

Steppin' out *News!*

"Reconnecting the Best of the African American Diaspora of Mobile: PAST • PRESENT • FUTURE"

VOLUME 23
ISSUE 08

ARTS • CULTURE • EDUCATION • COMMUNITY

MARCH
2024



National
WOMEN'S MONTH!

FREE • FREE • FREE • FREE • FREE • FREE • FREE • FREE

ABOUT STEPPIN' OUT

STEPPIN' OUT is a subsidiary of LEGACY 166 Inc., a non-profit organization with a Mission to provide Educational, Career, and Economic opportunities for Youth and the Underserved of Diverse Cultures; make available Cultural Activities for community participation; and deliver Quality of Life Skills Training through the Arts and Community Collaborations.

STEPPIN' OUT provides quality of life information to the community in each issue at no cost to the reader. Even though STEPPIN' OUT is not a "hard news" publication, the columns submitted by our contributors touch on subjects that address a wide range of community and cultural issues. Regular features include articles on health, history, entertainment, and finance. Articles on fashion, literature, and technology are some of the subjects that are occasionally featured.

STEPPIN' OUT and LEGACY 166 Inc. will continue to expand their roles in the community by offering internships and career training, and youth development and work opportunities. Volunteers are always needed with this mission.

STEPPIN' OUT Welcomes your comments and suggestions regarding this publication. For information on advertising, to comment on subject matter, or volunteer your services... PLEASE CONTACT US...

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TAKING MOBILE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

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MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER...



Greetings Steppin' Out Readers,

I would like to thank you for your continued support of Steppin' Out! The paper has been around for over 20 years, but our growth has been limited at best. Our focus on entertainment news, along with the effects of Covid to key contributors, has resulted in the paper being distributed inconsistently.

Since The Beacon, our Heritage Newspaper, has stopped printing, Mobile and the surrounding area now have shrinking opportunities for Black News. And, with radio stations being controlled by corporate entities, opportunities for exposure to positive information for our community are extremely limited. With that said, we feel it is most important to our community that we continue to maintain and publish Steppin' Out.

We are hereby making changes to raise the profile of the paper!

For the next few months, we will only publish digitally, while working on restarting our print edition. It is important that we not abandon the printed paper due to the number of citizens who do not utilize and/or do not have access to e-mail, social media, etc. Also, smart advertisers realize that "Likes" don't necessarily transfer to sales. When an ad is printed, it's easier for some people to store that information. An advantage for the advertisers and for persons saving the information.

The biggest change to the paper... We are changing the focus of Steppin' Out!

First, our logo has changed to now include the Sankofa... a bird with it's feet/body facing forward and it's head facing backward, which symbolizes "taking from the past what is good and bringing it into the present to make progress in the future."

We've also added a tagline to the logo that serves as the Mission Statement for Steppin' Out...

"Reconnecting the Best of the African American Diaspora of Mobile: PAST • PRESENT • FUTURE!"

As we move forward, we will become more Afrocentric with the stories and information we pass on to the community. We will cover more community news and the people working to make our community better. We will be working hard to make sure our community stays informed.

However, we sill stay true to the "vision" that brought the paper into existence... to offer Small Businesses an advertising opportunity at a rate that is affordable for a limited budget.

Please help us to grow within our community! We want you to share with us your stories, photos, as well as your story ideas. Also, please share the paper with friends and family who may not be aware of Steppin' Out. We have too much power and majority in his community to not take that advantage to empower each other!

Once again, thanks for your continued support!

GREG CYPRIAN
Publisher/Editor
STEPPIN' OUT NEWS



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The NEXT ISSUE of Steppin' Out News Will Drop...

APRIL 2024



TAKING MOBILE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Memphis Vaughan Jr.

NATIVE MOBILIAN; EDITOR OF LITERARY WEBSITE... TimBookTu.com

Feedback can be sent to: mempv57@gmail.com



Ways to Get Involved

POLITICAL ACTION

Political action stands at the forefront because when we elect people to office, we are giving them our proxy to get things done on our behalf. However, we must “do the work,” to educate ourselves about the candidates. Yes, it takes work. But, like the saying goes: “you get what you pay for.” Well, in this case, “you get what you vote for.” So, vote, stay involved with our elected officials, and hold them accountable. Stop complaining that your vote doesn’t make a difference because it surely won’t make a difference if you don’t vote.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Engaging with our community requires effort. Amid our hectic lives and preferred activities, contributing to the community might begin on our own street. Many of us are acquainted with our neighbors and this can be the starting point for involvement. From there, our impact can extend to the city council, the mayor, and other elected representatives.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

We must keep our dollars in our local community as this helps our local businesses stay vital and the tax revenues help

the city. Support must also go to events and activities that come to the city. We want a diversity of entertainment and things to do but we must support them regularly, so that they will continue to happen. We have to walk the talk.

START OUR OWN THINGS BY WORKING TOGETHER

Our limited personal resources often hinder the realization of creating desired businesses and improvements in our city. Nevertheless, pooling our finances with friends and associates allows us to collectively bring these ideas to fruition. This collaborative approach demands effort and trust, but the potential for success is significant when individuals unite their resources to implement shared visions. This collaboration had been common in the black community but somehow it has gotten lost over the years. We need to reach back to that principle to get things done.

These are just a few ideas of how to improve our community and city. It takes a focused effort but nothing worth having comes without putting in the work. ❀



Greg Cyprian
PUBLISHER/EDITOR
Steppin' Out News



The Backbone of Our Community

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

After celebrating Black History Month in February, it is so appropriate for Black People to honor their Women with as much fervor.

The Black Woman deserves so much respect for her role as the Backbone of Black Men in our culture. In a world, and certainly in these United States, the weight placed on her shoulders is massive. Her role in bearing our children, nurturing her family, and in far too many cases, being the major or only contributor financially, has been in unending cycle of frustration, disappointment, and unfairness (we'll get into some of the causes for this in a later issue). But clearly, our women should be cherished and celebrated.

Before the concept of an Independent Black Woman was redefined, (one of those causes), to our people, Family and the strength associated with it, was what Blacks in this country believed in. Indeed, that was practiced in all aspects of our everyday lives. The Church, family gatherings, community activities, and our schools before integration reinforced family values and the Black woman was the central figure in that equation.

Coretta Scott King, our Cover representative for National Women's Month, is a shining example of what Black womanhood looked like in our communities.

Many only know her as the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King, but she was so much more. But although she was a leader and independent, she embraced family and her role in the family as a woman and wife. A concept that seems to have been forgotten and gradually erased within the majority of our culture.

Coretta was committed to social justice and peace. A native of Heiberger, Alabama, she attended Antioch College in Ohio, and received a B.A. in Music and Education. She attended the New England Conservatory of Music and met Dr. King who was attending Boston University. Besides raising her four children, she founded the King Center in Atlanta, worked with presidents and prime ministers around the world, and participated with working people of all races. She traveled throughout the United States and the World speaking on racial and economic justice, women's and children's rights, gay and lesbian dignity, religious freedom, gun control, the needs of the poor and homeless, full-employment, healthcare, educational opportunities, nuclear disarmament, and environmental justice. Again, a shining example of the strength and tenacity of Black Women.

From our roots in Africa, through our enslavement in this country, through the challenges of Jim Crow, and now, through the constant changes brought on by today's technology dominant world, our Black women remain the Backbone of Our Communities!♣



Truth, Facts & Justice

Sabrina Mass

RETIRED NURSE • CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST
COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Blacks and the United States Supreme Court

I will start by saying this: Whether you know it or not or believe it or not; the African American population is one of the most important populace in American Politics, I promise you our voice and votes do matter, I know as you should also know, in every aspect our culture has to continue the perilous fight to have a right to equally have access to the ballot boxes that have already been fought for tirelessly by our predecessors before us.

Such honorable leaders as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Honorable Congressman John Lewis and many others died to fight for the right to VOTE. I would like to educate some, if not all, on the history of what did the Supreme Court say about blacks and free blacks?

In March of 1857, the United States Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, declared that all blacks – slaves as well as free – were not and never could become citizens of the United States. Research the DRED SCOTT CASE. In my mind, I often ask are we as African Americans, better yet, AMERICANS, truly free? ARE WE?

The one thing I will stand on and declare is as an American I will never let my voice of TRUTH, FACTS and JUSTICE be silenced. I also encourage our people to never be afraid to stand in what is true and just, and always march toward what is right. Doing the right and good things are free, no matter what path we take. We are a strong people; history has proven that time after time again.

We all have a right under the United States Constitution to choose to vote for whom or what we like, so they say. To be honest, thought, I am not sure if that still stands true. America is at a detrimental state at this time, and it makes me sad to see America going backwards as it should be moving forward. Racism and cultural division is at an all-time high and we as blacks are still fighting for our rights on basic laws.

I will say this: No matter what, go to the polls and vote. Use your voice boldly for the changes needed, no matter if the odds are against us. Do not let our leaders that fought before us die in vain for no reason; we still have much work to do.

In conclusion, read about the implications of what we have learned about blacks and the United States Supreme Court. The question that's left on the table is this: Is the court providing STABILITY or INSTABILITY to our culture?

In the words of Rep. John Lewis:

“Get in good trouble”

“Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. ...”

“Freedom is not a state; it is an act. ...”

“My dear friends: your vote is precious, almost sacred ...”

“We have been too quiet for too long.”?♣



Creole History Highlights

Tracy Neely

PRESIDENT: MOBILE CREOLE CULTURAL
AND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY



Dr. Jean Baptiste Chastang (b. ABT 1739 to d.1813)

Whenever there is discussion of Mobile Creole history, the name Chastang is sure to come up. The name was, in Mobile's early history, a stanchion of refined beauty and dignity of all things Creole in Mobile. The first Chastang, Francois, arrived sometime in the 1710s as the Seneschal, a kind of governing secretary or majordomo, to the King of France. His ancestors in Nimes were monied with a house. His descendants remained after France's departure from Mobile, throughout Spain's occupation, the American Revolution, and the annexation of Mobile to the United States of America. Now, when one speaks the name, Chastang, one is speaking history—incidentally, or not.

With Chastang history, discussions tend to revolve around Dr. Jean Baptiste Chastang, a White, French doctor who treated yellow fever victims in the 18th century, long before anyone understood that infected mosquitos transmitted the illness. Affectionately called Dr. John, he was a man committed to the mother of eleven of his twelve children, a formally enslaved woman named Louison. His other child, Françoise, was the daughter of a woman we know only as Catherine. He owned between 2000 and 3000 acres in the Mobile Territory. These Spanish land grants were honored by the United States and not taken from his estate after the U.S. acquired the Mobile Territory in 1819. His will reads like a love letter to his family. Repeatedly making it clear that Louison and his children were to remain free after his death.

The family lived at Old St. Stephens. Once the capitol of the state of Alabama, Fuerte San Estevan, was a thriving community on the Tombigbee River with neighboring towns of Rodney and Franklin. It is about an hour north of Mobile, in Washington County. The buildings are long gone, but the University of South Alabama excavated the original road and building sites in the late 1980s. The building locations are numbered, and educational signs are erected where site information is available. A mock frame for the Globe Hotel, where Louison worked baking bread for the Spanish Militia, was built for viewing. While walking the streets of the small town, there is still a community well where the town would have gotten water.

Although we do not know where Dr. John was buried, it is my opinion it was at Old St. Stephens. Visiting the space where he lived, spending the night, and gazing at the same stars, unhindered by city lights, helps one understand why he lived there. So many times, we know so little about our ancestors. The lives of Dr. John will be with us as long as we speak the name Chastang.♣



Tia Norfleet
Shout Out to **NASCAR's**
ONLY BLACK FEMALE DRIVER



Kortnee Solomon

11 Year-Old Cowgirl MADE HISTORY as
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DID YOU KNOW...

- **LUCY DIGGS SLOWE** – In 1917 became the **FIRST BLACK WOMAN** to **Win a National Tennis Title.**
- **IBTIHAJ MUHAMMAD** – Olympic Medalist made history as **the FIRST AMERICAN MUSLIM WOMAN** to **WEAR A HIJAB** during an **OLYMPIC GAME.**
- **JESSICA WATKINS** – **FIRST BLACK WOMAN** to **COMPLETE** an International Space Station Long-Term Mission.
- **SUSAN LA FLESCHÉ PICOTTE** – **FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN WOMAN** to **BECOME A PHYSICIAN IN THE UNITED STATES.**
- **HAZEL YING LEE** – **FIRST CHINESE AMERICAN WOMAN** to **FLY** for the U.S. MILITARY.

REGINA KING stars in **"SHIRLEY"**
the **FIRST BLACK WOMAN**
ELECTED to CONGRESS!



Bishop State Community College WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES



Gwendolyn Wash
CLINICAL COORDINATOR
Nursing



Dr. Rhonda Lucas
INSTRUCTOR
Computer Information
Systems



Amanda Owens
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Recruitment and
Student Success



Erica Hunter
INSTRUCTOR
Graphic Communications



Stacey Thomas
INSTRUCTOR
Mathematics



Greg Cyprian
PUBLISHER/EDITOR
Steppin' Out News



The History of Voting Rights

On Tuesday, March 05, many voters in Alabama had an opportunity to vote on representation for a congressional district redrawn by order of a federal court to give more voting power to Blacks in the state. A couple of truths were revealed during this exercise that show some things have changed since the Civil Rights Movement and some things have remained the same.

The biggest change to me was to see how things have changed for Blacks in terms of the commitment to vote. Although I wasn't old enough to vote until the mid 70's, prior to then, I had the privilege of watching my great-grands and grandparents get out to make their voices heard by casting their vote. No matter how large the election or how small, they got out there. Bad weather didn't stop them, the small chance that their candidate of choice might have had didn't stop them, they were going to cast their ballot. My great-grands, located in Bogalusa, Louisiana, had to bum rides to get to the polls...they got there. My grands, in New Orleans, worked different shifts, and used the one family car between them at different times to get to those polls. No matter what, they got there. The turnout for this election was just over 20% of registered voters, and I repeat, registered. What has happened to our people. Are we so weak and sorry that we and our children don't understand the importance of being heard and represented? Damn!

Speaking of things being the same, what has Alabama done for you as a Person of Color that they weren't forced to do? Confederate Monuments have come down across the country, so to make sure that "Southern Heritage" is preserved, the State makes it illegal to take down these monuments to White Supremacy. This election saw the same type of antics. The Associated Press reported that 6,593 voters who are now part of the newly reformed 2nd congressional district received postcards stating they still belonged to the 7th district. The Southern Poverty Law Center previously reported that 5,604

voters received those cards and 4,513 of them are Black. One voter in Montgomery said that not only did she receive one of those misleading postcards but that she also got anonymous calls that tried to misinform her on what day to vote.

Of course, the lies are flying with no one taking responsibility; the Montgomery Board of Registrar's, the Secretary of State, somebody is lying. Alabama State legislators twice ignored the Supreme Court's Order to redraw the lines.

But we have to get out and vote to have the representation we need. The district is now 49% Black and is made up of both Black and White Republicans. I'm not a fan of either party in terms of representation, but I want to hear what all of the candidates have to say. You can't get my vote just because you're Black or I went to high school or college with you or because we grew up in the same neighborhood. This ain't a freakin' popularity contest. Show me what you have done, what you are doing, and what you are planning to do. Put it in writing so you can be held accountable so that if I vote for you, and you don't deliver on your promise, I can then make sure that next election time, you won't get my vote and I can show others what you promised and what you didn't do. I can count the number of politicians on the state and local level that I believe in on one hand, and I am not alone.

And to the Republican candidates, seeking election in this district. Don't believe the garbage coming out of South Florida about the Black Vote. If you talk about the Orange One as part of your platform to boost your chance of election, who has consistently shown the world the type of man he truly is, you're out of my consideration as a choice for representation. We are looking for honesty and truth telling in a candidate. Tell us who you are and not who you admire!!!♣

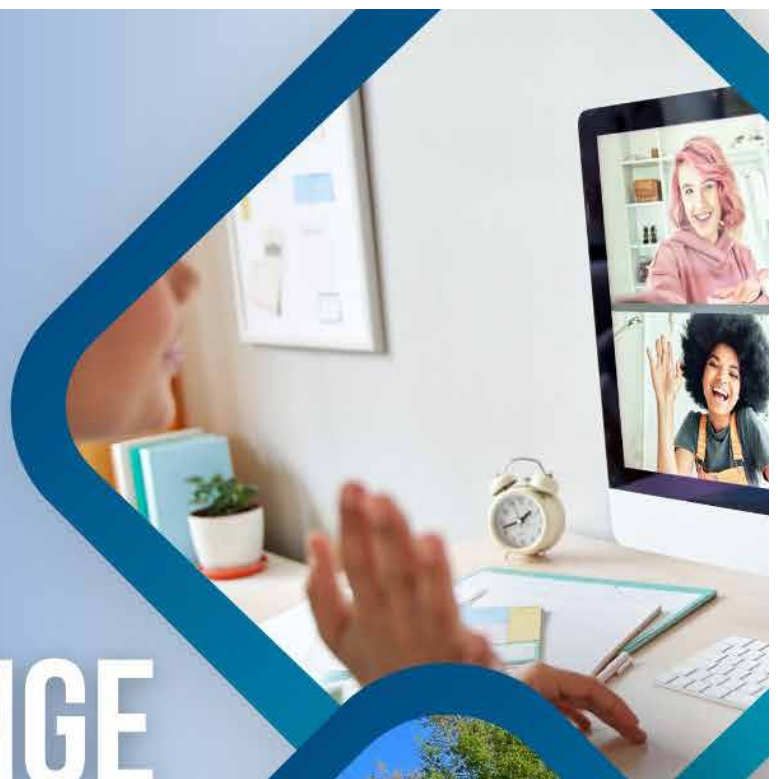
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Living In Bliss

Debra Braggs

VETERAN FASHION COLUMNIST
AND LIFESTYLE REPORTER



Hit the Road

One of my greatest joys in life is travel. If someone says "Let's," I say, "Go!"

I have been blessed in life to find a partner who loves traveling as much as I do. So whenever there is an opportunity, we hit the road. Whether it's a road trip to a nearby town or a plane trip across country, we're always game. I love documenting my trips - not to the point of distraction - but enough to capture the memories. I enjoy making photo books of our travels so one day we can show our grandkids and hopefully ignite their love of wandering as well. We are often not rested after our travels but the feeling of euphoria we enjoy after a trip makes it all worthwhile.

I love the quote: We travel not to escape life, but for life not to escape us. Did you know that traveling is also a powerful remedy for improving and maintaining your mental health?

According to one medical study, three days after taking a vacation, travelers report feeling less anxious, more rested and in a better mood. Interestingly, these benefits tend to linger for weeks after the trip has ended. Another study from the Global Commission on Aging found that women who vacation at least twice a year show a significantly lower risk of suffering a heart attack than those who only travel every six years or so.

The same is true for men. Men who do not take an annual vacation show a 20 percent higher risk of death and 30 percent greater risk of heart disease. Research has also proven that traveling to destinations, known and unknown, can help improve brain health -- even in people with dementia and depression. Even the planning and anticipation of a trip is beneficial to your health. A study from a Cornell University says that people also experience a direct increase in happiness from just planning a trip. The study found that the anticipation of taking a vacation is far greater than the anticipation of acquiring a physical possession. Thus, the benefits of traveling begin well before the trip does.

Travel IS a form of selfcare. It's detrimental to your health as well as that of your family members. While we can't all afford to travel across country on a whim, that are many experiences in the town next door or even in our own backyards. We just have to seek them out.

Researching your local parks and city history is an exciting place to start for vacations on a budget. Don't sleep on the stay-cations -- which means a vacation spent at home and involving day trips to local attractions or nearby cities. Other suggestions for vacations on a budget from AAA include free entrance days at National Parks and traveling during off-season.

Here on the Gulf Coast, we are surrounded by beaches and a wealth of history. So, this spring and summer, let's get up and go. You may find your bliss in an unexpected place.

I think Maya Angelou said it best... "Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away."

Until Next Month, GO FIND YOUR BLISS! ❀

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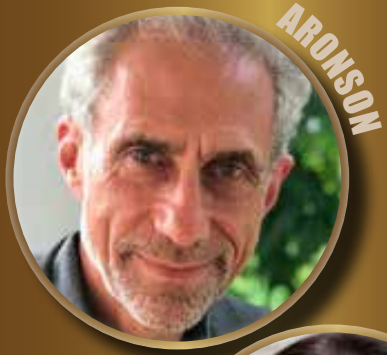
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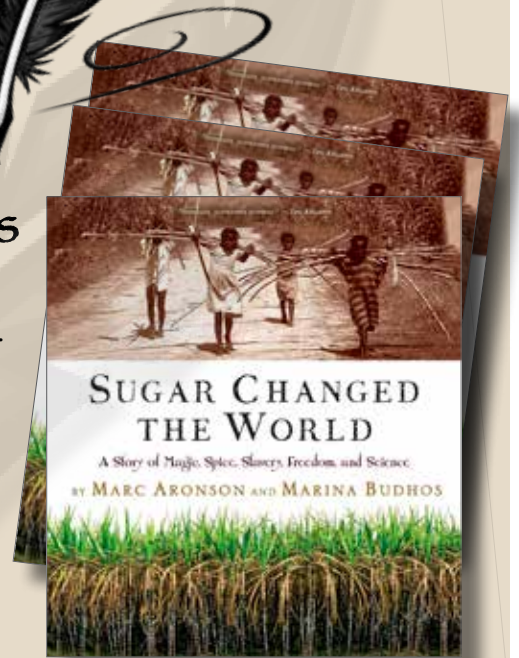
ARONSON



BUDHOS

Marc Aronson & Marina Budhos

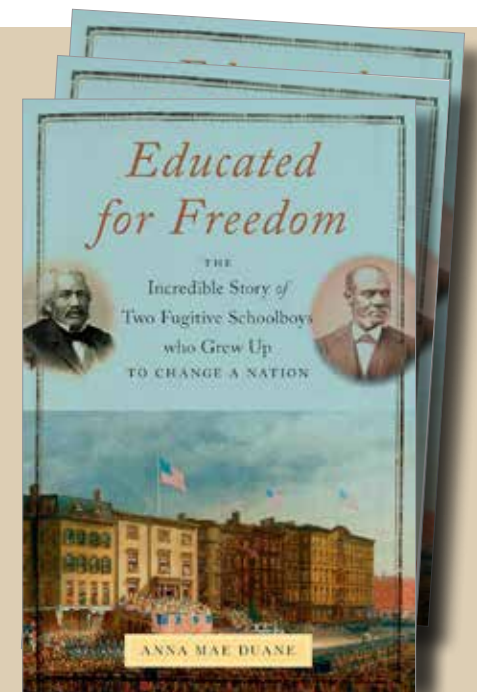
A story of magic Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science, this book is about the history of sugar from India to Europe to the America's. It tells how Cane, not Cotton or Tobacco, actually drove the Atlantic Slave Trade that cost many Africans their lives and put millions in bandage. It was also the catalyst that freed millions. ❖



Anna Mae Duane

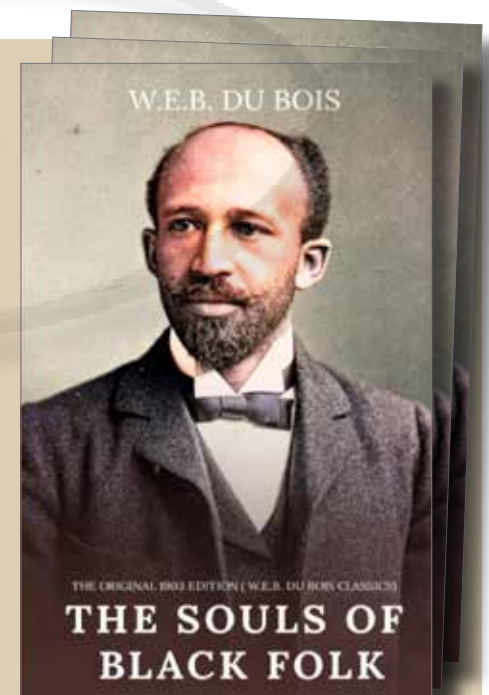
The story of two young schoolboys who grew up to educate a nation about the evils of slavery, this story begins in the 1820's when thoughts of a positive future for Black children was not held by many in this country. Many thought that there were only three outcomes for these children: early death, a permanent existence as a slave, or exile.

The book tells the story of Henry Highland Garnet and James McCune Smith. These young boys were part of an educational experiment and went on to travel around the world, address Congress, and speak before thousands. Their lives served as beacons to the imagination, inspiration, and activism of the free black community to begin the national conversation on freedom. ❖



W.E.B. Dubois

This work by Dubois was completed in 1903 is a collection of poems and essays, and is seen as a history of Sociology and a cornerstone of Black literature. He drew upon his life as a Black in this country so many of the essays Center on race. This book hammers home his thought that Black People must have two fields of vision at all times. ❖





Expressions: Right or Wrong! Lisa Johnson



Do You Live in a House or Home?

Growing up, we often hear various sayings like...

"Just Keep Living. I Dare You."

"Stay in a Child's Place."

"Children Should Be Seen and Not Heard"

"Keep Talking, Your Mouth is Going to Be Your Ruin."

Recently, I encountered a saying on a wall that caught my attention...

"Every House is Not A Home!"

This expression struck a chord with me. What possibly could have prompted this person to write this? What circumstances goes on in a house to make it not feel like a home? Is it constant bickering, lack of love, or perhaps even abuse? Do you feel at home where you live? If not, why? Who or what is causing your place of residence to not feel like home? Could it be partially your own doing? It's a sobering thought to consider because our earliest lessons are learned at home: educational values, household chores, building family values, life lessons, and development of relationships between parents, children, and siblings. So the question is, Do You Live in a House or Home?♣

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Nathaniel Patterson

Named to LinkedIn LeadersHum: "Top 200 Biggest Voices in Leadership to Watch For" in 2022 & 2023, Coach, Columnist, Facilitator, Public Speaker and Trainer
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Voting is Not Enough

The "Wit of MaDear" is an E-Book of my Mom, Olivia Patterson quotes. One quote that I held onto: "Everyone on this earth has and will sin. Be careful whom you listen to. Their words sound good but too many are influenced by favoritism, greed and power. Put no one on a pedestal except God."

As a young adult I began to analyze, interview, listen and observe our influencers, leaders and systems. To my disgust much was as my Mom said, influenced by negativity. To this day, it amazes me how much faith people have of candidates and elected officials because they are endorsed by an Influencer or a Party. I wonder how many conduct any research themselves: background, voting records and proposed legislation. Too many candidates pop up before the election, display collateral, stand on a popular platform, announce their popular influencer and disappear until the next cycle.

A Few Points to Consider:

- Why are citizens so gullible to ad spends? The big money represents big interests. Follow the money.
- It is common sense that big donors want their interest met. The question: Does that conflict with the constituents? Often it does. Check candidate election platform against their voting record.
- Most Voters only know the party affiliation of a Judge. They are expected to rule according to the party line.
- Did YOU know? According to the State of Alabama: All justices and judges with the exception of judges of the probate courts, must be licensed to practice law in the State of Alabama.
- Nationally, about the time adults start attending church on a regular basis, around forty years, they start voting.
- The overall adult population vs. voting registered vs. actual votes is embarrassing.

Yet my actual point is that it is not enough to vote - conduct your own research. A vote is a major decision that will impact our quality of life for years.

The 2024 Elections are upon us. On March 05 – the Primary Election. April 16, if needed the Primary Runoff Election. August 25 Municipal Elections. November 05, the General Election.

As Always... LET'S BE GREATER!♣



Thinking Outside of the Box

Arthur L. Mack

FREELANCE WRITER

steppinoutnews@aol.com



Coming Full Circle

Back in January, I had the privilege of attending a meeting held at Bishop State Community College for the purpose of establishing a Civil Rights and Cultural Heritage District.

The district will center around historic Dr. Martin Luther King Avenue, and focus on mainly historical preservation and business development. In addition, other projects in the proposed district are in the works, such as working with Stewart Memorial CME Church to develop the Dave Patton House, which is right next to the church, as a cultural space for the community.

In addition, property on Dr. Martin Luther King Avenue where the law office of noted civil rights attorney Vernon Z. Crawford once stood is expected to be used as a spot to explain how civil rights litigations happened.

During the meeting, the history of Dr. Martin Luther King Avenue, which was known as Davis Avenue before the street was renamed in 1986 was discussed. There were panelists talking about ideas for preservation of places that are still on the Avenue. The last part of the meeting was devoted to members of the audience sharing their memories of The Avenue as well as suggestions for the district itself, including using the old Central High School building in some shape or form.

This meeting brought back some memories for me because back in the 1990s, I was part of a group trying to bring about improvements on The Avenue. Some of you may remember the Northside Area Improvement Association, which was born out of the African-American Summit, a grass-roots coalition of numerous groups trying to bring about positive change for Mobile's African-American community.

The Northside Area Improvement Association, or NAIA for short, did its best to bring attention to the Dr. Martin Luther King Avenue. It identified buildings that were of historic importance. We called them Landmarks of Interest. Believe it our not, quite a few of them are still around.

NAIA also had other events, such as the Miss Northside Pageant, which placed more of an emphasis on talent rather than beauty. In addition, the event was an opportunity to educate people on the Avenue's history. The organization also organized a large-scale cleanup.

I would like to say NAIA made an impact. In some ways, it did, because it brought more attention to the Avenue's importance to the city of Mobile. Now, nearly 30 years later, along comes the proposed Civil Rights and Cultural Heritage District, which has the potential to be even more effective than NAIA. Hopefully, it will succeed, because frankly, the Avenue could use a lot of help.

Many of the businesses that were on the Avenue in its heyday, and for that matter, even in the 1990s, are long gone. The few that have remained have survived so many economic upheavals it's not even funny. As a kid growing up not far from the Avenue, I remember the numerous businesses, clubs, and neighborhoods that made the area so great. In other words, the Avenue was 'poppin'.

Those days are mostly gone, but with support and a lot of hard work, the Avenue can bounce back. Establishment of a Civil Rights and Cultural Heritage District is a big deal, and I for one am hoping it will succeed. The future of the MLK community depends on it.♣

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Black American Education

Joseph Mitchell PhD

CITIZEN • MUSICIAN • POLITICIAN



VOCABULARY

RIOT – A VIOLENT DISTURBANCE OF THE PEACE BY A CROWD

Why is it that when Black people engage in violent disturbances of the peace, the behavior is referred to as BLACK RIOTS. Like Oakwood California, Detroit, Michigan and Atlanta Georgia.

And when White people engage in violent disturbances of the peace aimed at Black people, the behavior is referred to as RACE RIOTS. Such as Atlanta and Tulsa, Cleveland, and New York City?

“Race Riot”

...the esoteric term for white people to understand that white people are kicking the hell out of Black people, brown people, red people, or yellow people. In contrast, “black riot.” means that Black people are burning and destroying either white folks stuff or their stuff.

“White Riot”

...a term that can be used only by black, red, yellow and brown people. White people do not use the term to describe what they do to black, red, yellow and brown people. This is not to say that white people do not engage in violent disturbances all the peace against each other. The Catholic and Protestant wars across centuries is an example of “white on white” riots. The American Civil War was a white on white riot that had nothing to do with freeing the black and slave population of the nation.

Assassination ...to murder an important person by surprise for political or religious

Of the following, which/who were assassinated and who were just plain old murdered or executed? Benito Mussolini, Michael King, Jr., Lasane Parish Crooks, Wiley Evers, J. Fitzgerald Kennedy, Christopher George Latore Wallace, George Corley Wallace, Jr., R. Francis Kennedy, Malik el-Shabazz, Lesane Parish Crooks, George Corley Wallace, Jr., Amaru Shakur.

It was once a crime in certain parts of the United States for anyone to teach enslaved Africans to read anything that might be of importance to them; or to write anything that might have had importance or about anything of importance to themselves.

TO BE CONTINUED..

Today the same action is called book banning, the removal of cursive writing from the curriculum, controlling speech content, and etc. At this rate. “American. Negro Slave Revolts” (1964) by Herbert Aptheker will not be read, discussed and debates or researched.

This is the first fully documented study of Negro slave revolts in The United States. Dr. Aptheker provides proof, obtained by painstaking research, that this content and rebelliousness were not only exceedingly common, but we're characteristic of American Negro slaves. Special attention is paid to the famous slave rebellion of Nat Turner, into the revolts led by Denmark Vesey and Gabriel. This pioneering study remains a major contribution to the destruction of the myth of Afro-American docility.

MCHD Weekend “DRIVE THRU” RABIES CLINICS



MARCH 2024

03/02 • 10:00AM to NOON

LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC SCHOOL
2103 Government Street (Mobile)

03/09 • 9:00am to Noon

PRICHARD ANIMAL SHELTER
2402 West Rebel Road

03/09 • 1:00pm to 3:00pm

PET SUPPLIES PLUS
803 Hillcrest Road (Mobile)

03/23 • 10:00am to Noon

PET FEST
@MEDAL OF HONOR PARK
1711 Hillcrest Road (Mobile)

03/23 • 1:00pm to 3:00pm

B&B PET STOP
5035 Cottage Hill Road (Mobile)

03/30 • 11:00am to 1:00pm

KUDDLES-N-KISSES CONNECTION
11120 Meadow Lark Road
(Grand Bay)

VACCINES ARE \$12 PER PET
PAYABLE IN CASH ONLY**

–RABIES QUARANTINE FACT SHEET–
www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/RabiesQuarantineFactSheet.pdf

MCHD recommends taking measures to avoid contracting norovirus

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report a current spike in cases of norovirus, the highly contagious illness that causes vomiting and diarrhea. Since a low of 2.5 percent positive cases reported in the southeastern United States during October 2023, recent CDC data from participating labs shows it has climbed to 9.6 percent as of February 10.

“While we have not seen an unusual increase in gastrointestinal illnesses in Mobile County emergency departments, we did have a norovirus outbreak that occurred in a local nursing home recently,” said Dr. Kevin Philip Michaels, Health Officer for Mobile County.

Anyone can get infected and sick with norovirus. Norovirus is sometimes called the “stomach flu” or “stomach bug.” However, norovirus illness is not related to the flu, which is caused by influenza virus.

“There are several ways to protect yourself and others from norovirus,” said Dr. Michaels. “Norovirus is transmitted through direct contact with an infected person, by consuming contaminated food or water, and by touching contaminated surfaces or objects and then touching your mouth.”

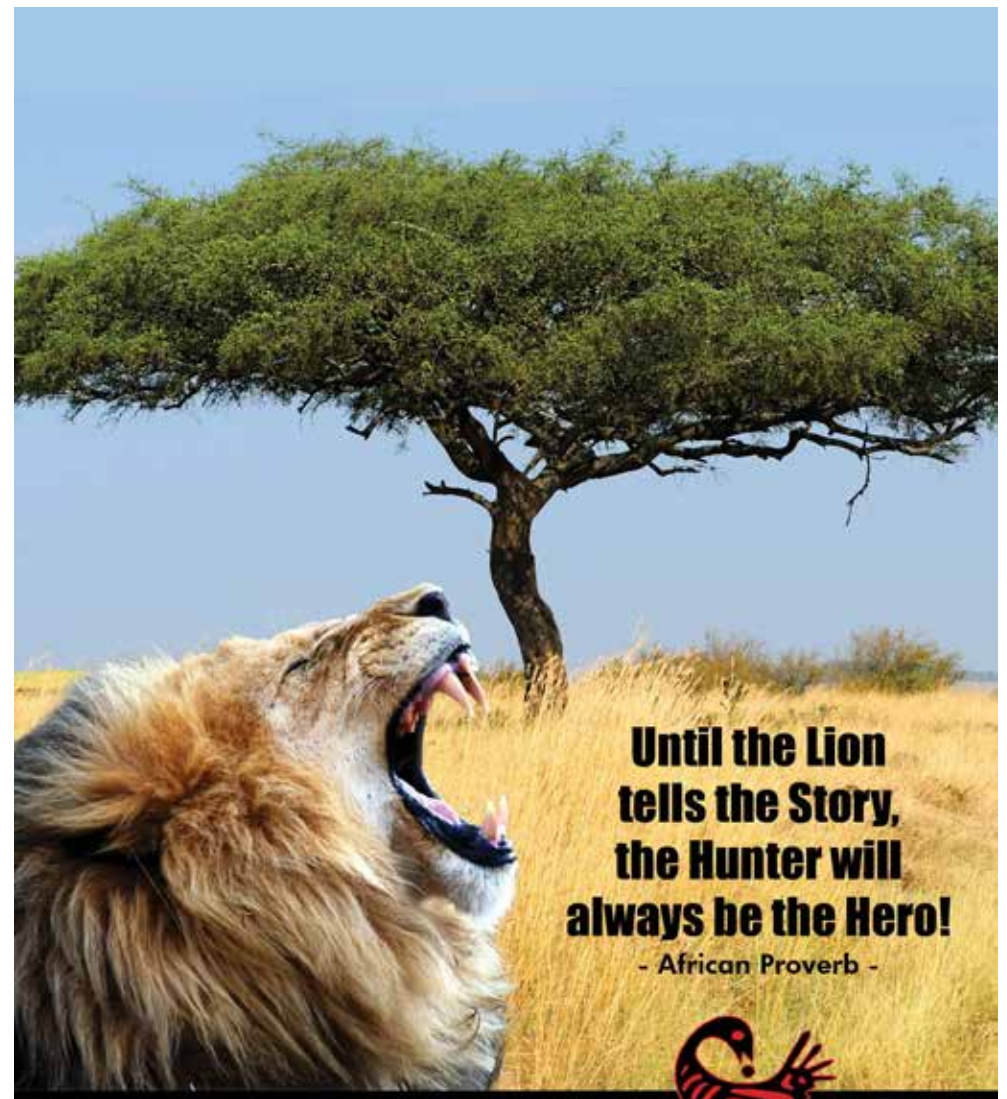
Norovirus is notably contagious during the period of active symptoms and can continue to be spread by an infected person for several days after recovery. For more comprehensive information, please visit the CDC's guide on norovirus transmission at <https://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/about/transmission.html>

Norovirus symptoms include stomach pain, nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting. Other symptoms can be fever, headache, and body aches. Symptoms usually develop 12 to 48 hours after exposure and can be severe, especially in young children and older adults. It is important to stay hydrated and seek medical advice if needed.


To prevent the spread of norovirus, consider these strategies:

- Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the toilet or changing diapers, and before eating or preparing food.
- Thoroughly wash fruits and vegetables, and cook shellfish to an internal temperature of at least 145°F.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces, especially after vomiting or diarrhea incidents, using a chlorine bleach solution or an EPA-registered product against norovirus.
- Avoid preparing food for others or providing care when sick and for at least two days after symptoms cease.
- Wash contaminated laundry in hot water and dry on the highest heat setting.

#



**Until the Lion
tells the Story,
the Hunter will
always be the Hero!**
- African Proverb -



**It is Our Duty
to Share the Stories
About Our Ancestors!**

**SANKOFA
MEDIA GROUP**
ALABAMA

**IT
HAPPENS**

**Norovirus doesn't have to.
Norovirus can be spread by people who
didn't wash their hands.
Don't be one of them.**

WASH YOUR HANDS.



cdc.gov/norovirus

PORTRAITS in BLACK

Nanny of the Maroons

1685-1733 (?)

A search of this woman shows multiple dates for her time of death, but there is one fact that is indisputable, she was a fierce leader of the Jamaican Windward Maroons, a community of formerly enslaved Africans who fought the British for their freedom.

Her story begins when she and her family were kidnapped from her native Ghana and enslaved in Jamaica in the late 17th Century. She along with others escaped and fled to the Blue Mountain Region on the eastern side of the island. By 1720, she'd become head of the settlement based on her leadership skills. She began to train her people in guerilla warfare.

Queen Nanny led the Maroons into many successful skirmishes freeing over 800 enslaved people and swelling the size of their forces. Her strategies in battle utilizing the jungles and mountains to her advantage allowed her forces to catch their enemies, who were heavily armed, by surprise and escape back into the landscape. This tactic decimated the forces of the British. In 1740, the British were forced to sign a peace treaty with the Maroons, guaranteeing their freedom. In 1975, the government of Jamaica declared Queen Nanny a national heroine and named her "Right Excellent" for her strength and courage. Her face adorns the \$500 Jamaican Dollar Bill.



Nanny of the Maroons
(Circa 1685 - Circa 1733)

Nanny or "Queen Nanny" is believed by some historians to have been born in West Africa of African origin and escaped from slavery after being brought to Jamaica. She was the outstanding military leader of



Locs of Soul
Tanene Jackson
 TRICHOLOGIST
 OWNER/OPERATOR of LOCS OF SOUL, LLC



HERBAL REMEDIES - PART 1

Time and time again, we find ourselves going back to basics. Plants and herbs provide us with the medicines we need to heal. Modern medicine synthesizes them to create new medicines. Throughout history herbs have been used for trade and healing. Rosemary is an herb that has been used and revered through the ages.

Genesis 9:3 says, "Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything." Rosemary is an aromatic herb that can be grown in and outdoors. Its symbolism signifies fidelity and remembrance in Christian ceremonies, weddings, and funerals. The Greeks dedicated the plant to the goddess Aphrodite. Ancient Egyptians considered rosemary sacred and valued its medicinal benefits. In the Indian traditional practice of Ayurvedic medicine, Rosemary (Rusmari) is used as a tonic for hair and skin and assists moodiness and tiredness. Possessing powerful antioxidant properties, rosemary can be used for skin conditions (psoriasis, acne, and eczema) as well.

The benefits of rosemary are vast and effective. Rosemary extract is used to grow hair. It has been scientifically proven to be as effective as minoxidil to promote hair growth. It is a natural DHT (dihydrotestosterone) blocker. DHT is a hormone that contributes to male and female pattern hair loss (androgenic alopecia).

Rosemary extract and oil both can show circulatory improvement, which will assist in hair regrowth, restoration, thickening, and hair conditioning.

So, the next time you are looking for a healthy alternative, add rosemary to your grocery list.

This article is for information purposes only. Please consult your doctor if taking any medications.♣

Financial Tips

Gwedolyn Hall



TAX TIME

It is now time to prepare for filing your 2023 Income Taxes. Some may have already completed this task and even received a refund! For those who have not, let us get it done. You should have received all the documentation you need to be prepared. Whether you file yourself or have someone else do it, make sure you are ready to proceed.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS:

1. Gather your information!
 - a. Personal information (social security number, copy of last year's tax return and bank information if receiving funds or making payments.
 - b. Income information (W2, 1099, Interest Income, Tips, Income tax refund, unemployment benefits, taxable alimony, gambling winnings, and any other income received in 2023.
 - c. Deductions and credits (childcare costs, education costs, home mortgage interest, charitable donations, property taxes, investment fees). If you own a business do not forget those business expenses.
 - d. Income adjustments (IRA contributions, student loan interest, moving expenses, out of pocket medical and dental expenses and energy credits) may help reduce the amount of taxes you owe or increase your refund.
2. Once you have all your information together, put it in a folder and get ready to file. It is always best to make a checklist to assure you have included everything needed.
3. Whether you file yourself or use a tax preparer, remember to file on time. The tax deadline this year to file your 2023 taxes is April 15. If you are receiving a refund, do not hesitate to file early and get your refund.
4. If you owe additional taxes, you may still be able to alleviate or minimize the amount if you are eligible to make an IRA contribution for 2023 (check with your tax accountant).
5. Once you get this done, it is time to look at your information and start preparing for next year. My best advice is to start a file for 2024 placing all your information in it during the year. Next year you will be ready to go without hesitation!♣



CDC Updates, Simplifies Respiratory Virus Recommendations

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has updated the recommendations for how people can protect themselves and their communities from respiratory viruses, including COVID-19. The new guidance brings a unified approach to addressing risks from a range of common respiratory viral illnesses, such as COVID-19, flu, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), which can cause significant health impacts and strain on hospitals and healthcare workers.

CDC is making updates to the recommendations now because the U.S. is seeing far fewer hospitalizations and deaths associated with COVID-19 and because they are more tools than ever to combat flu, COVID19, and RSV.

“This announcement reflects the progress we have made in protecting our community from severe illness from COVID-19,” said Dr. Kevin Philip Michaels, Health Officer for Mobile County. “However, we still must use the common sense solutions we know work to protect ourselves, friends, and loved ones from serious illness from respiratory viruses. This includes vaccination, treatment, and staying home when we get sick.”

As part of the guidance, CDC provides active recommendations on core prevention strategies:

- Staying up to date with vaccination to protect people against serious illness, hospitalization, and death. This includes flu, COVID-19, and RSV if eligible.
- Practicing good hygiene by covering coughs and sneezes, washing, or sanitizing hands often, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- Taking steps for cleaner air, such as bringing in more fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors.

When people get sick with a respiratory virus, the updated guidance recommends that they stay home and away from others. For people with COVID-19 and influenza, treatment is available and can lessen symptoms and lower the risk of severe illness. The recommendations suggest returning to normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, symptoms are improving overall, and if a fever was present, it has been gone without the use of a fever-reducing medication.

Once people resume normal activities, they are encouraged to take additional prevention strategies for the next five days to curb disease spread, such as taking more steps for cleaner air, enhancing hygiene practices, wearing a well-fitting mask, keeping a distance from others, and/or getting tested for respiratory viruses.

These precautions are especially important to protect those most at risk for severe illness, including those over 65 and people with weakened immune systems. Respiratory viruses remain a public health threat.

The Mobile County Health Department will continue to focus efforts on ensuring the public has the information and tools to lower their risk of respiratory illness by protecting themselves, their families, and their communities. There are no changes to respiratory virus guidance for healthcare settings.

#



A History Written in Blood Cannot be Erased by Lies Written in Ink!

Ways you can stay protected from respiratory illnesses

**Take steps for cleaner air, such as
bringing in more fresh outside air,
purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors.**



cdc.gov/coronavirus



Black American Politics

JOSEPH MITCHELL PHD

Citizen Musician & Politician



Moments in Time

Paulette Horton

REMEMBERING Cudjoe Lewis of Africatown

The late Henry C. Williams, who was known as the Father of Africatown, once told me he spent a lot of time with Cudjoe Lewis.

As a preteen, he made a promise to Uncle Cudjoe that he was going to take him back to his homeland in Africa, but Cudjoe died before the promise could be fulfilled.

In later years, Henry C. Williams had a bust of Cudjoe designed and placed in front of Union Baptist Church. ♣



The question remaining at this point is “Will citizens show up to use this new opportunity to vote absentee?”

Mobile County's Judge of Probate and Chief Election Officer Don Davis noted that on November 03, 2020, Mobile County had the highest number of citizens to participate in an election in the history of the County Comparable statistics are:

Year	Population	Registered Voters	Turnout	Percent Turnout
1980	364,980	148,100	116,993	78.03
2008	406,309	256,066	180,845	70.62
2020	414,000	314,872	186,155	59.101

The 2020 election cycle is also noteworthy because Mobile County had the highest number of absentee ballot applicants/voters in the history of the County.

The Mobile County Absentee Election Manager's Office processed 27,188 absentee ballot application requests.

14,618 absentee ballots were returned by the United States Postal Service or other commercial carriers, 173 ballots were received electronically, and 10,835 citizens voted on-site at the Absentee Election Manager's Office between September 9, 2020, and November 29, 2020.

The voted absentee ballots reflect that 5,866 persons (24 percent) voted for Donald Trump for president and 17,542 persons (74 percent) voted for Joseph Biden for president.

As did Hannibal, the Mobile County modern-day electoral military-like commanders had “a herd of elephants!” They came from select members of Mobile’s ecumenical community. They came in the form and number of over fifteen (15) church busses and vans with drivers.

continued in next column... see **VOTING**

VOTING... continued from previous column

A growing list of churches across Mobile County offered free rides to those who needed it to vote absentee early on Saturdays.

The churches worked with Black Voters Matter Mobile County on this initiative.

Churches volunteered to use their buses, vans, and even drivers to take people to vote on Saturdays.

“We are doing what we're supposed to do. Serve the community. That’s the purpose of the church,” said Pastor Clinton Johnson of New Siloh Missionary Baptist Church.

Church leaders said this initiative was to make sure no one had an excuse for not voting. The buses and vans are sanitized after each drop off. Riders were screened before boarding and had to wear a mask the entire time. Drivers had a limit of how many people can ride at the same time to ensure social distancing. ♣



Black Lives Matter

Tommy Green

FACEBOOK BLOGGER

FORMER EDITOR FOR MOBILE BEACON



**Until the Lion
Tells the Story,
the Hunter Will
Always be the Hero!**

-African Proverb-

Black People's Problem... NOT KNOWING HISTORY

Sisters and brothers, we need to study the past, which will explain our present, and it provides options for the future. We need the wisdom of the Sankofa bird. "Sankofa is an Akan word from Ghana that means "go back and fetch it". It is a symbol of a bird with its head turned backward, carrying an egg in its mouth, representing the idea of looking back at our past to learn from it and move forward." On March 5, 2024, the 2nd District minority election was held for the candidates vying to be the Congress Person.

The neighborhood that I live in is approximately 90 percent Black, with only a small number of whites. The Blacks and whites will pass by and will not acknowledge you. When I grew up in the 1940s and the 1950s in Arkansas, I would be disrespectful not to acknowledge neighbors. Why are the descendants of enslaved Africans exhibiting the same values as the descendants of the slave masters? This mindset was developed in the 1970s after the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Bill, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the 1968 Fair Housing Act. I had a Black neighbor who thought that Blacks didn't need to study Black history, because they were (be) Americans now. The same mindset is allowing whites to gradually strip the rights gained in the 1950s and the 1960s, because a large number of Blacks believe that they are receiving the same rights as their white citizens. This is a lie. It is very dangerous for Black people to have the same values as their oppressors, because we can't blend in as the Irish did when they were discriminated against.

The person selected to the 2nd Congressional District should be Black and rooted in their ancestors' history, so they will not be so in awe to be sitting in meetings with white people. Black people you can't be ashamed to state that you want a Black person to fill that seat. Before Sam Jones was elected mayor of Mobile, it had been approximately 189 years that a white person has held the highest position in Mobile and no Black could be elected because of racism.

I believe that the person who wins the Congressional election for 2nd District should exhibit some of the values of the following individuals: (1) deceased Sen. Michael Figures who along with others filed a court case that established seven districts in Mobile, which allowed for someone from one of those districts to be elected; (2) retired Dr. Joseph Mitchell, AL House, Representative District 103 would speak truth to wrong doers; (3) Commissioner, Merceria L. Ludgood, Dist. 1, who will speak up for the disenfranchised citizens; (4) retired, Councilman Fred Richardson (Dist. 1) challenged the 1st budget that May-

or Stimpson submitted, because it reduced the funding to the Black community, and the funds were restored; (5) former Judge Herman Thomas who has faced the wrath of the white power structure and was found not guilty on seven of 21 charges, and the judge found him not guilty on the remaining 14 charges, but the racists have denied him the right to practice his trade. However, Judge Thomas is working in the community distributing food to the needy, and this is the reason that I supported him for Dist. 1 Councilman; and (6) former Commissioner Robert Battles, Mobile County Public School System (MCPSS). He was instrumental in his complaint against the Mobile County school system spending a disproportionate amount of money on libraries and other facilities in majority-white schools at the expense of predominantly black ones.

I believe the silence from the presently serving Black legislators from Mobile County has been deafening, but the three councilors in Mobile have been a disgrace to the Black community.

How in the hell do the three Black Councilors vote the same way as the four white Councilors. There were speakers from District 4, 5, 6, and 7 who supported annexation, but on the other hand, there were speakers from District 1, 2, and 3 who spoke against annexation. The Black Councilors need to be recalled, because they aren't supporting the wishes of their communities. I am going get information on a recall, and I will post the information.

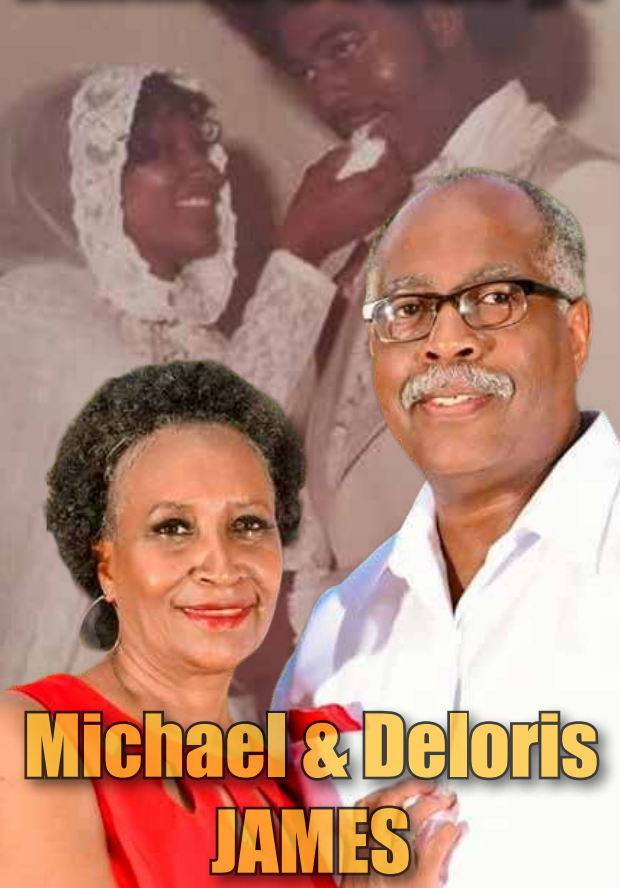
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

There have been reports of Trump's intent on establishing an Authoritarian form of government. Britannica Encyclopedia stated, "The definition of Authoritarian form of government in politics and government, the blind submission to authority and the repression of individual freedom of thought and action."

If you have read your ancestors' history, it will show that they lived under a repressive form of government where Black people didn't have any rights that white people respected. Any white person could have you locked up or killed by a mob. If you were discovered in a relationship with a white woman, or if she lied and accuse you of being disrespectful, you could be killed as Emmitt Till was killed in Mississippi in 1955. I was born in Marion, AR in 1939 during segregation, so I know how my parents and other Black people were treated. This type of repressive government didn't change until the 1964 Civil Rights Bill, the 1965 Voting Rights Act, and the 1968 Fair Housing Act was the initiative and passed by the Democratic Party. ♣

Hats Off

HAPPY 46TH WEDDING Anniversary!



**Michael & Deloris
JAMES**

Congratulations!
LeFlore Rattlerbot Robotics Team



1ST PLACE WINNERS
2023-2024 MCPSS VX Robotics Tournament

Congratulations!
Carcia Carson



**1ST BLACK PhD in
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**
Vanderbilt University

Happy Birthday
Lenora Ray
95 Years YOUNG



Congratulations!



Melinda Clarke
**GRANT & DONOR
SPECIALIST**
Mobile Museum of Art

Hats Off

HAPPY 46TH WEDDING Anniversary!
David & Bonnie PARKS



Congratulations!
Arlene Jones
AWARDED
CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION
Global Society of
Female Entrepreneurs

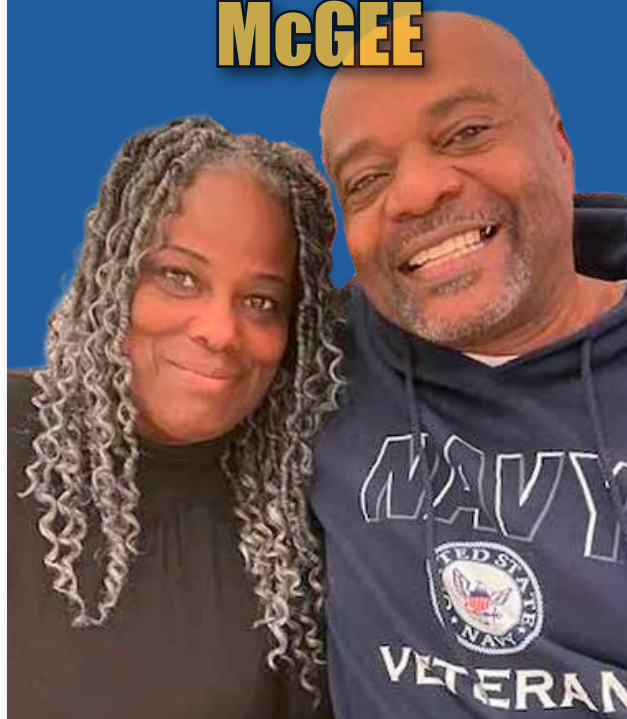


Happy Birthday
Lelia Reed
100 Years of Life

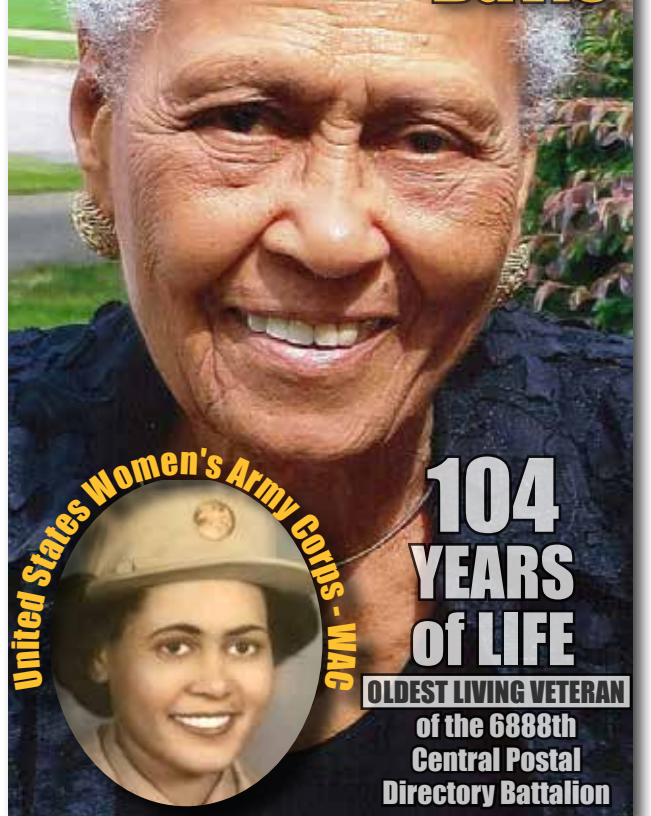


Happy Birthday
Emile Eaton
94 YEARS of LIFE

HAPPY 7TH WEDDING Anniversary!
Warren & Venisha Bonham McGEE



Happy Birthday
Romay Johnson Davis



Hats Off



Congratulations!
Nate Patterson

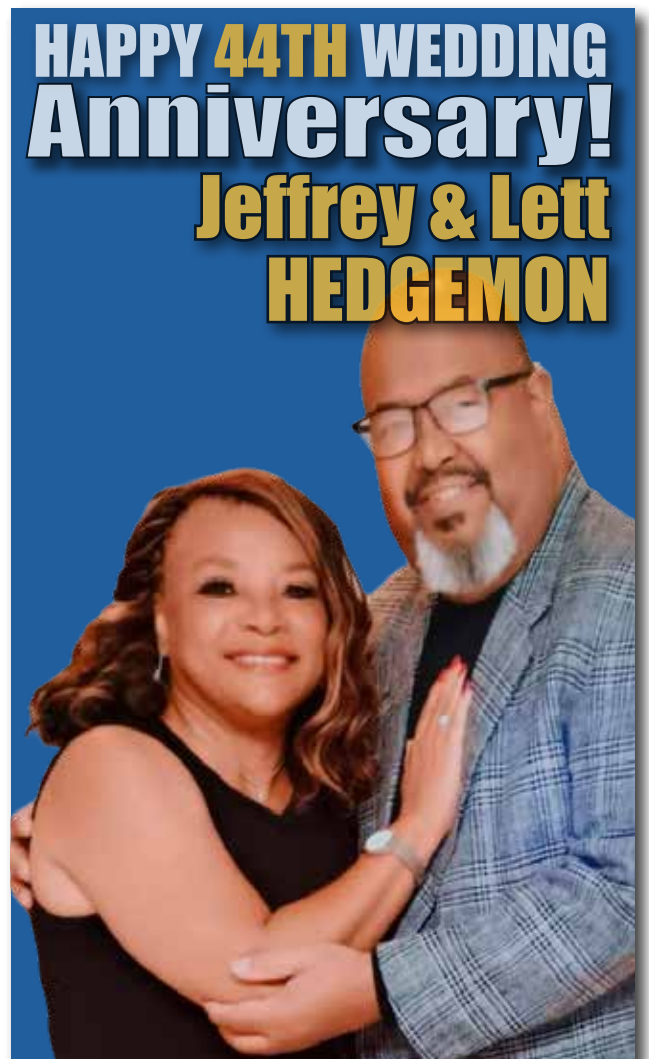
Chairperson of Mitchell College of Business
Marketing, Quantitative Methods and
International Business Advisory Council
Featured in University of South Alabama's
MITCHELL Fall 2023 Issue
<https://online.fliphtml5.com/ocqvt/dnca/#p=20>

Happy Birthday
Naomi Saulsberry



80 YEARS OF LIFE

HAPPY 44TH WEDDING
Anniversary!
Jeffrey & Lett
HEDGEMON



Way To Go!
Mario Hoover



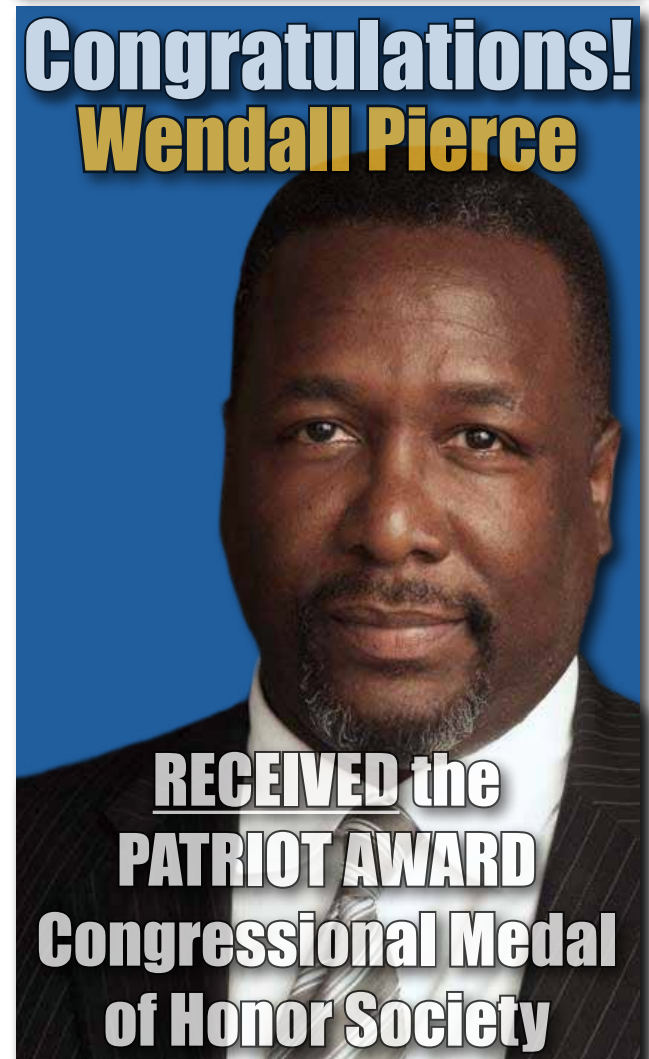
SCORED 100%
on ACT EXAM

Congratulations!



Eric Browne
2023 High School
TEACHER OF THE YEAR!
Alabama Conference
Of Theatre

Congratulations!
Wendall Pierce



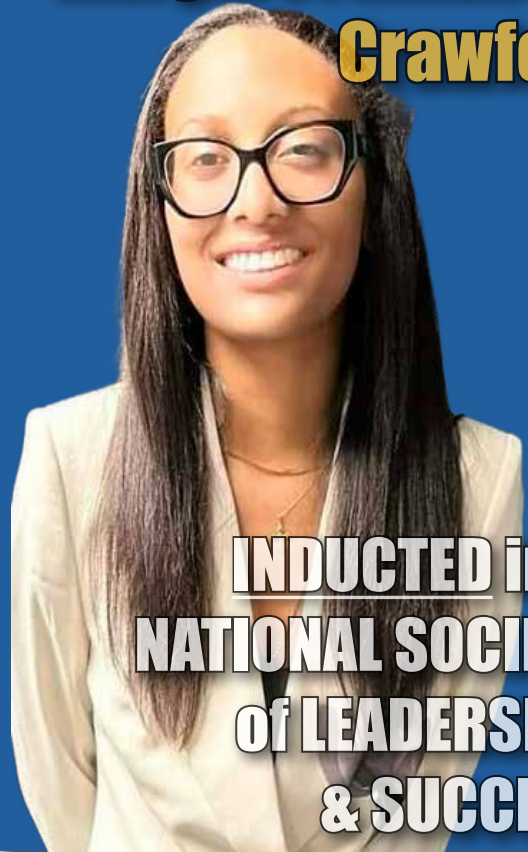
RECEIVED the
PATRIOT AWARD
Congressional Medal
of Honor Society

Hats Off

HAPPY 11TH WEDDING Anniversary!
Gerald & Barbara WALKER



Congratulations!
Margaret Elizabeth Crawford



INDUCTED into NATIONAL SOCIETY of LEADERSHIP & SUCCESS

Happy Birthday Inez Richardson Tucker



87 YEARS of LIFE

Congratulations!
Alyssa Law



RECEIVED MASTERS DEGREE in SOCIAL WORK Alabama A&M

HAPPY 23RD WEDDING Anniversary!
Cedric & Nadine Andrews BROOKS



Happy Birthday Ethel Jackson



80 YEARS of LIFE

Mark Your Calendar... *March 2024*

MOBILE/BALDWIN

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY & EVENTS

Ms. B's Production Artist Southern Soul Showcase

Hosted by Ms. Mary, Rascals Lounge; Every 1st Sunday @6pm

Spoken Word of Mobile Open Mic Night – Toulminville Branch Library,

Every 3rd Monday @6pm

New To Medicare Free Monthly Educational Seminar – Area Agency on Aging,

GM&O Building First Floor Conference Room, 1st Tuesday Monthly

City of Mobile Free Multigenerational Family Photoshoot – Connie Hudson Senior

Center, 3/5 @5pm

Mobile County Training School Alumni Association – Another Step Forward Annual

Homemade Kite Event, Hope Community Center, 3/9 @10am

City of Mobile Free Self Defense Class – Springhill Community Center, 3/12 @5:30pm

City of Mobile Women's History Month Clothing Swap – Langan Park, 3/19 @5pm

City of Mobile Women's History Month Themed Bingo – Sullivan Community Center,

3/26 @10am

Military Appreciation Luncheon, Battleship Memorial Park – 3/27 @ Noon concerts/MUSIC

Celebrity Southern Soul Showcase – Elk's Club on State Street, Every 1st Sunday @7pm

Joe Lewis, Gambino's – Fairhope, Every Tuesday @6pm

Joe Lewis – Renaissance Hotel, Every Friday - Sunday @8pm

The Tree BBQ & Lounge Presents Ladies Night – Every Thursday

Thirsty Thursdays Live Jazz Jam Sessions – Kazoola's, Every Thursday @8pm

Steve Hackett – Saenger Theatre, 3/17

Travis Tritt – Saenger Theatre, 3/22 @8pm

Katt Williams – Mobile Civic Center, 3/22 @8:00pm

CULTURAL EVENTS

LODA ArtWalk – Downtown Mobile, 2nd. Friday Monthly

The Beauty of the African American Aesthetic Exhibit – Ben May Library, Through March

Mobile Festival of Flowers – Cathedral Square, 3/8-10

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Book-Worm Book Club – Ben May Library, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 @ 4 pm

Read and Sign (ASL) Storytime – West Regional Branch, 3/4-5, 3/11-12, 3/18-19,

3/25-26 @3:30pm

Read & Play Storytime – Ben May Main Library; 3/5, 3/11-12, 3/19, 3/26 @10am

Good Listener Storytime – Parkway Branch Library; 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26 @10am

Tuesday Time Out Storytime – Grand Bay Branch; 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 1/30 @11am

A Page in Time Book Club – West Regional Library; 3/5, @ 2 pm

Shake, Rattle, & Read Storytime – West Regional Library; 3/6-7, 3/13-14, 3/20-21,

3/27-28, 1/31-2/1 @10am

Wonderful Wednesday Storytime – Theodore Oaks Branch Library; 3/6, 3/13, 3/20,

3/27, 1/31 @10am

Good Listener Storytime – Moorer/Spring Hill Branch Library; 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27,

1/31 @10:30am & 11:30am

Good Listener Storytime – Semmes Regional Library; 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 1/31

@10:30am

Preschooler Storytime – Saraland Public Library; 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 1/31 @10:30am

Listen & Learn Storytime – West Regional Library; 3/6-7, 3/13-14, 3/20-21, 3/27-28 @11am

Rock n' Storytime – West Regional Library; 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28 @ 4 pm

Bernheim Storytime – Main, Ben May Main Library, 3/13 @ 10 am

Ehony Moments Book Club – West Regional Library; 3/14 @ 6 pm

By the "Book" Book Club – Grand Bay Library; 3/18 @ 2 pm

The Reader's Choice Book Club – West Regional Library; 3/19 @ 1 pm

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Africatown Redevelopment Corporation Monthly Meeting – Robert Hope Community

Center, 2nd. Tuesday Monthly

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Connection Group – Spring Hill Baptist

Church Activity Center Room; 236; Third Monday Monthly

Wade In The Water Monthly Meeting – All Saints Episcopal Church, Last Monday/

Every Month @6pm

Mobile City Council Meeting – Government Plaza Auditorium, 3/5 @ 10:30 am

Mobile Chamber Growth Alliance Task Force – Mobile Chamber of Commerce, 3/5 @Noon

Young Professionals of Mobile Lunch and Learn – Mobile Chamber of Commerce,

3/6 @11:30am

City of Mobile Resilience Planning Workshop – Seals Community Center, 3/6 @5:30pm

Mobile County Commission Conference Meeting – Government Plaza Assembly Room,

3/7 @10am

Mobile County Commission Meeting – Government Plaza Auditorium, 3/11 @10am

Mobile City Council Meeting – Government Plaza Auditorium, 3/12 @10:30am

Executive Roundtable – Speaker Laura O'Connor, VP of Community Development

Mobile Chamber, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, 3/19 @8am

Mobile City Council Meeting – Government Plaza Auditorium, 3/19 @10:30am

Mobile County Commission Conference Meeting – Government Plaza Assembly Room,

3/21 @10am

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Business After Hours – Courtyard by Marriott, 3/21 @4 pm

Mobile County Commission Meeting – Government Plaza Auditorium, 3/25 @10am

Mobile Area Black Chamber of Commerce General Body Meeting –

featuring William H. Bryant Jr- Boy Scouts of America, Byrne Hall Spring

Hill College, 3/27 @11:30am

Mobile City Council Meeting – Government Plaza Auditorium, 3/26 @10:30am

MUSEUMS

Africatown Heritage House Museum – Clotilda: The Exhibition – Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm

Explorem Science Center, Now Playing – Tiny Giants and Backyard Wilderness

PGI Digital Dome, Ongoing

Gulfquest National Maritime Museum – United States Coast Guard Art – Ongoing

Historic Avenue Cultural Center – Remember The Avenue, Through 12/31

History Museum of Mobile – Hubble Space Telescope: New Views from the Universe

Exhibit, Until

History Museum of Mobile – The Global Language of Headware: Cultural Identity,

Rites of Passage, and Spirituality – Through 6/7

Mobile Museum of Art's – "Art In Focus", Katharine C. Cochrane Gallery, Dusti Bonge;

The Creative Life, Pets; Loyal and True Companions, American Still Life, American

Prints, American Glass, and Childhood – Ongoing

Mobile Museum of Art – Contemporary Alabama, Ongoing

Mobile Museum of Art – Decades: Looking Back/Moving Forward 1920-1939, Through 4/27

FEAR-An Immersive Exhibit, Explorem Science Center, Until 10/31

USA Archaeology Museum – Special Exhibit-Unwritten: Archeology and Oral History

of Jim Crow Mobile – Through 4/24

National Silk Painting with Lana Hall – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/6-8, @10am

Intermediate Throwing on the Pottery Wheel – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/6-4/10, @5:30 pm

Volunteer Meeting – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/7 @ 10:30 am

Art Talk: The WPA – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/7 @ 6 pm

Works Progress Administration Cemeteries in Florida-Alabama Archaeology Society,

SW Chapter Monthly Lecture – USA Archeology Museum, 3/12 @3:30pm

Speakeasy Night with Symone French – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/23 @7pm

After School Teens 12+ Sustainable Art – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/26 @4pm

Art Talk: Dr. Paige Vitulli – Mobile Museum of Art, 3/28 @6pm

SPORTS

BASEBALL-MEN'S

Bishop State vs. Wallace Community College-Dothan (DH) – Bishop, 3/14 @Noon & 3pm

Bishop State vs. Enterprise State Community College – Bishop, 3/23 @Noon & 3pm

Bishop State vs. Marion Military Institute – Bishop, 3/28 @ Noon & 3 pm

University of Mobile vs. Faulkner University (DH) – Jacobs Field, 3/6 @ 1 pm & 3pm

University of Mobile vs. Blue Mountain University (DH) – Jacobs Field, 3/9 @2pm &

4pm, 3/10 @1pm

University of Mobile vs. Faulkner University (DH) – Jacobs Field, 3/22 @6pm,

3/23 @1pm & 3pm

Spring Hill College vs. Savannah State (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/1 @1:30pm,

3/2 @4 pm, 3/3 @1pm

Spring Hill College vs. Auburn Montgomery (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/6 @3pm & 5:30pm

Spring Hill College vs. Benedict College (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/10 @1 pm & 3:30pm,

3/11 @ 1pm

Spring Hill College vs. Clark Atlanta – Sims-Galle Field, 3/22 @4pm, 3/23 @Noon & 2:30pm

Spring Hill College vs. Tuskegee University – Outlaw Recreation Center, 1/31 @7:30pm

University of South Alabama vs. UNC-Wilmington (DH) – Stankey Field, 3/2 @1pm &

3pm, 3/3 @2pm

University of South Alabama vs. New Orleans – Stankey Field, 3/6 @3pm

University of South Alabama vs. Georgia State – Stankey Field, 3/15 @6:30pm,

3/16 @2pm, 3/17 @1pm

University of South Alabama vs. Louisiana University, Mitchell Center, 1/20 @3pm

SOFTBALL WOMEN'S

Bishop State vs. Baton Rouge Community College (DH) – Bishop, 3/2 @1pm & 3pm

Bishop State vs. Carl Sandburg College (DH) – Bishop, 3/10 @1pm & 3pm,

3/11 @1pm & 3pm

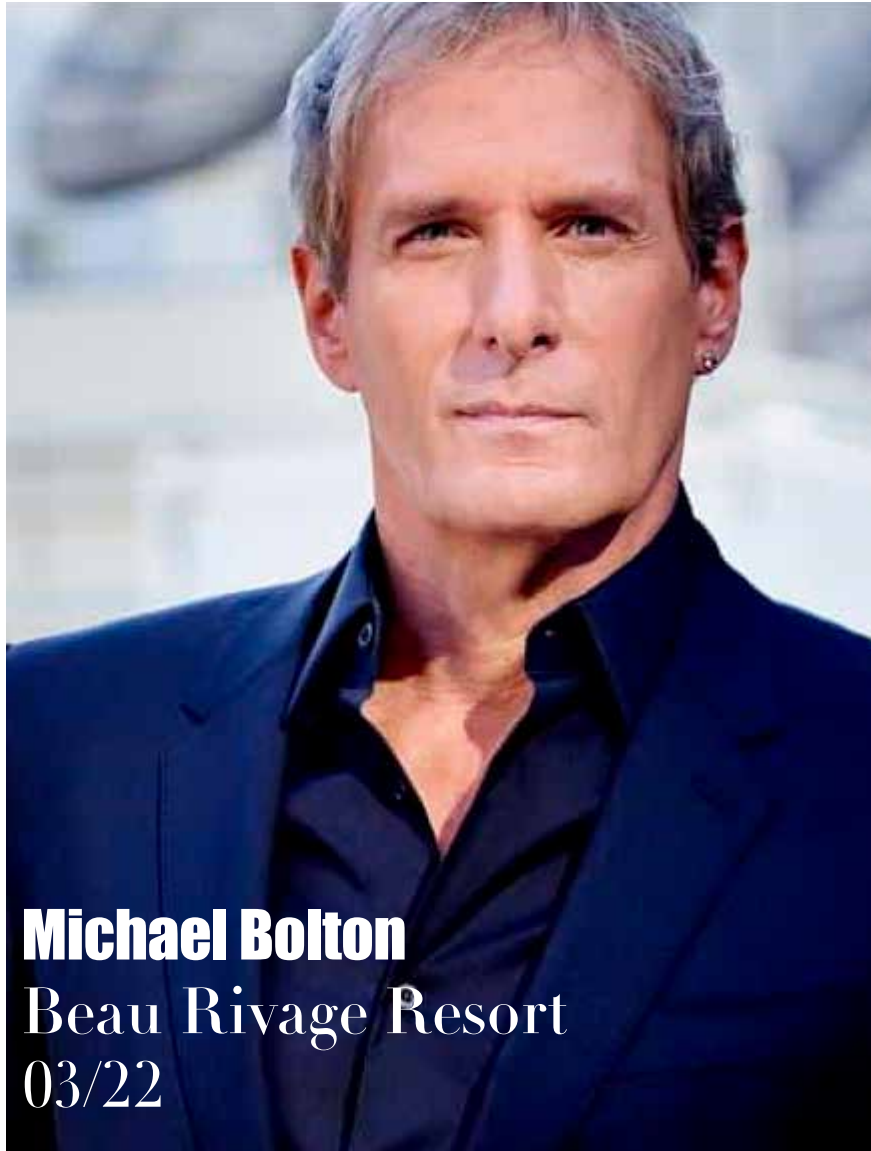
Bishop State vs Wallace Community College-Dothan (DH) – Bishop, 3/16 1pm & 3pm

Bishop State vs College of Lake County (DH) – Bishop, 3/18 @Noon & 2pm
Bishop State vs Enterprise State Community College (DH) – Bishop, 3/20 @Noon & 3pm
Bishop State vs Marion Military Institute (DH) – Bishop, 3/29 @Noon & 2pm
University of Mobile vs. Morningside University (DH) – UM Softball Field, 3/6 @3pm & 5pm
University of Mobile vs. LSU Alexandria (DH) – UM Softball Field, 3/12 @1pm & 3pm
University of Mobile vs. Thomas University (DH) – UM Softball Field, 3/21 @4pm
Spring Hill College vs. West Alabama (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/7 @2pm & 4pm
Spring Hill College vs. Mississippi College (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/20 @ 1pm & 3pm
University of South Alabama vs. Louisiana Lafayette – Jaguar Field, 3/15 @ 6 pm,
 3/16 @3pm, 3/17 @1 pm
University of South Alabama vs. Louisiana Monroe – Jaguar Field, 3/22 @6pm,
 3/23 @ 2pm, 3/24 @Noon
University of South Alabama vs. McNeese State – Jaguar Field, 3/26 @5pm
University of South Alabama vs. Texas State – Jaguar Field, 3/28 @6pm, 3/29 @6pm,
 3/30 @1pm
Rodeo Professional Bull Riders Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour, Mobile Civic Center, 3/9

BILOXI

CONCERTS

Riley Green, Tracy Lawrence, Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 3/21



Michael Bolton
 Beau Rivage Resort
 03/22

Los Lobos, IP Casino Resort and Spa, 3/22
Ministry, Hard Rock Cafe, 3/27
Little River Band, IP Casino Resort and Spa

BIRMINGHAM

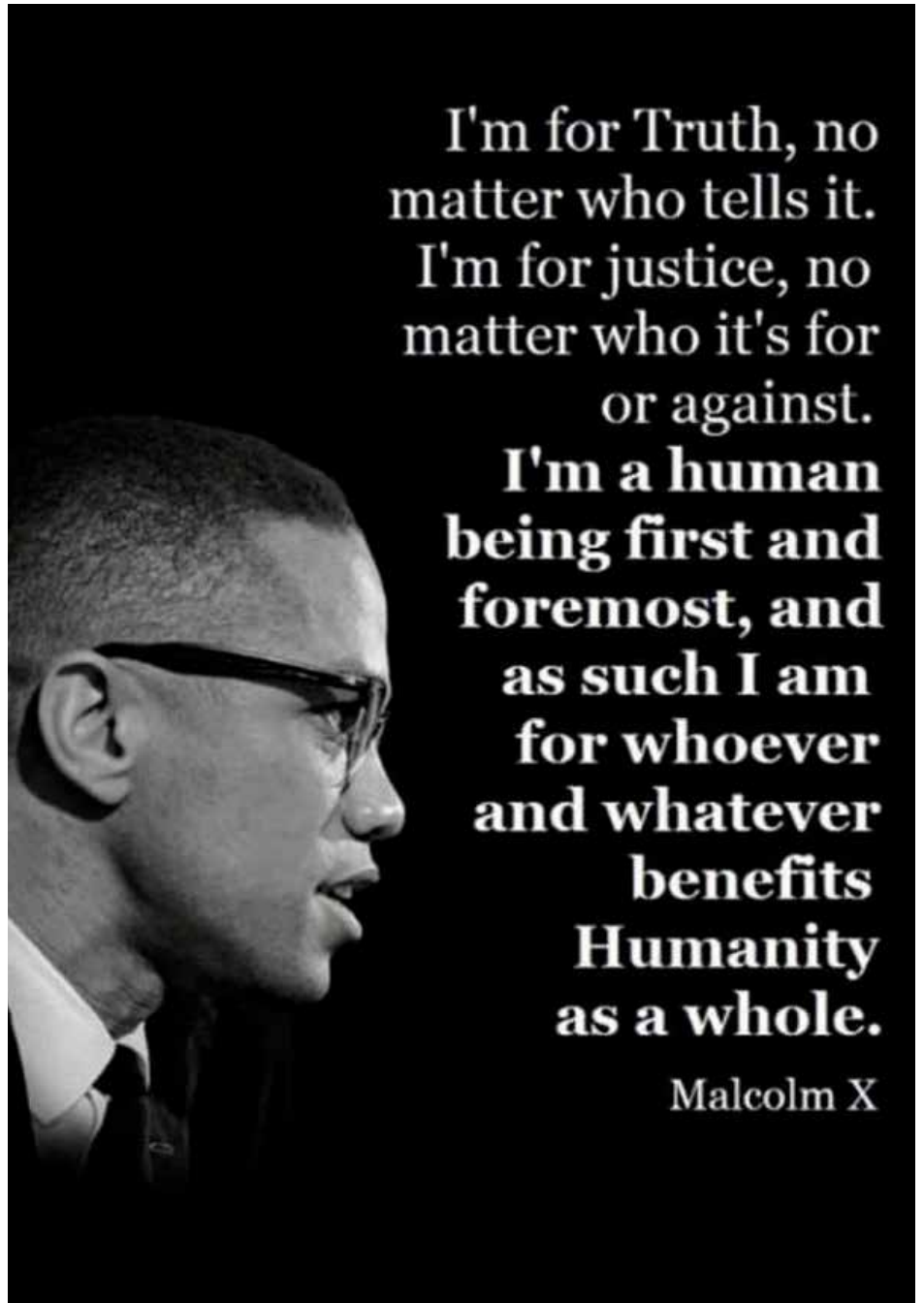
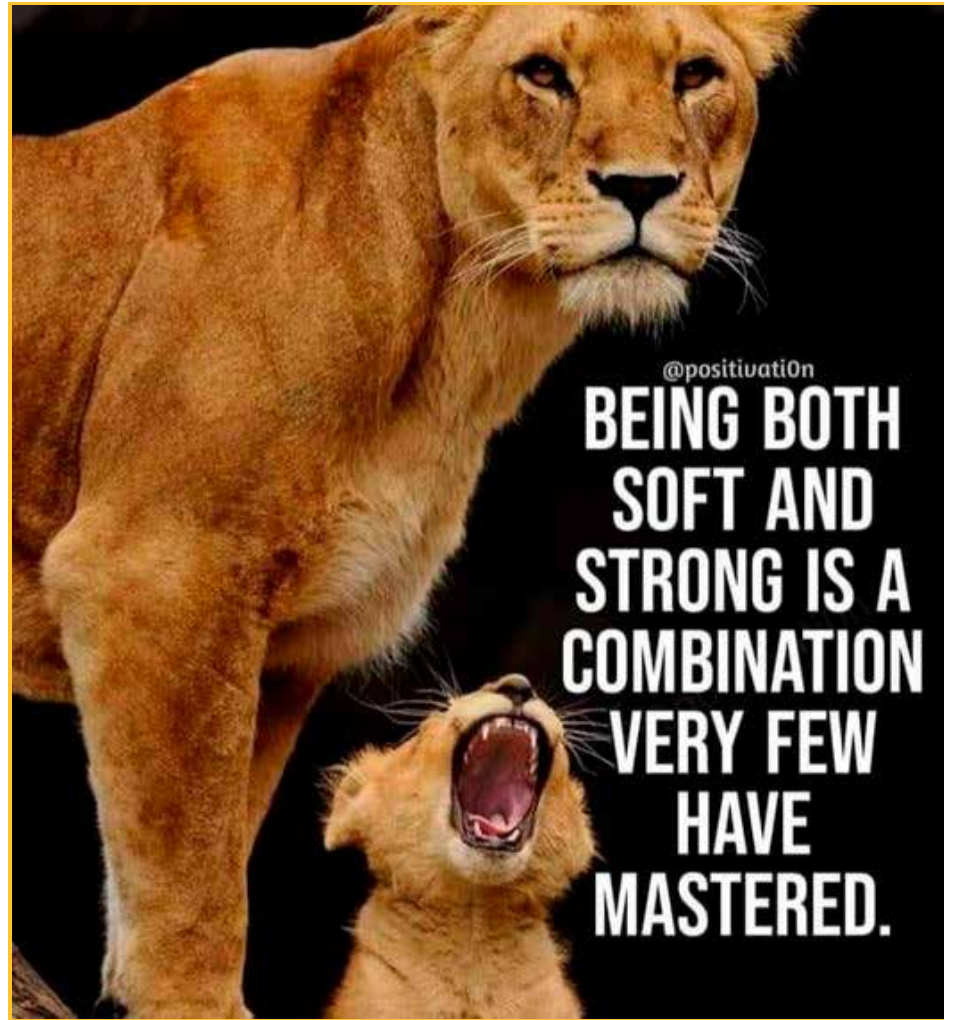
CONCERTS

Pat Metheny, Lyric Theatre, 3/17

NEW ORLEANS

CONCERTS

Burna Boy, Smoothie King Center, 3/14
Scarface, Joy Theater, 3/15
Pat Metheny, Orpheum Theater, 3/16



Celebrations of Life...



Gina Brown (1965 - 2024)

Gina attended C.F. Vigor High School in Prichard where her love for music began. She was an announcer on WBLX and sang jingles and Commercials for the station. She moved to New Orleans and sang in night clubs, bars, festivals, weddings, and anywhere she and her band, Anutha Level, could perform over the past 14 years. Some of her major performances were at the Essence Festival, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the French Quarter Festival, and the Creole Tomato Festival. She was the face and voice of the Louisiana Lottery commercials. She hosted "G's Corner" on WHIV Radio and performed with Patti Austin, Gerald Levert, and Fantasia. She performed in Japan, Indonesia, Abu Dhabi, Brazil, and many other places. "New Orleans' Own Soul Diva" will be missed.♣

James Manson "Baba" Washington Jr 1961-2023

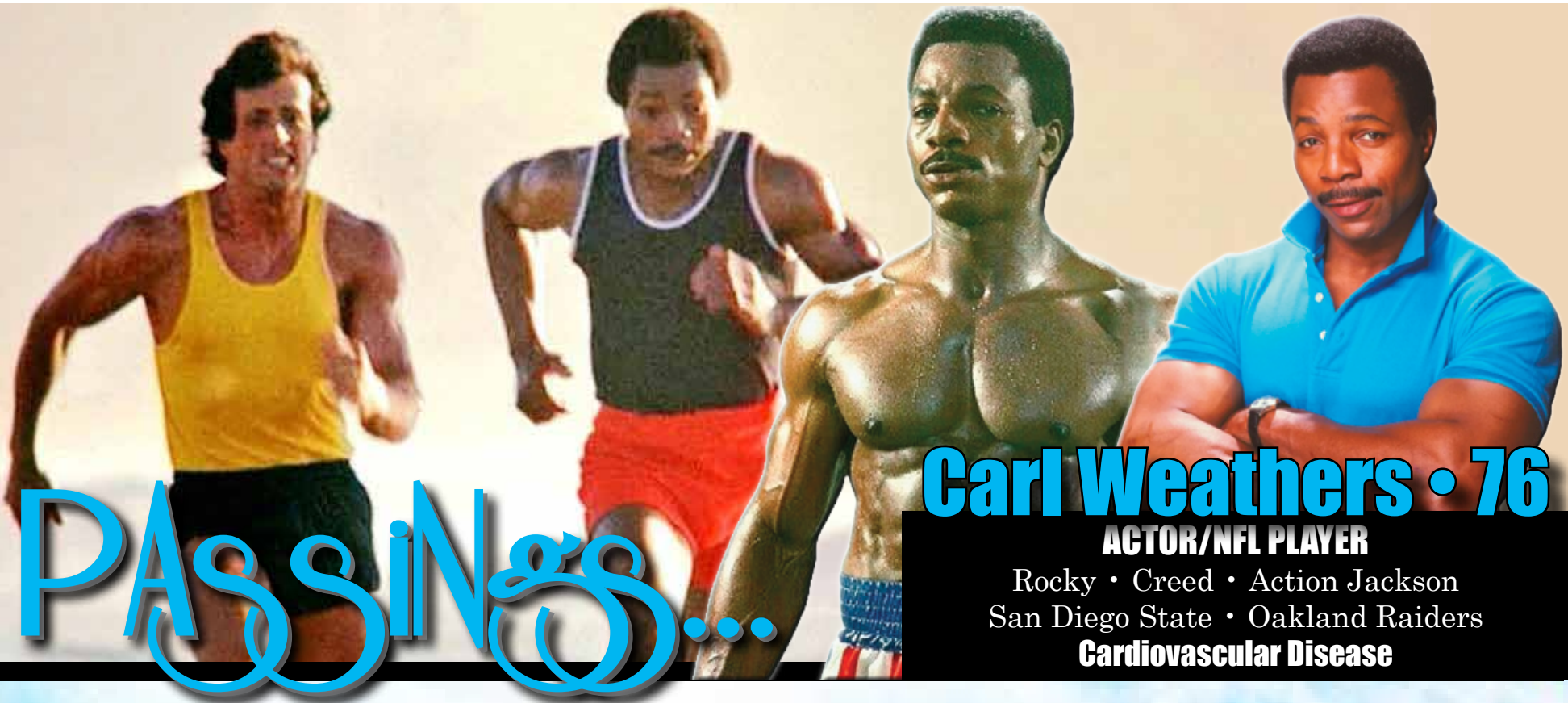
BaBa as he was known by his friends and co-workers was a good, kind-hearted man. He worked at the Mobile Civic Center and the Mobile Convention Center and could be seen early mornings and late nights riding his bicycle to work no matter the weather. He was consistently at work, on time, and performing his duties at those facilities, always with a smile. He will be missed by many.♣



Shirley Ephraim-Witherspoon 1945-2023

A graduate of Mattie T. Blount High School, she earned her Masters Degree in Government Administration and Sociology from the University of South Alabama (USA). She began her career at Scott's Paper Company before moving to the Prichard Chamber of Commerce as Chairwoman. She returned to USA as a Special Cooperative and Placement Officer. She moved on to Bishop State as Associate Director of Professional Development. She completed her career path with the City of Mobile's Parks and Recreation Department as a Community Activities Coordinator until her retirement in 2016. She was a member of St. James Major Catholic Church and the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court 172 and the Drexel Society.♣





PASSINGS...

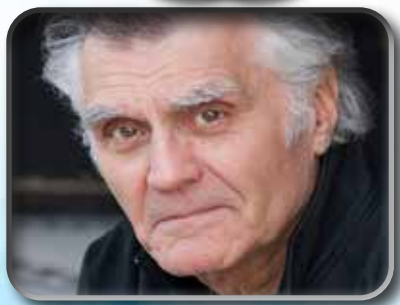
Carl Weathers • 76

ACTOR/NFL PLAYER

Rocky • Creed • Action Jackson
 San Diego State • Oakland Raiders
Cardiovascular Disease



RICHARD CASTOR • 75
 NFL PLAYER
 Jets • Oilers • Redskins
 Moss Point Ms. Native
Parkinson's Disease



PAUL D'ARMATO • 75
 ACTOR
 Slap Shot • The Deer Hunter
Progressive Supranuclear Palsy



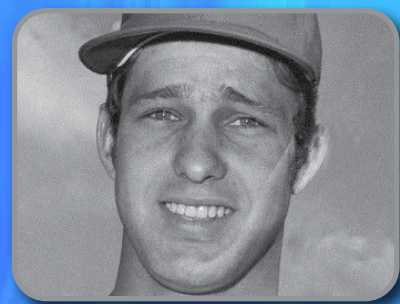
ETTERLENE DEBARGE • 88
 GOSPEL SINGER
 DeBarge



LEFTY DRIESELL • 92
 COLLEGE BASKETBALL COACH
 Davidson College
 University of Maryland
 James Madison University



HENRY FAMBROUGH • 86
 R&B SINGER
 The Spinners



DON GULLETT • 73
 MLB PLAYER
 Reds • Yankees
Stroke



TOBY KEITH • 62
 COUNTRY SINGER
 Red Solo Cup
Stomach Cancer



RICHARD LEWIS • 75
 COMEDIAN/ACTOR
 Curb Your Enthusiasm
Heart Attack



ERIC MAYS • 65
 CITY COUNCILMAN
 Flint, Michigan



DON MURRAY • 94
 ACTOR
 Bus Stop • The Plainsman



WILLIAM POST • 96
 INVENTOR
 Pop-Tarts



GOLDEN RICHARDS • 73
 NFL PLAYER
 Cowboys • Bears • Broncos
Congestive Heart Failure

City of Mobile Streamlines Event Applications Launches 'ALL-IN-ONE' Website

The City of Mobile has overhauled its Event Services Application process to simplify organizing events hosted at city facilities or that require public services.

Earlier today, the city officially launched a new website, www.cityofmobile.org/eventservices, as an ALL-IN-ONE center for individuals and organizations planning events that require an Event Services Application. Among other examples, these types of events can include large gatherings on City of Mobile property or events that use city services like police, sanitation, or traffic engineering.

The Event Services Application process is necessary to make sure that city facilities are prepared to host your guests and that activities in our shared spaces are safe, organized, and thoughtfully planned. In the past, organizers had to navigate multiple City of Mobile departments to get the information, approvals, and services needed for their activities. Over the last few months, our Event Services Department and Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) have collaborated with nearly a dozen city departments to streamline the process for submitting an Event Services Application.

"Mobilians are born to celebrate, and the best celebrations bring members of our community together. That's why we appreciate all the countless individuals and organizations that host great events for our citizens and visitors to enjoy," Mayor Sandy Stimpson said. "Our staff has done an incredible job of simplifying the process of organizing events with our various departments. We've already received positive feedback from longtime users who helped us test these new tools and processes."

As part of the new process, a comprehensive Event Services Guide and an online Event Planning and Application Tool are now available at cityofmobile.org/eventservices. No matter what activity organizers are planning to host, these tools will outline the process they need to follow and provide all the necessary information about city services, requirements and associated fees.

For additional information, contact the City of Mobile's Event Services Department at (251) 208-1552 or at eventservices@cityofmobile.org

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Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

Speaker Series

April 2: "Archaeology & Oral History of Down The Bay" by Philip Carr, Ph.D., Rachel Hines, & Ryan Morini, Ph.D., USA Center for Archaeological Studies and McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library at 3:30 p.m.

April 3: "Where is the parity: Exploring the gap between health disparities and health equities" by Franklin Trimm, M.D. & Tiquera Hall, USA Whiddon College of Medicine at 3:30 p.m.

April 9: "Documenting the Historic Africatown Cemetery" by Alexandra Jones, Ph.D., Archaeology in the Community at 6 p.m.

April 10: "Memory of the Civil Rights Movement in Mobile" by David Messenger, Ph.D., USA Department of History at 3:30 p.m.

April 30: "Black History Under Ground" by Tracy Neely, Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance at 3:30 p.m.



USA Archaeology Museum | 6050 USA South Drive | (251) 460-6106

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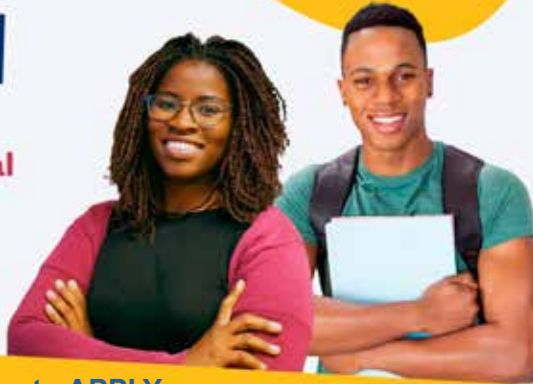
Deadline to Apply:
May 3, 2024

Do you have a passionate interest in environmental justice and climate change advocacy?

Internship Opportunity

We are now accepting applications for the **HBCU Environmental Justice & Climate Corps Internship.**

Funded by: WAVERLEY FOUNDATION



Click to [LEARN MORE](#) and/or to [APPLY](#)



Leadership Mobile

A Mobile United Program

Now accepting nominations for the Class of 2025



We are looking for the best and brightest leaders to apply for the Leadership Mobile Class of 2025.

If you - or someone you know - are interested in becoming a steward of our community through service to others, we invite you to submit a nomination.

Please see the application schedule and nomination link below which spells out more details of the program.

Application schedule:

Nominations open through:

Friday, May 3rd, 2024

Applications open:

May 13th - May 31st, 2024

Interviews held:

June 2024

Notifications sent:

July 2024

Class begins:

September 2024



EMPLOYMENT

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

REQUIREMENTS

Valid Driver's License, Transportation
Some Construction Experience, Ability to Work Some Weekend Days

PAY SCALE

\$12-15 per hour depending on skill set. Will be able to work up.

EXAMPLES OF WORK INCLUDE

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Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

Free Admission

**On Exhibit Now
Until April 2024**

Meet the Lewis, Owens, and Griffin families from Africatown, Down the Bay, and Davis Avenue in Mobile, Alabama.

In the mid-20th century, development transformed their neighborhoods, erasing homes, schools, and shops from the landscape. Though their houses are no longer standing, we can learn their stories through **Archaeology & Oral History.**

USA Archaeology Museum

6050 USA South Drive (251) 460-6106

southalabama.edu/org/archaeology/museum

