- Ballet ▪ Ministry
- Baton ▪ Gym
- Tap ▪ Jazz
- Hip Hop

**(904) 766-0009**  
Fax (904) 766-9066  
www.ultimatedancewear.com

Mon.-Fri. 11am-7pm ▪ Sat. 10am-6pm  
**9560-3 Lem Turner Rd. ▪ Jacksonville**



**THE FIRST CHURCH**  
First Baptist Church of Mandarin  
"The Church Where The Word Is Changing Lives"

7:15-9:00 Early Morning Worship  
9:15-10:15 Sunday School  
9:30-10:30 Hour of Power Worship Service  
11:00 Late Morning Service

Pastor Gary L. Williams, Sr. **3990 Loretto Road ~ Jacksonville, Florida**  
Office (904) 268-2422 • Fax (904) 268-5321 • www.fbcofmandarin.org

**We Receive ...**

Education ... From Our School 

Inspiration ... From Our Church 

Recreation ... From Our Family Life Center 

# ORLANDO

Dodge • Chrysler • Jeep

*"You Can Deal With Us"*



Jeep Wrangler



Dodge Caliber



Chrysler 300M



Dodge Charger



Dodge Nitro

Give me the opportunity to earn your business  
Come See Me Today  
**Aaron Perkins**  
15 Years of Experience

**ORLANDO**  
Dodge • Chrysler • Jeep  
4104 West Colonial Drive  
Orlando, Florida  
www.orlandododge.com



**Aaron Perkins**

**(407) 299-1120 • (407) 342-1264 Cell**

## BARACK OBAMA from page 1

America we need help. However, still today we can not resist the temptation of dividing us by Man / Woman; White-male / Black-male; White-female / Black-female; Mexican / Hispanic; Middle-class / Blue-collar; Conservative / Liberal. "The stakes are too high to play the same Washington game with the same Washington players and not expect the same result," Obama said. Now is the time to "seize the moment."

**Could it be Lord...? Be still and know that I am God.** Psalms 46:10.

Barack Hussein Obama, born August 4, 1961, is the junior United States Senator from Illinois and a leading candidate for the Democratic nomination in the election. The U.S. Senate Historical Office lists him as the fifth African American Senator in U.S. history, the third to have been popularly elected, and the only African American currently serving in the Senate.

Obama was born in Honolulu to a Kenyan father and an American mother. He lived most of his early life in the U.S. state of Hawaii. From ages six to ten, he lived in Jakarta, Indonesia with his mother and Indonesian stepfather. A graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School, Obama worked as a community organizer, university lecturer, and civil rights lawyer before running for public office and serving in the Illinois Senate from 1997 to 2004. After an unsuccessful bid for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2000, he announced his campaign for U.S. Senate in 2003.

The following year, while still an Illinois State Legislator, Obama delivered the keynote address at the 2004 Democratic National Convention. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in November 2004 with 70% of the vote. As a member of the Democratic minority in the 109th Congress, Obama co-sponsored legislation for controlling conventional weapons and for promoting transparency in public life; in addition, he made official trips to Eastern Europe, the Middle East,



**Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama D-Ill., and his wife Michelle join together on stage after speaking at Obama's Super Tuesday presidential primary election night party Feb. 5 in Chicago. Obama won in 14 of the 22 states up for grabs, including the six holding voter-intensive caucuses rather than primaries. He won in all parts of the country, from Connecticut and Delaware to Utah and Idaho, along with his home state of Illinois.**



**Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., celebrates his Super Tuesday Primary wins with his wife Michelle during a rally in Chicago, Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008.**



**Presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., shares the stage with supporters during a rally at the World Trade Center Boston on the last full day of campaigning before Super Tuesday in Boston. On stage, from left: Victoria Kennedy, Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, Obama, Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick, Massachusetts first lady Diane Patrick, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., his wife Teresa Heinz Kerry and Fitchburg Mayor-Elect Lisa Wong.**

and Africa. In the 110th, and current, Congress, he has sponsored legislation on lobbying and electoral fraud, climate change, nuclear terrorism, and care for returned U.S. military personnel.

Since announcing his presidential campaign in February 2007, Obama has emphasized ending the Iraq War, increasing energy independence, and providing universal health care as major priorities. He married in 1992 and has two daughters. He has written two bestselling books: a memoir of his youth titled *Dreams from My Father*, and *The Audacity of Hope*, a personal commentary on U.S. politics.

## FIRST CENTURY continued from page 5

28 He refuted all the Jews with powerful arguments in public debate. Using the Scriptures, he explained to them, "The Messiah you are looking for is Jesus."

He did it by strong arguments; he bore down all opposition, and effectually silenced them. Proving from the Old Testament and showing that Jesus of Nazareth corresponded with the account of the Messiah given by the prophets. The Jews at Achaia or Corinth, could not dispute Apollos on any issue. This brother was solid when it came to presenting the Gospel!

Now I have introduced Apollos to you, but hear what the Apostle Paul has to say when it comes to asking the question:

**"Who is Apollos?"**

**1 Corinthians 1:10-13**

10 Now, dear brothers and sisters, I appeal to you by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ to stop arguing among yourselves. Let there be real harmony so there won't be divisions in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

11 For some members of Chloe's household have told me about your arguments, dear brothers and sisters.

12 Some of you are saying, "I am a follower of Paul." Others are saying, "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Peter," or "I follow only Christ."

**1 Corinthians 3:4-8**

4 When one of you says, "I am a follower of Paul," and another says, "I prefer Apollos," aren't you acting like those who are not Christians?

5 Who is Apollos, and who is Paul, that we should be the cause of such quarrels? Why, we're only servants. Through us God caused you to believe. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us.

6 My job was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God, not we, who made it grow.

7 The ones who do the planting or watering aren't important, but God is important because he is the one who makes the seed grow.

8 The one who plants and the one who waters work as a team with the same purpose. Yet they will be rewarded individually, according to their own hard work.

**1 Corinthians 3:21-4:2**

21 So don't take pride in following a particular leader. Everything belongs to you:

22 Paul and Apollos and Peter; the whole world and life and death; the present and the future. Everything belongs to you,

23 and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

**1 Corinthians 4:1**

**4:1 Paul and the Corinthians**

So look at Apollos and me as mere servants of Christ who have been put in charge of explaining God's secrets.

**1 Corinthians 4:6**

6 Dear brothers and sisters, I have used Apollos and myself to illustrate what I've been saying. If you pay attention to the Scriptures, you won't brag about one of your leaders at the expense of another.

As we see, Apollos stirred the pot well with his teaching, and preaching of the gospel. A Black man doing in the first century what we see a T. D. Jakes doing today, exciting people for the cause of Christ!

But in all this he retained the confidence and love of Paul. It was thus shown that Paul was superior to envy, and that great success by one minister need not excite the envy, or alienate the confidence and good will of another.

Now, if we can take the lesson from Paul, and stop being so Dog-gone jealous of one another, and realize that we are one the same side and not in opposition or completion with one another, we can continue to carry the gospel to even higher heights!

God bless each and every one of you! I love you all, and pray that we gain more knowledge of what Black history has done for not only America, but for how we helped build the history of mankind as a whole!

**PROPERTY • LIABILITY • ABUSE • MOLESTATION**

## CHURCH INSURANCE

*In today's world, the African American Church faces many financial decisions about Insurance. The Insurance needed to protect your assets and provide Liability Coverage for your pastors, deacons, trustees and members is very important.*



*Let us give you a free evaluation of your current policies or let us develop an insurance package just for your Church. These packages include: Property, Liability, Abuse, Molestation, Automobile, Pastor, Trustee and Deacon Coverage.*

### RAY-ROGERS INSURANCE, LLC



**Morris Rogers**  
Managing Agent

6550 St. Augustine Road  
Jacksonville, FL 32217

**904.731.2500**

**Fax 904.731.2599**

*A minority owned and operated agency*

**AUTOMOBILE • PASTOR • TRUSTEE • DEACON**

# Why are our Children Suspended from School? Where are They Going?

Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) is the 11th largest school district in the nation. Their vision is to be the top producer of successful students in the nation. The mission is to lead students to success with the support and involvement of families and the community. As a community organization, Redeeming Light Community Services, Inc., it is important to us that OCPS succeed in this mission. That mission and its success drive the community to present students as productive citizens into Central Florida Communities and beyond. That mission also suggests to us that we can have safe and healthy communities.

The Florida Department of Education Student Database, Survey 5 data as of December 14, 2006, reports that there are suspensions or students being sent home from school because of inappropriate behavior are not small number. Because we are in a data driven society let's look at the data:

In 2005-2006 Orange County Public Schools suspended 20,523 students, 9,375, in-school and 11,148 out-of-school. The figures for 2006-2007 show a disturbing upward trend, 14,649, in-school suspensions and 16,833 out-of-school suspensions. That's a total of 31,482, and increase of 53% in one school term. Let's look at how these figures breakdown by grade, ethnicity and gender:

**Pre-k =27, K=449, 1st=503, 2nd=596, 3rd=789, 4th=791, 5th=941, 6th=1,943, 7th=1,935, 8th=2,262, 9th=2,153, 10th=1,982, 11th=1,479, and 12th=983.**

**Ethnicity: white females-797, white males-2,252, black females-3,028, black males-5,525, Hispanic females-1,392, Hispanic males-3,303, Asian females-164, Asian Males-51, American Indian females-24, American Indian males-6, Multi females-83 and Multi males-208.**

Looks like the problem lies within 6th-10th grades and with African Americans and Hispanics. Why are students suspended? The reasons may vary, but the bottom line is that they have violated the school's system Student Code of Conduct. Within the code are levels that carry specific consequences for specific infractions. The most frequent suspension level is 3 for fighting. After most fights students will admit that they don't really remember what the fight was about and that they really wished they'd have walked away. Because of the zero tolerance policy, student must understand that consequences are in place for their protection.



Another frequent infraction is open defiance and gross insubordination. Student's blatantly disrespecting authority even when given simple commands. Then there are the more violent and higher level offenses (level 4) - such as alcohol, drugs possession and weapons, making threats against others students and school staff. Orange County's Student Code of Conduct is 36 pages long. Each



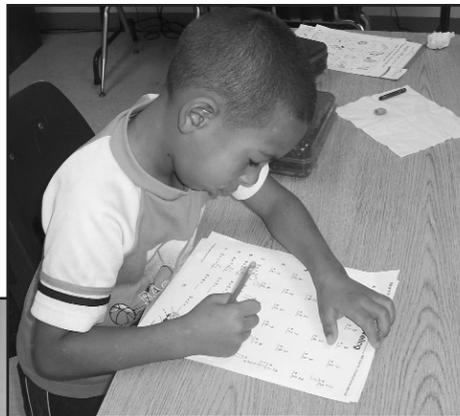
**Beverly Brown**  
**Executive Director**  
**Keeping Up**

student receives a copy to take home for parental signature at the beginning of the school year. Students know the rules and the consequences. So why violate the rules?

Months of studying Orlando's surge in violent crime culminated in a series of recommendations to keep teenagers busy after school. Great recommendations; however, what about the 16,833 students that are out of school because of suspensions? What do they do all day? We cannot directly link them to crime, but we

cannot say that they are crime free either. Should they have the privilege of a "mini vacation" during the school year and expect to stay ahead academically and graduate on time? Are parents concerned about unsupervised students? Should teachers have to endure bringing students up to speed after a suspension? All of these questions can be answered with adequate community programs.

Prevention is a costly subject; in fact in an Orlando Sentinel article entitled, "Spend money to curb crime, tasks force says" The Mayor's SAFE Orlando Task Force final meeting detailed possible solutions that would cost \$12 million over the next five years. It is a lot of money but prevention/intervention is less costly than picking up the pieces afterwards. How often is it said to be proactive, but for whatever reason, reactive is the norm. The cry goes out to the community "it takes a village." One part of the village has responded and continues to respond. There is a



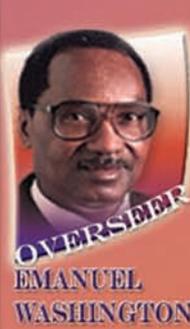
community program that can be proactive in reduction of serious issue before they become major and it is **Keeping UP, Alternative School Suspension Program.**

This program opened its doors to community suspended students with the assistance of Orange County Public Schools in August of 1999. It all started with a community member stopping by the church office and saying this...Pastor Brown, I saw students in the streets and ask them why they were not in school and they said they were suspended. What are you going to do about that? Initially Pastor Brown said nothing, but the Lord began to lead him to do research and actually visit a program that assisted suspended youth in another state. After returning, he discussed the need with a local area administrator and seven principals. They were all interested and supportive. In August of that year Keeping UP opened with a mission and vision to make a difference in the lives of community youth. The program is a perfect

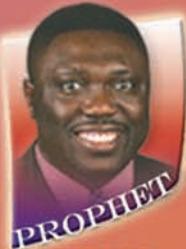
**See SUSPENDED page 16**

# THE Prophetic CONFERENCE

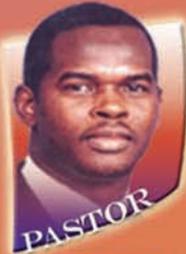
February 18-23, 2008



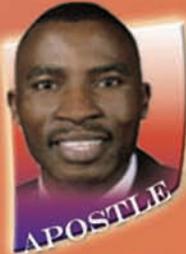
OVERSEER  
EMANUEL  
WASHINGTON



PROPHET  
JOSEPH  
QUIST



PASTOR  
ROBERT  
KAYANJA



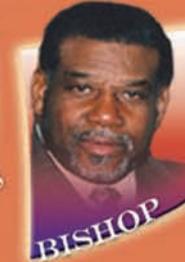
APOSTLE  
MARTIN  
SSUNA



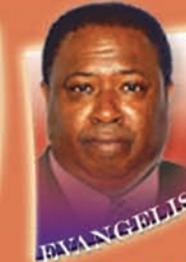
APOSTLE  
DAVID  
TAYLOR



PROPHETESS  
SAMANTHA  
BYNUM



BISHOP  
T.L.  
HILL



EVANGELIST  
WILLIAM  
AUSTIN

Make your plans to get to the beautiful city of JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

**The Mighty Church of the Redeemed**

2311 West 12th Street.

Jacksonville, FL 32209

(904)354-0448 office (904)354-8695

email us your questions about prophecy @ ethelpastor@yahoo.com

*Receive Prophetic Insight !  
Interpretation of Dreams !  
Direction for Ministry !  
Recognize the Voice of God !*

**BONUS** -Attend the Biblical Based SCHOOL OF PROPHECY during the conference  
(There will be a special graduation for all SOP attendees at the end of the conference)

Go online for REGISTRATION and HOTEL ACCOMIDATION INFO

**WWW.TMCOR.ORG**

TMCOR'S "Through a Small Voice God Speaks to us Through Prophecy, Dreams and Visions!"  
PROPHETIC CONFERENCE IV REGISTRATION FORM "2008"

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

How did you here about the Conference? \_\_\_\_\_

Registration \$20.00 for entire conference  
(Please make checks payable to The Mighty Church of Redeemed)

Night Sessions  
\_\_\_\_ Monday- Friday

Day Sessions  
\_\_\_\_ Monday- Saturday

*If you feel you are called to the Prophetic Ministry then we have a special 4 day school of prophecy just for you. The cost is only \$10 plus registration. You will receive more in depth teaching on the gift and learn how to understand it and walk in it. Come and find out why people across the world are flying into Jacksonville, FL to be a part of the 2008 Prophetic Teaching Conference.*

# America Loves CHOCOLATBRIDES.COM

## Over 93 million Hits in 2007

“Mainstream media is still trying to tell us Black people don’t get married” are the words New York radio personality and ChocolateBrides.com founder, Kesha Monk has recited often.

ChocolateBrides.com was created in 2003 as a messageboard for black women seeking ideas and tips in regards to the wedding planning process. It has grown into a social networking website connecting black brides from around the world. The messageboard has helped the site garner over 93 million hits in 2007. In four years over 10,000 weddings have been planned using the resources of ChocolateBrides.com. Furthermore, ChocolateBrides.com has blossomed into a print publication. Chocolate Brides Magazine hit newsstands in the spring of 2007 and has rapidly racked up subscribers in 46 out of 50 states and seven countries.

Eugene Myrick, ChocolateBrides.com co-founder and husband of Kesha Monk adds, “Many potential advertisers who shied away from us originally, have come back asking questions. Black advertising executives have told me, ‘Black people don’t get married’. Meanwhile, I have a website that received over 93 million hits last year from Black women seeking helpful advice for their wedding planning process. In addition to the thousands of women who frequent our website daily, I’ve noticed many other mainstream magazines lurking around our messageboard for information.”



Kesha Monk and Eugene Myrick were featured in the July 2007 issue of Black Enterprise Magazine. The couple admits that the Black Enterprise article spiked subscriptions to Chocolate Brides Magazine from women excited about their concept. That article also brought a new flock of vendors to ChocolateBrides.com.

When asked what’s next, the couple smiled and rambled off a series of projects in the works. Kesha Monk stated, “I believe our next stop is television, WE (Women’s Entertainment) has Monica Taylor’s Hair Trauma and TBS has Tyler Perry’s House of Payne, both shows with Black Executive Producers. We’ve been able to pitch to mainstream outlets in addition networks that are geared specifically to Black audiences.”

Eugene Myrick ended by saying “We’re in the process of working on a really big ChocolateBrides.com Bridal Expo in New York. Depending on how it goes, we’ll consider taking it on the road. The world is beginning to take notice of what we’re doing. We’ve seen a number of duplicate websites out there. The good news is Chocolate Brides from around win by having

more resources available to them; however, as a business we have to try to remain one step ahead of competition that didn’t exist when started.”

**CONTACT: Chante Sydnor,  
ChocolateBrides.com & Chocolate Brides Magazine,  
1-888-656-8322, chante\_sydnor@ChocolateBrides.com**

**Proven Leadership  
You Can Trust  
ELECT TAYLOR**



*Strong • Balanced • Effective*

**FOR DISTRICT 27**

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT PAID FOR AND APPROVED BY DWAYNE TAYLOR, DEMOCRAT, FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# Are Blacks An Endangered Species?

By Makeisha Lee  
Author, "Why Black People Can't Lose Weight"

Blacks are officially considered to be an endangered species due to obesity and terrifying related illness. Diets, surgeries, pills, exercise motions and potions; though easily and readily available have done little-to-nothing to help people lose weight long-term. Even with all of these mechanisms in place, the 50 million pound question that lies before us is: Why is it that we as "Blacks" are STILL some of the most obese people on the planet?

The facts are the facts! Prevalence of obesity among Blacks has increased 35 percent in the past 10 years alone. According to the CDC (Center for Disease Control), we lead in the highest percentages in both sexes and even amongst children, as compared to other ethnicities when it comes to the contemptible "beast of burden"- obesity. So what is REALLY going on?

There are in fact an infinite number of theories, but here are a few thought provoking ideas that many don't want to address, but that will definitely make you want to go "Hummm!"

1) Too many of us are being brainwashed; covering ourselves up with being ignorance instead of trying to find out the real truth about why Blacks have been unsuccessful as a whole at getting/and or keeping the weight off.

2) All of these diets, various weight loss challenges and campaigns that are currently underway are nothing more than band-aid remedies that will bring us right back to the drawing board - if we don't find out

about pre-existing and current outside elements. That's right, in this day and age mainstream society still suppresses corruption that adversely affects our lives, as a people; as a nation.

3) We may have to begin exposing some that are right within our own community that acts as wolves in sheep's clothing - impeding progress. It's been said that the "mean green" has caused stranger things to happen. Or perhaps, they are not wolves at all; rather it's just a bad case of "blind leading the blind".

4) Whatever the theory or rationale of the matter, one thing most can agree on is that the obesity pandemic for Blacks is unequivocally multi-factorial. People who can think for themselves can surmise that all on their own!

We all do well to open our minds, and eyes to the fact that if we don't get proactive and put on our investigative hats - TODAY; we will be tottering upon a horrific human existence and will eventually land ourselves on the brink of extinction.

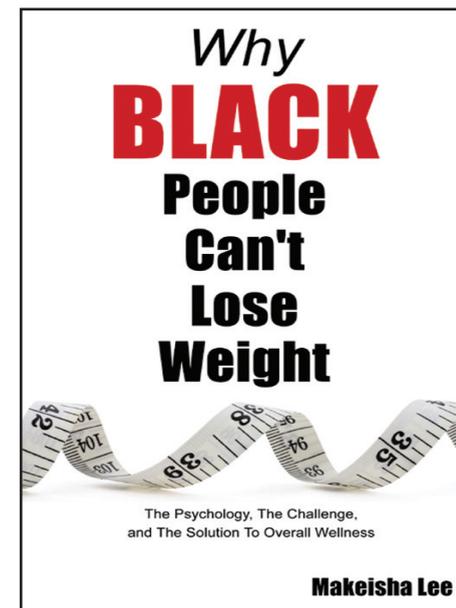
## National Call To Action:

MAKEISHA LEE and consumer health advocates are asking everyone to join her as she sets out to change the future of health and wellness in the community by getting life-saving information out into the hands of every African American! Support this phenomenal sister by purchasing her newly published book, Why Black People Can't Lose Weight - NOW!

Even if you are not African American, overweight or sick, please purchase the book anyway so that you may be able to help someone else with what you learn! Contact all your friends to encourage them to do the same. When we ALL work together - that's when the greatest miracles happen! Don't delay, buy it today!

Important Message: This heavy concentration of purchases at this very specific time today and throughout the week will invite and encourage thousands that need this information to also get Why Black People Can't Lose Weight, without hesitation, as it will outsell other books in the same genre!

Makeisha Lee is a health and nutrition consultant. For more information about cleansing and detoxifying your body, contact her at 614-595-1425 or [znck04@yahoo.com](mailto:znck04@yahoo.com) or learn more at [www.CleanseFormula.com](http://www.CleanseFormula.com). To download the African American Guide To Cleansing, visit: [www.GuideToCleansing.com](http://www.GuideToCleansing.com)



## Why **BLACK** People Can't Lose Weight

Makeisha Lee is a nutritional advisor and extensive researcher in the field of alternative health. Her work is inspired by her grandmother's untimely death due to obesity. Her weekly columns are featured in hundreds of newspapers nationally, and she regularly appears on urban radio shows.

Lee travels domestically and internationally to speak on a wide range of health topics. She is the founder and CEO of Cleanse Formula and Freedom Health Solutions. She is also the author of the popular e-book entitled *The African American Guide To Cleansing*.



### This Book Discusses:

- ♦ The Psychology Behind the Vicious African American Weight Loss Cycle
- ♦ The Truth About Fad Diets and Weight Loss Surgery
- ♦ The Chronic Disease Burden that Makes Blacks an Endangered Species
- ♦ New Scientific Research that Debunks All Current Methods and Approaches to Overall Wellness
- ♦ A Powerful Two-Step Process to Change Your Psychology Towards Health Goals
- ♦ Revolutionary Health Secrets
- ♦ How to Live a Completely Balanced Life (whether you're trying to lose weight or not)

Buy The Book Today  
Available on Amazon.com,  
BarnesandNoble.com and AuthorHouse.com



Catherine Andres

# The Sewing House

## CUSTOM ROBES & DESIGNS

Expert tailoring of Pastoral Robes, Preaching Suits, group attire and pulpit vestments that can meet your specific designing needs now and in the future. Your attire will be tailored for comfort and appearance.



- ❖ Cassocks robes
- ❖ Bishop Vestments
- ❖ Pulpit Vestments
- ❖ Clergy Attire
- ❖ Preaching Suits (men & women)
- ❖ Groups attire

Personalize your garments with any of the following options:

- ❖ Brocade Fabric
- ❖ Pockets
- ❖ Piping
- ❖ Monogram

These represent only a few of the possible combinations. Your choices are virtually unlimited. We are committed to offering you the best in custom robes.

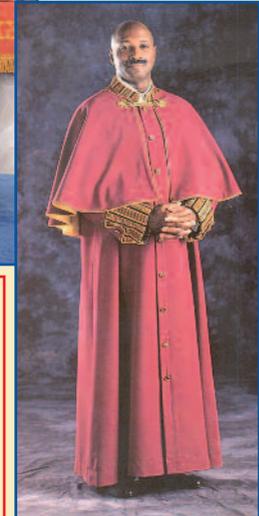
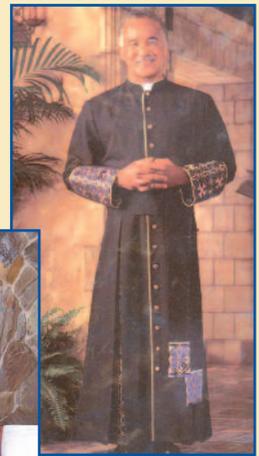


Mimeboyz.com

*The Sewing House*  
**Custom Robes & Designs**  
**(904) 742-2310**

### CUSTOM ADVANTAGE

- ❖ **Custom Tailoring** gives you a uniquely distinctive garment
- ❖ **Custom Styling** gives you a variety of colors and fabrics of the latest trends
- ❖ **Custom Quality** gives you materials and workmanship that is guaranteed



## Join Our Christian Reader Family

The Christian Reader Newspaper is looking for Area Managers in your city. You can help bring the "Good-News Newspaper" to your community, spotlighting churches, businesses and individuals that are doing great things. This could be an excellent opportunity for you if you have good communication skills, your own transportation, self-motivated and can work unsupervised.

### EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXCELLENT PEOPLE

Part-Time & Full-Time Positions Available

**(386) 212-5553**

- Excellent Pay
- Flexible Hours
- Job Satisfaction
- Changing Lives
- Supporting Businesses
- Inspiring, Encouraging, Enhancing the lives of all people through Christian principles, teachings, examples, and knowledge.



**Gwendolyn E. Barrs**  
 General Manager/CEO

**Darryl A. Barrs**  
 Publisher/Managing Editor

# LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT? HE WILL FIND YOU!

First we must allow our Heavenly Father to do the picking. And second, the decision for a mate must be made on a spiritual and intellectual basis before it's made on an emotional one. "What about love? Shouldn't that be the third? You ask.

No, and I'll tell you why. "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? (Jer. 17:9).

The heart is willful and is driven by its own agenda. It does not consider things rationally and intelligently - it just loves to love! Therefore, you have to point it in the right directions: "Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life" (Prov.4:23). Whenever you meet a man, you need to get clearance from God, check out his attributes, and then allow your heart to engage.

Dating exists not for mating; it exists for collecting data. I believe that the biblical design would be friendship, courtship, and then marriage. Friendship is two people walking together in agreement and accountability, learning and growing together. Courtship follows the mutual agreement to commit to one another exclusively - it is the decisive turning toward the agreed-upon goal of the marriage altar. It is a period of laying a foundation and preparing your life together after marriage. But dating? Well, if you do date, use the time wisely to gather facts:

**Check out the fabric.** Is the person mate material? Does this man have an intimate relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ? Does he care what God thinks about his behavior? Is he accountable to God as well as another co-laborer in the faith? Accountability is an important factor. It is imperative to maintaining a committed relationship. Is your potential spouse a member of the same family - the family of God? Scripture is clear on this: "Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?" (2

Cor. 6:14). You need to have common interests and values and agree on the essentials of living day to day. You have a similar spiritual walk.

You eat the same spiritual diet. You enjoy a lot of similar things. You have like interests, like goals in life, like opinions on basic life issues. You have had like experiences in your background.

Though there is some truth to the idiom that opposites attract, like-minded folks fare better together. Furthermore, does he want to get married? If you want to be married and your dreamboat isn't interested, don't waste your time. Remember, women fall in love and get married. Men decide to get married and then look for a wife. Note the difference in order. So if a guy says he's not looking for anything serious, take his words seriously. If he's not going in your direction, get off the bus and wait for the right one.

**Does this man want you?** Is he pursuing you? The man who is right for you will pursue you, and God's hand in the relationship will be clear. No guessing, no fleeces, no dead ends. Scripture says: "He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord" (Prov.

18:22). Note—who finds whom? THE MAN FINDS THE WIFE. From the beginning of time, God has transported men and women across the world in order to put them together. At the RIGHT TIME, He will bring that man on the scene and he will find you. In God's perfect design, the man is the one who recognizes his mate. Adam had no problem recognizing that Eve was his missing rib. You do not need to strategically place yourself anywhere. You don't have to help a guy out because he's shy! Men will do whatever they have to do to get what they truly want.

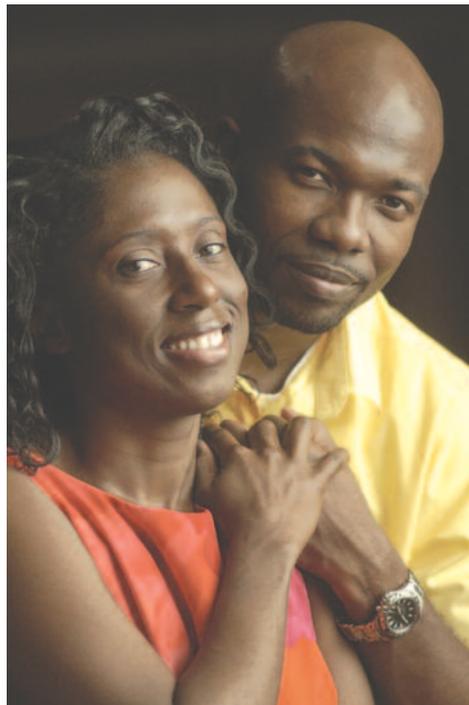
The man in your life should recognize you as the pearl of great price in his life and be willing to do whatever he must in order to gain your hand. If he is passive about gaining your affections, take it as a sign that he is not interested. Many a woman's mother has suggested that it is a good idea to marry a man who loves you more than you love him. As cold as that sounds, it actually might be scriptural if you stop to think about it: "We love him because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). Until then, take the ultimate chill pill.

You don't need a bunch of men in your life to make you feel all right about yourself. You need only one man - your man, the one God has selected to select you. And trust me; the right man at the wrong time can be just as awful as the wrong man at any time. So trust God's timing in this. He is the ultimate matchmaker. Relax, sit pretty and allow yourself to be found. Again, - WAIT until the man voices his intentions. He should take the lead in establishing the relationship. You may have inkling that he is the one, but God will use the man to set the tone of the relationship. Allow him the opportunity to woo you - this is your first act of submission. Jesus set the standard for all men to follow. They should love us first. And they should lead the relationship.

**The man in your life should not desire to move into your house, only into your heart.** A man who prepares for your future has made his intentions clear. A man who is husband material has the means to take care of a wife. He is a responsible human being who understands he needs to have something to offer. In short, a man should have the means to be a suitable lover for you.

**Check out his buddies.** Everyone knows birds of the same feather flock together, yet most women fail to see the connection between a man and his friends. A man's pals tell you a lot about the person that you haven't seen yet. They reveal things about the guy's character that might be hidden when he is on good behavior. Everyone knows how to put his best foot forward. Don't stay focused on the foot; check out the rest of the body!

**Check out his relationship with his mother. How does he treat her?** This is your preview of how he will treat you. There



see MR. RIGHT page 34

## SUSPENDED continued from page 9

fit with Orange County's Public School mission. That mission is to lead their students to success with the support involvement of families and the community.

Keeping UP embodies the same measureable outcomes as OCPS: intensive focus on student achievement, high performing and dedicated team, Safe learning and working environment, Sustained community involvement. The program is focused on assisting students achievement with smaller class sizes. Currently 15 students per day for the large class room and no more than 8 for the smaller classroom. We have a dedicated staff that really cares about student success. The environment is conducive for learning and academic success. We encourage community members to be mentors, tutors and develop student and family relationships. As a result of this Eatonville, Florida is not only the town where the program is housed, but the community that shares our vision for student success as their success.

**What exactly does Keeping UP, Alternative School Suspension Program do with suspended students?** Prevent youth crime and reduce delinquency in assisting the community by not having suspended students loitering in neighborhoods, malls, shopping centers, and or parks during school hours. We promote strong families by giving families a safe academic environment for their students during out of school time. Parents are responsible for transportation and really do meet that challenge. Parents have come as far as Kissimmee so their child did not have to stay at home unsupervised. We have also had parents to ride the city bus; Lynx Transportation, so their child could attend the program.

Many students come because the program is a community mainstay. There have been times that the staff arrived before 8:00 am to see students standing at the door waiting to get in because they heard that they could come to Keeping UP, instead of staying at home. Parents have beseeched the staff to make this a full-time program because academically and behaviorally their child's performance increases during their attendance in the program.

The staff is vigilant in contacting parents when students are late or absent. We really do keep up. As a component of the students structured day, the program offers behavior modification with the aim of developing responsible and trustworthy character. Student's receive assignments from their home school teacher/s and are able to take completed assignments back to school after program completion. Other academic benefits are FCAT, SAT, PSAT curriculum, technology tutorial assistance, one-on-one tutoring. Keeping UP has a less than 4% recidivism rate.

Orange County has stated its mission and measureable objectives. We are apart of this mission because as a grass roots community program, we want to see students succeed and live productive lives. Keeping UP embodies sustained community engagement and safe learning environment, efficient operations and a dedicated team. It really does take a village. So ...what is the problem?

If you know of a student that has been suspended and is staying at home, and is staying at home falling behind academically, that is a BIG problem. Allow Keeping UP to be the answer. The program is concurrent with Orange County Public School calendar; the hours of operation are 8:30 am-2:30 pm daily, Wednesday is early day. Our collaborators and partners are Orange County's Citizen Commission for Children (CCC), Orange County Public Schools, Florida Fellowship Foundation, Town of Eatonville, Redeeming Light Center Church, Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, State Farm Insurance Company, and individuals businesses and community members.

### "Keeping Up"

#### Alternative School Suspension Program

109 Washington Avenue, Orlando, Florida 32810

*We Help Children Succeed*

(407) 660-1288

pstrbeverly@hotmail.com

*Dignified - Efficient - Reasonable*



The Right Reverend Samuel L. Green, Sr.  
Licensed Funeral Director  
Embalmer

Reverend Henry L. Postell, II  
Owner  
Licensed Funeral Director  
Embalmer

Ms. Anita B. Lemon  
Licensed Funeral Director  
Embalmer

**POSTELL'S MORTUARY**

811 N. Powers Drive • Pine Hills, Orlando, FL 32818  
Phone (407) 295-3857 • (407) 295-0307  
Toll Free 1-866-Postell (7678355)

*"Personalized Family Service"*  
Funeral Service • Cremation Service  
On Premise Chapel • Pre-Need Counseling  
24 Hour On-Call • At Home Arrangements  
Out of Town Services • Casket Display  
Air Flight Shipping



Mrs. Beverly Postell  
Business Manager

*Courtesy, Service & Satisfaction*  
Offering a Pre-Need Funeral Trust Plan that is regulated by Florida Statute Ch. 639 and the Department of Insurance

**For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**

**- Romans 8:18**

# New Zion Missionary Baptist Church and the Community of Ocala, Florida Bid Farewell To First Lady Mary Wilson *Always Cherished – Forever Loved*

Mary Wilson was best known for her deep passion for children and singing. Her husband, the Rev. Cecil Wilson pastor of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, affectionately called her “songbird”. “She was a virtuous woman, faithful and dedicated,” he said. First Lady Wilson, 46 died Jan. 6 from injuries sustained in a traffic crash. “Mary constantly told me he was prepared and ready whenever the Lord called her, and that gives me great comfort because that is what I preach – to be ready when God calls,” her husband and pastor said.

The two met during their junior year in high school, when Rev. Wilson traveled from Georgia to Florida to visit his older sisters. “We were sweethearts.... Inseparable,” he said. “She was my good thing.” Mary had a great love for children and earned an associates degree in business administration to complement her entrepreneurial spirit. She operated Mary’s Family Child Care, Inc. from her home.

Sister Mary Wilson was often called to minister through singing and was preparing to release a CD this year., She was active in mission work, having been to Haiti and other parts of the West Indies and was preparing to travel to Rwanda this year.



**First Lady Mary Wilson  
1961- 2008**

The Rev. Fred Maeweathers, pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church and moderator of the Second Bethlehem Baptist Association, said Wilson will be missed. “She was a great lady. We called her our songbird. She was the type of person that no matter what we called on her to do, she always responded in a great way,” Maeweathers said. “This is a loss to the whole area and the state.”

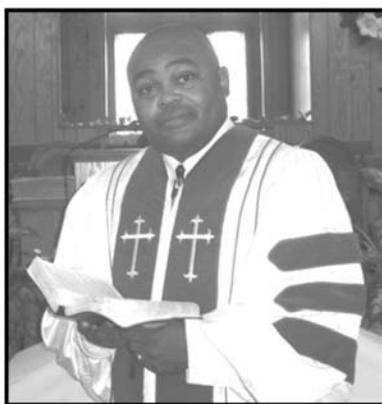
Tara Woods, a member of New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, said Wilson was the epitome of Proverbs 31, a virtuous woman. She was beautiful and so sweet.” While looking at photographs of Mary, Woods stated, “I loved that lady....she was my sugar.”

Mrs. Wilson was one of 12 children, and was the youngest girl of her family. She and younger brother Rev. John McKenzie were very close and the two made a special pact long ago. “She believed in my ministry so much and told me that if anything were to happen to her that I was to deliver her eulogy and she reminded me often,” Rev. McKenzie said. “I thought she was joking, of course, but I had no idea we would be here so soon.”

Wilson is also survived by her daughter, Kournie N. Wilson, Ocala; her mother, Pearlie M. McKenzie, Leesburg; a grandson, Jordan K. Green, Ocala; and 11 brothers and sisters. The Home-going Celebration for First Lady Mary Wilson was held 11 a.m. Saturday Jan. 12, 2008, at New Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 728 N.W. 6th Ave., Ocala, Florida. She will forever be missed and loved by all that knew her.

## New Zion Missionary Baptist Church

728 . N.W. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, FL 34475  
(352) 351- 4924 ♦ newzionmbc@mail.com



**Rev. Dr. Cecil Wilson  
Pastor**

*Strong Biblical Preaching  
that Exalts Christ,  
Builds Families and  
Changes Lives!*

**Come Grow With Us**

**Worship Hours**  
8am and 11am Every Sunday  
**Sunday School**  
9:30am

**Wednesday Prayer  
Meeting and Bible Study**  
Youth: 5:30pm – 6:30pm  
Adult: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

**Radio Ministry**  
Sundays 6:50am on 89.5FM



**“For our citizenship is in heaven;  
whence also we wait for the  
Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who  
shall fashion anew the body of our  
humiliation, that it may be  
conformed to the body of his glory,  
according to the working whereby  
he is able even to subject all things  
unto himself.”**

**Philippians 3:20,21**

Re-Launch Your Life With Us

# MAXIMUM LIFE



*Bishop Carroll & Pastor Muriel Johnson*

YOU'RE INVITED TO BECOME A VITAL PART OF  
**MAXIMUM LIFE CHURCH ORLANDO**  
**LIFE CHANGING TEACHING**



**SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM**  
SERVICES HELD AT THE  
**HISTORIC WINDERMERE CHAPEL**  
MAIN STREET & 5TH AVENUE  
WINDERMERE, FL 34786  
800.542.1481  
**WWW.MAXIMUMLIFECHURCH.COM**



Historic  
Windermere  
Chapel

## THE BUNGALOWS OF PORT ORANGE



**Lowest Price EVER \$99,000**

**NO PAYMENTS UNTIL JUNE 2008!**  
**ONLY \$561\* a Month with a 30-Year**  
**Fixed First Mortgage – Payment fixed**  
**for 30 years!**

**FEATURES:**

- Single Story
- New Tile or New Carpet
- New Appliances – Stainless Steel Available
- New Solid Maple Cabinets
- New Countertops – Granite Available
- Attic Storage
- Ample Closet Space
- Den (possible use as a laundry room, study, office or guest bedroom)
- Private Entrance with Fenced Patio
- Park Near Your Front Door



Financing programs are through Developer's preferred lender and subject to change. Not all borrowers will qualify.  
\*Payments based on \$95,000 mortgage at 5.875% APR

*Conveniently located near Daytona Beach, walk to shopping, restaurants, hospital and banks and close to many major attractions.*

**1025 Eagle Lake Trail • Port Orange, FL 32129**

*Contact Sloane Realty at*

**(386) 761-7368 • (407) 927-6786 (cell)**

**www.bungalowsportorange.com**



## Villas du Soleil

A CONDOMINIUM COMMUNITY



Villas du Soleil is a mature, quite community comprised of 48 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom villas. Newly renovated, constructed of solid concrete with screened in lanais. Noisy neighbors

can now be a thing of the past. Just IMAGINE ... lush, manicured landscaping, a play area and a gated swimming pool with a new cabana-style pool bath. With easy access to I-4 and 17-92. Our Incentive Package is one of the best in the Lake Mary/Sanford Metro Area. With payments as low as \$758 per month this property is an absolute **MUST SEE!**

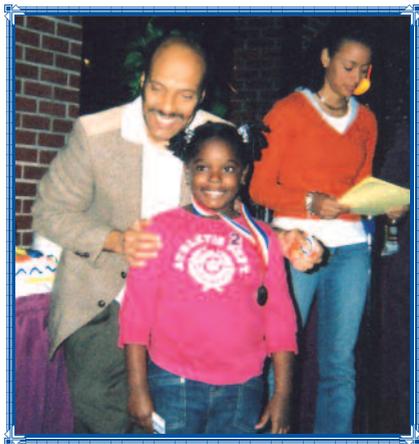


*Just Imagine... coming home to Villas du Soleil where your imagination becomes a reality.*

**90 HIDDEN LAKE DRIVE • LAKE MARY/SANFORD, FL 32773**

**407.792.4648 • www.VillasduSoleil.net**

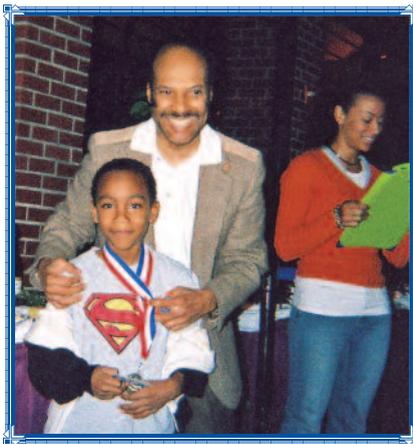
# SIMMONS PEDIATRICS A-B HONOR ROLL PARTY



*Aneya Brookins, Dr. Simmons, and  
Shinell Garven*



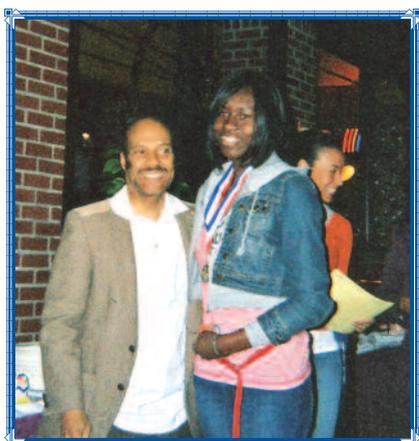
*Carrisa Isard, Dr. Simmons, and  
Angelina Lowery*



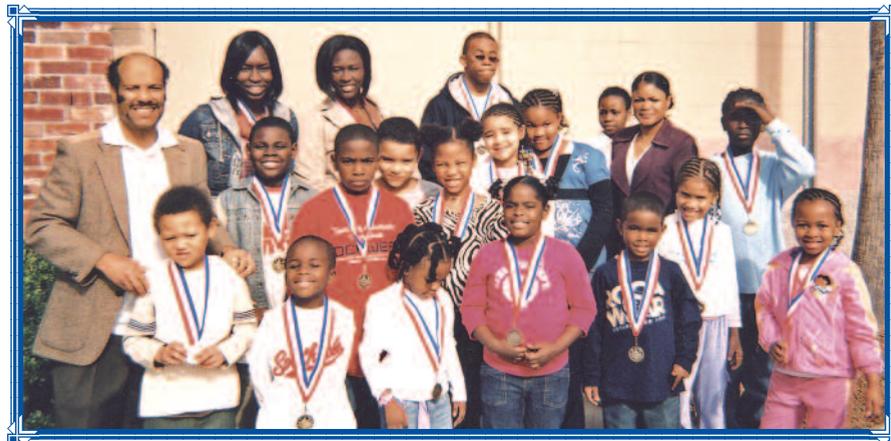
*Kyla Thomas, Dr. Simmons, and  
Shinell Garven*



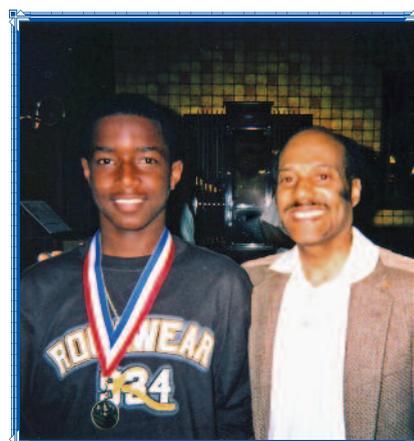
*Dr. Simmons, Tanacha Jackson, and  
Angelina Lowery*



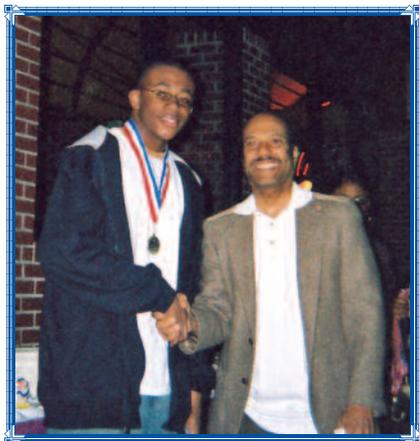
*Joselyn Brunson and Dr. Simmons*



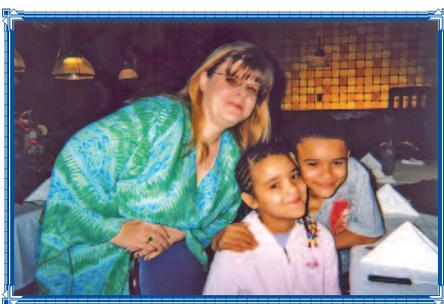
The Simmons Pediatrics Sixth Annual AB Honor Roll Part was held last weekend at Dave and Busters. There were about 40 children and their parents in attendance. They all received medallions around their necks, along with food and tokens to play the games at Dave and Busters in celebration for their hard work and dedication for maintaining excellent grades in school.



*Darris Williams and Dr. Simmons*



*Theodur Jackson and Dr. Simmons*



*Mrs. Lewis, Mekaya Lewis, and  
Trea Lewis*



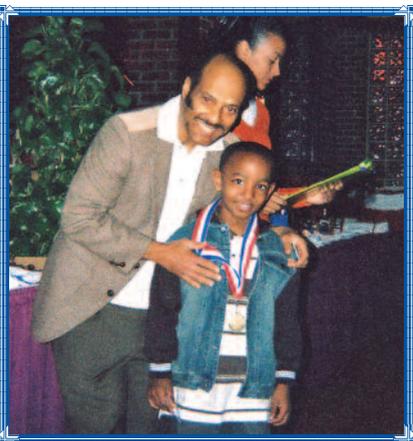
*Kayla Johnson and Mother*



*Totisu Brunson and Dr. Simmons*



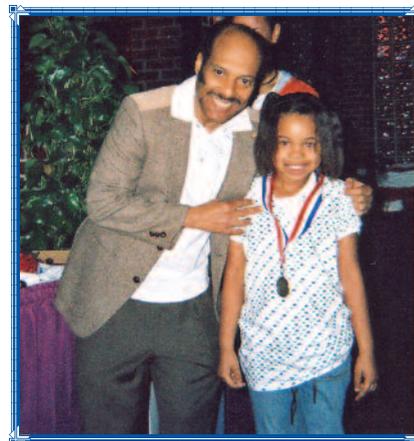
*Dr. Simmons and Ella Mosley*



*Shane Thomas and Dr. Simmons*



*Kuleb Bell, Jackie Bell, Zackery Bell, and  
Damian Bell*



*Kearra Jones and Dr. Simmons*

# LYNCHING

## An American Tradition



**L**ynching is the illegal execution of an accused person by a mob. The term lynching probably derived from the name Charles Lynch (1736-96), a justice of the peace who administered rough justice in Virginia. Lynching was originally a system of punishment used by whites against African American slaves. However, whites who protested against this were also in danger of being lynched. On 7th November, 1837, Elijah Parish Lovejoy, the editor of the *Alton Observer*, was killed by a white mob after he had published articles criticizing lynching and advocating the abolition of slavery.

After the establishment of the Ku Klux Klan in 1867 the number of lynching of African American increased dramatically. The main objective of the KKK was to maintain white supremacy in the South, which they felt was under threat after their defeat in the Civil War. It has been estimated that between 1880 and 1920, an average of two African Americans a week were lynched in the United States.

In 1884 Ida Wells, editor of *Free Speech*, a small newspaper in Memphis, carried out an investigation into lynching. She discovered during a short period 728 black men and women had been lynched by white mobs. Of these deaths, two-thirds were for small offenses such as public drunkenness and shoplifting.



On 9th March, 1892, three African American businessmen were lynched in Memphis. When Ida Wells wrote an article condemning the lynchers, a white mob destroyed her printing press. They declared that they intended to lynch her but fortunately she was visiting Philadelphia at the time.

Unable to return to Memphis, Ida Wells was recruited by the progressive newspaper, *New York Age*. She continued her campaign against lynching and Jim Crow laws and in 1893 and 1894 made lecture tours of Britain. While there in 1894 she helped to establish the British Anti-Lynching Committee. Members included James Keir Hardie, Thomas Burt, John Clifford, Isabella Ford, Tom Mann, Joseph Pease, C. P. Scott, Ben Tillett and Mary Humphrey Ward.

Dr. Arthur Raper was commissioned in 1930 to produce a report on lynching. He discovered that 3,724 people were lynched in the United States from 1889 through to 1930. Over four-fifths of these were Negroes, less

than one-sixth of whom were accused of rape. Practically all of the lynchers were native whites. The fact that a number of the victims were tortured, mutilated, dragged, or burned suggests the presence of sadistic tendencies among the lynchers. Of the tens of thousands of lynchers and onlookers, only 49 were indicted and only 4 have been sentenced."

George Henry White, the last former slave to serve in Congress and the only African American in the House of Representatives, proposed a bill in January, 1901 that would have made lynching of American citizens a federal crime. He argued that any person participating actively in or acting as an accessory in a lynching should be convicted of treason. White pointed out that lynching was being used by white mobs in the Deep



# ...tion



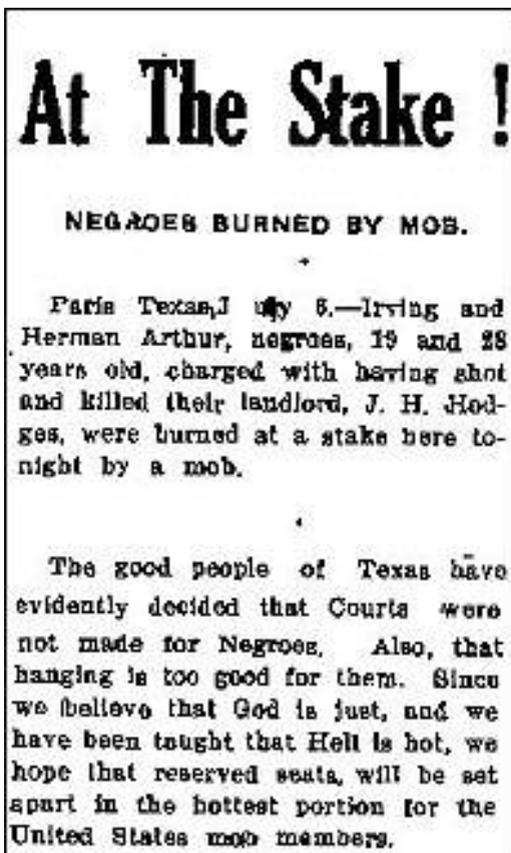
South to terrorize African Americans. He illustrated this by showing that of the 109 people lynched in 1899, 87 were African Americans. Despite White's passionate plea, the bill was easily defeated.

The NAACP also fought a long campaign against lynching. In 1919 it published *Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States: 1889-1918*. The NAACP also paid for large adverts in major newspapers presenting the facts about lynching. To show that the members of the organization would not be intimidated, it held its 1920 annual conference in Atlanta, considered at the time to be one of the most active Ku Klux Klan areas in America.

There was a decline in lynching during the First World War but more than seventy blacks were murdered in this way in the year after the war ended. Ten black soldiers, several still in their army uniforms, were amongst those lynched. Between 1919 and 1922, a further 239 blacks were lynched by white mobs and many more were killed

by individual acts of violence and unrecorded lynchings. In none of these cases was a white person punished for these crimes. Several trade unionists were also lynched. This included two members of the Industrial Workers of the World, Frank Little (1917) and Wesley Everest (1919).

The NAACP hoped that the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932 would bring an end to lynching. Two African American campaigners against lynching, Mary McLeod Bethune and Walter Francis White, had been actively involved in helping Roosevelt to obtain victory. The president's wife, Eleanor Roosevelt, had also been a long-time opponent of lynching.



Robert F. Wagner and Edward Costigan agreed to draft a bill that would punish the crime of lynching. In 1935 attempts were made to persuade Roosevelt to support the Costigan-Wagner bill. However, Roosevelt refused to speak out in favour of the bill that would punish sheriffs who failed to protect their prisoners from lynch mobs. He argued that the white voters in the South would never forgive him if he supported the bill and he would therefore lose the next election.

Even the appearance in the newspapers of the lynching of Rubin Stacy failed to change Roosevelt's mind on the subject. Six deputies were escorting Stacy to Dade County jail in Miami on 19th July, 1935, when he was taken by a white mob and hanged by the side of the home of Marion Jones, the woman who had made the original complaint against him. The *New York Times* later revealed that "subsequent investigation revealed that Stacy, a homeless tenant farmer, had gone to the house to ask for food; the woman became frightened and screamed when she saw Stacy's face."

The Costigan-Wagner Act received support from many members of Congress but the Southern opposition managed to defeat it. However, the national debate that took place over the issue helped to bring attention to the crime of lynching.

In 1937 Abel Meeropol, a Jewish schoolteacher from New York, saw a photograph of the lynching of Thomas Shipp and Abram Smith. Meeropol later recalled how the photograph "haunted me for days" and inspired the writing of the poem, *Strange Fruit*. Meeropol, a member of the American Communist Party, using the pseudonym, Lewis Allan, published the poem in the *New York Teacher* and later, the Marxist journal, *New Masses*.

After seeing Billie Holiday perform at the club, Café Society, in New York, Meeropol showed her the poem. Holiday liked it and after working on it with Sonny White made turned into the song, *Strange Fruit*. The record made it to No. 16 on the charts in July 1939. However, the song was denounced by *Time Magazine* as "a prime piece of musical propaganda" for the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP).

Between 1865 and 1965 over 2400 African Americans were lynched in the United States. Even after the passing of the Civil Rights Act (1964) lynchings continued in the Deep



## LYNCHINGS from page 21

**TWO LYNCHED IN MISSISSIPPI.**  
 DURANT, Miss., May 12.—A race soldier recently discharged from the army and a woman were lynched in the outskirts of Pickens, Holmes county, Miss., according to reports received here tonight by Marshal J. S. Kaulkopf. The lynching is said to have followed admission by the man that he had raped the woman, to write an improper note to a young woman at Pickens.

a white policeman, took place in Mobile. At the end of the case the jury was unable to reach a verdict. This upset members of the Ku Klux Klan who believed that the reason for this was that some members of the jury were African Americans. At a meeting held after the trial, Bennie Hays, the second-highest ranking official in the Klan in Alabama said: "If a black man can get away with killing a white man, we ought to be able to get away with killing a black man."

On Saturday 21st March, 1981, Bennie Hays's son, Henry Hays, and James Knowles, decided they would get revenge for the failure of the courts to convict the man for killing a policeman. They traveled around Mobile in their car until they found nineteen year old Michael Donald walking home. After forcing him into the car, Donald was taken into the next county where he was lynched.

A brief investigation took place and eventually the local police claimed that Donald had been murdered as a result of a disagreement over a drugs deal. Donald's



South. The most significant of these was the Michael Donald case. In 1981 the trial of Josephus Anderson, an African American charged with the murder of



to Mobile and it did not take him long to persuade James Knowles to confess to the killing of Michael Donald.

### Louisiana Adds To The Lynching Score

BOGALUSA, La., Sept. 10.—Caught by bloodhounds, Lucius McCarty, discharged soldier, was lynched by a mob of a thousand men late Friday. McCarty's body was tied to an auto, dragged through the streets and burned in front of his victim's home. McCarty was captured by a sheriff's posse. The mob surrounded the officials, took the prisoner to the outskirts of Bogalusa and killed him.

In June 1983, Knowles was found guilty of violating Donald's civil rights and was sentenced to life imprisonment. Six months later, when Henry Hays was tried for murder, Knowles appeared as chief prosecution witness. Hays was found guilty and sentenced to death.

With the support of Morris Dees and Joseph J. Levin at the Southern Poverty Law Centre (SPLC), Beulah Mae Donald decided that she would use this case to try and destroy the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama. Her civil suit against the United Klans of America took place in February 1987. The all-white jury found the Klan responsible for the lynching of Michael Donald and ordered it to pay



7 million dollars. This resulted in the Klan having to hand over all its assets including its national headquarters in Tuscaloosa.

After a long-drawn out legal struggle, Henry Hayes was executed on 6th June, 1997. It was the first time a white man had been executed for a crime against an African American since 1913.



### **Strange Fruit A Song By Billie Holiday**

*Southern trees bear strange fruit,  
Blood on the leaves and blood at the root,  
Black bodies swinging in the southern breeze,  
Strange fruit hanging from the poplar trees.*

*Pastoral scene of the gallant south,  
The bulging eyes and the twisted mouth,  
Scent of magnolias, sweet and fresh,  
Then the sudden smell of burning flesh.*

*Here is fruit for the crows to pluck,  
For the rain to gather, for the wind to suck,  
For the sun to rot, for the trees to drop,  
Here is a strange and bitter crop.*

## Donald L. Dempsey, II, P.A.

ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW



- ◆ **Personal Injury**
- ◆ **Bankruptcy**
- ◆ **Family Law**
- ◆ **Commercial Litigation**

Attorney  
Donald Dempsey

*At Donald L. Dempsey, II, P.A. we realize that the relationship between a client and an attorney is unique, sacred and confidential. Our goal is to provide quality service without limitations. We are here to help you in any way possible. "Let us serve your legal needs."*

Donald L. Dempsey, II, P.A.  
4321 Roosevelt Blvd., Jacksonville  
dempsey4321@aol.com  
(904) 387-5262



## DENTAL RX

For All Your Prescription Needs

- ◆ Free Delivery Service
- ◆ Fast / Courteous Prescription Service
- ◆ Most Insurance plans Accepted



*Easy Prescription Transfers*

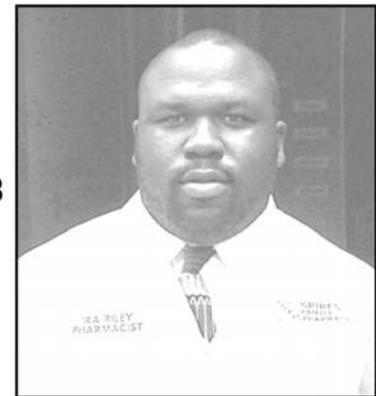
**Your Neighborhood Pharmacy**

## Dental Rx

1190 W. Edgewood Ave. Suite B  
Jacksonville, Florida 32208

(904) 764-8280

DentalRx@bellsouth.net



Dr. Ira Riley, Jr. RPh



## WACHOVIA

Why Wachovia? Because We're Opening Doors for Families, One Home at a Time.

**We offer:**

- Streamlined application process and loan decision.
- Interest-only options available.
- Up to 100 percent financing of the sales price and no private mortgage insurance options.<sup>+</sup>
- Second-home loans with little to no down payment.
- Construction lending/permanent financing program with one closing and rate protection.
- The convenience of a full-service financial institution to fulfill all of your banking needs.
- Excellent service when and where you need it. Apply in person or over the telephone.
- Closing Guarantee.\*

Wachovia Mortgage can offer all this and more. For information, please call:

Stephanie McCoy Boykins  
899 Dunn Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32218  
Mortgage Consultant  
(904)614-9402  
Stephanie.Boykins@wachovia.com



Program, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions may apply. + As stated in purchase agreement or appraised value, whichever is less. Borrower responsible for closing costs. \*Closing guarantee not available for all products. Other terms and conditions apply as set forth more fully in the Closing Date Guarantee Agreement that will be signed by the borrower(s) at application. This is not a guarantee that your loan will close by the closing date. Acts beyond Wachovia's control, including acts of third parties, which may delay your closing date, are not covered by the guarantee. All loans subject to credit approval, verification, and collateral evaluation. Initial decision is subject to your meeting specific underwriting requirements and final approval will be based upon your satisfying those requirements. Loans originated by Wachovia Mortgage Corporation. Products not available in all states.

## North Jacksonville Family Worship Center



**Where Jesus Is Lord!**

**Leon R. Bing, Pastor**

Hours of Services  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study  
7:00 PM

(904) 765-4040



North Jacksonville  
Family Worship Center  
10224 Lem Turner Road  
Jacksonville, Florida 32218

# WHERE IS THE MONUMENT?

By H. Lewis Smith  
President, United Voices for a Common Cause

Los Angeles, CA (BlackNews.com) - Black History Month: A time for African-American slave descendants to reflect, uplift the honorable triumphs attained by ancestors, and pay righteous homage to African-American ascendants whom fought hard for the freedoms in which African Americans are privileged today? Or is it?

Descendants of African-American slaves seem to place no value on the valor, courage and fortitude demonstrated by their ascendants. The life and death struggles seem to be unappreciated by these sons and daughters of those once subjugated.

How is it that some of the most significant moments in Black American History remain ignored and ill-appreciated? For instance, the Middle Passage. African-Americans of today seem to disregard, rather than cherish, the memories of the millions who lost their lives after being forced—shackled and underfed—to walk in slave caravans—sometimes as far as 1,000 miles—to a fate worse than death:

Ascendants were placed on slave ships bound for the Americas; those too sick or weary to keep pace with the caravans were often killed or left to die. Others that did make the ship either voluntarily jumped overboard as means of escaping the horrific new life, or were deliberately pushed overboard due to failing health. No honoring the memories of these millions who perished during the Middle Passage exists.

As for the countless numbers who survived the Middle Passage, they were met with an even more dismal fate than the voyage to the new world—the harsh realities of enslavement. They were stripped of their identities, given new names, and taught to envision themselves and their African heritage as inferior and barbaric. Their slave masters insisted on total obedience. This led to complete dependence on the master, which cultivated infantile characteristics in many of the slaves. The masters taught slaves to reject their past while adopting the values of their masters. These transformations were achieved in the most heinous and inhumane ways—through torture, maiming, castrating, sodomizing—ever before witnessed by humankind.

However, in spite of all torturous experiences endured, the resilience of the African-American slave prevailed. Somehow from these ashes of despair, like the mighty phoenix, arose a solid, strong, and magnificent race of people founded on individuality, pride, and dignity. Negro Spirituals, Blues and Jazz are all by-products of African American ingenuity during these trying times, created to maintain a sense of sanity, individuality, and heritage. These innovations also represented their sheer refusal to allow their spirit to be defeated.

Yet the struggles, sacrifices, and accomplishments of the African slaves have largely been ignored or underappreciated by their descendants. As though to rub salt into one's wound, no greater evidence exists to support this argument than that of the shameless embracing—by the progenies of African slaves—a word that was used to dehumanize, degrade and demean their ascendants: the n-word.



H. Lewis Smith

This month, rapper Nas will shamelessly release an album entitled, N\*\*ger, and the on-going saga of Aaron McGruder's Boondocks continues. These entertainment figures, comedians, other rappers and entertainers alike, along with many in the general public, are all byproducts of a dastardly mind-controlling past which has conditioned them to disrespect themselves and the sacred memories of their ancestry.

The chilling effects of a mind manipulating process that slaves fought hard not to succumb to and African-American civil rights leaders gave their lives to reverse has withstood the test of time, continues to be passed down through the generations, and prevails in this 21st Century—at the hand of African Americans. Carter G. Woodson said it best: “When you control a man's thinking, you do not have to worry about his actions.”

This trickling down effect is highly evident in Nas' thought process, who has not only elected the word “N\*\*ger” for the title of his album, but deliberately chose to wait until this month, Black History Month, to release the album. Self-respect, honor, dignity and pride are non-existent among way too many descendants of the once proud and self-respecting African slaves.

Black History Month seemingly becomes less significant with each passing year. This year is proving to be no exception. Nas will so obligingly demonstrate that his black voice serves as a ventriloquist from the acculturation of the slavery process, casting further aspersions upon the true significance of Black History Month.

Instead of erecting a monument to the sacred and cherished memories of their ascendants, a maelstrom of contempt, disrespect and rejection exists in its place. Centuries ago, blacks were leading other blacks into physical enslavement. Centuries later, history is repeating itself. Blacks are once again leading other blacks into enslavement, only this time, towards mental bondage.

## Message to the Black Family

*If your children don't remember,  
Who their ancestors were,  
Please don't let them forget,  
That they were a Dignified and Spiritual People.*  
~ Gerald W. Deas, M.D., 1988

H. Lewis Smith is the founder and president of UVCC, the United Voices for a Common Cause, Inc., and author of Bury that Sucka, A Scandalous Love Affair With the N-Word. [www.theunitedvoices.com](http://www.theunitedvoices.com)

# Gateway Town Center

**The Place to Shop** on Jacksonville's Northside

- Located on Interstate 95 with a traffic count of 118,500 cars a day.
- More than 189,500 people, representing 75,000 families with an average income of \$41,300 live within a 5-mile radius.
- 55 acres with plenty of parking.
- 675,000 square feet facility with 90 tenants.

For Leasing Information:

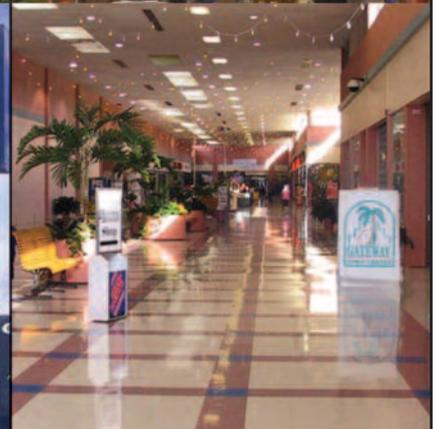
5258-12 Norwood Avenue • Jacksonville

**904-764-7745**

twood@gw.fdn.com

Jacksonville, Florida

Gateway Town Center  
Your Gateway to Value



## Little Lambs Family Home Child Care



Kera Campbell  
Director

"Loving and Caring is my first priority"

"Safety is my middle name."

**FREE PAMPERS FOR THE FIRST YEAR!**

10075 N. GATE PARKWAY • JACKSONVILLE, FL  
(Down from the St. Johns Town Center)

PHONE: **(904) 642-1513**

Hours of Operation: **6:00AM - 6:30PM**

*Children are God's gift and sign of his favor, but without children the inheritance in the land would be lost...*

Psalms 127:3-5



## Simmons Pediatrics



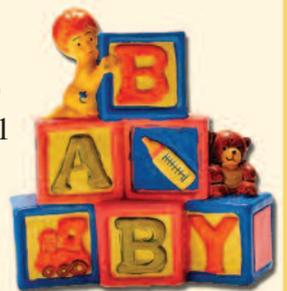
Charles E. Simmons, III, M.D.

Now Accepting All Patients On United Health Care Med-Kids.  
Call 1-866-331-2243 To Change To  
United Health Care Med-Kids  
With Dr. Charles Simmons As Your  
Primary Care Doctor

### Simmons Pediatrics

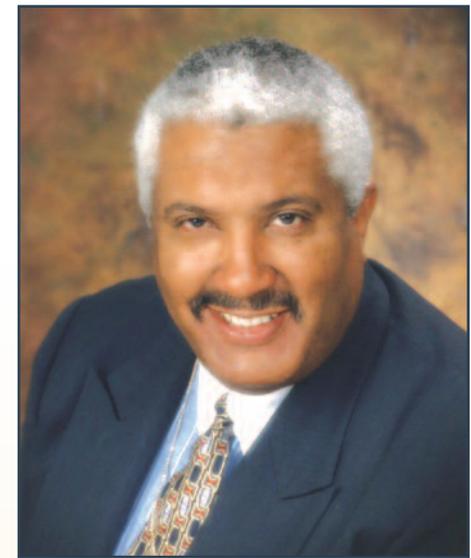
P.H.E.O. Medical Center, Suite 1  
1771 Edgewood Avenue West  
Jacksonville, Florida 32208

**(904) 766-1106**



# "HOW DO WE KNOW THAT GOD IS WITH US?"

By, Reverend Doctor Carlton D. Jones  
Jacksonville, Florida



Haggai 1:13 says **"Then Haggai the Lord's messenger, gave this message from the Lord to the people: I am with you," declares the Lord.**

God is with us whether we are in a crowd or by ourselves. God is omni present, which means that He is everywhere at the same time. God is with us even when we are all alone in the midnight hour, when we are hurting, frighten, depressed and scared. God is with us and He will minister to us. He knows where we are hurting, but we must believe and pray, and ask God for deliverance. The secret beyond that is to just trust, have faith, and belief that He will answer your partition. We often abort our partitions because of our lack of faith and belief that God will do what He promise.

God also instructs us in the book of James, to call upon the elders of the church to pray for you. There is power in prayer and our faith is a testimony to God and to others who may be going through something. That is why we should surround ourselves with Christians so that they may be challenged and strengthened through their faith and belief in prayer, and that they can put their study of the Word of God into action.

We must believe that God is with us. If we do not believe, then it is impossible to please God. The only way we will receive the blessings and promises of God is through our faith that God is and that God will do what He has promised. Many Christians today are struggling with their faith in God. The definition of faith, which is found in Hebrews 11:1 reads, "Now, faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

I struggle daily with my faith walk because there are so many uncertainties in life. We cannot see past right now. I struggle with my faith in people, so I have to put my faith and trust in God. I have grown to realize that it is God and God only that we can depend on.

Only God knows and can predestine our future. The devil can't see past right now, he cannot see into the future, but he can alter God's course towards our future, by temptation, lust, lies, trickery, and so many other tools that the devil has at his disposal. I think about Job and how the devil altered his life. Even though the devil put all kinds of sickness and tragedy in his life, Job was faithful to God, and God restored Job and gave him more than he had lost during his struggle with the devil. Job stood on the promises of God.

I did not get here over night. It first came through the Word of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit that convicted my thoughts and my faith to believe in a God, oh which I cannot visually or physically see or touch. I have had to fight as a kid and as an adult for everything; however, since I have surrendered my faith to God, I am now able to let the Power of the Holy Spirit fight my battles. I know you may think this sounds good, but I can tell you it is God and God only who has brought me through. While we are asleep someone may be plotting and planning against us. We have no control over our life, but God does.

Faith is something that we have to experience. The entire Bible illustrates examples of faith and standing on God's promise and He dedicated Hebrews chapter 11 about Faith. Study this chapter and see how God will reveal the secrets of how our faith will lead us towards a greater walk with God.

God is calling all of His believers in God the Father, through Jesus Christ the Son and through the power of the Holy Spirit, to reach the masses and let them know that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He, God, is with us who believe in the power of the Holy Trinity.

The church is struggling with how to reach the masses so that it can deliver God's Word. God wants everyone to have an opportunity to hear and study the Word of God and through one's belief, and put it to action through our own lives.

We all have a need and no one is exempt from having the struggles of this world. We have children having children, and every community is dealing with the threat of sexual predators. We have so many people on chemical dependency at all social economic levels. We have a financial economy that is turning our finances upside down. We have families with no or not enough health insurance. We have spiritual issues, and the increasing need to have a dependency and relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ the Son, and receive the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

God has commanded all of us who believe to go out and spread the good news—the gospel of Jesus Christ. God does not want us to become like the world, but that we might lift Him up and let Him draw all men and women to Him. Many of our churches are nearly empty on Sunday, yet some of our other churches are busting at the seam. There are worldwide ministries that are obedient to God's commandment to feed His sheep the good news of Jesus Christ. Yet, the question is still how do we reach the masses to simply let them know in the midst of all their troubles that God is with them?

This is a message for some of the churches who are trying to fill their pews, and to the new ministries that God is birthing. I am inspired by a song titled, **"How to reach the Masses."**

*How to reach the masses, those of every birth, for an answer Jesus gave the key; And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, I'll draw all men unto me. Lift Him up, Lift Him up, still He speaks from eternity; And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto me. Oh! The world is hungry for the Living Bread, lift the Savior up for them to see; Trust Him and do not doubt the words that He said, I'll draw all men unto Me. Lift Him up, Lift Him up. Still He speaks from eternity; And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto Me. Don't exalt the preacher, don't exalt the pew, Preach*

*Oh! The world is hungry for the Living Bread, lift the Savior up for them to see; Trust Him and do not doubt the words that He said, I'll draw all men unto Me.*

see **CARLTON JONES** page 32

# Jacksonville to Host 133rd Annual Session Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc.

The local planning committee under the leadership of Rev. J. C. Green and Rev. Anthony Robinson is making plans to role out the 'red carpet' for delegates from across the state of Florida and the Virgin Islands. The session will be held April 7-11, 2008. Keeping in line with the National Baptist Convention, the state will focus on the theme "Jesus Christ Only-Always: The Heavenly Vision and The Music of the Church. The revised constitution will be ratified during this session.

Sessions will be held at St. Thomas Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Ernie Murray, Pastor and Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Robert Herring, Pastor. The Opening Musical/Welcome Program will be held at Abyssinia Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Tom E. & Rev. Eugene W. Diamond, Pastors. Late night services will be held at the Clarion Hotel, Jacksonville Airport.

All churches in Duval and adjacent counties are invited to join hands and hearts in giving praises to God and making this one of the best conventions ever.

The Opening Musical will feature a mass choir of at least 500 voices. Choir members from all churches in the area are invited to come out and be a part of this melodious choir. Rehearsals are held each Thursday evening at 7:00PM at First New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church on Soutel Drive.

Highlights of some of the events throughout the week will include:

**Monday** - Board Meeting, Opening Musical/Welcome Program  
**Tuesday** - Annual Address, President Women's Auxiliary

**Wednesday** - Banquet at the Omni Hotel

**Thursday** - Annual Address, President of Laymen, Moderators, Young Pastors and Convention President,  
Dr. James B. Sampson

**Friday** - Youth Explosion featuring youth from across the state

The session will close Friday evening with observing the Ordinances of the Church, Baptism and Communion.

The goal of Florida General Baptist Convention is to make a positive impact on the local community as we proclaim the good news of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Street witnessing, teaching and preaching will be the main focus for the week.

The entire community is invited to participate during the week.

For information regarding Florida General Baptist Convention and its Ministries contact:

**Florida Baptist Convention, Inc.**

**347 North Ridgewood Ave  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114**

**Phone: (386)-681-1042**

**Fax: (386) 255-7713**

**Email: fgbc@bellsouth.net**

**Web site: fgbc.org**

**Send mail to:**

**P. O. BOX 11706**

**Daytona Beach, FL 32120**



Save The Dates	
<b>MONDAY APRIL 7, 2008 - 10:30 A.M.</b> OFFICIAL OPENING (CONVENTION CALLED TO ORDER) ST. THOMAS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 5863 MONCIEF ROAD JACKSONVILLE, FL REV. E. L. MURRAY, PASTOR	<b>FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008 -</b> 2 P.M. - STOP THE VIOLENCE - SAVE OUR CHILDREN YOUTH EXPLOSION ST. THOMAS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 5863 MONCIEF ROAD JACKSONVILLE, FL REV. E. L. MURRAY, PASTOR
MUSICAL/WELCOME PROGRAM - 7:00 P.M. ABYSSINIA BAPTIST CHURCH 10325 INTERSTATE CENTER DRIVE JACKSONVILLE, FL REV. TOM & EUGENE DIAMOND, PASTORS	- CLOSING SESSION - 7:00 P.M.- BAPTISM & COMMUNION ST. THOMAS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 5863 MONCIEF ROAD JACKSONVILLE, FL REV. E. L. MURRAY, PASTOR
<b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2008 - 6:30 P.M.</b> RETREAT BANQUET (TICKETS \$50.00 ) OMNI HOTEL 245 WATERS ST JACKSONVILLE, FL	FIRST NEW ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 4835 SOUDEL DRIVE JACKSONVILLE, FL 32208
<b>THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008 - 7 P.M.</b> PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS ST. THOMAS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 5863 MONCIEF ROAD JACKSONVILLE, FL REV. E. L. MURRAY, PASTOR	
The Florida General Baptist Convention, Inc. www.fgbc.org Designed By: Rosalind Campbell - camproze@aol.com	

# **ALAN GRAYSON**

**FOR**

# **CONGRESS**

## **DEMOCRAT DISTRICT 8**



**FIGHTING FOR TAXPAYERS,  
FIGHTING FOR AMERICA'S SOLDIERS,  
FIGHTING FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA!**

For any candidate, the key question is not "what are you promising?" It's "what have you done?"

I prosecute war profiteers and corrupt government officials. In March, I won \$10 million for the taxpayers. It was the first case involving contractor fraud in Iraq. Bush refused to prosecute, but I went ahead on my own, and won.

I created and, for 20 years, I have served as an officer of the Alliance for Aging

Research. Its motto is "Living to 100, and Loving It!" We have increased support for aging research by 600%.

I also founded and was the first President of IDT, a Fortune 1000 company. I've given gifts and toys to hundreds of sick children. And my wife Lolita and I have five healthy children of our own, who love us.

In Congress, I can do more of what I've been doing – helping the taxpayer, soldiers, seniors and children. Help me to help you, and the ones you love.



Alan and his wife, Lolita, have five children – Skye (12), Star (8), Sage (6) and two-year-old twins, Storm and Stone.

**VOTE FOR ALAN GRAYSON**  
**on**  
**AUGUST 26 and NOVEMBER 4**

**Call me anytime at: 407.228.9840**  
**[www.GraysonForCongress.com](http://www.GraysonForCongress.com)**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Alan Grayson, Democrat, for US Congress, District 8

# Black Inventors and their Inventions

## You May Not Know About

It is not a little-known fact that African American inventors and their contributions in various areas have greatly impacted the world; however, many people are unaware of just how influential some of these inventions have been in society. The following compilation only scratches the surface of the achievements of black inventors.

### Benjamin Banneker

His inventive spirit would lead him to be called the “first African American inventor.” Banneker invented the first Farmers’ Almanac, among other accomplishments.

### Andrew Jackson Beard

On November 27, 1897, Beard received a patent for a device he called the “Jenny Coupler.” It did the dangerous job of hooking railroad cars together,

### Miriam E. Benjamin

Benjamin was the second black woman to receive a patent. Her patent was for an invention called the “Gong and Signal Chair for Hotels.” Her invention allowed hotel customer to summon a waiter from the comfort of their chair. A button on the chair would buzz the waiters’ station and a light on the chair would let the wait staff know who wanted service. Miriam Benjamin’s invention was adapted and used in the United States House of Representatives.

### Bessie Blount

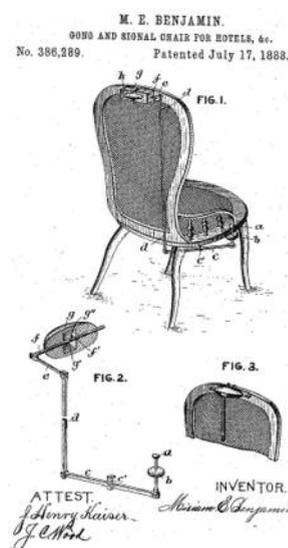
Bessie Blount, was a physical therapist who worked with soldiers injured in W.W.II. Bessie Blount’s war service inspired her to patent a device in 1951 that allowed amputees to feed themselves.

### Sarah Boone

The ironing board was invented by African-American Sarah Boone in 1887.

### Otis Boykin

Boykin invented the ‘Electrical Resistor’ used in computers, radios, television sets and a variety of electronic devices. The resistor helped reduce the cost of those products.



### Charles Brooks

C. B. Brooks invented the first street sweeper truck and was issued a patent on March 17, 1896. His truck had revolving brushes attached to the front fender and the brushes were interchangeable with scrapers that could be used in winter for snow removal.

### Henry Brown

Brown patented a ‘receptacle for storing and preserving papers on November 2, 1886, which developed into what is now known as the bank safety deposit box

### George Washington Carver

Carver invented peanut butter, adhesives, bleach, chili sauce, ink, instant coffee, linoleum, mayonnaise, paper, plastic, pavement, shaving cream, talcum powder and more.

### George Carruthers

Carruthers was the inventor of the far-ultraviolet camera and the spectrograph.

### Emmett W. Chappelle

Chappelle was a biochemist, photobiologist, astrochemist and inventor. He developed techniques that are still widely used for the detection of bacteria in urine, blood, spinal fluids, drinking water and foods.

### John B. Christian

John B. Christian invented and patented lubricants used in highflying aircraft and NASA space missions.

### David Crosthwait

Crosthwait holds 39 patents for heating systems and temperature regulating devices. He is most well known for creating the heating system for New York City’s famous Radio City Music Hall.

### Mark Dean

Dean co-invented improvements in computer architecture that allowed IBM compatible PCs to use the same peripheral devices.

### Dr. Charles Richard Drew

Drew was the first person to develop the blood bank.

### Philip Emeagwali

In 1989, Emeagwali won the Gordon Bell Prize, considered the equivalent of the Nobel Prize, for developing the fastest supercomputer software in the world.

### Meredith C. Gourdine

Gourdine was the inventor of electrogasdynamics systems, a way to disperse fog and smoke. By applying strong electrical forces to either you can control those elements. Gourdine was responsible for the engineering technique termed Incineraid for aiding in the removal of smoke from buildings.

### Lloyd Augustus Hall

Lloyd Hall is responsible for the meat curing products, seasonings, emulsions, bakery products, antioxidants, protein hydrolysates and many other products that keep our food fresh and flavorful.

### Thomas L. Jennings

Thomas L. Jennings was the first African American to receive a patent, which was issued on March 3rd, 1821. Thomas Jennings' patent was for a dry-cleaning process called "dry scouring".

### Lonnie Johnson

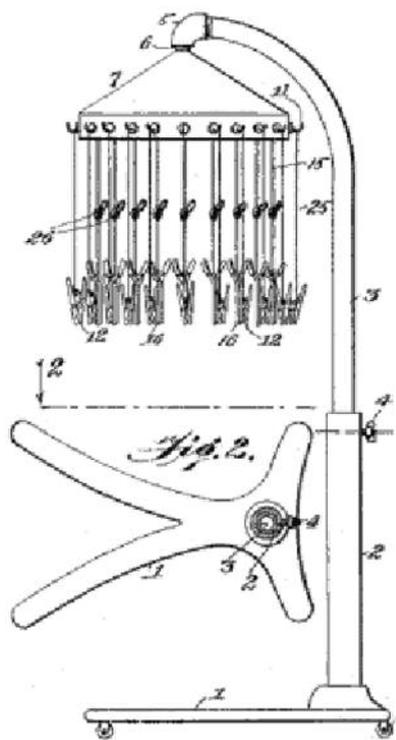
Johnson invented the Super Soaker® squirt gun. The Super Soaker® was invented in 1988 under the original name of the "Power Drencher" and a whole new era of power water squirters began. Invented by Lonnie Johnson, an Aerospace Engineer from Los Angeles, California, the Power Drencher was the first water blaster to incorporate air pressure into its design. Three years later in 1991 when Johnson received his patent, the Power Drencher was renamed "Super Soaker" and a nationwide advertising campaign was launched.

### Frederick Jones

Jones invented the first automatic refrigeration system for long-haul trucks.

### Marjorie Stewart Joyner

Joyner invented a permanent wave machine that would allow a hairdo to stay set for days.



### Percy Lavon Julian

Julian synthesized the medicines physostigmine for glaucoma and cortisone used for rheumatoid arthritis and he invented fire-extinguishing equipment.

### Lewis Howard Latimer

Latimer invented the water closet for railroad cars, an electric lamp with an inexpensive carbon filament and a threaded wooden socket for light bulbs.

### John Lee Love

The "Love Sharpener" was designed by John Lee Love. Love's invention is the very simple and portable pencil sharpener that many artists use today.

### Jan Earnst Matzeliger

Matzeliger invented an automatic method for lasting shoes, which made the mass production of affordable shoes possible.

### Elijah McCoy

McCoy is best known for having invented the automatic oil cup, a cup that fed lubricating oil to machine bearings through a small bore tube. Machinists and engineers who wanted genuine McCoy lubricators might have used the expression "the real McCoy."

### Garrett A. Morgan

Morgan invented the gas mask and the automatic traffic signal.

### Norbert Rillieux

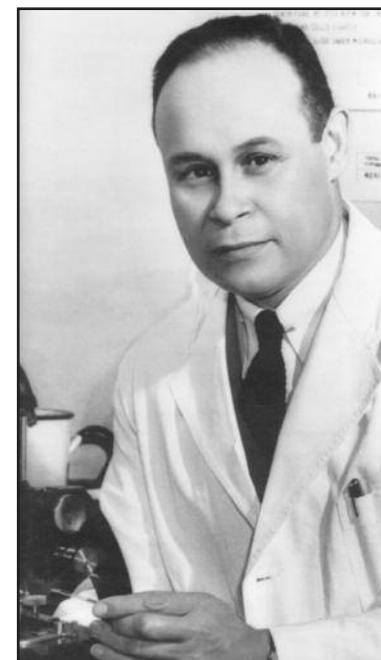
Norbert Rillieux inventing a sugar processing evaporator and an improved sugar refining process that safely saved time and money in the making of sugar from sugar beets or sugar cane.

### Madame C.J. Walker

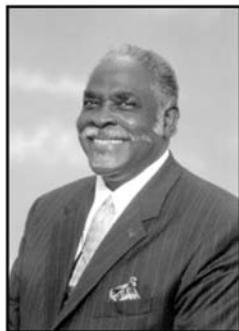
Madame Walker was a St. Louis washerwoman turned entrepreneur, who in 1905 invented a method to soften and smooth African-American hair. She was the first known African-American woman to become a self-made millionaire.

### Granville T. Woods

Woods invented improvements to electric railways, air brakes, telephones and telegraphs; a chicken egg incubator and an apparatus for an amusement park ride.



# Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church



**Dr. Harvey L. Riley, Pastor**

### WORSHIP HOURS

#### First Sunday of the Month

11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

#### Second - Fourth Sunday

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

2295 Adams

Street

Palm Bay, Florida 32905

Church: (321) 725-1791

Study: (321) 725-9898

Residence: (321) 725-3377

Educational Bldg.: (321) 725-1957

Church Fax: (321) 872-0041

[www.mmmbc.org](http://www.mmmbc.org)

**You Are Always Welcome!**

## CARLTON JONES

continued from page 27

*the gospel simple full and free; Prove Him and you will find that promise is true, I'll draw all men unto me. Lift Him up, Lift Him up. Still He speaks from eternity: And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto Me. Lift Him up by living as a Christian ought, let the world in you the Savior see; Then all will gladly follow Him who once taught, I'll draw all men unto Me. Lift Him up, Lift Him up. Still He speaks from eternity; And, I if I be lifted up from the earth, Will draw all men unto me.*

God has designed us in His image and likeness and if we believe this then we have to believe that He has provided us with all of the provisions to live with Him. I believe that the song tells us in ministry how He wants us to reach the masses in meeting the needs of His people. The song simply tells us that we, of every birth, have been given the key that if we lift up the name of Jesus that he will draw, All mankind unto Him.

The song tells us that the world is hungry for the Living Bread—the Word of God. If we lift up the Savior Jesus Christ and just believe on the promises, He will draw all to Him. The word of God, the Holy Bible, will supply all our needs; it is our owner's manual here on earth. The Holy Spirit is our comforter and He will protect and guide us. He will also convict the words that we preach so that those who are in need will receive our words, and He, the Holy Spirit, will convict their hearts and minds and supply them with what they need.

The song tells us do not exalt the preacher or the pew, preach the gospel SIMPLE full and free, believe and we will find the promises to be true. God has made His word simple so that we can study it for ourselves and that the power of the Holy Spirit will convict our mind and direct our path.

The song also tells us to lift Jesus up by living Christ-like, so that the world of unbelievers will see the Savior in us, and will gladly follow Jesus who once taught, "I'll draw all mankind unto Me." We as Christians do not want to be remembered by a person who would say, "If that is what a Christian looks like then I do not want to be one." Remember that our actions can save someone, so struggle to act Christ-like. We do not know who is watching us, but believe that God is.

God wants us to know that He is with us. He is available to all who just believe that He is God the Father, through Jesus Christ the son, and gives us access through the power of the Holy Spirit. John 3:16-17 reads, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.

Jesus left us with two commandments that will help us with our walk. "Thou shalt love thy Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great Commandment. And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two Commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

God is with us, all we have to do is believe. Amen, Amen, Amen.

## R. J. Gainous

Funeral Home, Inc.

*"Qualified, Confident and Assuring"*

804 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard  
Daytona Beach, Florida

(386) 253-7686 • Fax: (386) 253-0026



Alexander C. Wynn, III  
Licensed Funeral Director  
FLORIDA MORTICIAN  
OF THE YEAR  
1999-2000



Dr. Rabie J. Gainous, Jr.  
1919-2001

## GAINOUS-WYNN

Funeral Home, Inc.

*When only memories remain, Let them be beautiful!*

**Alexander C. Wynn, III**

Licensed Funeral Director

**Clarice J. Coleman**

Licensed Funeral Director

570 Washington Street • New Smyrna Beach, Florida

(386) 428-5751 • Fax: (407) 328-1101

*"New Ideas with Old Traditional Ways"*

## GAIL & WYNN'S

MORTUARY, INC.

*A dignified, personalized service with integrity.  
Giving you a beautiful, lasting memory.*

**Alexander C. Wynn, III**  
Licensed Funeral Director

**Gail A. Thomas-DeWitt**  
Licensed Funeral Director

1300 Bruton Boulevard • Orlando, Florida

(407) 522-4700 • Fax: (407) 522-4799



Gail A. Thomas-DeWitt  
Licensed Funeral Director

Providing: Direct Burial, Cremation, Out of Town Service,  
Air Shipping, Pre-Need Arrangements, At-Need Arrangements,  
Church Services, Memorials, Wakes, & Graveside Services

# The Penalty of Leadership

In every field of human endeavor, he that is first must perpetually live in the white light of publicity. Whether the leadership be vested in a man or in a manufactured product, emulation and envy are ever at work. In art, in literature, in music, in industry, the reward and the punishment are always the same.

The reward is widespread recognition; the punishment, fierce denial and detraction. When a man's work becomes a standard for the whole world, it also becomes a target for the shafts of the envious few. If his work be merely mediocre, he will be left severely alone. If he achieve a masterpiece, it will set a million tongues a-wagging.

Jealousy does not protrude its forked tongue at the artist who produces a commonplace painting. Whatsoever you write, or paint, or play, or sing, or build, no one will strive to surpass or to slander you, unless your work be stamped with the seal of genius.

Long, long after a great work or a good work has been done, those who are

disappointed or envious continue to cry out that it cannot be done.

Spiteful little voices in the domain of art were raised against our own Whistler as a mountebank, long after the big world had acclaimed him its greatest artistic genius.

Multitudes flocked to Bayreuth to worship at the musical shrine of Wagner, while the little group of those whom he had dethroned and displaced argued angrily that he was no musician at all.

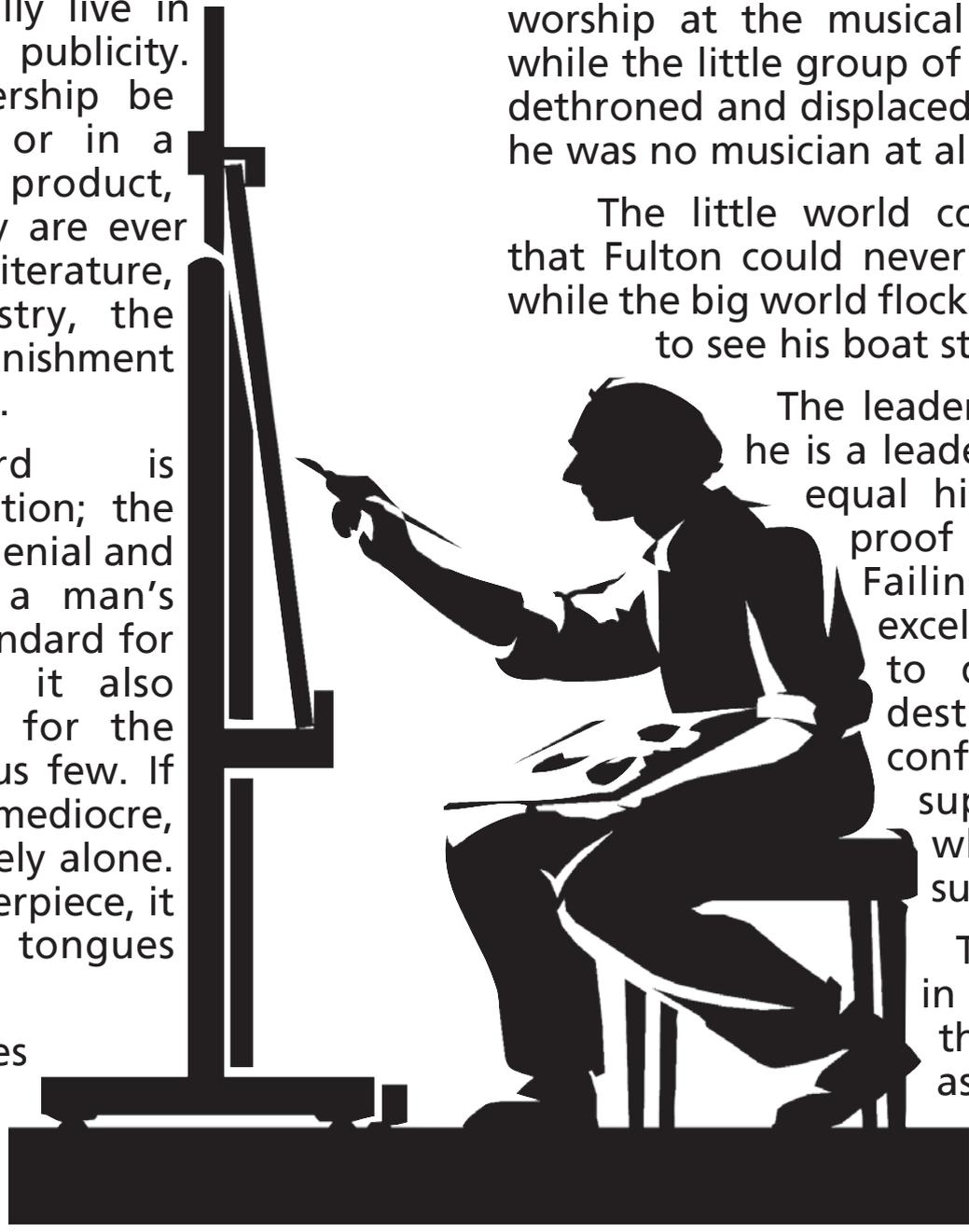
The little world continued to protest that Fulton could never build a steamboat, while the big world flocked to the river banks to see his boat steam by.

The leader is assailed because he is a leader, and the effort to equal him is merely added proof of that leadership. Failing to equal or to excel, the follower seeks to depreciate and to destroy - but only confirms once more the superiority of that which he strives to supplant.

There is nothing new in this. It is as old as the world and as old as the human passions: envy, fear, greed, ambition, and the desire to surpass. And it all avails nothing.

If the leader truly leads, he remains the leader. Master-poet, master-painter, master-workman, each in his turn is assailed, and each holds his laurel through the ages.

That which is good or great makes itself known, no matter how loud the clamor of denial. That which deserves to live — lives.



## **MR. RIGHT from page 15**

are lots of men who, because of a negative relationship with their mothers, really don't like women, yet say they do. Unresolved issues between mother and son continue between husband and wife.

**Remember that a man's family reveals the cloth from which he's cut.** Take note and decide whether you want your future with the man in your life to look like his present family situation.

**Check out the patterns of his life.** Do you see repeated cycles of drama in his personal kingdom? Broken relationships, problems in making commitments, including the job market, mood swings? Is a problem always someone else's fault? Does he embrace responsibility or shirk it? Does he keep his promises? Is he a man of good reputation? Remember all garments look wonderful hanging in the store, but with wear, some begin to unravel. Give yourself time and space to check out the man in your life. Time will always reveal whether or not he is made of the right stuff.

**Does this man have a vision for his life?** Is he running with that vision? Remember, God decided Adam needed help once Adam got busy DOING his assignment. As we saw Adam, a man doesn't need help until he is busy doing what he was created and called to do. Is the man in your life guided by sense of destiny and purpose, or does he just allow life to happen around him? A man who is not certain of his mission can be a most miserable person—and you'll be miserable too if you know where YOU want to go in life. A man who has vision is not intimidated by a woman whose mission statement is clear. He will be your best ally, cheerleader and assistant because he wants you both to make it! A man who cannot be supportive of your achievements because he is floundering in a sea of uncertainty over his own life is not a healthy partner to have and to hold forever.

Creating dependencies or feelings of obligation is not the way to get the best out of your man. Somewhere along the way, he will resent you and flee from the smothering burden of obligation he associates you with. You want a man who is firmly anchored in his identity in Christ. Remember, we are looking for a man who will be priest and leader in his home. His first instinct should be to want to cover you, redeem you, and provide for you. Your job is to decide if this is the man God has ordained for you to complement.

**Complementarily.** Do your talents and gifts complement his? Do his gifts complement yours? What about your temperaments? Do you see the two of you as an effective team capable of bringing blessings to the lives of those around you? Do your futures mesh? Can you coordinate your gifts in an attractive and effective way? This is why knowing your purpose is so important. Make sure your hearts beat for mutual causes. When I go shopping I always consider the fabric, the fit and what I already have in my closet. Will my next purchase be a complementary addition to what I already have? If I find that I am going to have to buy shoes and matching accessories to go with a new outfit, I leave it right on the rack. It is too expensive a proposition. If the man you meet makes you feel that you need to completely reinvent yourself, something is wrong. This is where I ask you to consider the relationship in terms of cost. Is this relationship expensive spiritually, emotionally, or physically? Does your longing for a mate make you willing to forfeit who you are in the process? Or does he see you as the gift that you are?

The man in your life should consider you as a rare find, a priceless jewel - because of you he is getting ready to get blessed big-time! Any relationship that causes you to feel unworthy, unlovely, unacceptable, undesirable, or that you have to work for love, is too expensive! God has called the man to cover, protect, and provide not only materially for a woman, but emotionally and spiritually as well. You should be richer in mind, body and spirit for your union with the man of your dreams. The man in your life should make rich deposits into your heart and spirit, not withdrawals.

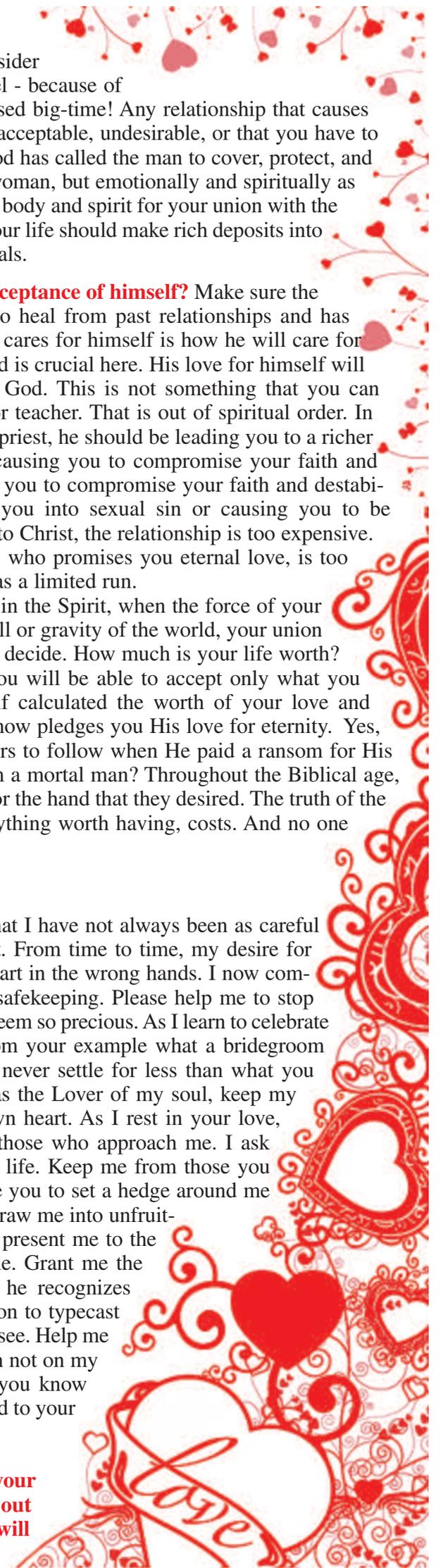
**Does he have a healthy love & acceptance of himself?** Make sure the man in your life has taken time to heal from past relationships and has made peace with himself. How he cares for himself is how he will care for you. A man's relationship with God is crucial here. His love for himself will only be as strong as his love for God. This is not something that you can impart. You cannot be his savior or teacher. That is out of spiritual order. In his rightful place as your personal priest, he should be leading you to a richer relationship with Christ. If he is causing you to compromise your faith and destabilize Christ. If he is causing you to compromise your faith and destabilize your walk, if he is leading you into sexual sin or causing you to be distracted from your commitment to Christ, the relationship is too expensive. Offending the Lover of your soul, who promises you eternal love, is too high a fare to pay for a ride that has a limited run.

If you and your man can't soar in the Spirit, when the force of your love for another is tested by the pull or gravity of the world, your union will not be able to survive. So you decide. How much is your life worth? How much is your love worth? You will be able to accept only what you believe you deserve. God Himself calculated the worth of your love and decided it was worth His life. He now pledges you His love for eternity. Yes, Jesus sets the example for all others to follow when He paid a ransom for His bride. Should you expect less from a mortal man? Throughout the Biblical age, men were willing to pay the cost for the hand that they desired. The truth of the matter is, everyone knows that anything worth having, costs. And no one gets a ride in this life for free.

### ***A Prayer For A Mate:***

Dear Heavenly Father, I confess that I have not always been as careful as I should've been with my heart. From time to time, my desire for love has caused me to leave my heart in the wrong hands. I now commit my heart into your hands for safekeeping. Please help me to stop being so impulsive with what you deem so precious. As I learn to celebrate your love for me, let me learn from your example what a bridegroom should really be like. Help me to never settle for less than what you desire for me. As I embrace you as the Lover of my soul, keep my affections in the haven of your own heart. As I rest in your love, make me more discriminating of those who approach me. I ask that you take over this area of my life. Keep me from those you know would hurt my heart. I invite you to set a hedge around me and keep me from all who would draw me into unfruitful relationships until the day you present me to the mate that you have selected for me. Grant me the discernment to recognize him as he recognizes me. Cleanse me from the temptation to typecast the men I meet according to what I see. Help me to trust in your knowledge and lean not on my own understanding. I know that you know what is best for me; therefore I yield to your choice. In Jesus Name. Amen.

**“Remember to put God first in your life, remove all negative things out of your life and positive things will begin to flow in”**





## THE UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS LAUNCHES 15TH SEASON WITH NEW SHOW

# “JABULANI” Joy, Laughter and Happiness

Show Comes to  
Jacksonville Feb. 6-10 with  
10 New Acts From Europe, China, Russia, Africa, Brazil  
Performing to the Sounds Of Urban America

UniverSoul Included In Ticketmaster's 2007 Top 10  
“Most Requested Family Attractions”

**WHO/WHAT:** The UniverSoul Circus' 15th season and new show “Jabulani: Joy, Laughter and Happiness” (pronounced JA-BOO-Lani) featuring a multicultural line-up of acts from Europe, China, Russia, Africa and Brazil performing to Hip-Hop, R&B, Gospel and Funk. The one-ring circus known as “Hip-Hop Under The Big Top.”

**WHERE:**

Jacksonville, FL  
The Golfair/Kings Flea Market  
813 Golfair Boulevard  
@I-95 exit 355 Golfair Blvd

**WHEN:**

Wednesday, February 6 - Sunday, February 10  
Wednesday- Friday showtimes: 10:30am, 7:30pm; Saturday: showtimes - 12pm,  
4:30pm and 8pm; Sunday showtimes - 1pm, 3:30pm and 6:30pm

**TICKETS:**

Adults \$16-\$27, Children (1-10yrs) \$14-\$25. All 10:30am show tickets are \$10.  
At Ticketmaster.com

Along with Jacksonville, the circus, now in its 15th season, will hit 27 markets including the circus' hometown of Atlanta, New York, Dallas, Chicago and Los Angeles. The Wall Street Journal dubbed the UniverSoul Circus “Pride, Joy and Hip-Hop Under the Big Top” and Newsweek described it as “the only place you can watch...a Chinese bungee-jumping troupe sailing through the air to the hip-hop grooves of Outkast.”

“The world has discovered through the global impact of Black culture the essence of who we are. Whether it's our business savvy, spending power, creativity, intelligence or spirituality. The UniverSoul Circus is an expression of our experience set under the big

top and is the ideal opportunity for families of all ethnicities to participate in a cultural exchange that the entire family can enjoy,” said UniverSoul Circus owner Cedric Walker.

“Jabulani” promises 10 never seen before exhilarating multicultural acts from around the globe performing to R&B, Hip-Hop, Gospel and Funk. Some of the acts include: a three-man comedy trapeze troupe from South Africa, 14 male acrobats from China performing daredevil tricks between two vertical poles, a romantic silk aerial act with performers from Brazil and New Zealand, two kid contortionists from Guinea who twist their bodies in jaw-dropping positions, daring acrobatic feats on horseback by a cross-cultural group of men from Kazakhstan, Russia and Gabon, Africa, a moving spiritual number by identical twin male mimes who are the originators of “gospel miming” from Pittsburgh and international clowns who love to interact with the audience. Returning as Ringmaster is Memphis' own Tony Tone along with his sidekick Zeke from Cleveland, OH who share words of hope and inspiration between acts.

### UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS PERFORMERS 2008

1. Tony Tone - Ringmaster - Memphis
2. Zeke - Ringmaster's Sidekick - Cleveland
3. Russian Swing - Moscow, Russia\*
4. Contortionists - Guinea\*
5. Double Trapeze - Cape Town, South Africa\*
6. Hanging Perch Pole - Conakry, Guinea\*
7. Horse Stunts - Kazakhstan, Russia & Gabon, Africa
8. Silk Aerialists - Auckland, New Zealand & Brasilia, Brazil\*
9. Comedy Trapeze - Cape Town & Johannesburg, South Africa\*
10. Chinese Pole - China\*
11. Tigers - Columbia, South America
12. Caribbean Experience - Trinidad & Tobago
13. Russian Bar - Kazakhstan, Russia; Gabon, Africa; Ethiopia, Africa; Guinea
14. K&K MIME - Pittsburgh, PA\*
15. Clowns - Onionhead - Coconut Grove, FL; Ronaldo Aguiar - Recife, Brazil

**UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS**

**JACKSONVILLE  
FEB. 6 - 10**  
THE KINGS FLEA MARKET  
OFF GOLFAIR BLVD

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!**

GROUP SALES TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR  
THOSE SPECIAL 10:30AM MATINEES

CALL 1 800 316 7439 TO PLACE YOUR RESERVATIONS

www.universoulcircus.com  
ticketmaster

## BETTER THAN THE REST HANDYMAN SERVICES

Over 11 years of Professional Experience  
No Job Too Big or Too Small

Call for a Free Estimate

**(386) 214-2379**

smithsedan@yahoo.com

- Mowing & Edging
- Weeding Planted Areas
- Fertilizer Application
- Car Detailing
- Painting
- Hedge Trimming
- Leaf Cleanup
- Minor Repairs & Home Improvements



Ken Smith, Owner

*Together We Can Make It Happen!*

# ALTERNATIVES UNLIMITED

- ◆ Did You Drop Out of School?
- ◆ Do You Need a High School Diploma Not a GED?
- ◆ Do You Need a Program that Fits with Your Job Schedule?
- ◆ Tired of Dead-end Jobs with No Future and Low Pay?



## Drop Back In Academy

4951 Richard Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
**(904) 448-6180**

ALTERNATIVES UNLIMITED is a FREE, no cost program enabling you to earn your high school diploma on your schedule. Endorsed by the Duval County School District, there is a campus near your neighborhood.  
Call Today (904) 448-6180

Approved by the Duval County Board of Education  
www.Alternativesunlimited.com  
kcook@alternativesunlimited.com

Registered with the State of Florida Department of Education

**Earn A High School Diploma Today!**



## CHESTNUT FUNERAL HOME,

Fifth Generation of Service Since 1914

Peace of Mind for Yourself and Those You Love

### Funeral Pre-Planning Service

By caring enough to plan ahead, you can make the difficult time after your death easier for those you love... and ensure that your personal wishes will be carried out. The sorrow and loss experienced at the time of one's death is enough to handle. You don't want to leave your loved ones with the burdensome details, difficult decisions, and financial pressure of arranging your funeral. Pre-planning and pre-arranging your funeral needs now can ease the burden for your loved ones at a time of great stress and grief, and allow you to make wise choices, and even determine the cost, without pressure and confusion.



The Chestnuts: Charles III, Charles IV, Christopher, little Charles V, and Larry M. Saunders

### A Chestnut Service

*"A Standard of Quality and Service"*  
18 Northwest 8th Street, Gainesville, Florida  
**(352) 372-2537**

## A-1 of Florida Realty

- Call For Free Consultation Before You Buy
- \$10,000 - \$30,000 Available For First-Time Home Buyers



Darrin McCoy  
Licensed Real Estate Broker  
Licensed Mortgage Broker



DJuna Doby  
Business Manager

- New Homes
- Resales
- Commercial
- Executive Homes
- Investment Properties
- Mortgage Loans

**A-1 of Florida Realty, Inc.**  
Office (407) 422-4404 • Fax (407) 422-9388  
304 S. Orange Blossom Trail • Orlando 32805  
(321) 231-9867 Cell  
E-mail: mccoysloans@yahoo.com

# SOULOFAMERICA.COM

## NAMES TOP 10 MUSEUMS TO VISIT FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### The Premier Black Travel Website Recommends Where to Go to See Black History Up Close and Personal

SoulOfAmerica.com today announced the top 10 museums whose artifacts, memorabilia and collections bring Black History to life. The facilities brim with items as varied as audio recordings of slave narratives in Cincinnati, cutting-edge art that woos collectors in Harlem, life-sized historical wax figures in Baltimore and a wreath marking the spot where Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

“Black museums document the triumphs and tragedies of our past, allowing us to step back in time and view Black History as if we were there,” said Thomas Dorsey, publisher and founder of SoulOfAmerica.com. “Exploring the places that honor our history is an appropriate way to celebrate Black History not just in February, but throughout the year.” SoulOfAmerica.com’s Top 10 African-American Museums

— listed in alphabetical order are:

- \* American Jazz Museum & Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, Kansas City
- \* Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
- \* Charles Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit
- \* Du Sable Museum of African American History, Chicago
- \* Muhammad Ali Center, Louisville
- \* National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis
- \* National Great Blacks In Wax Museum, Baltimore
- \* National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati
- \* Reginald Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture, Baltimore
- \* Studio Museum of Harlem

For background information, our criteria for selecting these museums and five honorable mentions, go to:

Page 1, <http://www.soulofamerica.com/index.php?id=13,1650,0,0,1,0>

Page 2, <http://www.soulofamerica.com/index.php?id=13,12404,0,0,1,0>

Founded in 1997, SoulOfAmerica.com is the only comprehensive, most quoted and highest-traffic Black Travel website. BlackWebAwards.com named SoulOfAmerica.com “Best Site for Travel Information” for 2007 and 2008.

Law Offices Of  
**WADE M. ROLLE**  
 ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW

Specializing In Criminal and Personal Injury Cases

- Car and Truck Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Nursing Home Abuse
- Wrongful Death

### Criminal Defense

- Federal Criminal Defense
- Florida Criminal Defense
- Drug Offense
- Georgia Criminal Defense

### Family Law

- Child Support/Paternity
- Divorce

LICENSED IN  
GEORGIA & FLORIDA

**904-766-7339**

FAX: 904-765-9155

4730 Norwood Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32206

“The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be solely based upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.”



## Sweetwater's Bar & Grill

Your Up-Scale Place For The Best Sports In Town

Jumbo Wings ♦ Sandwiches ♦ Soups ♦ Salads  
Featuring Certified Angus Beef

Over 20 High Definition TV's  
Not A Bad Sit In The House



Enjoy Good Food  
Good Spirits and  
Good Company  
Your Good-Time Place



**\$5.00 Off Your Next Meal  
Just Mention This Ad  
In The Christian Reader**



Sweetwater's Bar & Grill  
Renaissance Center  
437 S. Nova Road  
Ormond Beach  
**(386) 615-0961**

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITY CONTRACTORS AND INSTRUCTORS



Deborah K. Thompson, Consultants

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY  
SMALL BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER



AND

THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION



PRESENTS

## THE UPCOMING SERIES OF COURSES FOR ITS CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND BOND GUARANTEE PROGRAM

### REVISED SCHEDULE

- Contracts, Specs and Law (18 hrs.) .....October, 2007 Complete...\$25
- Business Management (24 hrs.) .....November, 2007 Complete...\$35
- Construction Math and Estimating (30 hrs.).....November 2007 Complete...\$35
- Construction Accounting (24 hrs.) ...January 12, 2008 Currently offered...\$35\*
- Plan Reading for FDOT Construction (24 hrs.).....February 25, 2008...\$35
- Computer Applications (12 hrs.).....March, 2008 (FDOT) Ongoing
- Scheduling for FDOT Projects (15 hrs.) .....March 24, 2008...\$25

*For eligibility criteria and course description and information on registering for the class please call (904) 472-7528.*

All Classes are held in the evening from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Jacksonville, Florida  
Courses carry Continuing Education hour credits for qualified construction  
contractors through the Department of Professional Regulations.

Saturday classes start at 8:30 a.m. in the same location.\*

Classes will be held in the months indicated however, the Days and Dates are  
subject to change as the classes are conducted.



**Deborah K. Thompson**  
President/CEO DKT Consultants

The Deborah K. Thompson is the sole proprietor and Senior Consultant for Deborah K. Thompson, Consultants. She has five years of experience starting with the Jacksonville Transportation Authority, (JTA) on a subcontract with MGT of America. Under this assignment she led a nationwide survey of the transportation DBE programs. With Parsons Brinckerhoff in 2005, she performed public involvement, community relations, training services and outreach functions for the East/Southwest Corridor Study for a Rapid Transit System for Jacksonville. Deborah K. Thompson, Consultants is currently teamed with Jacobs, Edward and Kelcey Engineers on an Environmental Impact Study for the JTA on a Rapid Transit System for Jacksonville and on the Team with the Hester Group to perform Community Outreach for the Ash Site Remediation.

Deborah K. Thompson, Consultants has been part of teams with CMTS/HNTB Joint Venture, JA Jones, and CES, Consultants, Inc. Environmental Services, Inc. to name just a few. As senior consultant, Ms. Thompson is a Notary Public, holds a Mortgage Brokers License for the State of Florida, private and has extensive experience in public grant writing and outreach experience with government authorities, for profit business owners and non-profits. She can forge public and private partnerships with groups seeking tax credits and incentives with local, state and federal governments. Deborah K. Thompson has worked on a variety of issues in transportation, construction, and housing as it eminent domain, environmental justice, community and economic development. Deborah has public speaking and meeting skills and experience. She is comfortable working with and presenting projects to federal, state, county and city government officials, administrators and staff. The consultant is licensed, insured and a certified JSEP and FDOT-DBE.

## 2008 PROGRAM YEAR

**A Training series for Specialty  
Transportation Work in Jacksonville,  
throughout District II and the surround-  
ing communities for construction,  
maintenance and professional services  
inquiries for FDOT also can be registered  
at the number below.**

**Please call (904) 472-7528  
for more information**

## INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

**Seeking Qualified Instructors for the  
Upcoming Series of Courses For The  
Construction Management  
Development Program and  
Bond Guarantee Program**

**Interested parties should call  
(904) 472-7528 as soon as possible.**

# Publisher's Editorial



Darryl A. Barrs, Sr., Publisher / Managing Editor



## VOODOO CHRISTIANITY

If one looks at the dictionary, Voodoo is likely to be defined as an ancient religion from Africa that involves the cult of Ancestors, of various animistic spirits, and the use of trances to communicate with such spirits. It is true that Voodoo did originate in Africa, but today it is practiced by millions throughout the world, in Africa, the Caribbean, Central, North and South America, in various forms, often with elements of Catholicism mixed in.

More common to us today is the Voodoo that cast spells. If you want to cause harm to someone... cast a spell. If you want to be healed... cast a spell. If you want good luck... cast a spell. If you want money... cast a spell. A Spell is a word or words that when uttered have magical power, and can give us influence over somebody or something.

Already, your mind is getting ahead of me and you are seeing where I'm going with this. We as Christians must be careful in our attempts to please God not to let outside doctrines creep in from pagan religions. Our Chants – “Repeat after me”, “Turn to your neighbor” (Simon Says). Our Dance – gyrating, running, jumping. Our Music – the drum beat, the chant. Our religious jargon (language that is used by a particular group, profession, or culture, especially when the words and phrases are not understood or used by other people) “I'm blessed and highly favored.” None of these things am I saying is wrong, however, fire in the wrong hand can be destructive.

By the mere fact that we are descendants of Africa makes us susceptible to the practice of Voodoo. Christianity has no roots in Voodoo. We are followers of Christ and his teachings. The Bible is our guide and our reference to doctrine. If Jesus did not say it and it's not in the Bible, we shouldn't be doing it. Simple enough right?

In the Catholic Church they practice idol worship to statues even though the Ten Commandments state “you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image, whether in form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God (Exodus 20: 3-5). The Catholic Church also, through its practice of Penance, requires a believer to perform a deed or chant a quote in order to be forgiven for a sin. Needless to say, neither of these rituals were initiated by Jesus nor recorded in the Bible.

Truly we all want forgiveness. The Bible tells us that we receive forgiveness – atonement (at-one-ness) through the blood of Jesus.

He died on the cross and His shed blood is sufficient to wash away our sins by grace our entire lifetime. Nothing to buy. Nothing to wear. No place to go. Just accept Christ and ask for forgiveness.

We all want to be blessed. Therefore, we do as we are told; even if it's standing on our heads, buying something (book, prayer cloth, key chain, tape, etc.), attending a conference, or dressing a certain way. We tread the border line of Voodoo... a chant or ritual done to gain influence (favor) over something or somebody.

Even the Tithe is not sacred any more. When you give your tithe to gain something in return – that's Voodoo! Give and you will see that you will be blessed 10 times over... the windows of heaven will be open and will pour you out a blessing that there won't be room enough to receive. Yes the Bible states this, but in content and with purpose... Bring ye all the tithes, purpose – that there may be meat in my house... those things the church needs to bless the people (money to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, keep children of drugs, prevent teenage pregnancy, etc.). I will pour you out a blessing, in content, further explained in the Malachi 3:11, the blessing of the crops, and further in the 12th verse, you will be called blessed because of your delightsome land.

Anything you do, say, or pay expecting a returning (blessing) is in vain and is Voodoo Christianity. Jesus dispels all the ritual and traditions of men in giving, praying, and fasting in the 6th chapter of Matthew. Jesus states there that the treasures of our prosperity are laid up in heaven.

The days that Jesus walked this earth, his fame went throughout the land and people flocked to him for various reasons. They were the early church, if you may. On one occasion as Jesus found himself surrounded by these various people, he told a parable of a Sower (Luke 8:5-15) who sowed seeds and some fell by the wayside, upon the rocks, among thorn, and on good soil. Only the seeds in the good soil sprang up. The seeds by the wayside was trodden down and eaten by the birds, the seeds upon the rocks withered from lack of water, and the seeds among the thorns were choked by the thorns.

In Jesus' later explanation to his disciples concerning the meaning of this parable (in other words - Jesus how do you get blessed?), he explains that many of us are choked with the cares and riches and pleasures of the world that we bring forth no fruit. And those of us that is on good ground and produces much fruit, is because we have an honest and good heart. God knows your heart. The reason you give, the reason you do, and blesses you accordingly.



**MEN'S STORE**

**Suits • Shoes  
Casual Shirts  
Silk Ties  
Accessories  
and Much More!**

**HUGO BOSS • LEVETI • FENDI  
MEZLAN SHOES • TAYION SUITS  
MASTERLONI SUITS FROM ITALY  
FERRINI SHOES OF ITALY**



**William Reese**  
*Sales Manager*



**Alonzo Adams**  
*Owner/Operator*



**355 W. Church Street  
Orlando**

**407.481.0771**