



Vol XXVIII 13

JULY 16-31, 2022

THE 411

JULY 16, 2022

“Cedric the Entertainer and Friends in Concert” 8:00PM Dort Federal Event Center 3501 Lapeer Rd, Flint, MI 48503 For more information call 810-744-0580

JULY 22, 2022

“Evening of Smooth Jazz, Featuring Urban Coalition” 7:30PM Holt High School 5885 Holt Rd for Tickets and additional information go to: BMRWpromotions.com

JULY 26, 2022

“Lansing Symphony Orchestra 2022 Summer Series-Concerts On The Lawn” Brass Quintet 6:30 MSUFCU Headquarters For more information call 517-487-5001

AUGUST 18-21, 2022

“Tuesday with Morrie” 7:30 Pasant Theatre For information call 1-800-WHARTON

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TRAVERSE CITY CHERRY FESTIVAL WELCOMES NELLY

Bethune, civil rights pioneer, advised presidents on ‘the problems of my people’



By DeNeen L. Brown
Mary McLeod Bethune, left, with Eleanor Roosevelt and Aubrey Williams, executive director of the National Youth Administration, at the opening session of the National Conference on Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth in Washington in 1937. (Bettmann/Bettmann Archive)

Mary McLeod Bethune walked into the White House, carrying an urgent message about the plight of Black Americans. The year was 1943, and the country was roiling with racism, segregation, Jim Crow laws and terror lynchings. Bethune, the only woman in Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “Black Cabinet,” a council of African American presidential advisers, had demanded a meeting with the president.

Bethune was widely considered a shrewd political organizer and an architect of the early civil rights movement. She was a Black woman with power, with access to the White House, when few Black people were

allowed in.

She was often greeted on her White House visits by her friend, first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, who would embrace Bethune warmly at the White House gate. The two women would walk arm in arm down the circular drive, into the White House, past the hostile stares of White Southerners, many of whom made up the White House staff. Inside, Bethune would talk privately with the president about “the problems of my people.”

“I discussed with him the problems of my people in many an off-the-record private talk held in the President’s study in the White House,” Bethune wrote in an article titled “My Secret Talks With FDR,” which was published in 1949 in *Ebony* magazine. “I often expressed to him my impatience with the slowness of the democratic process.” Before Ketanji Brown Jackson, Barbara Jordan was almost the first Black woman on the Supreme Court. She recalled visiting Roosevelt one evening in 1943. “I was feeling particularly distressed that day over reports I had received on flagrant bias shown against Negroes seeking to enter the National Youth Administration in certain parts of the South,” Bethune wrote. “I called him direct that afternoon, and must have sounded awfully agitated.”

Roosevelt invited her for dinner that evening. Bethune was escorted by an attendant to the president’s private elevator, she wrote

in *Ebony*.

The president was waiting for her upstairs in his private study. Bethune found Roosevelt sitting in a chair near the door, holding “his famous cigarette holder,” she recalled. He waved to welcome Bethune, whose parents had been enslaved. She had become a famed educator, the founder of a college and one of the most politically influential figures in history.

“What can I do for you?” Bethune recalled Roosevelt asking.

She told the president about the persistent racism in the country and the lack of training facilities for “Negroes in certain Southern states and the refusal of state governments to allocate funds” for the National Youth Administration to help Black youth.

Ida B. Wells gets her due as a Black suffragist who rejected movement’s racism

“I was visibly disturbed and made the President aware of how I felt,” Bethune wrote.

“I caught his arm and clung to him. ‘The Negro people need all of the strength that you can give, Mr. President, in opening up opportunities for them.’”

Roosevelt, she recalled, “looked at me seriously for a few seconds, and then said, ‘Mrs. Bethune. I shall not fail you.’”

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Retired Adm. Cecil D. Haney walks past a statue of Mary McLeod Bethune in Lincoln Park on Capitol Hill in July 2020. Haney grew up in Southeast D.C. in the 1950s

(Continued on page 3)

Jackson sworn in, becomes 1st Black woman on Supreme Court



FILE — Supreme Court nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson smiles as Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., arrives for a meeting in his office on Capitol Hill in Washington, March 31, 2022. The first Black woman confirmed for the Supreme Court, Jackson, is officially becoming a justice. Jackson will be sworn as the court’s 116th justice at midday Thursday, June 30, just as the man she is replacing, Justice Stephen Breyer, retires.

By MARK SHERMAN | The Associated Press PUBLISHED: June 30, 2022 at 2:11 p.m. | UPDATED: June 30, 2022 at 2:16 p.m.

WASHINGTON — Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in to the Supreme Court on Thursday, shattering a glass ceiling as the first Black woman on the nation’s highest court.

The 51-year-old Jackson is the court’s 116th justice, and she took the place of the justice she once worked for. Justice Stephen Breyer’s retirement was effective at noon.

Moments later, joined by her family, Jackson recited the two oaths required of Supreme Court justices, one administered by Breyer and the other by Chief Justice John Roberts.

“With a full heart, I accept the solemn responsibility of supporting and defending the Constitution of the United States and administering justice without fear or favor, so help me God,” Jackson said in a statement issued by the court. “I am truly grateful to be part of the promise of our great Nation. I extend my sincerest thanks to all of my new colleagues for their warm and gracious welcome.”

Roberts welcomed Jackson “to the court and our

common calling.” The ceremony was streamed live on the court’s website.

Jackson, a federal judge since 2013, is joining three other women — Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Amy Coney Barrett. It’s the first time four women will serve together on the nine-member court.

Biden nominated Jackson in February, a month after Breyer, 83, announced he would retire at the end of the court’s term, assuming his successor had been confirmed. Breyer’s earlier-than-usual announcement and the condition he attached was a recognition of the Democrats’ tenuous hold on the Senate in an era of hyper-partisanship, especially surrounding federal judgeships.

The Senate confirmed Jackson’s nomination in early April, by a 53-47 mostly party-line vote that included support from three Republicans.

Jackson had been in a sort of judicial limbo since, remaining a judge on the federal appeals court in Washington, D.C., but not hearing any cases. Biden elevated her to that court from the district judgeship to which she was appointed by President Barack Obama.

Glynda Carr, president of Higher Heights for America, an organization that advocates for the growth of Black women’s political power, said the timing of Jackson’s swearing-in was bittersweet.

“Although we celebrate her today, one Black woman or a cohort of Black women can’t save this democracy alone. We are a piece of it and we are doing our work, our part. She’s going to forever reshape and shape that court. But she’s just a piece of the work that needs to happen moving forward,” Carr said.

Because of Jackson’s appointment, Judith Browne Dianis, a Black lawyer in Washington, said she intends to end her protest against joining the Supreme Court Bar. She started it when Justice Clarence Thomas was confirmed in 1991. She said that even the series of conservative rulings from the court over the past week cannot take away from the significance of Thursday’s ceremony.

“This is a momentous occasion and it’s still a beautiful moment,” said Dianis, executive director of

the civil rights group Advancement Project.

But, Dianis added, “she’s joining the court at a time when conservatives are holding the line and trying to actually take us back, because they see the progress that’s being made in our country. It’s like the Civil War that never ended. That’s the court that she’s joining.”

Jackson will be able to begin work immediately, but the court will have just finished the bulk of its work until the fall, apart from emergency appeals that occasionally arise. That will give her time to settle in and familiarize herself with the roughly two dozen cases the court already has agreed to hear starting in October as well as hundreds of appeals that will pile up over the summer.

She helps form the most diverse court in its 232-year history and is the first former public defender to be a justice. The court that Jackson is joining is the most conservative than it has been since the 1930s. She is likely to be on the losing end of important cases, which could include examinations of the role of race in college admissions, congressional redistricting and voting rights that the court, with its 6-3 conservative majority, will take up next term.

Today’s court now is surrounded by securing fencing, and justices and their families have 24-hour protection by the U.S. Marshals, the result of a law passed days after a man carrying a gun, knife and zip ties was arrested near Justice Brett Kavanaugh’s Maryland house after threatening to kill the justice. The bill was introduced in May shortly after the leak of a draft court opinion that would overrule *Roe v. Wade* and sharply curtail abortion rights in roughly half the states.

The court issued final opinions earlier Thursday after a momentous and rancorous term that included overturning *Roe v. Wade*’s guarantee of the right to an abortion. One of Thursday’s decisions limited how the Environmental Protection Agency can use the nation’s main anti-air pollution law to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, a blow to the fight against climate change.

Associated Press writer Aaron Morrison in New York contributed to this report.

Lansing Community College congratulates Trustee Angela Mathews and Benita Duncan on their recent elections at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress

Trustee Mathews was elected Vice-Chair of the African American Community College Trustees Association (AACCTA). The AACCTA is a constituency group of the ACCT and serves as an organization committed to assessing the cumulative effects of higher education policy on African American students, faculty and staff.

Ms. Duncan was elected as President of The Professional Board Staff Network (PBSN). She becomes the first African American to ascend to the position of President for the Executive Committee of the ACCT PBSN. The PBSN is a national level resource for those who support governing boards or presidents of community colleges.



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Trustee Angela Mathews
Vice-Chair LCC Board of Trustees



Benita Duncan
Executive Assistant and Liaison to LCC Board of Trustees

POETREE N MOTION



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I am infused with a heated, infuriating and bitter rage: A rage, bone marrow deep... Enraged...Outraged So, Here I go again... here I go venting again! Venting still, about the Hypocrisy of white Christianity:

Venting about the silence, the fraudulent theories, The demeaning,, the killings, the contempt The lack of opposition to evil deeds... The basis of what Christianity meant, Theirs is a visible contradiction to the teachings of Jesus

I ask you, what is it we can ever do that frees us?

VENTING now...For I can neither forgive nor forget...

Why I must vent....

So, I speak truth of these deeds, so you neither forget... The bodies lying on a southern street, Shot by those in blue, wearing a bulletproof vest An accomplice still...to the system to oppress

Living in it...surviving with this blazing rage Only proves little sanity can be found on this chaotic stage So, our nightmares continue, and we're not even sleep We are no longer hanging from the poplar tree,

But lying and dying on any street Bleeding out at the racist feet or Lying face down with a knee pressing Obstructing our air...killing us in 8 minutes 46 seconds The obvious racist is wearing a badge to kill... Simply killing a Black man...killing me at will

VENTING...I am saturated with this fiery rage... Enraged. Outraged! Each flicker of my systemic rage increases over time It imbues my thoughts, my heart, my head, my mind The level of this rage... a decibel below hatred... In itself has a destructive affect without, within, with time

I ache with a frantic militant rage An outrage that finds insight and release in my expressions As it also in-sites devastating impressions

I ache with an unrelenting rage For I dare to think that we, As black people still must pay This high cost of being black In this Alt Right and supremacist day I ache with a blistering Ancestral rage...

For the ties and knowledge of Who I am were intentionally Extinguished by these folk who wish To be my superior, leaving me credentialless So my legacy lashes out at the initiator...the culprits I ache with an unquenchable burning rage... For every single black soul to escape and be raised

Above the hatred, condemnation and assault... Thousands others suffer an ill fated life within this High walled Prison called "Land of the free and the home of the brave"

Ahhh! Venting...venting...venting helps my mind to Clip the dead lynching branches and the dangling rope Venting enables me to Soar beyond Scents of over-ripened strange fruit...dangling without hope

With racist philosophies widespread Deeply and painstakingly entrenched Systemically castrating Black manhood...even now lynched With the robe and gavel, the cruel Penal lynching Continuing...for one third of our young black men Can bare witness...quite convincingly

My unquenchable blazing inferno must Somehow engulf our denied equal justice... This insatiable rage must in someway erase the dashed hopes Yet perpetrated today with robes and gavel... Yesterday dashed with robes and ropes

I must stand against these injustices with all my might With strength... I must stand and fight! When this systemic bigotry is forcibly choked Strangled long enough, so it croaks and dies

SOUL II SOUL CONSCIOUSNESS: SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO FIGHT FOR GRATITUDE 07052022



Pastor/Chaplain Pamelajune (Pj) Anderson, DMin.
Soul II Soul Spiritual Fitness Couch
Lt. Commander (RET) US Navy Chaplain Corps
Certified Peer Support Specialist



BE STILL AND YOUR SOUL WILL SPEAK

"16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:15-17 New International Version



Eternal God and Faithful Friend, You amaze me with Your grace, mercy, and love for me and all of humanity. The more you do for, with, and through me, the more I fight to BE grateful. It doesn't come naturally anymore. Maybe it never did. Like so much of God's goodness, care, provision, and protection, it is easy to take God for granted.

Forgive me, Lord. I won't mention all that the world is going through, and I pray we all get through to one another

that it is not about the world, it is about Jesus. You love us so much that Your generosity should draw us into a shout of dance and praise with gratitude.

Colossians 3:15-17 shows us three ways to BE grateful. Number 1. Teach and guide one another with **all** wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. I would add, that a Proverb a day helps keep evil away. I do believe it is an act of evil to be ungrateful. It is certainly an act of disobedience. 2. Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts. When I am consciously ungrateful I notice that a song in my soul is missing. I usually wake up singing or humming a good, ol' fashion church hymn. No song in my soul means I'm temporarily outside of the universal Source of gratitude. When I am ungrateful, I complain. So, I could go back to sleep determined to awake with a melody in my soul. 3. Do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. We would do well not to do, say, and BE without gratitude.

When we show gratitude, remembering that it is all about Jesus, He grants us more peace that passes understanding, more joy of heart that is greater and more durable than happiness, and more Jesus. He gives us the power and the desire to live in appreciation.



Celebration Announcements
by
The Ambassador of Celebration

Birthdays in JULY

Mr. Willie Horrice is celebrating his 8th birthday on July 3rd. He is a loveable child who like to play, loving Life and people. "Willie, You have brought me so much Joy ; Mommy loves You : keep on being You!!!"
Mrs. Deborah D. Chetester celebrates her birth on July 5.
Ms. Jackie Wilkerson enjoyed her birthday on July 5th.
Ms. Allique DeMyers celebrated her birthday on July 7th.
Mr. Chad Foster enjoys his 53rd birthday on July 7th.
Ms. Latesha Clemons,celebrating her 47th birthday on July 8th.
Ms. Nicole Borrego celebrated her 43nd birthday on July 8th.
Mr. Anhrion Frazier enjoyed his 73rd birthday on July 9th.
Mr. Marcus Jefferson celebrated his birthday on July 10th.
Miss. Savannah Flowers, born July 11th, celebrates her 10th birthday with her Mom, Dad, family and friends.
Ms. Renee Freeman enjoyed her birthday on July 11th.
Mr. Charles Moore enjoyed his birthday on July 12th.
Ms. Danie Jackson celebrated her birthday July 12th.
Ms. Alexis Evans celebrated her 35th birthday on July 12th, with Tori, Chris, Momma D, Stacey and our loving DJ Becky. Live life to the fullest and sing your heart out; love you all!!!
Ms. Sharika J. Smith celebrates her 38th birthday July 13th. She says "Happy Birthday to Me!"
Mr. Alixandru Garza celebrates his 17th birthday on July 13th."Happy Birthday, to my baby from your Mommy; I love forever!"
Mr. Fred Ortiz celebrated his 65th birthday on July 13th.
Ms. Bethany (Big Dinner) Davis will celebrate her birthday on July 13th, with family and friends.
Miss Alexianna - Jaesse Murray celebrates her 11th birthday on the 14th of July.
Mr. Alexander Murray will celebrate his birthday July 14th.
Ms. Marie Moody: enjoying her 41st birthday on July 14th.
Mr. Keith DeMyers celebrates his birth on July 15th.
Mr. Steven Dickens celebrates his birthday on July 16th.
Ms. Elena C. Barren celebrates her birthday on July 16th.
Ms. Regina E. Riddle enjoys her birthday on July 16th.
Ms. Teleah Payne celebrates her birthday on July 17th, with family and friends.
Ms. Linda Ortiz celebrates her 61st birthday on July 17th.
Ms. Annie Mae celebrates her 49th birthday on July 17th. She says, "Live, laugh, love; for living is life, laughing makes life longer and love makes life stronger!!!"
Ms. Beckie Knapp enjoys her 31st birthday on July 18th.
Mr. Jacob Payne celebrates his birthday on July 18th.
Mrs. April Branson celebrates her birthday on July 19th, with her husband Kirk and family.
Ms. Miranda Ebright celebrates her birthday on July 19th.
Ms. Nita Byrd enjoys her 47th birthday on July 20th.
Ms. Marinell Y. White celebrates her birthday on July 20th.
Mr. Raynard O. Jones celebrates his birthday on July 20th.
Mr. Nathaniel Porter celebrates his 18th birthday on July 20th, with family and friends. Boys grow up so fast. "Mommy (Kelly) loves you so much! Hugs & kisses to Nate."
Judge Clinton Canady III (Joe), born on July 20th, enjoys his 73nd birthday with family and friends.
Ms. Jennifer Cogswell celebrates her 36th birthday on July 21st, with Jeremy (Smiley) Hill who's love and friendship will always be treasured. "I LOVE YOU!!!"
Ms. Kris Phillips enjoys her 25 plus birthday on July 21st, with all her friends.
Ms. Olivia Sheppard enjoys her birthday on July 21st. "Happy Birthday to Me!!!"
Ms. Jodi Davis celebrates her 35th birthday on July 21st.
Miss. Natalia Milan McWright, born to Erica and Ellsworth Carter McWright, celebrates her 10th birthday on July 22nd.
Ms. Charlisse Hicks celebrates her 40th birthday on July 22nd, with family and friends.
Dr. M. Joan Cousin celebrates her birthday on July 22nd.
Ms. Natalie Riddle-Bashford celebrates her birth on July 22nd.
Ms. Monta Nichols celebrates her birthday on July 22nd.
Ms. Cynthia Yarrell celebrates her birthday on July 22nd.
Ms. Saundra Dixon celebrates her day of birth on July 22nd.
Ms. Andrea Quintero, born July 24th, celebrates her 37th birthday, with family and friends.
Mrs. Emma J. Jackson celebrates her birthday on July 24th.
Mr. Jerrell Richards celebrates his 35th birthday on July 25th .
Ms. Dede Annis celebrates her birthday on July 25th, with family and friends.
Mr. Robert Lopez celebrates his birthday on July 25th with family and friends.
Ms. Krystal Dixon celebrates her birthday on July 25th.
Mr. Alfred E. Huguely celebrates his birthday on July 26th. GOD BE PRAISED!!!
Ms. Pamela Martin celebrates her 42nd birthday on July 27th, with family and friends.
Ms. Stephanie J. Parker, E-5, Petty Officer 2nd Class; U.S. Navy celebrates her 57th birthday on July 26th. "We're proud of you!"
Ms. Grace Majors celebrates her birthday on July 27th.
Ms. Rhonda Couthen celebrates her birthday on July 27th.
Ms. Helen Love enjoys her birthday on July 27th.
Mr. Kol Cee Biggs celebrates his 53rd birthday on July 27th, with family and friends.
Ms. Mattie Bradley celebrates her birthday on July 28th.
Ms. Storm and Ms. Stormy Armstrong celebrate their birthday on July 28th.
Ms. Yvonne Ragland celebrates her birthday on July 30th.
Mr. Elijah Bermudez celebrates his 15th birthday on July 31st, with family and friends.
Ms. Roszene DeMyers celebrates her birthday on July 31st, with family and friends.

***Anniversaries**

Rev. Nathan and Lady Rolanda Dixon celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary on June Mr. & Mrs. Randy and Stacy Ebright celebrated their wedding anniversary on July 11th. "Sixteen wonderful years together"! Mr. Party matchmaking.
Mr. Kris Graham and Mrs. Gerri Graham celebrated 23 beautiful years together...

***Announcements**

- **Facebook Page:** www.facebook.com/mrparty1985
- **Celebration Gram - A Class Act:** Have your special message delivered by Mr. Party for that special someone or special occasion!
- Call: 517-391-4849 or Email: mrparty1985@gmail.com
Please send the information about you, your family or friends celebrating the Events of Life: Celebration Announcements
- Please let us know if you have anyone to celebrate!

Early Voting and Voter Registration Hours are Extended by Lansing City Clerk's Office on Wednesdays and the Weekend Prior to Primary Election Day

Lansing - The South Washington Election Unit is open to Lansing City voters for early voting and voter registration for the August 2nd Primary Election. The winners of this election will move forward on the ballot for the general election. Additionally, seven proposals are on the ballot for at least part of the City.

The most common error that occurs in these partisan primaries is when voters select candidates from both the Democratic and Republic primaries. "Voters need to stay in their lane," said City Clerk Chris Swope, "if they cross party lines in this partisan primary only, those votes will not tally per Michigan Law. For the General Election in the fall, you have the option to select candidates of any or no political party."

To make it easier for voters to vote early via the absentee ballot process, there are extended hours at the Election Unit. Located at 2500 S. Washington.

MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE

- ✓ **Vote at Home**
• For quickest delivery, request your ballot online at www.michigan.gov/vote
- ✓ **Vote Early or**
• Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S Washington Ave, Open Extended Hours, Free Parking
• City Hall, 124 W Michigan Ave, Open 8 am - 5 pm Monday - Friday
- ✓ **Vote Aug 2nd**

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Mary McLeod Bethune and USO Junior Hostesses at the Young Women's Christian Association in Washington in 1944. (Afro Newspaper/Gadol/Getty Images)



(Continued from bottom of page 1) and '60s and went on to become the second African American four-star admiral in U.S. history. (Michael S. Williamson/The Washington Post) A statue in the Capitol A statue of Bethune, representing the state of Florida, will soon be installed in the National Statuary Hall collection at the U.S. Capitol Building. Bethune will be the first Black American to represent any state in the collection, according to a statement by Rep. Kathy Castor (D-Fla.). Each state has two statues in the hall, and Bethune's will replace one of a Confederate general that had represented Florida there since 1922 before being removed in September. (A statue of Rosa Parks in the hall was commissioned by Congress and does not represent a particular state.) Bethune's statue was carved from a large piece of marble quarried in the Italian Alps. "The statue is more than a commemoration," said Jill Watts, a professor of history at California State University-San Marcos and author of "The Black Cabinet: The Untold Story of African Americans and Politics During the Age of Roosevelt." America's 50,000 monuments: More mermaids than congresswomen, more Confederates than abolitionists Watts, who spoke at a U.S. Capitol Historical Society panel discussion in January, said Bethune's statue represents her activism

and is "an extension of her political presence that she established in this 'Black Cabinet' period." Watts said that Bethune was "critical to the Black Cabinet," a self-organized advisory group to FDR. The statue, created by sculptor Nilda Comas, weighs 6,129 pounds and stands 11 feet tall, according to the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Statuary Project, which raised money for the statue. According to the sculptor, the Bethune statue is carved from the finest marble in the world. Inscribed on its pedestal are Bethune's name and a quote for which she is famous: "Invest in the human soul. Who knows, it may be a diamond in the rough." The statue depicts Bethune in a cap and gown to honor her role as an educator and one of the first Black women to found a university. In 1904, with \$1.50 and five students, including her son Albert, she opened the Daytona Literary and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls. The training school would merge with Cookman Institute of Jacksonville, Fla., in 1923, to become the Daytona-Cookman Collegiate Institute, which in 1931 was renamed Bethune-Cookman College. In 2007, it became Bethune-Cookman University after adding a graduate program.

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