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Florida Department of Health in Seminole County

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
IN SEMINOLE COUNTY PRESENTS:



Black History Month



The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County honors the African American culture and leaders who have positively influenced and enhanced Black history.

Honoring African American Community Pioneers

February 12, 2015 at 1:00 pm

Auditorium

Florida Department of Health in Seminole County



400 West Airport Boulevard, Sanford, FL 32773
www.seminolecohealth.com

Agenda

- 1:00 pm** **Opening Remarks**
Dr. Swannie Jett, Health Officer
Florida Department of Health in
Seminole County
- Ms. Thelisha Thomas, Executive Director
Healthy Start Coalition
- 1:45 pm** **Keynote Speaker**
Ms. Velma Williams, Commissioner
City of Sanford
- 2:15 pm** **Award Ceremony**
Dr. Swannie Jett
Ms. Thelisha Thomas
- 2:45 pm** **Entertainment**
MoZaic
- 3:00 pm** **Closing Remarks**
Networking and Refreshments

Musical Talent

MoZaic

MoZaic is a compassionate nurse, singer, songwriter, musician, and Zeta woman. Originally from NY. Just released a new album called "Unexpected Turns" available now on all digital outlets. MoZaicSoul.com for all additional information.



Food Catered by:

Shantell's Café

406 S. Sanford Fl 32771

407-732-7728

Www.shantellscafe.com

Angel's Soul Food

2785 W. Old U.S. Highway 441, Mount Dora

352-385-0227

Keynote Speaker



Ms. Velma Williams **Commissioner, City of Sanford**

Dr. Williams has been the Commissioner for District 2 since 1997. Her tenure as a City of Sanford elected official to-date is 16 years with 8 years as Vice Mayor; her current term ends November 2014. She is a 1959 High School graduate of Crooms Academy. Velma matriculated at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology with certification in Social Science and Elementary Education.

Furthermore, she received a Masters of Education Degree in Guidance and Counseling in 1967 and a Ph.D. in Counseling and Human Systems in 1975 from Florida State University.

Her employment before becoming an elected official includes 5 years at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU), 5 years at Florida State University (FSU), and 18 years at Seminole Community College (SCC), now known as Seminole State College.

She has been married to retired Master Sergeant Edgar Williams for 45 years and is blessed with two loving children, Eric and Vashaun. Velma is the proud grandmother of two lovely grandchildren, Alexis and Vashaun, Jr. and cherishes her daughter-in-law Erika.

Commissioner Williams is a very active member of Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church under the Christian leadership of Reverend Valerie J. Houston.



Welcome

“Welcome to the 2nd Annual Black History Month Celebration Ceremony at the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County. This celebration is to honor African Americans and the achievements here in Seminole County.

You will find our dedicated team in the community and hosting such great events which is one way we work at educating the community on the risk factors which have an impact on our health—income, education, health behaviors, environment and race.

We are making great strides in public health and are excited about building a healthier future together as one community.”

Thank you for allowing us to serve.

*Dr. Swannie Jett, DrPH, MSc
Health Officer*

Lifetime Award

Rev. Vernon McQueen



Reverend Vernon McQueen spent all of his childhood in Apopka, Florida. After graduating from Phyllis Wheatley High School in Apopka, Florida he went on to attend South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. He graduated with a BS degree and taught school in the New York City Public School system for over 20 years. He spent 12 years in the counseling business and is now an employee of Duke Energy Florida. He is a Program Manager of the Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program. He has

been with DEF since 2005. Vernon serves on an array of local, state and federal boards and advisory councils.

He is an ordained Reverend at Allen Chapel AME Church in Sanford, Florida where the Pastor is Octavious Smith. He is the husband of Gail McQueen with two children and two grandchildren.



Oscar Redden

Oscar Redden Jr. Was born on February 13, 1946 in Micanopy, Florida. Mr. Redden is an alumni of Crooms Academy , attended Seminole Community College and the Ford Motor Company Dealer Development Institute. Mr. Redden worked as a car sales manager, providing impeccable customer service and recognized multiple times for being top salesman. Pursuing his passion for human services, he later became a certified Addiction Prevention Professional. He founded of Brothers Keepers, Inc. in 1990 with his wife Roslyn Brown which provides

substance abuse rehabilitation services and also serves independent living adults who are mentally challenged. As the Executive Director of Brothers Keepers Inc. , Mr. Redden has seeks to focus on community issues that are often ignored. He has been recognized by the Office of the Attorney General as a leader in Preventing Crime in the Black Community and was awarded the Dedicated Community Service recognition by the Seminole County Sheriff's office. Mr. Redden often says, " We believe when a community embraces the together we can concept, it becomes healthy enough to overcome many of its problems." Mr. Redden considers his most important accomplishment is being married to his wife of 51 years, Ms. Roslyn Brown. They have 4 children Oscar III, Jackie, Antonio and Darius.



Marva Y. Hawkins

Marva Y. Hawkins is a native of Sanford Florida, born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson D. and Bessie Hawkins. She is a 1954 graduate of Crooms Academy. She furthered her career in finances, health care and journalism. She was employed at Seminole County Community Action, Seminole County Health Department, and the Migrant Clinic. She retired from the State of Florida Health and Rehabilitative Services Foster Care program. She is still employed as a journalist for the Sanford Herald since

1969 and planning to soon retire.

Marva has served the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee for 25 years and has also served as Chairman of the Goldsboro Front Porch Community Festival for three years. She has contributed greatly to her community throughout her lifetime. She has served for many years on the Agricultural and Labor Board of Directors. Her love of people and concern for others keeps her busy and an ardent Christian woman as member of Second Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, where Rev. Marvin Scott Sr. is pastor.



Cecil E. Smith

Chief Cecil E. Smith was selected to lead the Sanford Police Department after serving 25 years with the Elgin Police Department in Elgin, Illinois. He retired at the rank of Deputy Chief and it should be noted that prior to his retirement from the Elgin Police Department, Chief Smith was the first African - American to hold the position of Deputy Chief in the Police Department's 175 year history.

Chief Smith's selection to lead the Sanford Police Department on April 1, 2013 came during one of the most publicized and controversial times in law enforcement and racial history, the Trayvon Martin and George Zimmerman incident. Under Chief Smith's leadership, his collaboration with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, prevented probable disaster. Many around the nation and the world believed or expected destruction within the City of Sanford. This collaboration resulted in multiple peaceful gatherings and expressions of disappointment from those within the community. Unlike many larger cities around the country, Sanford remained calm under fire and has remained calm since the verdict.

Chief Smith is also a retired First Sergeant after serving 25 combined years with the U. S. Air Force and the Illinois Air National Guard. He is a graduate of Columbia College. He was past class president of Class #204 from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command - a graduate of the FBINA Session #234 and a graduate of the FBI LEEDA training. Chief Smith has also published articles in FBI publications and has been nominated as a member of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.



Trailblazer Award



Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr.

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr. has been the city manager of Sanford, Florida since September 2011. In this position he serves as the city's chief administrative officer responsible to the City Commission for overseeing all City operations, which includes a budget of \$90 million and over 500 employees. Prior to Sanford, Mr. Bonaparte served as the city manager of Topeka, Kansas, city administrator of Plainfield, New Jersey, the city business administrator of Camden, New Jersey, the township manager of Willingboro, New Jersey, and the city manager of Glenarden, Maryland.

Mr. Bonaparte has taught graduate public management courses at Rutgers University and undergraduate courses in management at National-Louis University's School of Management and Business. He also served as a principal instructor for the University of Kansas' Emerging Leaders Academy.

Mr. Bonaparte has been elected a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA), a prestigious organization chartered by the U. S. Congress that elects a limited number of individuals with distinguished records of performance as either a practitioner or a scholar in public administration and management.

He is a member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and has earned it's Credentialed Manager designation. He serves on the ICMA "Managers who Teach" subcommittee. He is also a member of the Florida City County Management Association and the National Forum for Black Public Administrators. He has been elected president of both the New Jersey Municipal Management Association and the Maryland City/County Management Association and was a board member of the Kansas Association of City/County Management. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Florida's Tri-County League of Cities and the University of Central Florida's School of Public Administration Advisory Board.

Mr. Bonaparte holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a Masters in Public Administration from Cornell University's Graduate School of Business.



Dr. Barbara Kirby-Bentley

Dr. Barbara Kirby-Bentley is a native of Sanford, Florida. She is married, with one son and two grandchildren. Dr. Kirby-Bentley has been an educator in Seminole County Public Schools for the past 45+ years. During her tenure, she spent 13 years in the classroom, 32 years in administration, with 29 of those as a principal.

Dr. Kirby-Bentley was a principal in three uniquely different environments, serving students from K-12th grades. Also, during these administrative years, Dr. Kirby-Bentley was an adjunct instructor for Seminole Community College for 16 years and a visiting instructor for Rollins College of Winter Park, Florida. After leaving administration, Dr. Kirby-Bentley has worked as a General Education Diploma (GED) Instructor for the past three years. Her program has graduated 56 incarcerated or adjudicated youth in the past two years.

Discipline and parent involvement has always been Dr. Kirby-Bentley's strength areas. She is a magnet for drawing people to engaging opportunities. She is focused and determined to make a difference in the life of young people. She is trust worthy and genuine in her approach to education.

Dr. Kirby-Bentley has been a guest panelist for the National Secretary of Education, speaking on behalf of Exceptional Education and Alternative Education students. She was the Vice President and President of the Florida Association of Alternative Educators and served on the State of Florida Board for seven years. She was the first African American to hold an office in the Seminole Education Association as Vice President. She was the first African American female to be named Principal of a Secondary School in Seminole County. She has received numerous awards and recognitions from various organizations in the State of Florida during her experience.



Legacy Award



Regenia Miller

Ms. Miller serves as the Executive Director of the non-profit 501c3 organization the Central Florida International Black Women's Congress, Inc., incorporated in 1992 and located in Casselberry, Florida, Seminole County. Regenia moved the organization forward by winning the Volunteer Florida Capacity Building Grant in 2009 which helped them obtain its 501C3 status. Over the past 20 years she has been committed to volunteerism and community

service supporting other community organization with similar visions and missions in quality health choices, emotional, physical, economical and spiritual wellness for the community. During her tenure, she has developed and provided resources for the youth programs Genesis Top Notch Teens (GTNT) Sew Cool and Holiday of Joy for the Midway Safe Harbor and has managed over 20 women's health and financial conferences, workshops and information sharing forums in the community serving thousands.

Ms. Miller is a product of the rural township, Java, Virginia where she received her former education and graduated from the Pittsylvania County Schools, also in Virginia. She achieved a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education with a Minor in Liberal Arts from Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Virginia; a Masters of Art degree in Human Resources Development from Webster University, St. Louis Missouri; and a Master's Certification in Project Management from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Ms. Miller is also certified in Leadership Practices and Volunteerism from Rollins College of Philanthropy and Leadership Center, Winter Park, Florida. She is also achieved a certification in public speaking from Dale Carnegie Leadership Institute, Washington, D.C.

Ms. Miller served as elementary and junior high school teacher in the states of Virginia and Maryland, has worked as an IT manager for AT&T Communications, and is the CEO and founder of RSM Global Projects & Research where she consults with faith-based leaders and individuals with entrepreneurship ventures on starting their business (for profit and non-profit) and/or on organization development for existing small businesses. Ms. Miller is affiliated, has actively served and has held leadership roles in non-profit and faith based organizations such as Power of One, Standing on the Shoulder's of Giants, Hope & Help HIV/AIDS Awareness, Alliance of Black Telecommunications Employees She is also an active member of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Eatonville, Florida.

Her Life Mission Statement is originates from memorable conversations with her mother. Regenia's mother said "you are always trying to help someone" and "you can do anything you put your mind to do". Ms. Miller bases her life on her Mother's encouraging words and from the lyrics found in a song by the legendary spiritual and gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson, "If I can help somebody, as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody, with a word or song, if I can show somebody, how

they're traveling wrong; then my living shall not be in vain. And, "I can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13. She currently resides in Lake Mary, Florida.



Elaine Cauthen

Elaine Cauthen joined the Health Council of East Central Florida in 2006 as its first Assistant Director. She brought with her over 25 years of experience in the public and private healthcare and business sectors including positions with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia; The Florida Departments of Health in Tallahassee, Orange and Seminole Counties; Children's Home Society of Central Florida; and Florida Hospital. Early in her career, she worked several years in the insurance and banking industries.

She has led community engagement activities in the Central Florida region around Infant mortality, health disparities, cultural competency, and childhood overweight and obesity under Florida Blue Foundation's *Embrace a Healthy Florida Initiative*. Elaine assisted with the formation of Reduce Obesity in Central Florida Kids (ROCK) group and facilitated the development of the Building a Healthy Parramore Coalition, designed to target the causes and prevention of childhood obesity.

Elaine has worked with Orange County's highly successful Primary Care Access Network (PCAN) on cultural competency issues. She researched and developed a medical language bank that offers health professionals cultural competency training (including community interpreter training) and a multi-step high quality process to guide the translation of patient/client forms and health education materials into Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole and Vietnamese.

She has co-facilitated a series of support groups focusing on aiding African American women transitioning into a healthy midlife. This was part of a national pilot program (Prime Time Sister Circles) developed by Dr. Marilyn Gaston, former Assistant Surgeon General of the United States and Dr. Gayle Porter, a nationally noted mental health researcher and was one of only seven sites in the country.

Elaine is an active member and has held seats on several boards to include: Central Florida Partnership on Health Disparities Inc., Reduce Obesity in Central Florida Kids (ROCK), Healthy Start Coalitions in Orange and Seminole Counties, Orlando EMA Ryan White Planning Council and Central Florida's International Black Women's Congress among others. Throughout the year she volunteers her time in the community at health events and as a speaker on health disparity issues.

Ms. Cauthen earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Adelphi University, New York and a Master of Public Health from the University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida. She received her Certified Health Education Specialist (C.H.E.S.) certification in 1996.