

FREE

CASH IS NOW KING FOR AMERICA'S PANDEMIC NEWLYWEDS
SEE PAGE 5

What's next for B-CU and its National Alumni Association?

Attorney for alums sends a letter to the university's Board of Trustees urging mediation.

For months, there have been rumors that the university's Board of Trustees has been attempting to cut ties with the NAA and replace it with something else. There is currently no NAA representative seated on the Board of Trustees. The recent one was removed by a bylaw change on Sept. 1. Attorney Willie J. Walker of the Walker Law Offices acknowledged that the Board of Trustees is considering disassociating the NAA from the university. The NAA has secured the counsel of the



Members of the Volusia County Alumni Chapter of Bethune-Cookman University reflected on the institution's 116-year history on Oct. 4, 2020 during a Founder's Day program at the Foundation House, which is adjacent to the gravesite of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune on B-CU's Daytona Beach campus.

BY ANDREAS BUTLER
FLORIDA COURIER

The 88-year partnership between Bethune-Cookman University and its National Alumni Association (NAA) could be coming to an end.

See B-CU, Page 2

JOHN REEVES/SPECIAL TO THE FLORIDA COURIER



Civil rights attorney Ben Crump along with lawyer Christopher Seeger announce during a July news conference their representation of the family of Henrietta Lacks as her oldest surviving son Lawrence Lacks Sr., left, looks on.

KENNETH K. LAM/TNS

'Shining a light on racial injustice everywhere'

Attorney Ben Crump named one of TIME's most influential people

nual list of the 100 most influential people in the world, making him the only personal injury trial lawyer to make the list. Crump has established himself as one of the nation's foremost lawyers and advocates for social and racial justice. In addition to working on some of the most high-profile cases in the U.S., representing the families of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Trayvon Martin, and Michael Brown, Crump has fought for justice for

the residents of Flint, Michigan, who were affected by poisoned water; Black women with ovarian cancer targeted by Johnson & Johnson to use talc products; and people who experienced discriminatory practices - "banking while Black" - by some of the nation's largest banks. He is the founder and principal owner of Ben Crump Law.

See CRUMP, Page 2

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA NEWSWIRE

TIME has named nationally renowned civil rights and personal injury attorney Ben Crump to the 2021 TIME100, its an-

Report points to nursing home deaths, lagging vaccinations

BY JIM SAUNDERS
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE - As the delta variant of the coronavirus caused Florida to become a hotspot for COVID-19 in late July and August, the state's nursing homes also felt the brunt.

Using federal data, the senior-advocacy group AARP released a report Wednesday that said 237 Florida nursing-home residents died of COVID-19 during a four-week period that ended Aug. 22 - tied for the highest death rate in the nation.

Also, the report pointed to other indications of continuing struggles with COVID-19 in the state's nursing homes, including lagging vaccination rates of workers and residents.

'Preventable' trends

AARP Florida State Director Jeff Johnson said in a prepared statement that the numbers are a "heartbreaking reminder that the pandemic is not over" and urged people to get vaccinated.

"These sadly predictable data trends are also preventable," Johnson said. "Our most vulnerable residents deserve to be protected from this devastating disease. The best way to protect yourself and your loved ones is to get vaccinated."

With COVID-19 particularly dangerous to seniors and people with underlying health conditions, nursing homes and other long-term care facilities have drawn heavy attention throughout the pandemic. For months, visitors were barred from enter-

See REPORT, Page 2

SNAPSHOTS

FLORIDA | 3
State universities rise in annual rankings

SPORTS | 6

Keyshawn Johnson authors 'Forgotten First'



Bucs' Jaydon Mickens hopes for many happy returns

ENTERTAINMENT | 8

Nashville's new Black music museum

4 Florida kids among winners in Black bank's national contest

BY FLORIDA COURIER STAFF

OneUnited Bank, one of the country's largest Black-owned banks, has announced the winners of its 11th annual "I Got Bank! Youth Essay & Art Contest." Four of the 10 winners are from South Florida.

The winners are Travis Brown, 8, Hialeah; Gilana Freeman, 12, Dallas, Texas; Ariel Hartman, 10, Tamarac; Amel

Johns, 12, Washington, D.C.; Jackson Lennox, 12, Sunrise; Aziza McKay, 10, Dorchester, Massachusetts; Ada Nazneen, 10, Rocklin, California; Kylie Olibrice, 9, Miami; Shalena Prakash, 11, Duarte, California; and Christian Turner, 9, Los Angeles.

Each of the 10 winners were awarded a \$1,000 savings account.

As part of the contest, the students expressed how their families encouraged them to learn about money and how to use money for a purpose.

The panel of judges included Teri Williams, president of OneUnited Bank and its chief operating officer.

Williams wrote the book, "I Got Bank! What My Grandad Taught Me About Money," af-



From left to right: Travis Brown, 8, Hialeah; Ariel Hartman, 10, Tamarac; Jackson Lennox, 12, Sunrise; and Kylie Olibrice, 9, Miami

ter she discovered the lack of books geared toward educating urban youth about financial literacy.

"This year we were excited to see and read how children are obtaining knowledge about money and knowing financial experiences with their families. Congratulations to our winners

and their families for making financial literacy a core value," she said.

The "I Got Bank!" youth essay and art contest is part of a larger OneUnited Bank initiative to make financial literacy a core value of the Black community.

For more information, visit oneunited.com.