



Vol XXVIII 17

SEPTEMBER 15-30, 2022

**THE 411**

**“2nd FRIDAYS” Couples Dancing with Sterling Armstrong at Gregory’s”**  
located at 2510 N. MLK Jr. Blvd Lansing, MI 48906

**SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2022**  
**“Michigan Blues Fest”**  
On Turner St. at Cesar Chavez in Old Town Lansing, MI. For more info call 517-371-4600 or go to: micharts.org

**OCTOBER 1, 2022**  
**“Soweto Gospel Choir”**  
8:00pm Cobb Great Hall For ticket information call 1-800-WHARTON

**OCTOBER 3, 2022**  
**“Jazz-Tim Cunningham’s Concert and CD Release Party”**  
7:00PM at The Venue Inside the Lansing Mall next to the Regal 12 Theater, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy for Tickets and more information go to: www.timcunningham.com

**OCTOBER 9, 2022**  
**“Diana Krall in Concert”**  
7:00pm Cobb Great Hall For ticket information call 1-800-WHARTON

**OCTOBER 15, 2022**  
**“DRU HILL and Dave Hollister”**  
At the Capitol Theatre located at 140 E. 2nd St. Flint, MI for tickets and additional information are available at the box office and THEBEAT989.COM

**OCTOBER 23, 2022**  
**“The Price is Right Live” 6:00**  
Cobb Great Hall For ticket information call 1-800-WHARTON

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(photo by Marcus Jefferson)

Renaissance Festival



# Obamas unveil their portraits, and it feels like a reunion

People wandered around the campus, admiring their old haunts. Friends, many kept apart during the pandemic, embraced and posed for photos. Alcohol was served.

When former president Barack Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama returned to the White House on Wednesday for the official unveiling of their portraits, they brought with them dozens of former staffers who relished the chance to reminisce about their time at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

“Thanks for letting us invite a few friends to the White House,” Obama said to the Bidens. “We will try not to tear up the place.”

The ceremony, years delayed because President Donald Trump declined to host the traditional event for his predecessor, was punctuated by the reveal of the two portraits — a hyper-realistic painting of the former president standing against a white backdrop and a painting of the former first lady, seated on a sofa in the Red Room, in a light blue dress.

The portraits were notably more traditional than the paintings of the Obamas unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery in 2018, in keeping with the more stately venue. The earlier paintings were more whimsical, including an image of the former president seeming to float amid a sea of leaves.

The jovial event was mostly filled with praise (“There are a few people I’ve ever known with more integrity, decency and moral courage than Barack Obama,” President Biden said) and jokes (Obama said he is still waiting for a former staffer to name their child Barack).

“We trusted him, all of you in this room,” Biden said of the man who elevated him to the vice presidency. “We believed in him. We counted on him — and I still do. Mr. President, that’s why the country elected you twice. It’s why you’ll be considered one of the most consequential presidents in our history.”

In her remarks, Michelle Obama took a more somber tone, underscoring that traditions play a central role in a democracy, a clear swipe at Trump and the norms he has eschewed.

“Even if it’s all still a bit awkward for me, I do recognize why moments like these are important, why all of this is absolutely necessary,” she said. “Tra-



ditions like this matter, not just for those of us who hold these positions, but for everyone participating in and watching our democracy.”

She continued with veiled criticisms of Trump’s refusal to concede the 2020 election and his repeated false claims that he was the real winner.

“Once our time is up, we move on,” the former first lady said about occupants of the White House, “and all that remains in this hallowed place is our good efforts — and these portraits, portraits that connect our history to the present day, portraits that hang here as history continues to be made.”

What to know about today’s unveiling

In his remarks, Barack Obama also reflected on presidential succession and his hope that the portraits convey to future generations that “if we could make it here, maybe they can, too.”

He compared the presidency to a relay race. “You take the baton from someone, you run your leg as hard and as well as you can, and then you hand it off to someone else, knowing that your work will be incomplete,” Obama said. “The portraits hanging in the White House chronicle the runners in that race, each of us tasked with trying to bring the country we love closer to its highest aspirations.”

The event also took on a more serious mood as several participants noted that because Obama was the first Black president, this was the first time an African American couple was honored with portraits in the presidential mansion, joining a string

that goes back to a famed painting of George Washington.

Obama praised the artist who painted his portrait, explaining why he chose Robert McCurdy, who is known for creating portraits that look like photographs.

“Presidents so often get airbrushed, they even take on a mythical status, especially after you’ve gone and people forget all the stuff they didn’t like about you,” he said. “But what you realize when you’re sitting behind that desk — and what I want people to remember about Michelle and me — is that presidents and first ladies are human beings like everyone else.”

He also complimented the artist who painted his wife.

“I want to thank Sharon Sprung for capturing everything I love about Michelle — her grace, her intelligence and the fact that she’s fine,” he said.

Michelle Obama blushed, laughing as she stood next to him, and then opened her remarks by thanking her husband for “such spicy remarks.” The former president laughed, threw up his hands and said, “I’m not running again.”

Barack Obama and Biden have a complex relationship but genuine friendship, aides say. When Obama chose the senator from Delaware as his running mate in 2008, he made Biden a truly national figure and arguably set him on the path to the presidency after two failed efforts. Biden, meanwhile, had the experience and gravitas to bolster the campaign of a youthful politician who spent less than four years in the Senate.

The artists, whose identity was kept secret along with the portraits until Wednesday, joined the Obamas at the White House. By the end of the day, Barack Obama’s portrait was already hanging in the Grand Foyer of the White House, where the portraits of other recent presidents are traditionally displayed, and Michelle Obama’s portrait was hanging on the ground floor of the building, along with other recent first ladies.

The East Room event also featured a who’s who of the Obama years. Valerie Jarrett, the longtime senior adviser to the Obamas, sat in the front row near Michelle Obama’s mother. Behind them was a row of former Cabinet officials: Eric Holder, the former attorney general; Tom Perez, the former labor secretary; Shaun Donovan, who ran the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Former top Obama aides including David Axelrod, Cody Keenan and Jennifer Palmieri were in attendance, as were a slew of current top White House officials who served in both administrations.

“I’m honored to host you and so many friends who have been part of this incredible journey,” Biden said to Obama. “It includes members of your staff, some of whom were foolish enough to come work with me.”

Before Trump skipped a ceremony for Obama, nearly every sitting president had hosted a portrait unveiling event for his immediate predecessor, regardless of party, since Jimmy Carter invited Gerald Ford back to the White House in 1978.

Meanwhile, it remains unlikely Biden will host an event for Trump, who has repeatedly ridiculed him and questioned his legitimacy, while Biden has excoriated Trump and his “MAGA Republicans” as a threat to democracy. Karine Jean-Pierre, the White House press secretary, deferred questions about a ceremony for Trump to the White House Historical Association.

Stewart McLaurin, the president of that association, said there is no “prescribed process” for portrait unveilings.

“It’s really up to the current president in the White House and the former president that is portrayed in the portrait to determine the right moment, but there is no set timeline,” McLaurin said in a statement. Article courtesy of the Washington Post. Picture by Bing Images

## JPMORGAN CHASE COMMITS \$30 BILLION IN HOME AND BUSINESSES LOANS TO BLACK, LATINO COMMUNITIES ACROSS U.S.

JPMorgan Chase is making a \$30 billion commitment it says will help address U.S. wealth inequality, especially in traditionally underserved Black and Latino communities.

The bank’s pledge is a combination of loans, investments, and philanthropy over five years that it says goes beyond what it would do in the normal course of business. The goal, according to the firm’s press release: To “drive an inclusive economic recovery, support employees and break down barriers of systemic racism.”

Questions about racial inequality in the U.S. were triggered after the May 25 death of George Floyd at the hands of a police officer sparked weeks of protests across the country. The coronavirus pandemic also exposed the gap in circumstances and health outcomes faced by the Black community in particular, resulting in a far higher Covid-19 mortality rate than in the overall population.

“Systemic racism is a tragic part of America’s history,” said Jamie Dimon, CEO of JPMorgan, in a statement. “We can do more and do better to break down systems that have propagated racism and widespread economic inequality, especially for Black and Latinx people. It’s long past time that society addresses racial inequities in a more tangible, meaningful way.”

Banks, which historically have contributed to inequality through now-banned practices including redlining, are hoping to be part of the solution to society’s problems. Earlier, Bank of America and Citigroup each made \$1 billion commitments to reduce inequality.

The great bulk of JPMorgan’s dollar commitment is tied to housing. The New York-based bank says it will provide \$14 billion in loans and investments to spur the creation of 100,000 affordable rental units in underserved communities.

The bank will also originate 40,000 home purchase loans for Black and Latino households, adding \$8 billion worth of mortgages to its commitment. It will also help another 20,000 Black and Latino customers lower their mortgage payments with \$4 billion in refinancings. That effort will include grants for down payments and closing costs, the bank said.

The bank said that the \$12 billion in additional mortgages is calculated based on the firm’s 2019 mortgage volume for minority communities, using that as a default rate for loans it would’ve made over the next five years.

JPMorgan said it would also provide 15,000 loans worth \$2 billion to small businesses in Black and Latino neighborhoods and launch a new program to help coach entrepreneurs. It will also spend an additional \$750 million with Black and Latino suppliers.

“I am heartened to see JPMorgan’s specific, measurable commitments that we believe will address decades of systemic racism toward Black communities — and will bolster the well-being of families across the country, as well as our collective economy,” Marc Morial, president of the National Urban League, said in a statement.

JPMorgan also said it would give 1 million people in underserved areas access to low-cost

bank accounts, in part by opening branches in low-to-moderate income communities. Regarding its own workforce of 256,710, the bank said it would hold managers accountable for diversity targets by incorporating goals into compensation decisions. Finally, the bank is providing \$2 billion in philanthropy, extending, and expanding a previous \$1.75 billion, five-year pledge made in 2018. Article courtesy of CNBC.







For kids born just before and during the pandemic, the world has been very small. But now that the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for those 6 months and up ... it's about to get a whole lot bigger.

[Michigan.gov/KidsCOVIDVaccine](https://Michigan.gov/KidsCOVIDVaccine)



## 2022 MICHIGAN Renaissance Festival



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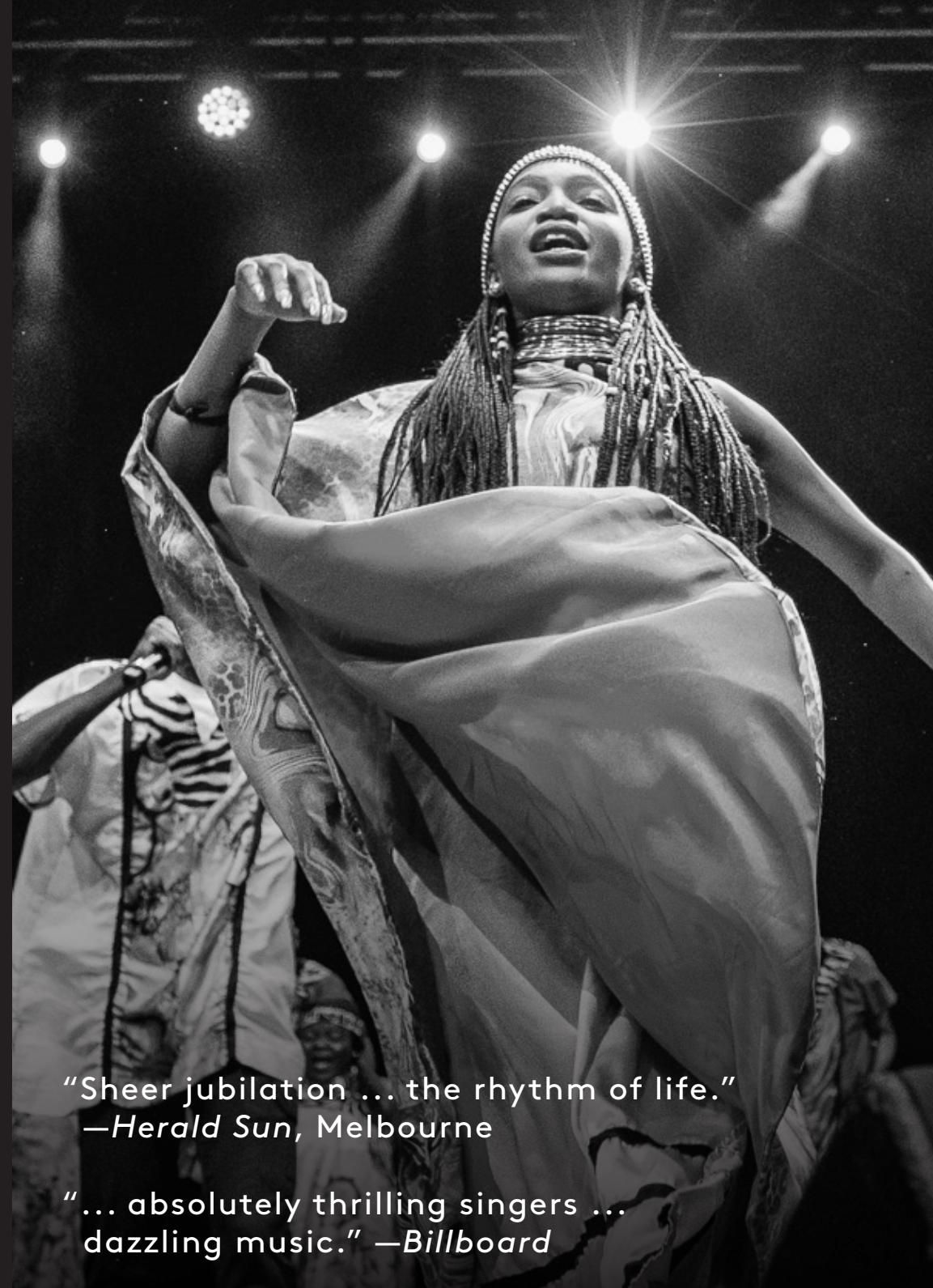
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## SOUL II SOUL CONSCIOUSNESS: Can you BE both Christian and Christlike? 08222022

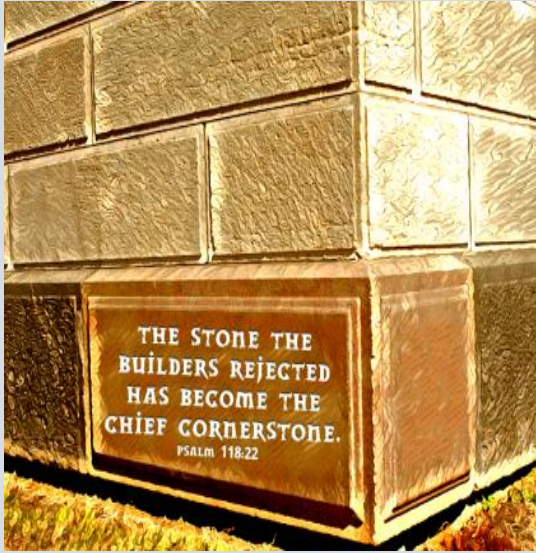


Pastor/Chaplain Pamelajune (Pj) Anderson, DMin.  
Soul II Soul Spiritual Fitness Couch  
Lt. Commander (RET) US Navy Chaplain Corps  
Certified Peer Support Specialist



BE STILL AND YOUR SOUL WILL SPEAK

- 1 "I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth."
- 2 My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; Psalm 34:1-2 New King James



Eternal One and Faithful Friend, here of late, I am tempted to boast about the completion of my Pastoral Project – HEALING MY SOUL ON PURPOSE: A Veterans Guide to Suicide Intervention – and, simultaneously humming the chorus, "I will boast in the Lord my God." When you're woke (conscious, aware, knowing, critically thinking) and woke (alert to injustice in society and racism), it is rather easy to boast (possess or take what belongs to God).

At the NSA NAPLES DET 106 REUNION in Bolingbrook, IL last weekend, I asked one of my shipmates who was carrying on much drama, why she didn't want to deal with another shipmate's shit (her words). And Senior Chief said to me "O no, Chap, not you." "Wait, I was quoting somebody else," was my reply. "Doesn't matter," was the Senior Chief's comeback. That language does not become you." As much as I've "cursed like a sailor" through the years," this is the first time I was called on the carpet about cursing. O, people snicker, whisper behind my back, rolled their eyes, give me that "Christian" indignation look, and shake their heads. Only this one person in 75 years, reminded me that it is better to be more like Christ and less like Peter. I am grateful for any WORD that encourages me to BE a better representative of the Lord.

Does this mean I will ever curse again? I'm likely to be more mindful than before.

So, the question occurs to me "can I BE both Christian and Christlike?" Put another way, "Can I boast about my religion and my Savior?" "Is it compatible for me to brag about the building often referred to as the church and the Chief Cornerstone? Maybe I can do both, maybe I can't. I believe it depends on who's on first.

The songwriter puts it this way: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom or the strong man boast in his strength. Let not the rich man boast in his riches but let the humble come and give thanks to the One who made us, the One who saved us. Serving someone who loves and looks out for us no matter what." King David puts it this way: "My soul shall make its boast in the Lord."

## A 5-Day Business Plan Challenge powered by Comerica Bank via Zoom for Lansing area youth grades 6 to 12.

T. ROSE Foundation - will host another YES Business Plan Challenge starting September 26 through September 30. This will be the 3rd Challenge powered by Comerica Bank, presented by Young Entrepreneurs' Solution (YES) and hosted by T. ROSE Foundation. Theresa Randleman, Foundation of the T. ROSE Foundation has once again partnered with the Founder of YES, Ernest Ruffin, to host the challenges and present them to youth in various communities. The 5-day free workshop teaches 6-12th grade kids the foundation of entrepreneurship and how to take their ideas and turn them into business plans for cash and prizes via Zoom. Winners of the challenge will be enrolled in the national challenge next year. All expenses will be paid for the winning team of 4 participants to fly to St. Croix, Virgin Islands to compete for \$1,000 cash prize and more. "This is a great experience for young business-people to take part in. The lead instructor, Professor Ruffin works very well with the youth; and helps them bring their business challenge together within the 5 days. I've enjoyed being a part of this challenge and I'm pleased to have the opportunity to present this one directly to the Lansing area youth. Also having the support of Comerica Bank; and the opportunity to work with their Vice Presidents in Detroit and Lansing has become a great opportunity for myself, the youth; and everyone involved."

Monday, September 26 we are seeking 20 students to participate in this online challenge. It's totally free!

Registration is available on the website: [ww.t-rose.com](http://ww.t-rose.com) (click Entrepreneur and complete registration). For more information call: 313-351-2402.



**Celebration**  
**Announcements**  
Mr. Party, The Ambassador of

## Birthdays in SEPTEMBER

Mr. Tyrone J. Feuss celebrates his 28th birthday on September 1st with family and friends, We love you! Master Jaiden Seiler celebrates his 16th birthday on September 1st, with family. Mr. Henry A. Couthen celebrates his birthday on September 1st, with family and friends. Ms. Sa'Ra Skipper celebrates her birthday on September 1st, with family and friends. Mr. Darrell Walker celebrates his birthday on September 1st, with Wife, Meloney, family and friends. Mr. Luther William "Mr. Party" Brown, Sr. celebrates his 70th birthday on September 1st. "My Beauty is a reflection of those I am blessed enough to spend time with!" Thank You for Your love!!! We are happy because we laugh; celebrate your life with a smile !!!

Miss. Isabella Megan Marie Brown celebrates her 14th birthday on September 2nd, showered with love from family: Mom Amy, Dad Luther, brother Jordan, sisters Taylor and Idyanna, Grandma Joann, Nana, Grandpa Ernie and PawPaw : Luther William "Mr. Party" Brown Sr.

Ms. Jennifer Brown celebrates her birthday on September 2nd, with family and friends. Uncle Billy is so proud and loves you always!

Mr. Michael Thomas Sr. celebrates his birthday on September 2nd. Mrs. Meloney Walker celebrated her birth on September 3, 2020, with husband, Darrell, family and friends.

Ms. Janet L. Rodgers celebrates her 54th birthday on September 3rd. Mrs. Earline Brown celebrates her 95th birthday on September 3rd, with family and friends; Michelle Taylor, her Granddaughter.

Ms. Deana Coiter celebrates her 54th birthday on September 4th.

Ms. De'Zandria King celebrates her 25th birthday on September 4th.

Ms. Shantel A. Ragland celebrates her birthday on September 4th.

Mr. Hugh M. Scott Jr. celebrates his birthday on September 4th; Trinity A.M.E Church.

Mr. Fred Kirkland celebrates his birthday on September 4th, with family and friends. Ms. Cora Johnston celebrates her birthday on September 5th.

Ms. Jinger Bair will celebrate her 47th birthday on September 5th.

Mr. Jonas Chenault Jr. celebrates his birthday on September 5th. Mr. Robert D. Husband celebrates his birthday on September 5th with his loving wife Jackie and family; Trinity A.M.E. Church.

Mr. Steven Cory Wilder III (Trey), celebrates 9th birthday on September 5th. MeMaw loves you,always. Mr. Timothy TJ Jackson celebrates his birthday on September 6th Mr. Al McConnell celebrates his birthday on September 6th.

Mr. Mike Boles celebrates his 70th birthday on September 7th, with his wife of 45 years, Flora, children, family and friends. Love you my Brother!!! Ms. Ruby A. Frazier celebrates her birthday on September 7th. Love from her family! Trinity A.M.E. Church. Ms. Betty J. Wilson celebrates her birthday on September 7th.

Ms. Kristen T. Colbert celebrates her birthday on September 7th. Mr. Alonzo Mans III enjoys his birthday on September 7th.

Mr. Derrick F. Jones celebrates his birthday on September 7th. Ms. Bernadine Lovett joyously celebrates her 66th birthday on September 8th. Mr. Lulu Lara celebrates his 31st birthday on September 8th, with family and friends.

Mr. Jagr Dneil Williams celebrates his 20th birthday on September 8th.

Ms. Angie Hill celebrates her birthday on September 8th. Ms. Mattie Brooks celebrates her birthday on September 8th. Mr. Jagr Williams celebrates his 18th birthday on September 8th. Mrs. Destiny Cook-Williams celebrates her birthday on September 9th with family and friends.

Mrs. Monica Brown celebrates her 53rd birthday on September 9th with family and friends. Ms. Sebastiana Harrel celebrates her 38th birthday on September 10th. Mr. Robert Manning celebrates his 35th birthday on September 11th, with his sister Patricia. Ms. Valorie Mosley celebrates her birthday on September 11th. Ms. Renee Laster Jones celebrates her birthday.

Ms. Bernice Kent, gone to Heaven 2018, we celebrate what would be her 102nd birthday on September 12th. Ms. Mildred H. Chenault celebrates her birthday on September 13th. Mr. Elton L. Mitchell celebrates his birthday on September 13th. Ms. Tina Pettigrew, celebrating her birthday on September 13th, says, "PRAISE YAHSHUA"

Ms. Yvette Morris celebrates her birthday on September 14th. She says, "I'm hoping myself a very blessed birthday!"

Mr. Matthew Branson celebrates his birthday on September 14th, with family and friends. Ms. Michelle Love enjoys her birthday on September 14th, with family and friends. Mr. John T. Buckner: remembering this Godly Man, we celebrate his Life, born on September 15th, we joyously share memories with his loving wife Myrtle and The Trinity A.M.E. Church Family.

Ms. Michelle Brown enjoys her 29th birthday on September 16th, with her one year old baby daughter, family and friends. Uncle Billy is so proud of You and loves You much! Mr. Boom of the Hood Riders celebrates his birth on September 16th. Ms. Dorothy Washington celebrates her birth on September 17th.

Mr. Robert Collins, my good friend, gone to Heaven, was born on September 17th Mr. Marky Mark, born September 19th, celebrates his birthday with family and friends. Mr. Myron Phifer celebrates his birthday on September 19th. Mrs. Tracy Metcalf will celebrate her birthday on September 20th, working her new job. "Stay as beautiful as you are, for you know you're a star... Shine on!!!" Mr. Andrew Taylor celebrates his 94th birthday on September 20th, with family and friends. Ms. Brandy Branson enjoys her birthday on September 20th. Mr. Michon Reynolds celebrates his birthday on September 20th. Ms. Elaine Couthen celebrates her birthday on September 21st, with family and friends. Ms. Lola V. Eaton celebrates her birthday on September 22nd, with family and friends. Mr. Jason Hough, "Happy 42nd Birthday" on September 21st. Love your family!! Attorney Charles Ford enjoys his birthday on September 22nd. Mrs. Myrtle M. Buckner celebrates her birthday on September 23rd, remembering her loving husband John. Trinity A.M.E. Church. Ms. Anita R. Johnson enjoys her birthday on September 23rd, with family and friends. Ms. Theresa B. Oehmke celebrates her birthday on September 23rd. Jo Morley (Mort) is celebrating 64 years on September 23rd. Mr. Jarell Williams enjoys his 28th birthday on September 24th. Mrs. Annie Geneva Jones celebrates her birthday on September 24th.

Ms. Johnnie R. Johnson enjoys her birthday on September 25th.

Ms. Destinee Hall celebrates her birthday on September 25th, with family and friends. Mr. Clarence "C.D." Duncan enjoys his birthday on September 25th, with family and friends. Ms. Elinor Mitchell celebrates her birthday on September 27th. Mr. Julian Skipper enjoys his birthday on September 27th.

Ms. Sophie Clara Clark celebrates her 19th birthday on September 28th with family and friends. "Papa loves you!" Mr. Steven Barron celebrates his birthday on September 28th, with family and friends. Ms. Shelby Skipper enjoys her birthday on September 28th. Ms. Antonette Adkins celebrates her birthday on September 29th. Mrs. Linda Walker Cole: Oh how we remember and miss her, was born September 29th; Love to her family. Ms. Kamy Parks celebrates her 22nd birthday on September 29th. Ms. Donecia Denise Brown will enjoys her 46th birthday on September 29th, vacationing with her Daughter and Dad, celebrating their birthdays with family in New York. You are The Lady in my Life! Daddy Loves You; GOD Bless!!! Ms. Rita Wray celebrates her 44th birthday on September 30th with family and friends.

Ms. Morgane A. Black celebrates her birthday on September 30th.

### \*Anniversaries

Mr. Riccy and Mrs. Aisa Williams enjoy their 18th wedding anniversary on September 13th. I Love you so much; Love always!

Mr. Party Celebration Enterprises, Inc., Promoting the healthy, safe Celebration of Life, thru Fun, Valued Friendships and Pleasant Memories Everlasting; celebrating their 37th anniversary thru the months of September, October and November. Thanks to all whom have supported our business and purchased Mr. Party brand name products and services over the years. To the Best in All of Us-LOVE!!! We don't laugh because We're happy; We're Happy because We Laugh!!!

### \*Announcements

The Annual Birthday Bash for JAMES JR RAY / TIMOTHY TJ JACKSON will be held at the Green Door Bar and Grill on September 24, 2022 at 9:00pm

- 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: [mrparty1985@gmail.com](mailto: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!





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**Voter Registration Drive to be held at Lansing Community College**  
September 19 – 22

Lansing, Mich. – In preparation for the November 8 General Election, Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, and Lansing Community College (LCC) announced plans to host a blitz of voter registration and information drives at the College's Downtown campus. The Lansing City Clerk's office will be registering people to vote September 19 – 22 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. outside of the Arts & Science Building. Additionally, applications and information about voting at home and voting early will be avail-

able on-site. Across the street from the Downtown Campus, Fire Station #1 on Shiawassee Street has a convenient election drop box for City of Lansing voters. "I am proud to work with Lansing Community College to connect with some of these citizens who may be attending LCC," said Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope. "We want to make it as convenient as possible to become engaged."

For more information regarding voter registration, please visit [lansingvotes.gov](http://lansingvotes.gov)

**SWEETEST DAY weekend**  
**DRU HILL & DAVE HOLLISTER**  
(ANOTHER ACT WILL BE ANNOUNCED AUGUST 27TH)  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2022  
TICKETS AVAILABLE @ THE BOX OFFICE & ONLINE AT [THEBEAT989.COM](http://THEBEAT989.COM)  
CAPITOL THEATRE  
140 E. 2ND ST. FLINT, MI

**MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE**

- ✓ **Vote at Home**
  - For quickest delivery, request your ballot online at [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote)
- ✓ **Vote Early**
  - Clerk's Election Unit - 2500 S Washington Ave - 8 am to 5 pm M-F, Sept 29 - Nov 7
  - City Hall - 124 W Michigan Ave, 9th Floor - Open 8 am to 5 pm M-F, Sept 29 - Nov 7
  - Foster Community Center - 200 N Foster - Open 1 pm to 6 pm M-F, Oct 25 - Nov 7
  - For Extended Hours, Including Weekends, Visit [LansingVotes.gov](http://LansingVotes.gov)
- ✓ **Vote Nov 8**
  - Visit [LansingVotes.gov](http://LansingVotes.gov) to find your polling location

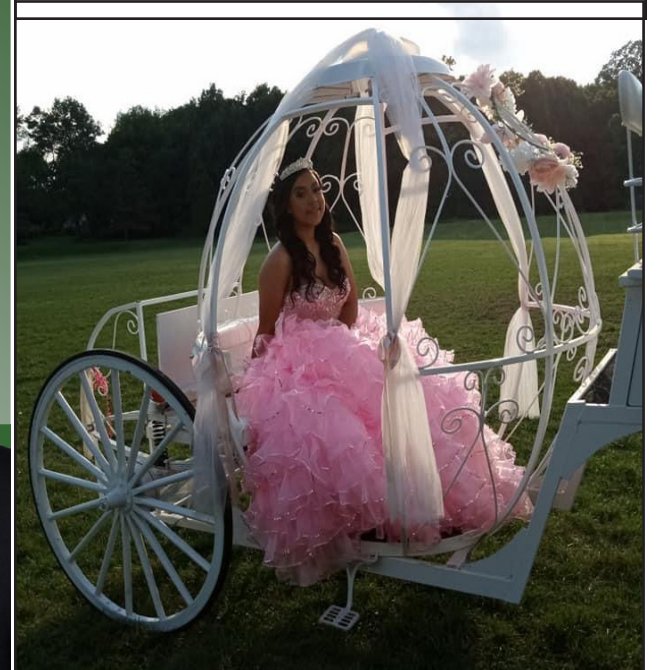
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**QUINCEANERA'S**



**Sidney, Feliz Cumpleanos**



**Leyliana, Happy Birthday**



# Jazz and R&B Great Ramsey Lewis dies at 87

We are sad to report the passing of a jazz and soul giant, the great Ramsey Lewis. He was 87. His Facebook page shared with us and his other fans the following wonderful obituary:

Jazz pianist, three-time Grammy winner, and NEA Jazz Master Ramsey Lewis, who successfully crossed over from the jazz charts to the Pop charts, most notably with his smash hit "The In Crowd," died peacefully at his home in Chicago on the morning of September 12. He was 87.

Ramsey E. Lewis Jr. was born in Chicago on May 27, 1935. Growing up in the Cabrini Green housing project, he began taking piano lessons at age four and played piano at church, where his father was choir director. A jazz fan who played lots of Duke Ellington and Art Tatum at home and took his son to jazz concerts, Ramsey Lewis Sr. encouraged Ramsey to embrace that music.

When Ramsey was a freshman at Wells High School, saxophonist and pianist Wallace Burton, a fellow church musician whose jazz ventures had enticed Ramsey, asked him to join his band, the Clefs, a septet of collegians that blended jazz and R&B. Lewis needed to familiarize himself with bebop and other jazz styles but learned on the run.

After the outbreak of the Korean War, the military draft claimed

several members of the Clefs, including Burton. The three members who didn't get drafted—Lewis, bassist El-dee Young, and drummer Redd Holt—formed what would become known as the classic Ramsey Lewis Trio.

In 1956, they released their first album, Ramsey Lewis and His Gentlemen of Jazz, on the Chess label. Three years later, Lewis was invited to perform with the trio at Birdland in New York. Their three-week gig led to performances at the Newport Jazz Festival and the Village Vanguard, and recordings with Max Roach, Clark Terry, and Sonny Stitt.

Lewis broke through in a big way in 1965 with the early crossover smash, "The In Crowd." The elegantly funky, Grammy-winning song (written by Dobie Gray) was followed by two more chart-toppers, "Hang on Sloopy" and "Wade in the Water." After Young and Holt left to form their own group, Lewis continued in the trio format with bassist Cleveland Eaton and future Earth, Wind & Fire eminence Maurice White on drums. He subsequently experimented on electronic keyboards in more expansive settings. A high point was his 1974 album Sun Goddess, produced by White and featuring members of Earth, Wind

& Fire (whose falsetto specialist Philip Bailey he would tour with years later). The recording established Lewis as a fusion music icon with broad appeal. Over the years, Lewis has performed and recorded in a remarkable variety of musical settings. Throughout the '70s, he embraced R&B and Latin music without abandoning mainstream jazz. In 1983, on the album Reunion, he reconstituted his most famous trio.

In 1995, he introduced the crossover supergroup Urban Knights, featuring Grover Washington Jr., Earl Klugh, and Dave Koz. Urban Knights I was the first of eight albums by the band. In 2005, returning to his gospel roots, Lewis recorded With One Voice, which earned him the Stellar Gospel Music Award for Best Gospel Instrumental Album.

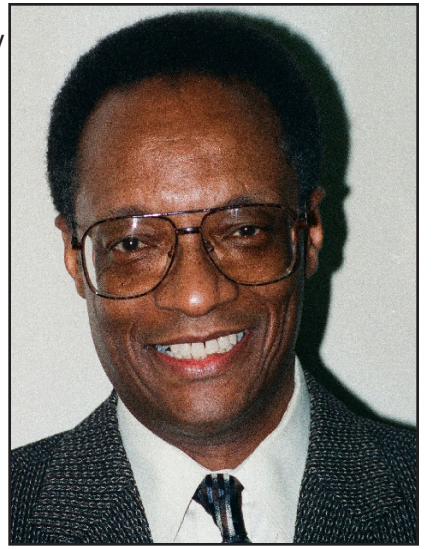
Among his many honors were five honorary doctorate degrees and an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Jazz Artist. "The In Crowd" single was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame, and his personal memorabilia reside at the Smithsonian Institution. Lewis received a 2007 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master Award, which placed him in the hallowed company of such piano legends as Ahmad Jamal, Chick Corea,

McCoy Tyner, Dr. Billy Taylor, and Cecil Taylor. In his late eighties, Lewis still connected with younger generations. His monthly Saturday Salon livestream series, produced during the pandemic by his wife Jan, was critically acclaimed. His forthcoming album, The Beatles Songbook: The Saturday Salon Series, Volume One, which will be released November 11 by Steele Records, was drawn from the livestream performances. Ramsey also spent the last year of his life working on his memoir Gentleman of Jazz with his co-writer Aaron Cohen. The book will be released via Blackstone Publishing in 2023.

Ramsey Lewis is survived by his loving wife Janet Lewis; daughters Denise Jeffries and Dawn Alain (Michael); sons Kendall Kelly Lewis, Frayne Lewis (Juleta), and Bobby Lewis (Crystal); grandchildren Apryl Daniels (Dennis), Regan Lewis, Kris Jeffries (Nailah), Joshua Allain, Junell Lewis, Malachi Lewis, Aja Alain, Jordan Lewis, Ramsey Lewis IV, Dorian Olson-Lewis, Miyoshie Lewis, Meshach Lewis, Taylor Lewis, Kevai Lewis, Frayne Lewis Jr., Niya Lewis, and Asia Lewis; great-grandchildren Jalen Simmons, Dennis Daniels III, Omari Jackson; nieces Paula Jackson and Kimberly Johnson; and nephew James Johnson. He was

predeceased by his sons Ramsey Lewis III and Kevyn Lewis.

"Ramsey's passion for music was truly fueled by the love and dedication of his fans across



the globe. He loved touring and meeting music lovers from so many cultures and walks of life. It was our family's great pleasure to share Ramsey in this special way with all those who admired his God-given talents. We are forever grateful for your support!" —Jan Lewis  
In lieu of flowers, please make donations to The Jazz Foundation of America at [www.jazzfoundation.org](http://www.jazzfoundation.org) Picture by John Smith.

## WINDMON BRIGHTSPOT ON QUESTIONABLE SPARTANS

By Ernie Boone  
EAST LANSING  
Michigan State University football fans and followers still



have plenty of questions about the Spartans' place among the Big Ten title contenders despite two early season victories, but few can forget the name Jacoby Windmon. Windmon, one of a host of acquisitions coach Mel Tucker has brought to town via the transfer portal, cemented his name in the minds of Spartan fans with a pair of defensive performances that earned him the Walter Camp Football Foundation's National Defensive Player of the Week award in the 35-13 win over Western Michigan and the Big 10 defensive player of the week award two consecutive weeks following MSU's 52-0 blanking of Akron. A 6-2 250-pound defensive end, Windmon transferred to MSU from UNLV as a linebacker with a knack for putting pressure on quarterbacks. Tucker moved him to defensive end just days before the end of camp and it looks like he plans to stay in the spot. Windmon demonstrated his ability to get to the quarterback against Western, shredding the Broncos

for four sacks among seven tackles and a forced fumble. He continued his assault in the Akron shutout causing three fumbles, recording 1.5 sacks 2.5 tackles for loss, got a fumble recovery and five tackles. Tucker is not surprised by Windmon's productivity.

"He did a good job," Tucker said following the Western opener. "I mean he's hungry. He just wants to get better. You just gotta love him. He's playing linebacker for us and we asked him if he would play defensive end a couple of weeks ago, you know, anything for the team. We thought he would be able to get pressure on the quarterback. He still plays linebacker as well, but it just goes to show what type of guy he is.

**"My role is whatever is best for the team,"**

Windmon said after the Western game. "Coach made the adjustments for me to go and play defensive end, and I was all for it. To get out there just to do whatever is good for the team and whatever it takes to win.

"It was a great opportunity to get out there, going out doing what we love and do best," he said, expressing joy in having played his first game in Spartan Stadium wearing

the green and white. "I couldn't ask for a better atmosphere from the fans. It was exciting to go out there and get a win with my brothers.

He continued his outstanding play against Akron, leading the Spartan defenders to their most lopsided shutout in more than 60 years.

Windmon forced three fumbles, gained another sack, tallied two tackles for loss, broke up a pass, and totaled five tackles. He got plenty of help from his teammates as MSU used each of the four fumbles to score touchdowns. The Spartan defenders smothered the Zip runners, limiting them to 22 net yards rushing, and 225 yards total. The Spartans netted 268-yards on the ground, and 236 yards passing for 496. MSU held Western to 334 total yards, 141 net rushing and 193 passing. The Spartan running backs rushed for 197 yards and passed for 233 to total 430.



Michigan State linebacker Jacoby Windmon (4) tackles Western Michigan quarterback Jack Salopek (6) during the second half at Spartan Stadium in East Lansing on Friday, Sept. 2, 2022.

The Spartans showed improvement on both sides of the ball, but they'll have to become more consistent and steady if they are going to travel to Washington and return undefeated to face Minnesota to open the Big Ten season. Washington is off to an impressive start, with two high scoring wins, including a 45-20 season opener over Kent State, and a 52-6 victory over Portland State last week. Washington is led by quarterback, Michael Penix who transferred from Indiana to rejoin Washington's new head coach, Kalen DeBoer. DeBoer was

offensive coordinator when Penix played for the Hoosiers. The Huskies are top three in the nation in total offense at this point in the season. The teams haven't faced each other since 1997, but DeBoer faced the Spartans last in 2019 while he was at Indiana. The game will have special meaning for MSU freshman wide receiver, Germie Bernard. Bernard transferred to MSU after signing to play for Washington before the school hired DeBoer, so the Henderson Nevada.

## Sparrow announces new James W. Butler III Administrative Fellow

LANSING, MI -- After an extensive nationwide search, Sparrow Health System is proud to name Jared Coleman as the new James W.



Jared Coleman

Butler III Administrative Fellow, aimed at honoring the legacy of a respected Sparrow board member and community leader.

The fellowship is named for the late James W. Butler III, who championed access to health quality care for the most vulnerable and led efforts toward the state's first medical clinic for the homeless.

Coleman, a Kalamazoo native, will work closely alongside Sparrow senior leadership and caregivers over the next year to prepare himself for a career in healthcare management. The fellowships aimed at racially diverse candidates and created to address the need for diversity and inclusion in healthcare leadership. Tolulope Adedokun, Sparrow's first Butler Fellow, was recently promoted to Manager of Patient Experience at E.W. Sparrow Hospital.

"I chose Sparrow for the opportunity to learn from a compassionate group of executive leaders and to explore the different realms of healthcare," Coleman said. "The fellowship provides a unique platform to explore healthcare, while making a direct impact within the

system and community."

Said Teresa Znidarsic, Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer of Sparrow Health System: "Jared's education, experience and values clearly aligned and will honor Mr. Butler's spirit of community service and involvement. We are excited to welcome Jared to the Sparrow Health System family and the greater Lansing community."

Coleman began his healthcare career at Bronson Healthcare Group where he was a contract specialist in supply chain focused on surgical services. Coleman also spent time with the Bronson Health Foundation, where he helped to align philanthropic efforts with organizational needs. Coleman holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Western Michigan University and is pursuing his M.S. in Management, Strategy, and Leadership from Michigan State University. To learn more about the James W. Butler Administrative Fellowship, go to [Sparrow.org/Sparrow-Community-Health/About-Sparrow/James-W-Butler-iii-Administrative-Fellowship](http://Sparrow.org/Sparrow-Community-Health/About-Sparrow/James-W-Butler-iii-Administrative-Fellowship)



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