

TAMPA PIONEER

TAMPA BAY'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP MAGAZINE

MARCH 2025 - No. 2

One in a Million

Clemmie Perry is on the Rise and on the Ball

These Five Letters

Memories of the NAACP

Homecoming

The Super Bowl comes back to Tampa Bay for a Home town advantage

Obiti il ipsapel ldipis - Most faccus adit etoreca - Opationo consequaddside
Andae nonsequamus quo eelm - Suzafazm latlandis expitabo testion paddfssd



Spotlight

One in a Million

Clemmie Perry has gone her own way for a long time.

BY: ANTONIO JALISCO

"But one day, the sun came shining through, the rain had stopped, and the skies were blue, and oh, what a revelation to see, you're one in a million, the chance of a lifetime, and life showed compassion," lyrics from the artist, Larry Graham written in the early seventies. His famed hit "One in A Million." Clemmie Perry, the founder of "Women of Color Golf" is truly and literally one in a million.

I ask Mrs. Perry, "How did you decide to start such an organization?" She shared some staggering numbers she received upon having a conversation with Dr. Michael Cooper, Chairman of the Diversity of Inclusion Task Force for the World Golf Foundation. There are 24 million Golfers in the US, 4 million are Minorities and less than 1% were Women of Color. That is why WOCG is one in a million, it is not just a song, it is a fact.

Armed with data that literally changed her life forever, she jumped into action, and founded Women of Color Golf. However, Clemmie Perry's name is synonymous with being the first. This is a familiar experience for her as she carries a torch of long-burning flames. Clemmie C. Perry



is the daughter of Mrs. Doris Ross Reddick, the first African American female to Chair the School Board in Hillsborough County, she served on the School Board for three terms.

She is also the granddaughter of pioneer educator and civil rights leader in Tampa, Florida, who changed the lives of hundreds of African American students in the days of segregation. During the 1940s, in Hillsborough

County, in order to receive a teaching job, African American teachers were required to waive their Florida Teacher Retirement Savings. Mrs. James sacrificed her Teacher's Retirement to educate young Black students in the Tampa Bay area.

As stated above, being first for Clemmie is a family place. She is comfortable being a pioneer. Although comfortable, not without sacrifice. Clemmie was on the golf scene late in life, she was terminated from a Fortune 500 Corporation, after being there for many years.

During the interview, we learned that Clemmie's brother had a collection of old golf clubs. He gave them to Clemmie and her brother paid for her instruction and upon walking away she began to gain confidence and joy.

After two trips to her birthplace to speak with them, she returned to the birthplace.

Scotland
Powell
Women
a very
been
I w
de
th
a

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area

Tampa Bay area