



Vol XXVIII No. 9

JUNE 1-15, 2022

JUNETEENTH SPECIAL EDITION

THE 411

June 7-12, 2022

“Ain’t To Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations” Great Cobb Hall For Ticket information Call 1-800-WHARTON

JUNE 16, 2022

“Wharton’s Center 40th Anniversary Celebration” 7:30 Cobb Great Hall Performance by Jessica Vosk For information call 1-800-WHARTON

JUNE 22, 2022

“Concert in the Park” Live Music, Mikeyy Austin Band 7-9:00PM Veterans and their families Meet and Greet at Foster Farm tent 6:30. 1005 Princeton Ave Lansing, MI

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: BMRW-promotions.com

WHAT’S INSIDE

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Actor, Director and Playwright Javon Jackson holds free Workshop at Flint’s McCree Theater. Below the the picture: On Saturday May 21, 2022, Javon Jackson, pictured above Lt with the Michigan Bulletin Publisher, Marcus Jefferson Rt, held a free workshop about the ends and outs of the Acting, Directing and Writing in the Movie and Play Business; afterwards he attended a play called “Sanctified” which he Authored.



Left to right: Robert Sims, Sr., Dione Sims, Mayor Andy Schor, Opal Lee (seated), Shinita Reddick, and Dr. Belay Reddick photo: by Marcus Jefferson

Grandmother Of Juneteenth; And Former Prisoner Promotes Second Chance Hiring In Lansing

Opal Lee was 89 when she began a 1,400-mile walk from her home in Fort Worth, Texas, to Washington, D.C., trying to make Juneteenth a national holiday. She didn’t cover the whole distance, but she did gain attention for the cause, while becoming known as “the grandmother of Juneteenth.” And she was in Washington when President Biden signed broad bipartisan legislation this year to make Juneteenth a federal holiday. June 19 is now the national day to mark the end of slavery in the country. As the New York Times wrote: “The president called her ‘a grandmother of the movement to make Juneteenth a federal holiday’

and got down on one knee to greet her in the audience.” Lee laughed, telling of that day. “I was so elated. Humbled. I wanted to do a holy dance. I’ve done a holy dance, and the kids said I was twerking. I’m just so happy.” Lee, who’s now 95, came to Lansing to speak at the Peckham Speakers Series on Social Justice. Her trip to the city, which wrapped up Saturday, was also meant to promote another cause for which she advocates: the need to help successfully reintroduce into society those who’ve served time in prison. She’s started a food bank and farm in Texas for ex-convicts. A retired teacher and counselor,

Lee has been nominated to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She said she believes there’s a reason she’s lived so long. “My mom was 94 when she passed away. I really believe there’s a God who looks out for us through all the thicks and thins that we go through,” she said. “To have him bring me this far — I just don’t know how to express it. I really don’t. But I’m grateful.” Juneteenth has been widely celebrated for years, but becoming a national holiday will only make it more meaningful, she said. “I just want to jump for joy. I really do. Just to know that others agree, just to know that the whole country will

be aware when it hits the calendar, that other people will start celebrating,” Lee said. “It’s mind-boggling. It really is.” She was interviewed Thursday at Mask Memorial CME Church during a private dinner celebration. Traveling with her was Dr. Belay Reddick, a social justice activist and licensed minister who served 16 years in federal prisons after being convicted of making and passing fake checks. He’s manager of their tour, which is called the Change is Possible Tour. Reddick was released early a year ago, after seeking a compassionate release because of pre-existing health conditions

and the risk of COVID-19 in prisons. He said he had no bitterness about spending so much of his life in prison. “Prison saved me,” he said. After some despairing days early on, he decided, he said, to turn his life around, reading and writing books, mentoring fellow prisoners and getting post-graduate degrees. He even got and kept a daily planner to make the best use of his time. “Prison didn’t seem like prison to me anymore,” he said. “It seemed like a university, a community.” For Lee and Reddick, Lansing is the fifth stop on a multi-city tour. Reddick, who’s

53, said he grew up in a good family, but fell in with a bad crowd and grew “addicted” to the money he made in crime. “I got into a life of white-collar crime,” he said. “When I went to prison, I started using my ink pen for something other than checks.” He now writes on hiring ex-prisoners, and works for FedEx holding job fairs and promoting that cause. “I travel around the country telling my story, about going from ex-fred to FedEx,” he said. Reddick said all his efforts to rehabilitate himself in federal prison were for one purpose: “I did these things for all the ones I let down.”



# Hamtramck Parks Conservancy Selects First Executive Director



**Dichondra R. Johnson**

HAMTRAMCK, MI.- May 7, 2022 - The Hamtramck Parks Conservancy (HPC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dichondra R. Johnson, MBA, MPA, CBSP, as its first Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, effective April 2022. Ms. Johnson is a highly respected industry leader who brings more than 25-years of experience in the arts, business, education, non-profit organizational management and government. She has diverse expertise in program development and creating mission-driven partnership collaborations. With a love of the outdoors and public spaces, Ms. Johnson is thrilled to serve the residents of Hamtramck, Michigan and metropolitan Detroit in her new leadership role.

Johnson comes to HPC as the founder and CEO at DRJ & Associates, LLC, which provides project-based business services that support growing organizations in acquiring business resources while also cultivating diverse talent. Johnson's awarded achievements include serving in progressive roles in local, state, and federal government. Johnson spearheaded state-wide,

strategic veteran's higher education programs as Michigan's first veteran's education strategist and start-up member of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) in 2013, and is the architect of the Michigan Veteran Friendly Schools program which received the U.S. 2020 Abraham Lincoln Pillars of Excellence Award. The Hamtramck Parks Conservancy is a collaboration between the city, the public schools, and community partners seeking to improve green spaces and recreation activities for city and area residents. In Johnson's new role she is charged with executing the Hamtramck Recreation District plan which seeks to promote the creation, operation and maintenance of green spaces, recreational grounds and facilities for public use to provide health and education opportunities to residents and visitors. The plan proposes to radically transform 26-acres of underutilized open space, recreation fields, and disconnected historic sites into a community-invested, inclusive and world-class park. She believes that the transformation of the Hamtramck Recreation District will enrich the lives of all who visit and use the park spaces. The new District will enhance the identity of Hamtramck as a place that honors history and values equity, diversity, family physical activity and leisure. Johnson will oversee the renovation and expansion of Hamtramck's Veteran's Park and Playfair, site of the historic Hamtramck Stadium, which was home to the Negro League Detroit Stars (1 of 5 League stadiums left standing in the U.S.), and historic Keyworth Stadium home of the Detroit City Football Club. The stadiums and Veteran's Park are open throughout 2022-2023 for the first HPC's season of outdoor programming

and sporting activities. Under Johnson's leadership the HPC is partnering with local groups and Hamtramck Schools to host park clean-ups, walking and outdoor networking clubs, arts programs, baseball, soccer, USTA-sponsored tennis clinics, community outreach events and other recreational activities throughout the year. HPC plans to launch its HPC Ambassador Program (volunteer, donor & membership program) this year, and will expand amenities and program offerings for the upcoming 2023-2024 season and beyond. Johnson received a Master of Public Administration & Affairs from Western Michigan University (2014); Master of Business Administration, Davenport University (2006); Bachelor of Science, Eastern Michigan University (2000); and is a fellow of the Michigan Political Leadership Program (MPLP), Michigan State University (2011) and a licensed Michigan realtor. Career highlights of business and community leadership by Ms. Johnson include: In 2019 Johnson led the successful Midwest expansion and creation of the Michigan StreetWise Partners, a nationally recognized nonprofit mentorship organization offering career development programs designed to increase employment opportunities for under-resourced and overlooked communities. Her leadership and community engagement contributions while supporting the statewide Michigan Census operation, serving as State Deputy Director for the Michigan 2020 Census Office during the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic, led to an increased Michigan self-response rate, with 3.6% more households selfresponding in 2020 than in 2010 (71.3% vs. 67.7%). She orchestrated the Michigan Veterans Education Initiative campus

program formerly housed at twelve (12) Michigan colleges and universities and in securing \$500k in matching legislative fund support for partner institutions; was integral in MVAA's partnering organizations receiving over \$2 million in foundation grants and other support for veterans.

Launched a new U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Veterans Affairs registered apprenticeship program while assisting DRJ clients in receiving over \$600K in workforce development funds for staff training and development programs. Managed business expansion, retention and growth in Wayne County with projects representing \$30 million in private capital investment while serving as a state Business Development Manager, and assisted more than 150 Wayne County businesses in receiving \$15 million in resources, services and support under her tenure. In 2011, she was selected by the Lansing Regional Sister City Commission to represent greater Lansing on a cultural arts, education and economic development mission to Lansing's Sister City, Otsu, Japan. Early career, Johnson hosted and developed over 250 arts education and artist residency programs throughout Ann Arbor and Metro Detroit while serving with the University Musical Society (UMS) at the University of Michigan, to include world-renowned touring performing arts organizations, such as The Royal Shakespeare Company, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Co., The Guthrie Theater, The Apollo Theater 'On Tour', and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre.

For more information and to see a schedule of upcoming events, visit the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy website at <https://hamtramck-parks.com>

## 29th Annual Lansing Celebration June 19 1865



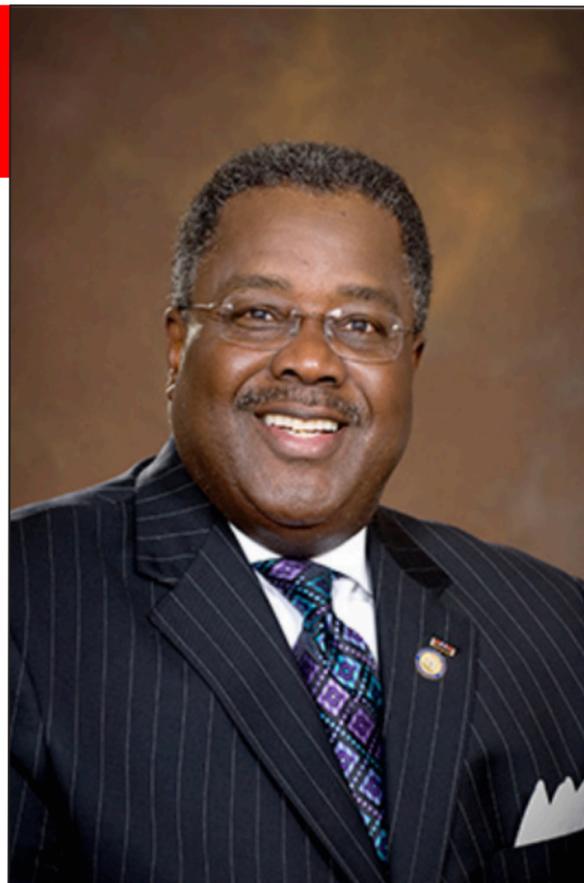
**JUNETEENTH**

### Modern Juneteenth Movement

In 1994, the era of the "Modern Juneteenth Movement" began when a group of Juneteenth leaders from across the country gathered in New Orleans, LA, at Christian Unity Baptist Church, Rev. Dwight Webster, Pastor, to work for greater national recognition of Juneteenth. The historic meeting was convened by Rev. John Mosley, Director of the New Orleans Juneteenth Freedom Celebration. Several national Juneteenth organizations were ignited from this historic gathering including the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation (NJOF). Shortly prior to this gathering, Juneteenth America, Inc., (JAI) was founded by John Thompson, who organized the first National Juneteenth Convention & Expo, and the National Juneteenth Celebration Foundation (NJCF) founded by Ben Haith, the creator of the National Juneteenth Flag. In 1997, through the leadership of Lula Briggs Galloway, President of the NAJL and Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr., M.D.,

As of 2019, 46 states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation to officially recognize Juneteenth. The NJOF directly contributed to 43 states legislation. The annual Congressional Juneteenth Reception and National Juneteenth Prayer Breakfast are now a Washington D.C. tradition. The National Juneteenth Observance Foundation, Inc (NJOF) is a national foundation, including hundreds of local organizations., that have been instrumental in the passage of Juneteenth Independence Day legislation. The NJOF advances the right of Freedom through its initiatives including education, health, music, art, and technology creating opportunities for a better life for all. By focusing on these key building blocks the NJOF movement creates long-lasting community change. The NJOF is a call to action for everyone to become a part of the change. NJOF Education Committee Dr. Phyllis Tucker-Wicks - Child\Youth Studies curriculum development Dr. C. Sade Turnipseed - Mississippi Valley State University

Calvin Pearson - Project 1619 Ron Brown - Pennsylvania Juneteenth Deborah "Dee" Evans - NJOF Vice-Chair Carl Adams - Author Trials of Nance Sade Roberts-Joseph - OSW African American Museum Helen Sims - Culture & Heritage Museums Mississippi Elijah Haith - Juneteenth Connecticut Deborah Kelly - Pennsylvania Juneteenth Rosetta Funches - Oklahoma Black Museum and Performing Arts Center Steve Williams - NJOF President Advisor Dr. Charles A. Taylor - Juneteenth, A Celebration of Freedom Contributors - Dorscine S. Spigner-Littles, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus University of Oklahoma NJOF Founder and Chairman Rev. Ronald V. Myers, Sr. M.D. JUNETEENTH 101 The March to Juneteenth June 19, 1862, to June 19, 1866 Chairman of the NAJL, the U.S. Congress officially passed historic legislation recognizing Juneteenth as "Juneteenth Independence Day" in America. con (Continued on page 5)



## Sparrow legend James W. Butler III laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery

Founders' Award, the highest honor bestowed by the health system.

In his honor, Sparrow created the James W. Butler III Administrative Fellowship. Sparrow created the Fellowship in part to address the need for diversity and inclusion in healthcare leadership, a major issue throughout the country.

The first Butler Fellow, Tolulope Adedokun, attended the service at Arlington National Cemetery and said she was struck by the varied mix of friends, colleagues and loved ones who attended. "It was amazing to see all of these people in the same room to celebrate his life and honor the life he lived," she said.

Adedokun said she was also amazed at Butler's wartime experiences and bravery. "His life and his sacrifices were definitely not in vain," she said. "He really lived by that principle of giving back and taking care of people throughout his

LANSING, MI - In advance of Memorial Day, community leader and Sparrow legend James W. Butler III was laid to rest with honors during a touching service at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. In a service attended by a wide range of people reflecting his impact -- from loved ones, community, political and business leaders, and members of his Sparrow Family -- Butler was recognized for his extraordinary service to his country. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army who served in Vietnam, receiving many commendations, including the Combat Infantry Badge, Army Commendation Medal, two Purple Hearts and four Bronze Stars. His perilous experience in Vietnam led him to one

day vow to devote himself to helping others. Butler died in Aug. 7, 2020, of congestive heart failure. He was 77. Butler served as chair of the Sparrow Health System Board of Directors and was involved in numerous community groups, such as the Sparrow Physicians Health Plan board, Dr. Martin Luther King Commission of Mid-Michigan, the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, and many others. He received numerous honors in his lifetime and his contributions to the community were unparalleled. Butler championed access to high quality care for the most vulnerable and led efforts toward the state's first medical clinic for the homeless. He received the 2018 Sparrow

# THE CITY OF LANSING'S CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY

HOSTED BY MAYOR ANDY SCHOR AND THE CITY OF LANSING  
HUMAN RELATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LANSING IS A DIVERSE AND VIBRANT CITY,  
AND WE ARE EXCITED TO CELEBRATE WITH ALL OF YOU!

Everyone is cordially invited to join us,  
newly-appointed Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant and  
members of the Mayor's Cabinet for the celebration.

LANSING CITY HALL LOBBY  
124 W. MICHIGAN AVE



Andy Schor, Mayor

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 8, 2022  
4:30 – 6:30 PM



[www.LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org](http://www.LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org) - The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Lansing Juneteenth Celebration 2022!

Greetings from the Lansing Juneteenth Committee! We are excited to be celebrating Lansing's

29<sup>th</sup> Annual Juneteenth Celebration, the 17<sup>th</sup> year of "Juneteenth Day" as a state of Michigan, day of Recognition and our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Celebration as a National Holiday.

The Lansing Juneteenth Celebration has served as a respected voice in the community,

with the City of Lansing as its backdrop, for over twenty years! The celebration dates are June 11, 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2022. We hope to see you, our event details follow:

**Saturday, June 11th**, we will be honoring to the Negro Leagues with a Ballgame and Memorial Tribute feature to Jackie Robinson at the Benjamin Davis Park in Lansing from 2-4pm.

**Thursday, June 16th 6:00 p.m.** we will be having our Annual Kick-off Opening Ceremony recognizing and awarding the Essay & Scholarship winners at Lansing Community College, the Gannon Bldg., in the Michigan Room. The Keynote Speaker will be the Honorable Judge Shauna Dunning. **Friday & Saturday, June 17 & 18** - At St. Joseph Park in Lansing!

On Friday evening, the Freedom Festival activities begin from 4-8pm and is family night!

"Juneteenth where the Re-union Begins" is our theme! The Village Market show

casing food and merchant vendors, along with public service exhibitors. Music by DJ Rob Newsome and Hustle Line dancing. Calling all chess and checker players to resume our annual gathering!

Saturday, the day begins at 11:00 a.m. with the African American Parade at the J.W. Sexton High School Front entrance and ends at the St. Joseph (St. Joe) Park to continue the Outdoor Freedom Festival. The festival kicks off at 12 noon till dusk and features a Health Fair, Juneteenth/NAACP Job Fair, Art Form Exhibits, merchants and food vendors along with children's activities, Hustle Line dancing and musical entertainment.

**Sunday, June 19th**  
JUNETEENTH SUNDAY!



**Juneteenth Sunday Fathers of Freedom - United States Colored Troops (USCT)** Yes, the First Father's Day was on Juneteenth 1910.

The Posting of General Order #3 on the door of every church (Mosque and Synagogue) in Lansing along with public service announcements of the meaning of Juneteenth!



The Ambassador of Celebration™

## Celebration Announcements by The Ambassador of Celebration Birthdays in JUNE

Ms. Tiffani Ferguson celebrates her birthday on June 1st.  
Ms. Sharron "Chi-town" Martin celebrates her 48th birthday on June 1st, Partied with her girls. "Thank GOD I'm blessed!"  
Ms. Anika Smith enjoys her 35th birthday on June 4th.  
Ms. Shane Reid celebrates her 33rd birthday on June 4th, with family and friends.  
Ms. Heidi Orlovski celebrates her 36th birthday on June 4th, with family and friends.  
Ms. Taylor Powers celebrates her birthday on June 4th.  
Ms. Hazel Carnegie enjoys her 74th birthday on June 4th, with a celebration of family and friends.  
Ms. Nickole Bankston celebrates her 38th birthday on June 4th, with family and friends.  
Mr. Rick Alicia (Drummer) , enjoys his birthday on June 5th.  
Ms. Asia Bower celebrates her birthday on June 6th.  
Ms. Carolyn Rivers celebrates her birthday on June 6th.  
Ms. Kanya Whitley celebrates her birthday on June 6th ; "Grateful that I have a job".  
Ms. Ruby Davis celebrates her 39th birthday on June 7th.  
Mrs. June Moore celebrates her birthday on June 7th.  
Ms. Unae Holiness celebrates her 42nd birthday on June 7th.  
Ms. Victoria Key celebrates her 53rd birthday on June 8th. She says, "Happy to be Alive!!!"  
Ms. Lisa Kay Tubbs celebrates her 47th birthday one June 8th, She says, "Not older, just wiser."  
Ms. Kayleanna M. Garvie , born June 8th , enjoys her 22nd birthday with family and friends.  
Ms. Diane Scofield celebrates her 68th birthday on June 8th, with family and friends.  
Ms. Deondra Allen celebrates her 37th birthday on June 8th, with friends saying, "I'm happy to be alive!"  
Mr. Frank Parks celebrates his birthday on June 8th.  
Ms. Brandy Filley celebrates her birthday on June 9th.  
Ms. Tracey Ali celebrates her 58th birthday on June 9th with little work and a lot of play!  
Ms. Arlean Mitchell celebrates her birthday on June 9th.  
Mr. Clyde M. Brown celebrates his birthday on June 9th.  
Ms. Penora Diamond enjoys her 34th birthday on June 10th.  
Mr. Roy Castilla enjoys his birthday on June 10th. He says, "Happy with Life!"  
Ms. Latisha Sorrels, a Sexton High School graduate, will celebrate her 34th birthday on June 10th.  
Ms. LaShonda Ferguson celebrates her 40th birthday on June 10th, by having fun with her sister, Chippey.  
Ms. Sharon Edwards enjoys the day she was born, June 10th.  
Ms. Magen Cole celebrates her 33rd birthday on June 10th.  
Mr. Stevie D. celebrates his birthday on June 10th. "Happy Birthday, Black Superman!!!"  
Ms. Shukeyna Thurman celebrates her 41st birthday on June 11th.  
Ms. Yukia Love Winston celebrates her 46th birthday on June 11th. She says, "GOD is good!"  
Mr. Clinton Wilson celebrates his birthday on June 11th  
Ms. Shukeiva "Tia" McGrew celebrates her birthday on June 12th... for the Gemini in all of us! "To be loved is to love!"  
Ms. Paige T. celebrates her birthday on June 12th. "Happy Birthday to Me!"  
Ms. Annie C. Williford celebrates her birthday on June 12th.  
Ms. Kimberly Fuller celebrates her birthday on June 12th.  
Mr. Brian Scott celebrates his birthday on June 13th, with friends and family.  
Ms. Taylor Ashley Denise Brown enjoys her 23rd birthday on June 13th. She is growing into a very special young lady, who makes her family so proud!  
MSU Scholarship  
Ms. Monique Jones celebrates her birthday on June 13th with family and friends.  
Mr. Freddie Dubose celebrates his birthday on June 13th.  
Ms. Elavia Bermudez celebrates her birthday on June 13th, with family and friends.  
Mr. Michael Smith, born June 13th, celebrates his 53rd birthday with family and friends.  
Ms. Carmen Colon celebrates her birthday on June 13th.  
Ms. Amanda Gelispie celebrates her 32nd birthday on June 13th.  
Ms. Barbara Isabella (Bella) Thomas celebrates her birthday on June 14th.  
Mr. Ray Powers celebrates his birthday on June 14th, with a grin as he tells everyone, "come see me at AA rent a car."  
Ms. Johanna Rodrigex celebrates her 48th birthday on June 15th.  
Ms. Lillian Calabrese celebrates her birthday on June 15th.  
Ms. Tiffany Richardson, "Happy 39th Birthday" on June 15th. She says to her Big Sis- Angie and Sofie ...I'm in my Prime!"  
Mr. Cornelius Robinson celebrates his 68th birthday on June 16th.  
Ms. Alexis Dingman celebrates her 37th birthday on June 16th.  
Ms. Christelena Alberez celebrates her 27th birthday on June 16th, with her loving family.  
Ms. Tracy Woodrum celebrates her 50th birthday with family and friends.  
Mr. Anton Love will celebrate his birthday on June 17th,  
Ms. Renee Ostrander celebrates her 37th birthday on June 17th, saying, "Let's get crunked!"  
Mr. Tim Antes celebrates his birthday on June 17th.  
Ms. Nycole Williams celebrates her 50th birthday on June 18th.  
Ms. Angell A. Steele celebrates her 48th birthday on June 18th, with family and friends.  
Ms. Naomi Steele celebrates her 37th birthday on June 18th. "Happy birthday"  
Mr. Mario Gonzales celebrates his birthday on June 18th.  
Ms. Ordella G. Henderson celebrates her birthday on June 18th.  
Mr. Mitchell L. Brown will celebrate his birthday on June 18th.  
Mr. Stuart N. Chavis celebrates his birthday on June 18th. Shauna and the children say, "We Love You,"  
Ms. Dorothy McDougal celebrates her 36th birthday on June 18th, with her sister, Erika.  
Miss Ray'chelle celebrates her birthday on June 18th, with family and friends.  
Ms. Kelly Hopkins celebrates her 37th birthday June 19th. "I made it!"  
Ms. Courtney M. Cole celebrates her birthday on June 19th.  
Ms. Valerie Black celebrates her birthday on June 20th, "Happy birthday, GOD BLESS!!!"  
Ms. Bobbie PerDita, who celebrates her birthday on June 20th, will be providing Exclusive Image Consulting and celebrating Life period!  
Ms. Kim Trice celebrates her birthday on June 20th. "Thank GOD for another year"  
Mr. Mike Hubbell celebrates his birthday on June 20th with family and friends.  
Ms. Felicia Lawrence is celebrating her 54th birthday on June 21st, "still young".  
Mr. Alexander Cabule celebrates his birthday on June 21st.  
Ms. Alexander Baty celebrates her 33rd birthday on June 21st, with family and friends.  
Ms. Mary Lindsley celebrates her birthday on June 21st.  
Mr. Shain "Bubba" Shannon celebrates his birthday on June 21st with friends and family.  
Ms. Mildred Davis enjoys her birthday on June 21st, with family and friends.  
Ms. Meghan Marriot enjoys her birthday on June 21st.  
Mrs. Lady Rebecca Richardson, celebrates her birth on June 22nd; home with family and friends. "Mr. Party come on over, please".  
Mrs. Mariyah Coleman: June 22nd Praising Yahshua  
Mr. Marcus McWilliams' celebrates his birthday on June 22nd.  
Ms. Michelle Jackson will celebrate her 50th birthday on June 22nd , enjoying her four children.  
Ms. Shakeva Suttles celebrates her birthday on June 22nd.  
Mr. Jordan Luther Brown will celebrate his 24th birthday on June 23rd, becoming a fine young gentleman: whose family loves him very much. Keep up the good work, Student (Olivet College).  
Mr. Tamone Berry will celebrate his birthday on June 23rd, with his wife and family.  
Mr. B. J. Berry celebrates his birthday on June 24th, with his dad and family.  
Ms. Jessie May Jamison celebrates her 100th birthday with family and friends.  
Ms. Quiana Flores will celebrate her 51st birthday on June 24th.  
Ms. Prossie Baby celebrates her birthday on June 24th.  
Mr. Earl Fowler celebrates his birthday on June 24.  
Ms. Jennifer Maldonado enjoys her 39th birthday on June 25th.  
Ms. Glenda Robinson will celebrate her birthday on June 25th, with love from her family.  
Mr. Kirk A. Branson celebrates his birthday on June 25th, with wife April and family.  
Mr. Kyle Jones celebrates his birthday on June 26th.  
Pastor Nathan Dixon will celebrate his birthday on June 26th, with family and friends.  
Dr. Falyne Fry celebrates her birthday on June 26th, with family and friends, praising the LORD!  
Mr. Juan Sanchez Jr. will celebrate his 28th birthday on June 26th.  
Ms. Ella Couthen celebrates her birthday on June 26th.  
Ms. Willa Dickens celebrates her birthday on June 29th.  
Ms. Michelle R. Smith celebrates her birthday on June 29th.  
Ms. Betty Plummer celebrates her birthday on June 30th.  
Ms. Sherry E. Hawkins celebrates her 53rd birthday on June 30th.

### \*Anniversaries

Rev. Nathan and Lady Rolanda Dixon celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary on June 9th, blessed with their beautiful children, Miss. Makenzie Carrington and Master Josiah Nathaniel Dixon.  
Mr. Larry L. and Mrs. Jayme A. King Jr. celebrate their 18th wedding anniversary on June 10th, enjoying their children, Mr. Larry L. III and Miss. Kay Lee King; Loving one another!  
Mr. Ronald and Mrs. Sophie Flowers will celebrate their wedding anniversary on June 24th.  
Mr. Chris L. Young and Mrs. Amber C. Young celebrate their 14th wedding anniversary on June 14th.

### \*Announcements

- Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/mrparty1985](http://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: [mrpartycserv@aol.com](mailto:mrpartycserv@aol.com) Please send the information about you, your family or friends celebrating the Events of Life: Celebration Announcements

## 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.



LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION/EMPLOYER.



**Trustee Angela Mathews**  
Vice-Chair LCC Board of Trustees



**Benita Duncan**  
Executive Assistant and Liaison to LCC Board of Trustees



Governor Whitmer has announced the Michigan Lottery contributed a record-breaking \$1.419 billion to the School Aid Fund in fiscal year 2021, shattering its previous record set last year by nearly \$240 million. This is the third consecutive year the Lottery has contributed more than \$1 billion to the fund, and the Lottery's seventh consecutive record contribution. "When Michiganders play to win, our students and schools win too," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "The Michigan Lottery's record contribution to the School Aid Fund helps us keep kids safe and learning in-person, delivers critical funding to support K-12 programs, and ensures every family has access to a high-quality, public education. The Lottery's record-setting per-

### Governor Whitmer Announces Record-Breaking \$1.419 Billion Investment in Michigan Schools from Michigan Lottery Funding

formance over the last seven years has helped us put Michigan students first. Together, we have closed the funding gap between schools, raised per-student funding, and improved school facilities, all without raising taxes. I am grateful to everyone who has made this substantial investment in our kids possible."

Since the record-breaking streak began in FY15, the Lottery's contribution to the School Aid Fund has increased 78.5%.

Lottery contributions to the School Aid Fund over the prior six years were:

- FY20: \$1.179 billion
- FY19: \$1.070 billion
- FY18: \$941.2 million
- FY17: \$924.1 million
- FY16: \$888.9 million
- FY15: \$795.5 million

Lottery retailers received a record \$370.9 million in commissions in FY21,

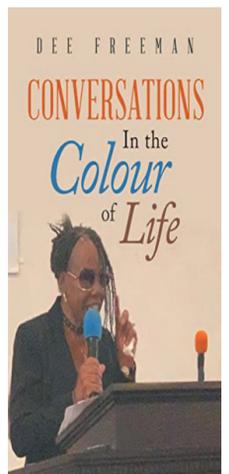
up more than 82% from \$203.6 million in FY15. The average payment to retailers in FY21 as a percentage of sales was 7.4%, including commissions, incentives, and bonuses. Lottery products are sold at more than 10,000 locations across Michigan, ranging in size from independently-owned businesses to large chains. In FY21, 925 retailers sold \$1 million or more in Lottery games.

"Lottery purchases help support Michigan schools and businesses," said Lottery Commissioner, Brian O. Neill. "These incredible results would not be possible without our players, retailers, vendors, the dedicated team at Lottery, and support across state government." Other records set by the Lottery in the FY21 include more than \$5 billion in sales and more than \$3.1 billion in prizes to players. Record sales in FY21 were driven in large part by instant games, a \$1 billion Mega Millions jackpot, and the Lottery's internet platform. Since it began in 1972, the Lottery has raised more than \$26 billion for public education in Michigan. Approximately \$7.2 billion, or 28%, of that amount was raised over the last seven record-breaking years.

The Lottery is also committed to promoting responsible gaming. Michigan was the first state lottery to receive certification of its online program through the National Council on Problem Gambling and has also attained Responsible Gaming Verification through the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries. Responsible gaming information and resources are available on the Lottery's website at: [www.michiganlottery.com/responsible-gaming](http://www.michiganlottery.com/responsible-gaming). For each dollar spent on a Michigan Lottery ticket in FY21, approximately:

- 61 cents went to players as prizes
  - 28 cents went to the School Aid Fund to support public education
  - 9 cents went to commissions for retailers and vendors
  - 2 cents funded the Lottery's operations and administrative costs
- Under state law, all profits from the Lottery go to the School Aid Fund. All FY21 numbers are preliminary and unaudited.

More than 97 cents of every dollar spent on Lottery tickets is returned to the state in the form of contributions to the state School Aid Fund, prizes to players and commissions to vendors and retailers. In the 2021 fiscal year, the Lottery provided more than \$1.419 billion for Michigan's public schools, its seventh record contribution in a row. Since it began in 1972, the Lottery has contributed more than \$26 billion to support public education in Michigan. For additional information, follow the Michigan Lottery on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and online at [www.michiganlottery.com](http://www.michiganlottery.com).



Dee's pure candor and truthful expressions bypasses frivolity and gets right down to the real deal. She lays it out in an undeniable way... hanging it all out on the line, hoping it dries to the nice crisp and clean laundry we all crave, but knowing some of the dirt doesn't readily wash out. That's the stuff still needing more scrubbing and time to air.

Yet some stains just won't let go, so Dee's "Conversations" opens options and inspires creative juices so we understand this simple fact that we all need to vent, forgive ourselves and others then move the heck on. Actually you may just toss out much of the grime and dirt in the wash water..so to speak!! Yeah!! You got it! Good talk!

Come join the CONVERSATION with Dee Freeman's new book, hot off the press..

Check out the Kindle preview or paperback available now on Amazon.com. For autographed copies, please connect with Dee at 517.214-0200 or [deedkfreeman@yahoo.com](mailto:deedkfreeman@yahoo.com) \$14 + \$3. shpg

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(from page 2)

## Modern Juneteenth Movement

### PREFACE:

“On June 16, 1858, Abraham Lincoln accepted the Republican nomination for President of the United States. The election of 1860 was one of the most pivotal presidential elections in American history. The main issue of the election was slavery and states’ rights. Lincoln emerged victoriously and became the 16th President of the United States. Abolitionist and American treasure Frederick Douglass, in his capacity as the 1st Black Presidential-Elector, NY stated, “Slaveholders know the day of their power is over when a Republican President is elected.”

In an attempt to form their own country (in order to protect the institution of slavery) eleven southern slave-holding states formed an alliance, called the Confederacy and seceded from the United States in 1861. “The War Between the States,” began April 1861, when South Carolinians (members of the Confederate States of America) launched an attack on Fort Sumter in the Charleston harbor. The Confederacy was initially formed by seven secessionist slave-holding states South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas—in the Lower South region of the United States, whose economy was heavily dependent upon agriculture, particularly cotton, and a plantation system that relied upon the labor of African-American slaves. After the Civil War began, four other states—Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, and North Carolina joined the Confederacy to maintain their rights to hold slave’s captive as free labor. Hence the bloodiest war in America’s history ensued.

“We have dissolved the late Union chiefly because of the negro quarrel ... We have called our negroes ‘slaves’, and we have recognized and protected them as persons and our rights to them as property.” Stated Robert Hardy Smith, in an Address to the Citizens of Alabama on the Constitution and Laws of the Confederate States of America in 1861.

Frederick Douglass argued that the enlistment of black soldiers would help the North win the war and would be a huge step in the fight for equal rights: “Once [you] let the black man get upon his person the brass letters, U.S.; let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pocket,” Douglass said, “and there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship.” Ultimately, sixteen African American soldiers won the Congressional Medal of Honor for their brave service in the fight for their freedom during the Civil War.

National Juneteenth Observance Foundation  
www.njof.org 888-509-NJOF (6563)  
1862

June 19th

CHAPTER CXI—An Act to secure Freedom to all Persons within the Territories of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled that from and after the passage of this act there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in any of the Territories of the United States now existing, or which may at any time hereafter be formed or acquired by the United States, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

SIGNED and APPROVED, by President Abraham Lincoln, June 19, 1862.

July

- July 4, Lincoln reminded the embattled nation, “All men created equal” (but, this still did not include African Americans).

- July 12, Border States reject the Emancipation Proclamation to free enslaved people.

- After two grueling years of war, President Lincoln began to reconsider black soldiers, as equals and human enough to die for their freedom. Besides, the Union Army badly needed soldiers. White volunteers were dwindling, and African-Americans were more eager to fight than ever.

- On July 17, Lincoln signed the Congress 2ND Confiscation Act of 1862 ... any Confederate official, military or civilian, who did not surrender within 60 days of the act’s passage would have their slaves freed in criminal proceedings; and, thereby the first step towards the enlistment of African Americans in the Union Army.

August

- August 4, 1st United States Colored Combat Troop (USCT)—Kansas Regiment

- August 25, US War Department began recruiting Colored Combat Troop in Gullah Geechee territory on the

Sea Islands.

September

It was on September 22, 1862, that the Emancipation Proclamation was issued by Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States, proclaiming January 1, 1863, the day that “all persons held as slaves within ANY state ... thenceforth and FOREVER FREE, and the Executive Government of the United States (and entities thereof) will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons; and will do no act or acts to repress such person in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom (and the celebration thereof).

November George McClellan was general-in-chief of the Union Army. Like many people at the time, McClellan opposed the outright abolition of slavery, though he was TX with committed to the preservation of the Union Then on June 19th, 1865, Granger issued General No.3 advising all, that slaves had been freed by the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment. Thus, began what is now known as Juneteenth. It is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. It had to be providence for Major General Granger arrival in Galveston, on the way to defend the Texas border from French incursion, to deliver the news of freedom.

December

- December 18, 13th Amendment ratified; slavery abolished.

- December 31/January 1, first formal, organized Juneteenth 1866

January

- January 1, Freedom Day Celebration in Galveston Texas

June

- 14 June 1866 was the official end of slavery in the Territory:

Regarding the four major treaties that were negotiated and formally signed in 1866 – one with the Cherokee, the Creek, the Seminole, and a combined treaty with the Chickasaw and Choctaw. These treaties each contained four major provisions. To begin with, as punishment for aiding the Confederate rebellion, each tribe forfeited lands amounting to about half of their designated protected territory. The second provision of these treaties declared a general amnesty for all Native Americans

The final two provisions concerned ending slavery. Language identical to that in the 13th Amendment was written into each treaty, guaranteeing a final end to the institution of slavery the final provision provided for the adoption of all freed slaves as immediate and recognized citizens within their respective tribes.

- 19 June 1866, Juneteenth the first of many anniversaries.

Juneteenth commemorations take place across America  
HISTORIC JUNETEENTH SUMMARY:  
Texas was the last state in rebellion, following the end of the Civil War, to allow enslavement. Although the rumors of freedom were widespread prior to this, actual emancipation was not announced in the last state practicing enslavement until Major General Gordon Granger landed in Galveston, Texas and issued General Order #3, on June 19, 1865, “JUNETEENTH,” almost two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. JUNETEENTH is now an annual observance to celebrate the date Union soldiers enforced the Emancipation Proclamation freeing all remaining enslaved in Texas and surrounding territories.

- September 29, Battle of New Market 200 “Butler, USCT Medal”

October

- October 13, Voters in Maryland ratify abolition of slavery.

- October 29, Lincoln Meets Sojourner Truth; 1st Black woman to sue in court against a white man and won.

November

- November 8, Lincoln Reelected president.

1865

January

- January 11, Missouri Constitution abolishes slavery.

- January 13, US House of Reps passed the 13th Amendment!

- January 16, General Sherman Field Order #16;

“40 acres and a mule.”

February

- February 1, Lincoln signs the 13th Amendment!

- IL “Black Laws” repealed

- February 22, TN Constitution abolishes slavery.

March

- March 3, Lincoln Signs order for the freedom for wives and children of Black soldiers’ families.

- Lincoln signs bill for Freedmen’s Bureau.

- March 4, Lincoln Inaugural

- March 28, Last spring offensive begins Richmond/Petersburg, April After four long bloody years, the Confederate army’s stronghold surrendered to the United States in April of 1865. The war bankrupted the South, and all but wiped out an entire generation of men leaving more than 620,000 men dead; more than any other war in American history. But when the war ended, in April 1865, only about fifteen percent (15%) of the enslaved had actually been freed.

- April 9, General Robert E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox

- April 11, Lincoln last speech; offers some Black men voting rights.

- April 12, War of Rebellion officially ends!!!

- April 14/15, Abraham Lincoln assassinated.

- April 16, Some USCT Regiment is rushed back to DC funeral.

Black Soldiers in the Civil War

“By the end of the Civil War, roughly 179,000 black men (10% of the Union Army) served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and another 19,000 served in the Navy. Nearly 40,000 black soldiers died over the course of the war.

June 19, Galveston, TX Juneteenth! The enslaved people in Texas didn’t get the word until June 19, 1865. The state’s Government simply chose not to be in compliance with Federal law and opted instead to conceal the Executive mandate by coalescing with the elite plantation owners, who for the most part was the aristocracy of the time, known as The Planter Society, to facilitate the harvesting of their cotton. Freedom was not known until Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, TX on June 18, with 1800 troops. McClellan led the Battle of Antietam, bloodiest day of combat in the Civil War. Frustrated that General McClellan had failed to destroy Lee’s army, Lincoln officially removed him from command in November 1862.

December

- December 31 Lincoln signs legislation for the new “Free State” of West Virginia.

- African Americans hold Midnight Watch to Emancipation Proclamation
- 1863 January
- January 1, 1863 church bells rings...FREEDOM A NEW ERA has begun!

Lincoln used the war powers of the presidency to issue the Emancipation Proclamation re-ordering the freedom of all enslaved people in the areas “in rebellion” (the Confederacy) declaring ... ““All persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.”

The mandate did not exempt Border States and those areas of slave states not in rebellion and therefore beyond the reach of the constitutional war power to emancipate its enslaved people. However, as soon as the Union Army arrived, it did liberate the enslaved in that area. On the first day, it affected tens of thousands of enslaved people.

Some blacks took this as their cue to begin forming infantry units of their own.

- African Americans from New Orleans formed three National Guard units: the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Louisiana Native Guard. These became the 73rd, 74th, and the 75th United States Colored Infantry.

- The First Kansas Colored Infantry—79th United States Colored Infantry (fought in the October 1862 skirmish at Island Mound, Missouri).

- The First South Carolina Infantry—33rd United States Colored Infantry (went on its first expedition in November 1862). These unofficial regiments were officially mustered into service in January 1863.

February

- February, the abolitionist Governor John A. Andrew of Massachusetts issued the Civil War’s first official call for black soldiers. More than 1,000 men responded from as far away as Canada and the Caribbean. Frederick Douglass’ son Charles Douglass was the first to enlist in the United States Colored Troops, USCT.

- They formed the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, the first black regiment to be raised in the North.
- February New state West Virginia allows emancipation of its enslaved population!

- February 18, Lincoln/Congress sign treaty w/England to increase suppression of International slave trade.

- February 24 Fred Douglass, Recruiter for USCT in MA

“MEN OF COLOR, TO ARMS” posters reprinted nationwide!

March

- March 16, New Freedmen’s Bureau May

- 60-day Battle of Port Hudson, USCT
- 73rd USCT—Andre Cailloux, 1825 – May 27, 1863, was one of the first African American officers in the Union Army to be killed in combat during the Civil War. He died heroically during the Siege of Port Hudson, LA.

June

- June 4, War Department pays USCT less money and no bounties.

- June 7,” African Brigade” 9th LA USCT, 5th Colored heavy artillery fought off Rebel attack at Milliken’s Bend. Louisiana’s newly recruited slaves fought hand-to-hand and got high praise from Generals Grant, Stanton, Lincoln, et al!

- Harriet Tubman became the first woman to lead an assault during the Civil War at the Combahee River Raid, 700 slaves set free.

July

July 1863 was an extraordinarily bloody and decisive month, beginning with a three-day confrontation between General Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia and Maj. Gen. George G. Meade’s Army of the Potomac around the Pennsylvania town of Gettysburg. On the 4th, the Confederates suffered defeat at Helena, Ark., and, more important, surrendered the essential Mississippi River stronghold of Vicksburg.

Black and Native American soldiers outnumbered whites in overlooked July 1863 clash in what is now Rentiesville, Oklahoma The Battle of Honey Springs, the climatic engagement of the Civil War in Indian Territory, was fought on July 17, 1863, and had been in the making since the beginning of the war. Then, as part of an overall plan for conquering the Confederacy, Federal forces invaded Indian Territory. July 18, the 54th Massachusetts stormed Fort Wagner, which guarded the Port of Charleston, SC. It was the first time in the Civil War that African American troops led an infantry attack. Unfortunately, the 600 men of the 54th were outgunned and outnumbered-were killed. This is the storyline for the movie “Glory.” July 30, Lincoln legislative order forbids mistreatment of African American Prisoners of War (POWs)

August August 10, Frederick Douglass (Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey). After escaping from slavery in Maryland he became a national leader of the abolitionist movement in Massachusetts and New York. He was a living counter-example to slaveholders’ arguments that slaves lacked the intellectual capacity to function as independent American citizens. Even Northerners found it hard to believe that such a great orator had once been enslaved. Douglass meets with Lincoln to recruit and gather support for the unequal pay and treatment of Black soldiers. The U.S. Army paid black soldiers \$10 a week (minus a clothing allowance, in some cases), while white soldiers got \$3 more (plus a clothing allowance, in some cases). Congress passed a bill authorizing equal pay for black and white soldiers in 1864.

October

- 79th USCT fights in Kansas, MO.

November

- November 19, Lincoln delivers Gettysburg Address

December

- December 8, Lincoln prepares Notes on Reconstruction; end of slavery is in sight.

1864

March

- March 13, Lincoln drafts letter to Louisiana asking for Black voting rights.

- March 16, Voters in AR ratify abolition of slavery.

April

- April 8, Senate passed the 13th Amendment.

- April 12, Ft. Pillow Massacre, TN; 300+ black soldiers were killed; atrocities last 6 months.

June

- June 15, House fails vote on 13th Amendment.

- President Lincoln signs bill for retroactive equal pay.

- June 28, Lincoln signs Repeal of Fugitive Slave Act.

July

- July 30, Battle of the Crater, Petersburg, Virginia

August

- August 16, Fredrick Douglass meets Lincoln, worried more slaves not moving to Emancipation. Lincoln asks Douglass to send scouts through Rebel lines to encourage more.

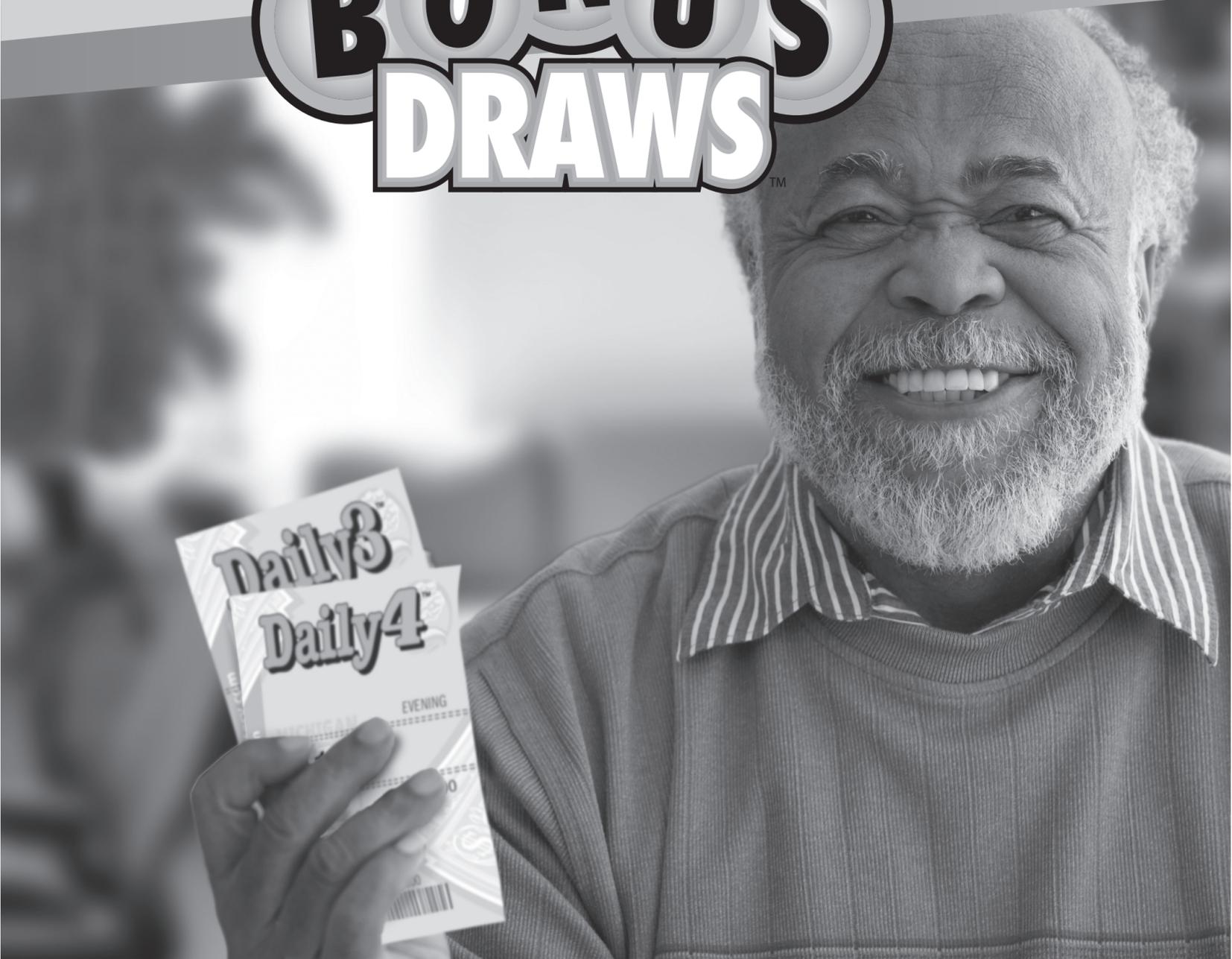
September

- September 5, Voters in Louisiana ratify abolition of slavery.

- September 29, Battle of Chaffin’s Farm, 14 USCT earn Medal of Honor.

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