

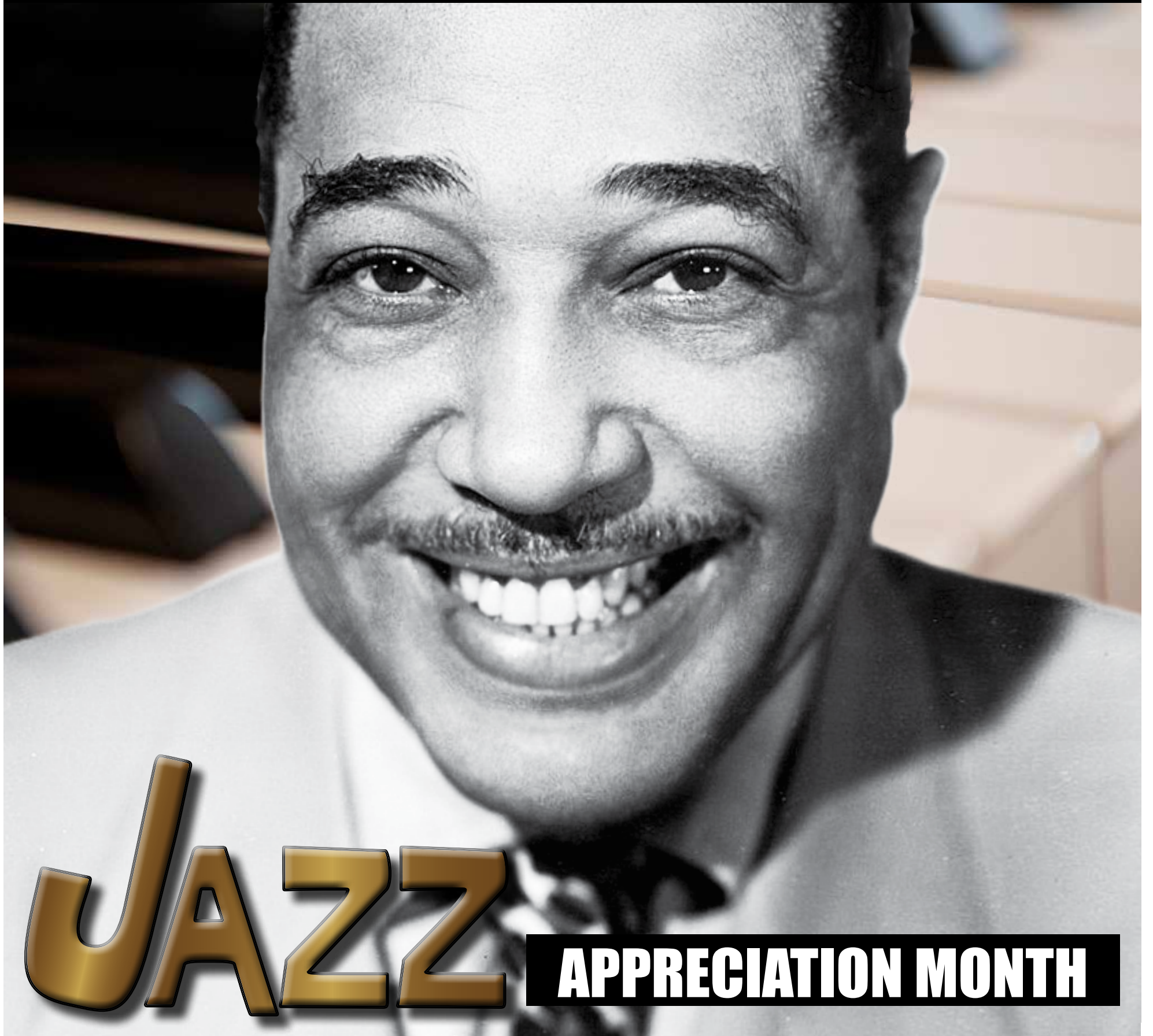
Steppin' out *News!*

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

VOLUME 23
ISSUE 09

ARTS • CULTURE • EDUCATION • COMMUNITY

APRIL
2024



JAZZ

APPRECIATION MONTH

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

ABOUT STEPPIN' OUT

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

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

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

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

Steppin' Out
 PO Box 6781 • Mobile AL 36660
 (251) 217-1220
info@steppinoutmobile.com

STEPPIN' OUT reserves the right to refuse any advertisement it deems inappropriate for our readers or that does not meet the publications standard of quality.

CLICK TO LIKE & FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK...

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STEPPINOUTMOBILE](https://www.facebook.com/steppinoutmobile)

CONTRIBUTORS



TOMMY GREEN
 Featured Column
BLACK LIVES MATTER



DEBRA BRAGGS
 Featured Column
LIVING IN BLISS



PAULETTE HORTON
 Featured Column
MOMENTS IN TIME



VERNETTA HENSON
 Featured Column
IN THE KITCHEN WITH GRANNA



LISA JOHNSON
 Featured Column
EXPRESSIONS: RIGHT OR WRONG



TANENE JACKSON
 Featured Column
LOCS OF SOUL



SABRINA MASS
 Featured Column
TRUTH, FACTS AND JUSTICE



ARTHUR MACK
 Featured Column
THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX



TRACY NEELY
 Featured Column
CREOLE HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS



JOSEPH MITCHELL PHD
 Featured Column
BLACK AMERICAN EDUCATION



NATHANIEL PATTERSON
 Featured Column
CONNECT TO SUCCESS



DARRON PATTERSON
 Featured Column
OP/ED



GWENDOLYN PUGH-HALL
 Featured Column
FINANCIAL TIPS



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS PETTWAY
 Featured Column
THE NARRATIVE



MEMPHIS VAUGHAN JR
 Featured Column
TAKING MOBILE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the articles printed in Steppin' Out are those of the authors and may not reflect the views and opinions of Steppin' Out, it's owners, advertisers or other authors.

MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER...

Greetings Steppin' Out Readers,

Thank you for continuing to support Steppin' Out over all these Twenty-four plus years. I'd like to welcome our many new readers and would ask that you continue to spread the word that we're here and we're here for you.



We've stayed around all these years because our original goals have not changed; to report positive Black information and news in our community that other media sources ignore, and to be a inexpensive source for small businesses to advertise and promote their services to a key segment of the population.

Over the last eighteen months we have shifted significantly away from the entertainment side of our reporting and have become more Afrocentric with our articles given the contributions that our culture has made since the beginning of this country and, because of the efforts of many to return this country to the Jim Crow Era. It is incumbent for all of us to remain aware and educated on the political and economic moves that are shaping our society and our communities. We must be vigilant about the things going on in our community and who is actually orchestrating what we see. There are many false narratives beginning to manifest themselves.

We will be making a few changes next month to the paper and will be adding additional platforms to keep you better informed. Some of those changes are the results of suggestions made by you, our readers. We encourage you to continue to communicate your thoughts. We promise to treat all of your positive suggestions and criticisms with the respect they deserve.

We'd also like to acknowledge our contributors who work so hard to provide valuable content and opinion that provide opportunities to inform and to give you food for thought. We have a lot of issues, both positive and negative, going on in Mobile and we all need to be aware of the issues going on around us.

Issues like how our neighborhoods are changing and how those changes can and will affect us (Were you informed about the changes coming to your neighborhood during the planning stages or was it already a done deal)? How the political climate is changing and how citizens are expecting more from the folks that they did or did not put in office (Do those elected officials keep you informed about what's going on and are they truly representing you)? How the educational landscape needs to change and what we can do to support our educators to facilitate those changes (Is your child truly learning and have you seen positive changes at your school)? Our contributors will and have touched on a number of subjects and issues based on their fields of expertise. When they are giving opinion, it will clearly be stated as such.

Steppin' Out will make this promise to you; We will always Print only promote The Truth. If we ever print a political ad/endorsement, not that we ever have, it will be clearly shown as that and not an endorsement by Steppin' Out. We will take the same approach with businesses that promote a false or misleading agenda. The Truth Matters and you, our readers, deserve that.

Thank You for Your Support and Continue to be Blessed!

GREG CYPRIAN
 Publisher/Editor
 STEPPIN' OUT NEWS



WHAT'S INSIDE



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Saving THE AVENUE

04



COVER

Jazz Appreciation Month

05



CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Taste or Timing

14



LEGENDARY ICON

Lou Gossett Jr.

25

HAT'S OFF **22-24**

OBITUARIES **28**

NEW FEATURE

PASSINGS **29**

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

MAY 2024



TAKING MOBILE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Memphis Vaughan Jr.

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

Feedback can be sent to: mempv57@gmail.com



SAVING THE AVENUE

I was encouraged when I attended the kickoff meeting in late January for the effort to establish the Mobile County Civil Rights and Cultural Heritage District in the Martin Luther King Avenue corridor and community. The public meeting, held on Bishop State's campus, was well-attended and the presentations gave a historical overview and was a good start in outlining the initial goals of the initiative's master plan.

Once the presentations were made by those leading the effort, the floor was opened for questions and comments. During this segment of the meeting, I observed overwhelming support for any effort to revitalize the focus area. Many spoke of their fondness for the area and how the Avenue was the lifeblood of the black community. Unfortunately, it began to decline in the 70's and now is only a former shell of itself. Yet, the desire to maintain the iconic places that still stand is very strong.

The Central High School building is one of those buildings. Once used as a campus of Bishop State and as a venue space, it now sits empty again. Having been rescued in the past, it seemed to have a renewed sense of vitality and purpose that would last for generations to come. I don't know all the reasons behind Bishop State's exit, but I hope that this current plan

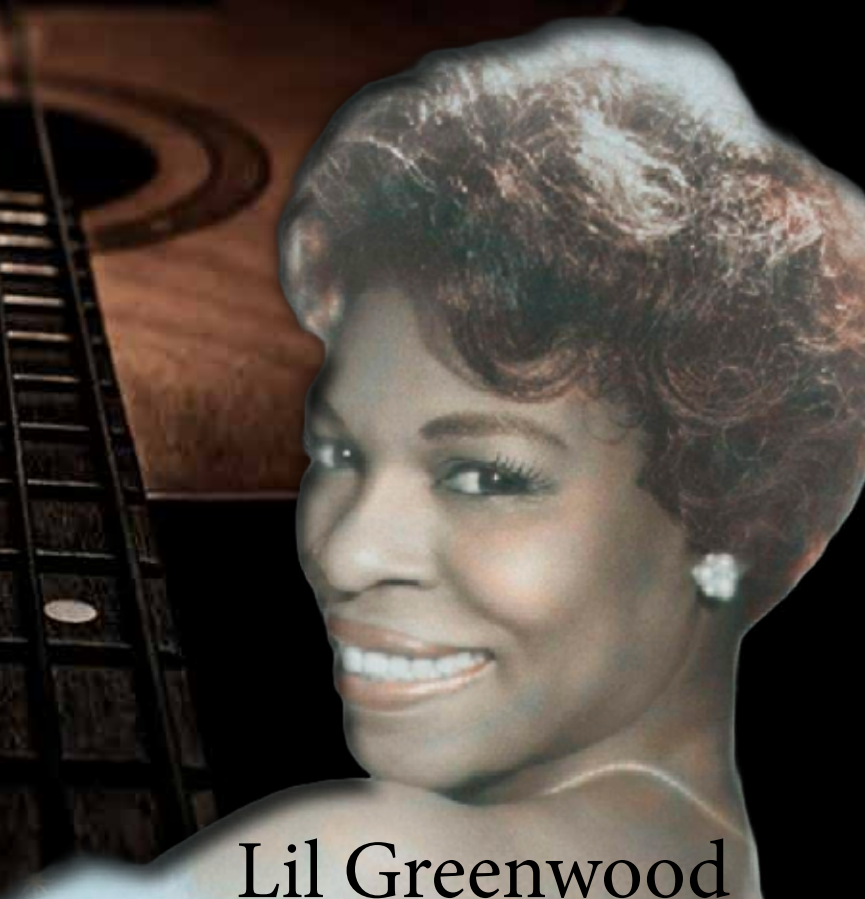
will ensure the facility is kept as part of the Avenue's legacy. There have been other hit-or-miss efforts of revitalization along the Avenue such as the shopping center that hosted a modern-day version of the Best Grill and other businesses.

For a while, it drew many patrons that came for a good meal and the opportunity to rub elbows with community leaders and everyday citizens. Once the restaurant closed and other businesses gradually left, the plaza sat empty. Then, seemingly without any effort to bring in new business, the relatively new plaza was torn down.

My hope is that this current effort will be more sustained and comprehensive by preserving what's left and bringing in new facilities that complement the character of the Avenue. Any effort must have genuine input and meaningful participation from the community and be beneficial to existing residents and those that want the Avenue to be a significant part of Mobile again. ♣



Greg Cyprian
PUBLISHER/EDITOR
Steppin' Out News



Lil Greenwood

JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH

The month of April is recognized as Jazz Appreciation Month. This designation was created in 2001 by Dr. John Edward Hasse, curator at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History. It was created as a vehicle for educators, musicians, organizations and fans to celebrate an art form created in America and more specifically, New Orleans.

The music was given birth in the early part of the twentieth century in an area of the Crescent City known as Storyville. That area was the city's Red Light District and was created by municipal ordinance to regulate prostitution. It existed from 1897 to 1917. Sidney Story, a New Orleans Alderman, wrote the guidelines and legislation guidelines for the area now known as Treme.

At the creation of Storyville, originally called The District, Black and White musicians were segregated. It was first opened to Black musicians who at that time were still greatly influenced by the rhythms of African music called Bamboula Rhythm, which is a Call and Response vocalization of African drums that transferred to early Jazz instruments and was present in West and Central African Music. As White musicians slowly started making their way into Storyville, they became influenced by the music these Black musicians were playing. Eventually, the musicians began to perform together in musical ventures

within Storyville, although as the music began to gain popularity, record labels kept the musicians segregated.

The musicians were hired in the Brothels by Madams to entertain the clients within the parlors. Because the clients were busy with other activities, the musicians experimented with their musical styles. With performers like Jelly Roll Martin, Manuel Manetta, and an emerging trumpeter by the name of Louis Armstrong. The District was forced to close by the Navy in 1917 because of the sailors that were taking part in the services being offered during World War I.

This April marks the 125th Birthday of Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, one of America's greatest jazz musicians. Born on April 29th in Washington, D.C., he was influenced by his parents who both played piano. He led one of the most longest lived and stable bands in jazz history. Prichard's own Lil Greenwood was recruited by and performed with Ellington in 1956. She stayed with his band over the next six years.

Ellington was able to transpose everyday life into musical works of art by combining his unconventional orchestration technique with the unique talent of his individual Orchestra members. To celebrate his 125th birthday, the museum featured him on it's Jazz Appreciation Month Poster for 2024.♣



Truth, Facts & Justice

Sabrina Mass

RETIRED NURSE • CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST
COMMUNITY ORGANIZER
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Demanding Accountability

Until we truly mobilize and organize collectively as a people, Mobile, Alabama will continue to have second rate service from our “Public Officials.”

Many of the younger generation refer to individuals with notoriety and prominence (amongst the crowds) as individuals having “motion.” They are able to move at will... marking (their) territory (in a sense) as desired. For those who watch competitive cooking shows and even for those who just enjoy great cuisine, it’s widely known that true culinary artistry is reflective of structuring a plethora of ingredients and gestures into one solid structure.

A coordinated arrangement of preparations if you will... Does not the best example of servitude from leadership at least mirror the greatest examples of consideration, empathy, integrity, accountability, vision, and positive-influence? Do communities not deserve representation that mirrors the people’s best interest? How else do we best shape the future without having the right spearhead(s) to guide us?

In Mobile, we have a unique outlet to express our disdain, share our most pressing concerns, or make meaningful observations before our (supposedly) elected representatives. While the public example of such interaction is quite limited, there is still room to be heard and considered. Presence is so important within local government.

Are you engaged? Every Tuesday (unless on a holiday) our local officials meet to conduct city business. Unfortunately, most of the decisions made with our taxpayer dollars aren’t made on behalf of the people who need assistance the most. Instead, ideas, projects, proposals, and plans normally reflect the advantage of an elitist structure both seen and unseen throughout this area we each call home.

How long will we tolerate a handful of individuals misusing our resources for their own ideological endeavors? How long will we continue to accept such results as the usual outcome? Do we not deserve better? When they mess up your order at a restaurant, don’t you send it back to the kitchen and get something new? How long shall we allow Mobile’s “movers and shakers” to get away with getting paid by us but seriously doing nothing for us? What about the backdoor deals going on?

During the March 19, 2024 city council meeting, Valenia Green broke the news that the City of Mobile has orchestrated the sale of multiple apartment complexes in the Down The Bay area to Airbus, potentially displacing a larger elderly population from their home for the sake of a dollar. At this same meeting, Reggie Hill schooled the public on proper policing procedures (Ch. 46 of the Mobile Municipal Code) and warned Mobilians on the danger of approving a \$300M deal for the Mobile Civic Center.

I reiterated the importance of preserving our 1st Amendment Rights and told our officials to remove the American flag from the auditorium chambers if the City planned to continue abusing power, being discriminatory, targeting citizens, and attacking the people who give most to our community without any fiscal reward. Wake up, 2025 is rapidly approaching!♣



Creole History Highlights

Tracy Neely

PRESIDENT: MOBILE CREOLE CULTURAL
AND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Edward Chastang (1789-1843)

This month, our chronicle brings us to Edward Chastang, son of Dr. Jean Baptiste Chastang and Louison, born sometime around 1789. Raised in his younger years at Fuerte San Estevan (Fort St. Stephen), it is likely he was born there. He was the ninth of their eleven children.

In 1795, when Edward was just six years old, Dr. John felt the need to register livestock brands in the name of young Edward and several of his other children. This document, found in the Archivo General de Indias, in Spain’s National Archives.

The digitized image shows the precise lettering and font of the branding mark. The document also illustrates how Edward’s pigs would have their ears and mouths marked for identification. The colonial Spanish is a reminder that just because the Chastangs were French, French was not their only language. Spanish was the language necessary to navigate their neighborhood, where the Spanish militia also lived, daily honing their skills to protect the fort. English would have also been necessary, as well as some indigenous tongues.

Later, as a young man, Edward would be a member of the Mississippi Militia. Serving in McBoy’s 14th Regiment under Captains Benjamin DuBroca and Charles LaLande, his brothers, Eugene, Zenon, Auguste and Baptiste, served with him. He served as a Private from January to March of 1815. There is no record that says he was serving during the Massacre at Fort Mims, but he was certainly impacted by the event, living so close to the fort at the time.

He became head of the St Stephen’s District which required him to maintain the road. Today we forget that this is why Hwy 43 is called St. Stephen’s Road. It was the road one took to get to Fort St. Stephens. But by 1830, he was living in Mobile and all nine of his children with Celeste Collins had been born.

In 1839 and 1843 there were devastating Yellow Fever epidemics. Several members of Edward’s family succumbed during the 1839 epidemic. Whether Edward contracted the disease that year and survived, we don’t know. But by 1841, in the last two weeks of August, Edward did two things. First, he married Celeste Collins, the mother of his children. Second, he wrote his will. Both acts legitimized his wife and children as heirs, protecting them legally regarding any inheritance. An inheritance he himself had yet to receive since his father, Dr. John, had willed everything to Louison first, before it was to be divided between the children, and Louison was still living. Two years later on 5 August 1843, Edward died from Yellow Fever. He is buried in Church Street Graveyard.

<https://pares.mcu.es/ParesBusquedas20/catalogo/show/20339?nm>♣



LIKE & FOLLOW US ON
facebook
Scan to Visit Steppin' Out on Facebook!

FILM

DENZEL WASHINGTON TEAMS UP WITH SONS ON NETFLIX'S ADAPTATION OF AUGUST WILSON'S 'THE PIANO LESSON'

#HOLLYWOODMELANIN

DID YOU KNOW...

- **THOMAS JENNINGS** holds the distinction of being the **FIRST BLACK AMERICAN TO BE GRANTED A PATENT**. A tailor by trade in New York City, jennings applied/ received a patent in 1821 **FOR A CLEANING TECHNIQUE** he'd pioneered called "dry scouring – **A PRECURSOR TO DRY CLEANING**.
- **ACTOR CLIFTON DAVIS** is also a **SONG-WRITER** who **WROTE SONGS FOR THE JACKSON 5** including their second big hit 'Never Can Say Goodbye'
- **RICHARD SPIKES CREATED** the **AUTOMATIC GEAR SHIFT**, helping people drive up hills everywhere
- **ELIZABETH FREEMAN**, nicknamed "Mum Bett," **WAS BORN INTO SLAVERY** in 1742. After the Revolutionary War, hearing Massachusetts State Constitution being read aloud and hearing "all men are born free and equal," she decided to sue for her Freedom. Mum Bett became the **FIRST FEMALE SLAVE TO SUE** ([Brom and Bett v. Ashley](#)) and **WIN HER FREEDOM!** (Click blue link above for the full story -or- visit <https://www.massmoments.org/moment-details/jury-decides-in-favor-of-elizabeth-mum-bett-freeman.html>)

In 1969, many public swimming pools were still segregated. Fred Rogers invited a Black police officer on his kids' show "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" to join him to cool off his feet in a small plastic tub, breaking a well-known color barrier!



Officer Clemmons, played by Black actor Francois Clemmons on episode airing 2003

Officer Clemmons, played by Black actor Francois Clemmons on episode airing 1969

Blex

Warner Bros. Pictures Animation has revealed the voice cast for their upcoming animated feature based on the beloved Dr. Seuss class...

THE CAT IN THE HAT

Seuss

QUINTA BRUNSON JOINS CAST OF WARNER BROS. ANIMATION 'THE CAT IN THE HAT' ADAPTATION



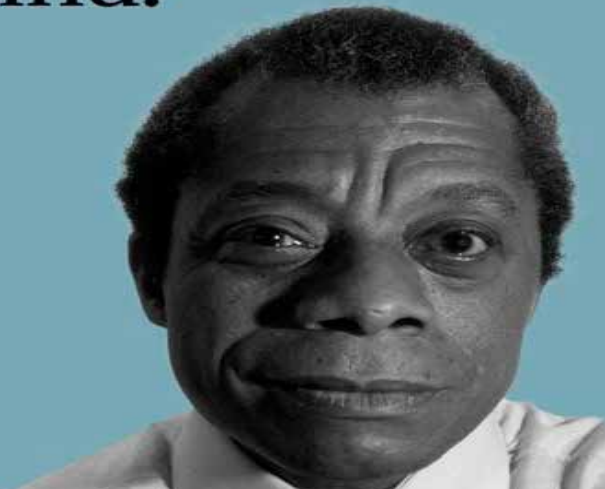
The LACTATION CIRCLE Support Group Relaunch

The Women, Infants & Children (WIC) supplemental nutrition program at the Mobile County Health Department has brought back the in- person breastfeeding support group The Lactation Circle, which is designed to better serve its participants.

The Lactation Circle provides support for breastfeeding women on WIC in Mobile County. The team is led by WIC's Breastfeeding. ♣

Neither love nor
terror makes one
blind: indifference
makes one blind.

—JAMES BALDWIN



Welcome to the Board of Directors

Thank you for your service and commitment
to Bishop State Community College.



Dr. April T. Berry

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR and
PSYCHOLOGICAL TECHNICIAN



Clarence M. Ball Jr.

PRESIDENT and CEO
Ball HealthCare Services Inc.

Mobile Police Department's CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

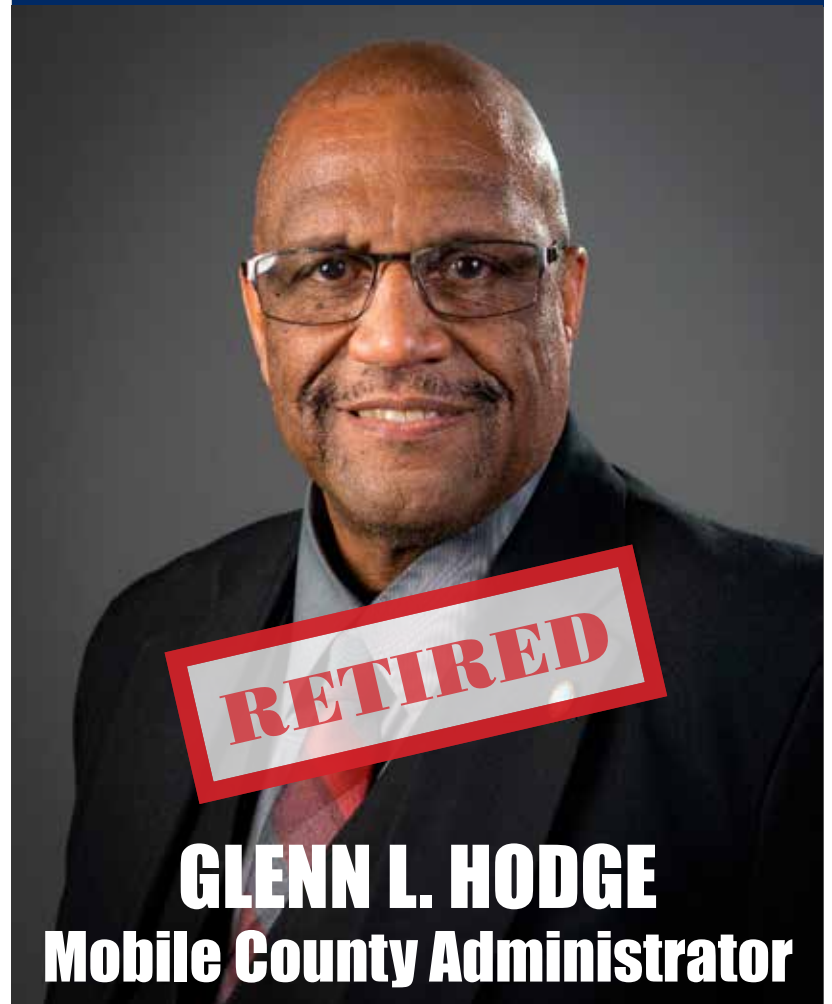
April 30 – July 09²⁰²⁴



SPRING REGISTRATION IS OPEN
DEADLINE TO APPLY
APRIL 23

For More Information
www.mobilepd.org/citizens-academy

-Or-
Call (251) 208-2720



GLENN L. HODGE
Mobile County Administrator

RETIRED from Public Service
Effective April 01, 2024

E. EDWIN (EDDIE) KERR
Previously Mobile County's Deputy Administrator,
Named INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
Effective March 01, 2024

**THE
STATE OF STIs
IN THE
UNITED STATES,
2022**

CDC's 2022 STI Surveillance Report underscores that STIs must be a public health priority

1.6 million
CASES OF CHLAMYDIA
6.2% decrease since 2018

648,056
CASES OF GONORRHEA
11% increase since 2018

207,255
CASES OF SYPHILIS
80% increase since 2018

3,755
CASES OF SYPHILIS
AMONG NEWBORNS
183% increase since 2018

LEARN MORE AT: www.cdc.gov/std/



Expressions: Right or Wrong! Lisa Johnson



Can we just take a moment to pause? Pause for what you might ask? Pause for solutions to disagreements and conflicts. I asked Google what's the difference between these two terms, and here's what it provided: "Disagreement is primarily a cognitive phenomenon stemming from differing opinions or viewpoints. It's a natural part of decision-making and problem-solving. On the other hand, conflict is more emotional and involves tension, hostility, or discord." Whether you're involved in either, is it possible for you reach a peaceful solution amicably? Nowadays, it seems many people resort to some form of violence rather than discussing the matter. Back in my school days, the idea of someone bringing a gun to school to resolve a disagreement or conflict was unheard of. Sure, there were occasional fights, but by the next day, the involved parties would be talking as if nothing had occurred. We must find ways to resolve disagreements and conflicts without resorting to physical harm. The art of communicating effectively and sensibly has been lost among some. Is it possible to teach our young ones to express themselves without using profanity? Growing up, if someone spoke profanity and noticed you nearby, they would apologize, saying, "I'm so sorry, excuse me. I meant no disrespect," and then continued their conversation without cursing. Nowadays, I've observed adults swearing at their young children, then wondering why their child goes to school using profanity towards teachers, classmates, and even back at them. My parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles did not tolerate talking back. If you did, you were put in place quickly, which ensured you wouldn't dare try it again. Educating our children starts at home. What are you allowing your children to listen to on the radio or watch on television, in movies, video games, and so forth? If you wish to see change, you must be the CHANGE! Children mimic the actions of their parents or guardians.

*An ancient Proverb says: "A mild answer turns away rage, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise makes good use of knowledge, but the mouth of the stupid blurts out foolishness." ❀



CONGRATULATIONS

Completed the Reflex with 100% Accuracy!

THIRD GRADE:

Amari Clark • Bryson King • Lyric Pettway • D'Angelo Williams

FOURTH GRADE:

Chase Holloway • Channing Maye • Cardelle Wright



CONGRATULATIONS

INFINITE INSURANCE & HOUSING SOLUTIONS, LLC Mechelle Davis Agency on 8 Years in Business

Pictured with Mechelle is Tina Poiroux, Director of the Community Center with the Southwest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce headquartered in Tillman's Corner.

Living In Bliss

Debra Braggs

VETERAN FASHION COLUMNIST
AND LIFESTYLE REPORTER



It's Time to *Romanticize* Your Life!

Now that we've learned to prioritize joy in our daily lives, it's time to put that practice in action. That's right, we're going to romanticize our lives. We're going to make living itself an art.

Naysayers may think that "romanticizing your life" is living in a fantasy. But the truth is, your reality is whatever you make it. I say your reality is by design. Do you want eat on the China or paper plates? Drink from the champagne glasses or plastic cups? It's all up to you. (Wine is so much better from a goblet). The simple definition of romanticizing your life is this: It means to embrace and enjoy every day moments. Make those mundane moments special and the ordinary extraordinary. The concept became popular during the pandemic because people needed an escape from the isolation. Turns out, doctors say it's a concept we need to practice more often –it's therapeutic, a form of selfcare.

The question is: Do you have the audacity to think you deserve it? Do you have the conviction to make yourself the main character of a life you create, instead of just letting life happen?

On YouTube and TikTok there are tons of videos of people who have decided to elevate the everyday with very simple things. It's like experimenting with exotic flavors in your morning coffee, cooking and eating by candlelight, having a picnic lunch in a park, watching the sunset from a hilltop or savoring a glass of wine while listening to jazz before bedtime. I remember watching a YouTube video about a family that creates a special dining experience for their young kids once a week. They prepare menus, set the table as if they were in a fancy restaurant and let the children order. The family is addicted to the experience and anticipates it each week.

Remember that living blissful does not mean living lavishly. It means living with the intention of finding joy in little things. Your life is your feature film, and doesn't cost a fortune to produce it. You've just got to put in the work.

UNTIL NEXT TIME... Try Adding a Little Romance to Your Day -- I Bet You'll Find More Bliss!❖

Mobile Chocolate Festival.com
April 13
2024
14th Annual

Featuring:

- Vendors with Samples and products
- Chocolate Challenge
- Project Yum Way
- Live Music
- Car Show
- Food Trucks

Free:

- Children's Area
- Mobile Fixture Apron Decoration Station
- Cupcake Booth
- Fishing Booth
- Photo Booth
- Chocolate Martini Tasting

• At 1035 Cody Road North, Mobile, AL 36608

Proceeds to benefits Penelope House **10am-3pm**

Admission is \$10.00/\$5.00 for ages 4-12 and
FREE For children 3 and under

DFF AAHT

WELCOME To Africatown
PLATEAU MAGAZINE
HAPPY HILLS • KELLY HILL
LEWIS QUARTERS

**DORA FRANKLIN FINLEY
AFRICAN-AMERICAN
HERITAGE TRAIL
&
HISTORIC FRANKLIN HOUSE GALLERY**
(Tours Depart the VISIT MOBILE WELCOME CENTER)
111 S. Royal Street • Mobile, AL 36602

**The Dora Franklin Finley African American Heritage Trail
invites you to take a trip back in time.
Tour Alabama's oldest city:
Africatown - Creole Heritage - Historic Churches
Black Millionaires - Civil Rights Movement - Hidden Figures**

SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR TODAY: AT
DFFAAHT.ORG OR 251-725-2236

WWW.DFFAAHT.ORG

HISTORIC FRANKLIN HOUSE GALLERY • 355 N. ANN STREET • MOBILE AL 36603

**LIKE & FOLLOW US ON
facebook**

Scan to Visit Steppin' Out on Facebook!

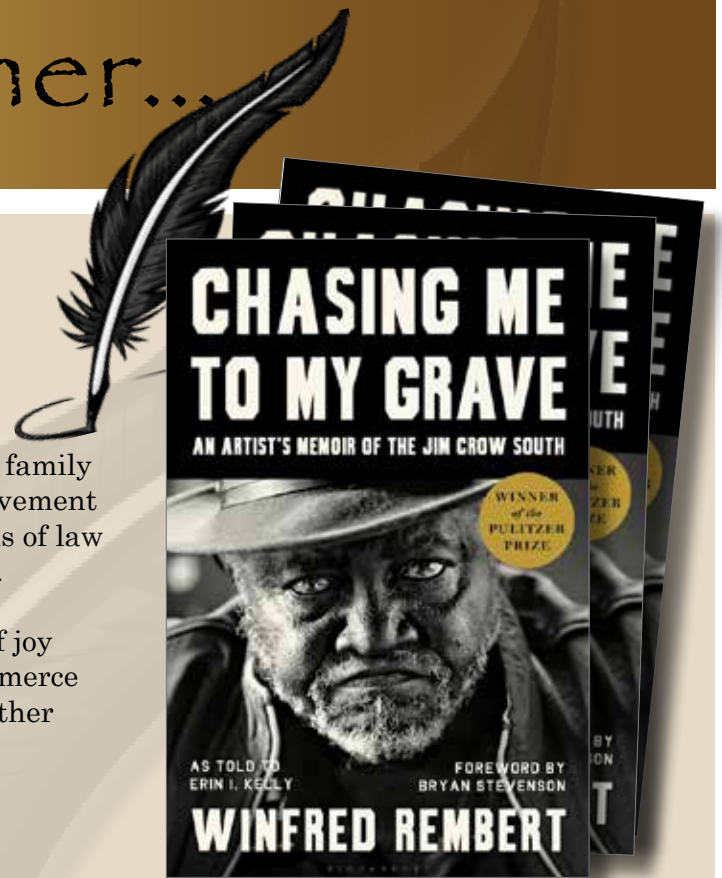
Literary Corner...



Rembert

This is the story of this late artist who grew up in a family of Georgia field laborers, joined the Civil Rights Movement as a teenager, survived a near-lynching at the hands of law enforcement, and spent seven years on chain gangs.

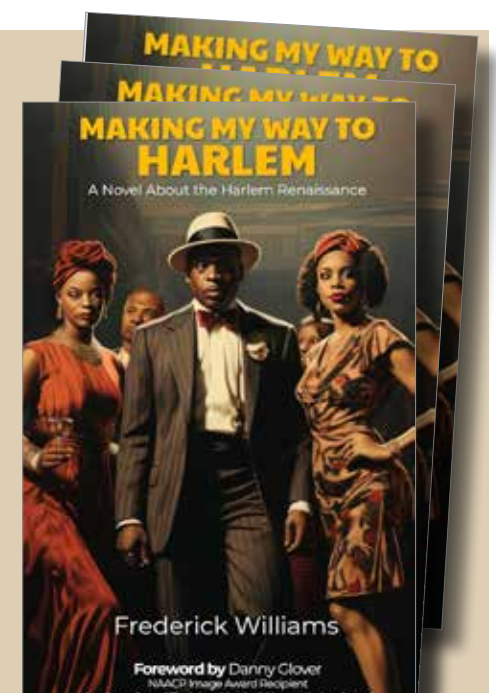
Rembert brought his past to vibrant life in scenes of joy and terror, from the promise of southern Black commerce to the brutality of chain gang labor, through his leather paintings that became a bedrock of his work. ♣



Williams

In this book you will meet Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, Dr. W.E.B. Du Bois, Zora Neale Hurston, James Weldon Johnson, and other artists from the period known as the Harlem Renaissance.

You will be taken to iconic locations such as the Cotton Club, Connie's Inn, and Sugar Cane Cafe, and to the hangouts of the intellectual elite like the 135th St. Library where Testina Anderson held her legendary poetry readings. ♣

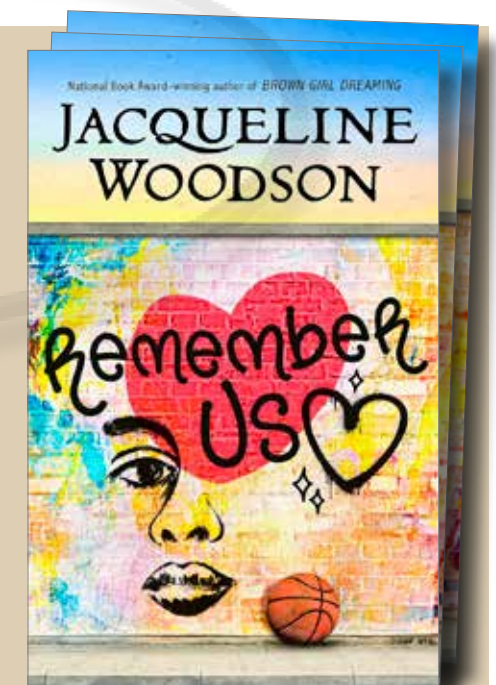


Woodson

This National Book Award Winner brings readers a powerful that delves deeply into life's burning questions about time and memory and what we take with us into the future.

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. Her book, *Brown Girl Dreaming*, she shared what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 60's and 70's, living in the remnants of the Jim Crow Era and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights Movement. This book's message is delivered through Poetry.

Remember Us speaks to the power of both letting go and holding on for the main character, Sage, a 7th Grader who is growing away from her circle of girlfriends and drawing toward Freddy, a boy she meets during the summer, who she shares a special kinship with. ♣



Mobile Police Department's CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY April 30 – July 09²⁰²⁴



SPRING REGISTRATION IS OPEN
DEADLINE TO APPLY
APRIL 23

For More Information

www.mobilepd.org/citizens-academy

-or-

Call (251) 208-2720

ADVERTISE

WITH US!

(251) 217-1220

Info@SteppinOutMobile.COM

Connect to Success!

Nathaniel Patterson

Named to LinkedIn LeadersHum: "Top 200 Biggest Voices in Leadership to Watch For" in 2022 & 2023, Coach, Columnist, Facilitator, Public Speaker and Trainer
CONNECT on LinkedIn -or- (727) 485.3980



People Do Business With...

People do business with those that they know, are an easy habit, are referred to by a trusted source or are compensated for. All four of the aforementioned reasons should give you reason to pause and review not only your own habits but those in leadership.

Doing Business with Those That You Know

People can get really comfortable in relationships. To do business with a new organization or person requires people to leave their comfort zones, additional research and paperwork. The problem is that this is a common sentiment in purchasing environments and employment. Relationship bias tends to overlook selecting the best candidate for convenience and/or favors.

Referred to By a Trusted Source

We all have people who impact our decisions – Influencers. Yet some are victims of others affluence, charisma and/or power. To curry favor they have a penchant for following directions. This behavior leads to discriminatory actions and sacrificing excellence for the favor of influence. Where there is money, particularly contracts and employment, many of the decisions are negatively impacted.

Compensation

Responsibility is a loose word. Accountability is looser. Money is not the root of all evil. But the pursuit, combined with corrupted values will lead to unethical behavior. Not all corruption is directly compensated. There are people favored with investments, back-end payments, employment for the family/friends, points on bidding, unpublished reviews of bidding etc....

Whether you reside in large or small metropolitans expect to see this impacting you and your family daily. There are solutions, like term limits for politicians and key management or leadership positions, true checks and balances, enforcement of federal mandates, ethic policies and white-collar crime.

Yet, mostly we ALL need to make a decision to operate in fairness, in excellence. Legit competition is hard enough without dealing with personal biases, discrimination and undue influencers. Do not believe in self-policing. YOU must speak up or it will continue to negatively impact this community economically. It is time for a new norm.

As Always... LET'S BE GREATER!❖



Thinking Outside of the Box

Arthur L. Mack

FREELANCE WRITER

steppinoutnews@aol.com

Poor Taste... Poor Timing?

Emotions ran high at the Mobile City Council's March 12 meeting as several citizens spoke out against the Comic Cowboys and a sign that was on one of their floats referencing the Jawan Dallas video.

For those of you who forgot, Dallas died in police custody after being apprehended during a call about a burglary in Theodore that happened in July of 2023. Dallas, who was at the scene, was confronted by police officers after the call was made and attempts were made to arrest him, even though witnesses on the scene said he wasn't the person involved.

Dallas allegedly got into a struggle with the arresting officers, and was tased several times. He later died after being tased. Police reports said there were no injuries contributing to Dallas' death. An autopsy report said the two jolts of electricity received by Dallas after being tased did not cause his death, either. Rather, it said Dallas had several medical conditions that led to his death.

After several requests, family members were allowed to see video footage of Dallas being apprehended and tased. This leads to now.

During the Fat Tuesday celebration on February 13, the Comic Cowboys, as they normally do, paraded through the streets of downtown Mobile, hurling satirical barbs at public figures and various events. Their motto, 'Without Malice,' has at times rung hollow to some of the victims of their barbs. In this instance, one of the Comic Cowboys' floats had a sign referencing the Dallas video. The sign showed a drawing of a man being electrocuted, along with the caption, "MPD finally releases BODY CAM footage...with SHOCKING RESULTS!"

Understandably, the sign opened old wounds for the Dallas family, so it was no surprise that supporters urged the City Council to condemn the sign. Councilman Cory Penn, who sympathized with Dallas family supporters, asked city attorney Ricardo Woods what, if anything, the council could do.

Woods said because of First Amendment rights, the city, nor the city council, could do much in response to the float's message. Mayor Sandy Stimpson, who resigned from the Comic Cowboys in 2017 because of the Comic Cowboys being involved in controversies regarding having floats with racial overtones, said in a statement, "Making jokes about any loss of life is always in poor taste, but regardless of my or anyone else's personal opinion, all citizens have a right to peaceably assemble and exercise

their right to free speech under the First Amendment." Technically, both Woods and Stimpson are correct regarding free speech. But supporters of the Dallas family have a very valid point, too. At best, using the Dallas case for a prop in a parade was extremely poor timing, given that the incident happened seven months ago. At the absolute worst, it was also extremely distasteful, given the controversy surrounding Dallas' death. As Councilman William Carroll said in comparing the cartoon to blacks being burned and lynched 100 years ago: "What's the difference between burning and electricity? What are you trying to project to the general public? It was insensitive and inappropriate...it should've never happened."

Now, Penn and Carroll pledged to sign a letter the group will write to the Comic Cowboys voicing its displeasure over the float and the cartoon. It's hard to tell what's going to happen next, but steps should be taken by the Comic Cowboys to make sure making light of someone's death, especially when it happened under controversial circumstances, doesn't happen again.♣



Dr. Major Joe Womack USMCR (ret.) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AFRICATOWN-CHESS.ORG



Africatown parents, years ago, in order to keep their kids safe from bad elements that existed outside of our Africatown Community, would tell us "Do Not Go Across the Tracks". However, today that phrase is not relevant to the safety of Africatown residents because "The Tracks are coming Closer to the Africatown Residents."

About 100 interested people showed up for a meeting on February 29th at The Robert Hope Community Center in Africatown to be informed and talk about a proposal to install nearly two additional miles of railroad tracks near the residential areas of The Historic Africatown Community. In addition to Africatown residents attending the meeting, there were people from North Mobile County, West Mobile and other parts of the surrounding areas there because they have love for the community. They either were born there, have relatives there, went to school there or are interested in preserving the community intact for the world to come see and enjoy. Most of them believe as I do, which is, Africatown is a "living dinosaur" and our job is to protect it from desecration.

Some attendees believed as I did, That this meeting would be similar to the Town Hall Meeting held a few weeks before this meeting by The Alabama Department of Environmental Management in which ADEM & the business the complaint was filed against (Hosea Weaver) had informational stations set up around the room that the attendees could visit and ask questions but there also was time set up for those that wanted to express themselves could do so for a maximum of five minutes. This meeting was truly "all informational." The meeting consisted of power point presentations by The Alabama State Port Authority & The U.S. Department of Transportation - Federal Railroad Administration. After their presentations were done, those in attendance were invited to visit the various stations around the room to learn more, ask questions and write down any concerns they had about the project. The Alabama State Port Authority passed out a sheet that contained answers to frequently asked questions. The most troublesome and misleading answer I saw was to the question, "Does this project impact historic areas". The answer was, "The potential for adverse impacts to Africatown's historic resources are currently being evaluated in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Public input is a vital part of this evaluation. However, it should be noted that the project is located outside of the existing limits of the federally designated Africatown Historic District". This project is OUTSIDE of Africatown's Historic District only because The Port of Mobile did not want their land included as part of Africatown's Historic District. In addition, the project is very close to residential homes and Africatown's Historic School within the historic district. Unfortunately for Africatown residents, The Africatown Historic District is only about 40% of where Africatown residents live and about 20% of the entire Africatown Planning Area.

Quite a number of Africatown supporters left disappointed because they had come to the meeting with a lot they wanted to say and was not given the opportunity to express themselves verbally. I include myself as one of those people. Its unfortunate, but most residents will not take the time to write their opinions and questions down and turn them in later. They would rather express themselves at an open microphone rather than put something in writing. Africatown's CHESS environmental organization will continue to collaborate with other local and national environmental organizations to push for more transparency within the community and more open community meetings.♣

MCHD Weekend "DRIVE THRU" RABIES CLINICS



APRIL 2024

04/06 • 10:00AM to NOON

LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2104 Government Street (Mobile)

04/13 • 10:00am to Noon

MOBILE COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

7665 Howell's Ferry Road (Mobile)

04/13 • 1:00pm to 3:00pm

PET SUPPLIES PLUS

804 Hillcrest Road (Mobile)

04/20 • 10:00am to Noon

GLAMOUR PAWS GROOMING

10005 Dauphin Island Parkway
(Theodore)

04/29 • 9:00am to Noon

PRICHARD ANIMAL SHELTER

2404 Rebel Road (Prichard)

The clinic will be in the Prichard
Municipal Stadium parking lot

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

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



Locs of Soul

Tanene Jackson

TRICHOLOGIST

OWNER/OPERATOR of LOCS OF SOUL, LLC



FENUGREEK ...

As a self-proclaimed herb and plant lover, I would like to introduce you to a savory, yet pleasantly, sweet smelling and tasty herb..... Fenugreek (also known as Methi). Commonly used in Chinese and Ayurvedic medicine, it is one of the oldest medicinal plants used since 4000 BC. Fenugreek (Trigonella), derives from Middle French fenugrec, meaning "Greek hay". It is native to the Mediterranean region, southern Europe, and western Asia. Fenugreek is used as a spice when cooking, adding a sweet savory flavor to a dish. It can be blended in meat rubs, great in curry dishes, and as a tea... it gives you a warm, calm, and soothing effect.

However, Fenugreek when used in holistic medicine is generally used to treat the following:

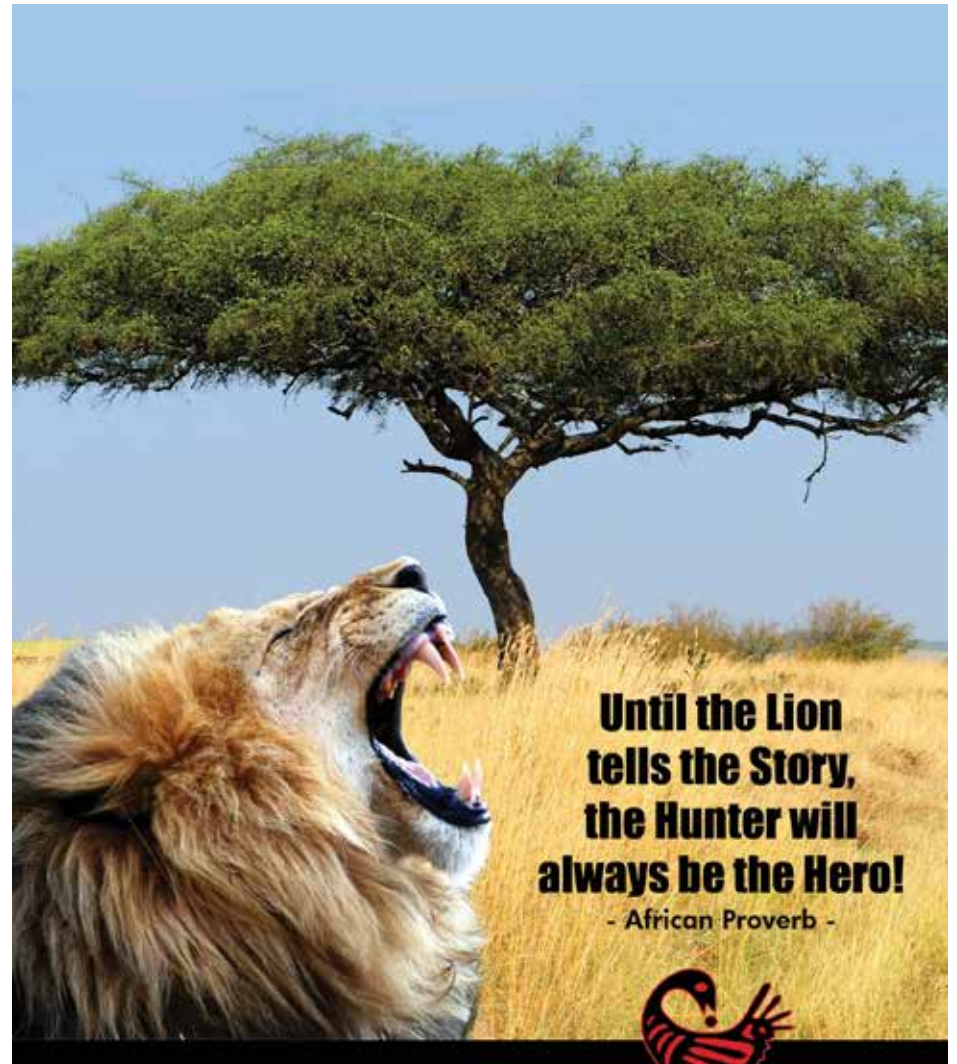
- Promotes hair growth stimulation, alleviates scalp inflammation, addresses dandruff, thickens hair, and reduces hair fall.
- Reduce the risk of diabetes.
- Improve milk production and flow (lactation).
- Raise testosterone and boost sperm count.
- Reduce inflammation.
- Pain relief.
- Improve weight loss.
- Reduce the risk of heart and blood pressure conditions.
- Sooth digestion issues.
- Treat Acne.
- Treat PCOS (polycystic ovary syndrome) and heavy menses to name a few.

Fenugreek can be ingested as a tea, powder and/or pill form. It can also be used externally as an ointment or oil infusion.

If you decide to add this herb to your kitchen arsenal... Great choice. Your taste buds will thank you. If you decide to add this herb to your medicinal survivor's kit, make sure fenugreek is the "medicine" for you. If Fenugreek is not compatible, try looking into substitute herbs with similar benefits.

Do your research and ask questions. There's always a pro and con to medicine.

PLEASE NOTE: This article is to inform. This information is not to cure or suggest a "cure all". If you are on medication, or have allergies, please consult your medical provider.♣



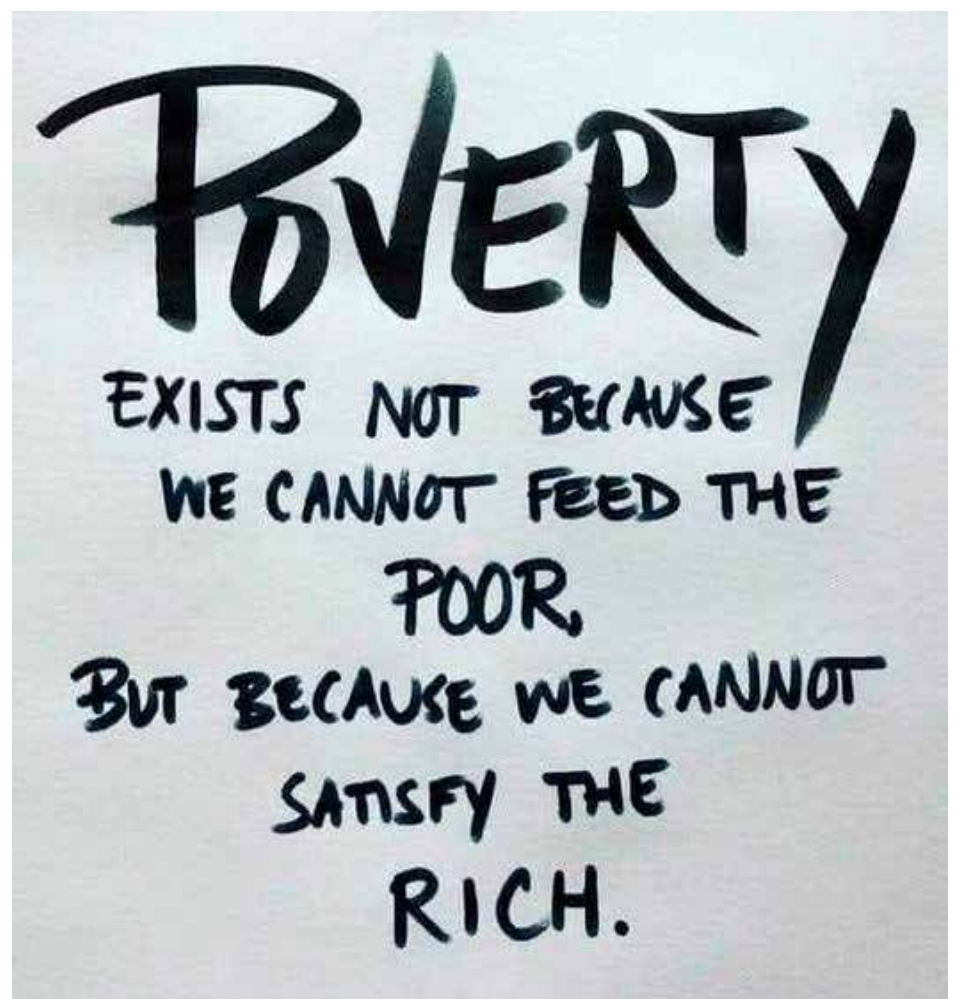
**Until the Lion
tells the Story,
the Hunter will
always be the Hero!**

- African Proverb -



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

**SANKOFA
MEDA GROUP
ALABAMA**



PORTRAITS in BLACK



Colored Hockey League

It's a known fact that Blacks interest in Ice Hockey is extremely limited. It's obviously a cold weather game played mostly by those that don't mind the temperature being in the lower levels on the Fahrenheit scale. That ain't Black folks.

So it would be a great surprise to most that there was once a Black Hockey League!

The Colored Hockey League of the Maritimes was an all Black league founded in 1895 in Nova Scotia in Canada and is credited as being the first professional hockey league. It was founded by four Black Baptist leaders and intellectuals and was formed to attract Black youth to Sunday Services with the promise of a hockey game between other Black churches after service. There was also a strong Black Nationalism Movement happening at the time, and with the growing interest in the sport, the league was seen by its founders as a potential unifying force for the equality of Black Canadians.

Over the years, the league had a dozen teams and had over 400 players from across Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. According to Wikipedia, it is credited as being the first league to allow the goaltender to leave his feet to cover a puck in 1900. This practice was not permitted elsewhere until the formation of the National Hockey League in 1917. It is also claimed that the first player to use the snapshot was Eddie Martin of the Halifax Eureka in 1906. The league ended in 1930.

A new documentary about the Coloured Hockey League will begin filming in the fall of this year. The film, titled BLACK ICE, has LeBron James and Toronto Rapper Drake as Executive Producers.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ITS DEBUT!



Financial Tips Gwedolyn Hall



How Are You Doing with YOUR FINANCIAL FITNESS?

HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO STAY ON TRACK:

1. MONITOR YOUR BUDGET FOR THE YEAR!

- Make sure you are on track with your savings and spending.
- Remember to watch out for that impulse buying with all the sales and special deals popping up.
- With Spring in the air and shopping on your mind, take a step back and think before making that purchase (Do I Need this, want this or can I do without it).
- My philosophy is to sleep on it and if I still want it make sure it fits in my budget or spending plan.
- Shop for items out of season and avoid shopping during peak season.

2. WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WITH THAT INCOME TAX REFUND?

Many of you will receive an income tax refund this year. Think of what you need to do with it that will maximize its benefits.

- Invest it for yourself!
 - Invest it for your children.
 - Pay off or down debt.
 - Save it for a special purchase or vacation.
- If you are at that point in life thinking about making a major purchase, now is the time to make sure you are watching your spending and eliminating debt. Resist all the ads, emails, phone calls, and solicitations to get more credit cards. You want to make sure your debt is low to get the best rates available to you.
 - Finally, if you want to be financially fit, you must keep an eye on your credit scores. A credit score tells lenders about your credit-worthiness. This score is used by creditors when determining whether to loan money and at what interest rate. This report is free to you each year at www.annualcreditreport.com.

Remember you work hard for your money, let it work smart for you!♣

APRIL'S GULFCHAT PRESENTED BY



EPHRIAM
ENVIRONMENTAL LLC.
CONSULTING - ECOASSESSMENTS - PERMITTING

In Partnership with:



Featured Speaker
Troy Ephriam

The Western Delta Watershed: An Ecosystem Perspective

The Western Delta Watershed Complex, a program spearheaded by the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program, is a working plan highlighting a multi-cultural sub watershed planning tool that brings environmental science and community together through education.

6PM | 11 April 2024

155 South Water Street

**NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM
OF THE
GULF OF MEXICO**

UNDERGROUND

Tracy Neely

Mobile Creole Cultural & Historical
Preservation Society

3:30 pm

Wed., April 30

University of South Alabama
Archaeology Museum
6050 USA South Drive

Research presentation free and open to the public.



**Coach Dawn Staley
and her 2024 CHAMPIONSHIP
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
NCAA Women's Basketball Team**



Darron Patterson
Clotilda Descendant
Award-Winning Career Sportswriter
and Technical Writer
writestuf.dp@gmail.com



(Vigor, Chestang-Fournier students advised EPA)

Blueway Project Gets Multimillion-Dollar Boost

Tired of watching old, out-of-touch white men in congress try to control things like what women do with their bodies to even how Black people can vote?

Well, keep reading for a much-needed breath of fresh air. When the community action group We Matter was recently awarded an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ‘Equitable Technical Assistance Program’ grant to, among other things, address environmental justice activities, it came with a list of requirements. The government program provides free design and project development assistance, community engagement and partnership development workshops. But, first, a capable architectural firm had to be involved, and most importantly local “stakeholder meetings” had to take place to give those in the community a say in how to spend the close to \$20 million-dollar award.

EPA picked the architectural firm SMM to hammer out plans, while We Matter sought out a local community group of some of the best experts, with the finest and freshest minds in their field: Middle school and high school students. In particular, a group of “ambassadors” from Chestang-Fournier Middle School in Trinity Gardens and Vigor High in Prichard were asked for their opinions on what SMM came up with. What they saw was a plan to enhance a beautiful stretch of white, sandy beach-type area near Chickasawbogue Park, part of the miles long Blueway Project that reaches from Africatown to Saraland.

“We enlisted the help of ambassadors from both schools,” said We Matter President Carletta Davis. “And they not only told us what they thought about what the architects came up with, but also told us what else they wanted to see. We took that to heart.”

During a community meeting held March 12 at Mt. Hebron Church Ministries to further discuss the project, some citizens “privately” said they’d hoped the money could be spent nearer Africatown, while others even talked about an area closer to Mobile College. But the general consensus from those in attendance was positive, as Department of Energy Special Adviser and Prichard native Ollie Davison joined Davis and the architects to powerfully explain how everything came together after they were tapped for the grant. With the help of skillful artists renderings produced by the architects, folks appeared to like what they saw. Davis said enlisting the young people’s input was key.

“(Listening to the young people) is something we hope will be generational, she said, they are our future.”❖

Ways you can stay protected from respiratory illnesses

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

CDC cdc.gov/coronavirus



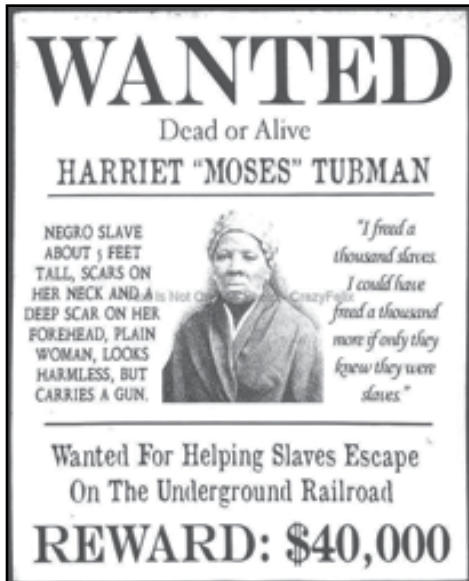
Black American Politics

JOSEPH MITCHELL PHD

Citizen Musician & Politician

Maybe it's me, but...

We have gone over documents and newspapers going back over 100 years. We found letters, posters, newspapers, and diaries that described African slaves. Thousands upon thousands of pasted Graphic.png posters, fliers and newspaper pages declaring rewards of money for the capture, return, or death of certain slaves were plentiful before and during the Civil War. After the Civil War, and beyond the end of World War II, bounties were placed on escaped and runaway slaves, and then upon Black people, many of whom had always been free.



Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II by Douglas Blackmon details the continuing assault on Black people in this country.

Nazis (is a nationality, not an ethnicity) killed millions of Jews; United States soldiers killed millions of Continental indigenous people; 10 million Black Africans were slaughter by Belgians in Belgium: ; over 4 million enslaved Africans were brought to Latin America. Roughly 3.5 million of those slaves were brought to Brazil - a country that is today 58% white with the remainder being of mixed ancestry secondary to miscegenation: a mixture of races.

A person who “self-identifies as Portuguese/Mozambique, writes: “I’m very light, born blue eyes and blonde hair. In Mozambique I was called MULUNGO, in Portugal I was called BRANCO, and in USA I am registered as WHITE, not my choice. I sure don’t know why race is so important... other than division/ segregation or to be easily identified IF I WAS A CRIMINAL. Most of the time I refuse to answer questions about my race because I don’t like to use skin color, I would prefer European Ancestry, African Ancestry, Asian Ancestry or Native American, because here in America, we don’t refer to Indians as Red, or Asians as Yellow, but we’re now using Black/ Brown/ White... WHY? If it’s Native Americans and Asians, why Blacks, Browns and Whites? I’m a human being with light skin as my distinguished characteristics. If you’re Asian, or Native American, I’m European, not White! We are the one race.”

Yeah, RIGHT!! Mozambique is on the African continent. We don’t give a damn about the color of your eyes.

Read, The Negro Problem - a collection of seven essays by prominent Black American writers, such as W. E. B. Du Bois and Paul Laurence Dunbar, edited by Booker T. Washington, and published in 1903. It covers law, education, disenfranchisement, and Black Americans' place in American society. Their observations were and are intriguing. However....the “Negro/Black, progeny of kidnapped Africans PROBLEM is WHITE PEOPLE.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT!!

DO NOT ACCEPT “white” as an ethnicity but follow the ancient African adage: “Snake at my feet, STICK IN MY HAND!” ❖



Moments in Time

Paulette Horton

Remembering BETTY NEWSOM



Many people cannot remember when the Franklin Clinic was created.

In the 1960s, Betty Newsom was one of the early volunteers who helped people in the Davis Avenue area seek improved healthcare. She recognized there were people who did not have proper healthcare, adequate nutrition, and even housing.

It was Dr. James Alexander Franklin’s dream that the healthcare needs of the Davis Avenue community were met. As such, his office was left to the community and used for that purpose. The building eventually became the first site of the Franklin Memorial Clinic.

Mrs. Newsom, a Davis Avenue resident, along with other volunteers, took it upon themselves to introduce people to what the Franklin Clinic had to offer. They told the community by word of mouth about blood pressure screenings and other medical services that were offered. Many of the people in the Davis Avenue community took advantage of the opportunity.

Soon, word spread about the free health services, and people from Prichard, Happy Hill, Roger Williams Projects, and other places came to the clinic. Several doctors volunteered.

As a result, the experience Mrs. Newsom gained from helping to build the foundation for the Franklin Clinic was beneficial in helping her become a private duty nurse for the city’s sick and shut-ins. Eventually, she was honored at the White House for VISTA volunteers with First Lady Rosalynn Carter. ❖

The Cross and The Lynching Tree

"Oh Mary, Don't You Weep"

Black Lives Matter

Tommy Green
FACEBOOK BLOGGER
FORMER EDITOR FOR MOBILE BEACON



In the book *The Cross and The Lynching Tree*, Dr. Cone wrote, "The cross and the lynching tree are separated by nearly 2,000 years. One is the universal symbol of Christians faith; the other is the quintessential symbol of Black oppression in America. Though both are symbols of death, one represents a message of hope and salvation, while the other signifies the negation of that message by white supremacy."

A colored woman accused of poisoning a white person was taken from the country jail and stripped naked and hung up in the country courthouse yard and her body riddled with bullets and left exposed to view! "O my God! Can such a thing be and no justice for it." —Ida B. Wells

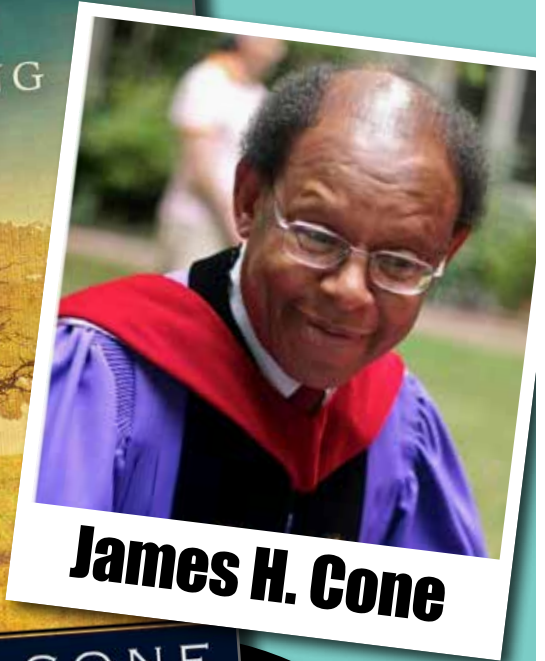
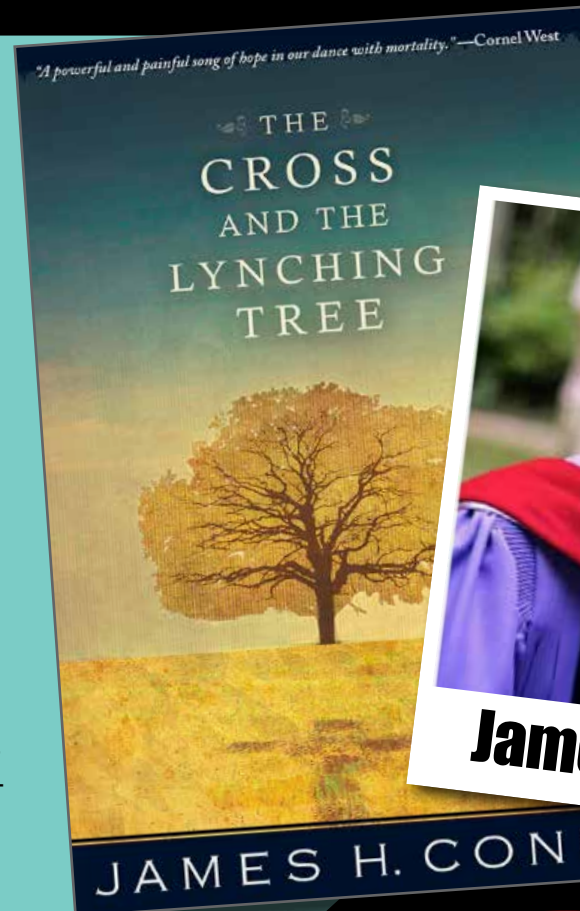
Southern trees bear strange fruit blood. Blood on the leaves and blood at the root. Black body swinging in the Southern breeze. Strange fruit hanging from the poplar tree. --"Strange fruit hanging from the poplar tree. ---"Strange Fruit," Abel Meeropol (a.k.a. Lewis Allen)

When a mob in Valdosta, Georgia, in 1918 failed to find Sidney Johnson, accused of murdering his boss, Hampton Smith, they decided to lynch another Black man, Haynes Turner, who was known to dislike Smith. Turner's wife, Mary, who was eight months pregnant, protected vehemently and vowed to seek justice for her husband's lynching. The sheriff, in turn, arrested her and then gave her up to the mob. In the presence of a crowd that included women and children, Mary Turner was 'stripped, hung upside down by the ankles, soaked with gasoline, and roasted to death. in the midst of this torment, a white man opened her swollen belly with a hunting knife and her infant fell to the ground and was stomped to death.'

Most people assume that the "strange fruit...swinging in the Southern breeze" that Billie Holiday sang about at the New Café Society in 1939 was a Black male body. But the "Black body" in her rendition of Abel Meeropol's poem "Strange Fruit" has no sex. The "blood on the leaves and blood at the root" were beaten out of the bodies of Black men, women, and children. No Black person was except from the risk of becoming the scapegoat of white supremacy in America, not even the unborn, whose mothers, like Mary Turner, were lynched while trying to protect their families.

"When I look at those pictures," an Atlanta teacher said, reacting to the photos in James Allen's *Without Sanctuary*, "I don't see a lifeless body, I look at those pictures and I see my son, I see my brother, I see my father. If I look at that lifeless body long enough, I see myself—or, as she might have added, my daughter, sister, mother. When we look at a lynched Black victim transfigured as the re-crucified Black Christ, we might as well be looking at "a colored woman...stripped naked and hung in the country courthouse yard and her body riddled with bullets and left exposed to view!" that was the point made by womanist theologian Jacquelyn Grant when she used the experience of poor Black women at the lens for interpreting the meaning of Jesus Christ today. "The significance of Christ is not found in his maleness, but in his humanity," writes Grant. "This Christ, found in the experience of Black women." Unfortunately, the powerful image of "Christ as a Black Woman" has been left out of our spiritual and intellectual imagination, needing further theological development," according to Cone.

Sisters and brothers, we can see what Trump/Republicans have done since the 2020 Presidential election, challenging primarily Black districts in swing states. "BLACK LIVES MATTER!" ❀



James H. Cone



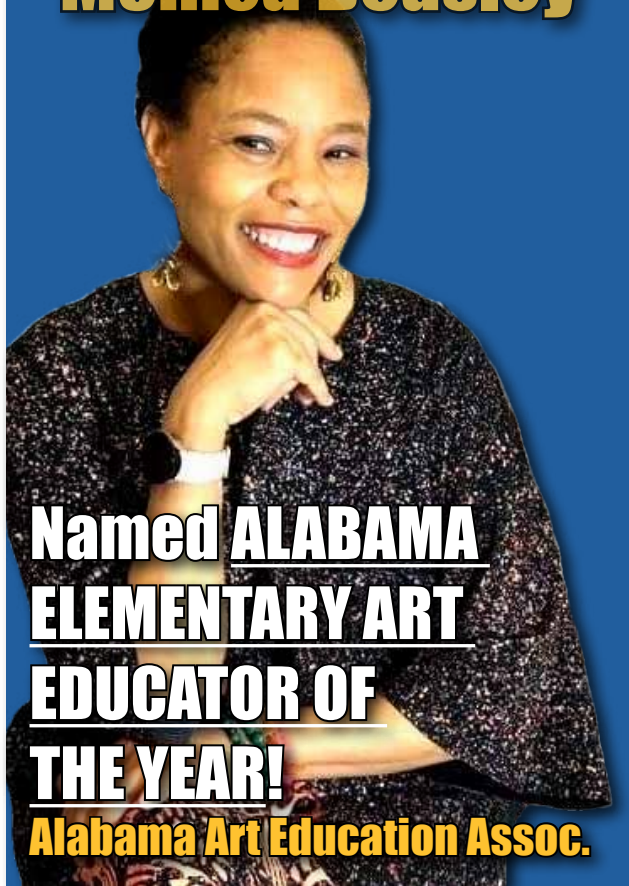
Billie Holiday



Abel Meeropol

Hats Off

Congratulations!
Monica Beasley



**HAPPY 42ND WEDDING
Anniversary!**
**Kevin &
Leslie Roberts
MOORE**



Congratulations!
Angel Jackson



Happy Birthday
Mother Mary Williams
Celebrating 85 Years of Life!



Congratulations!
Kayla Miller



Happy Birthday
Willie Dee Jackson

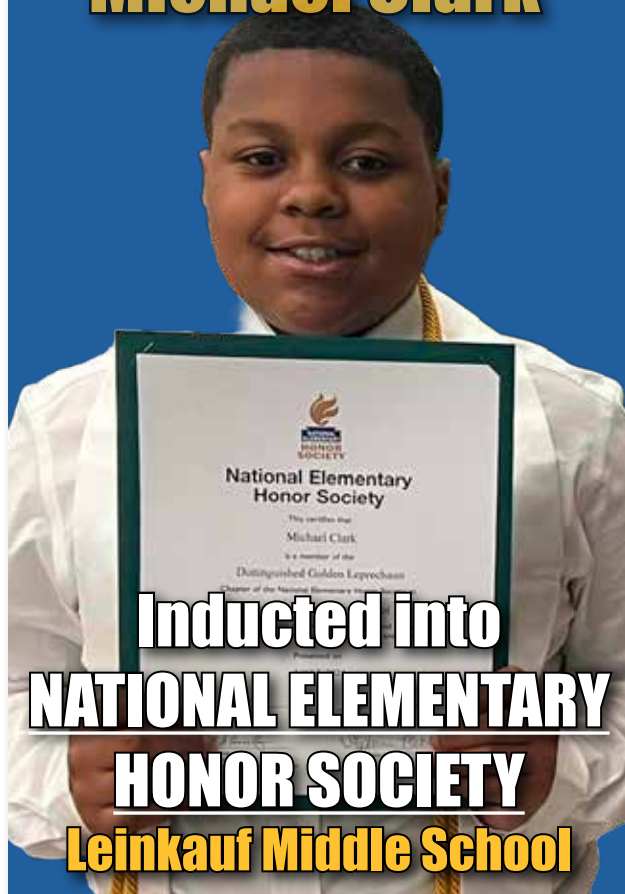


Hats Off

HAPPY 31TH WEDDING
Anthony &
Malvereen Cromwell
HARRIS



Way To Go!
Michael Clark



Inducted into
NATIONAL ELEMENTARY
HONOR SOCIETY
Leinkauf Middle School

Happy Birthday
Bernice Russell
Celebrating 85 Years of Life!



Congratulations!
Kerry Cohen



Named DIRECTORY
OF MARKETING &
COMMUNICATIONS
Victory Health Partners

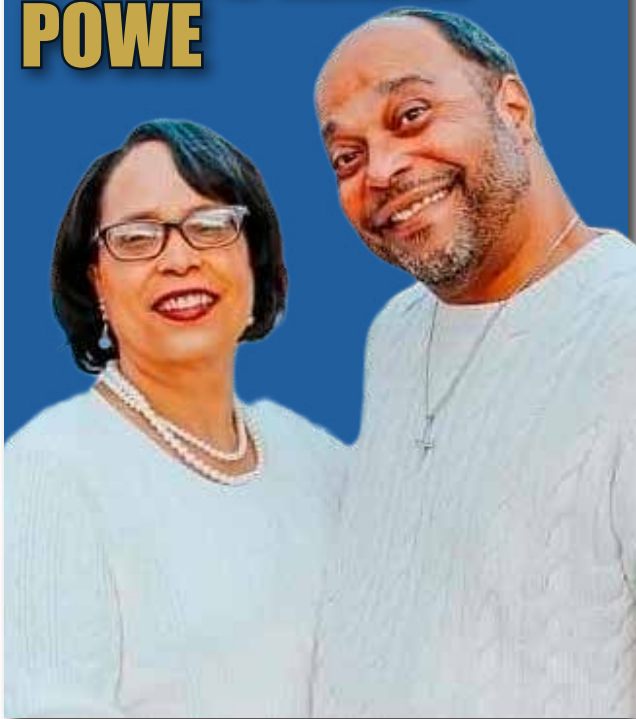
Congratulations!
Dumas Wesley Community Center



2024 Recipient of the
IMPACT100 MOBILE GRANT

Hats Off

HAPPY 42ND WEDDING Anniversary!
Michael & Deadra Lamar POWE

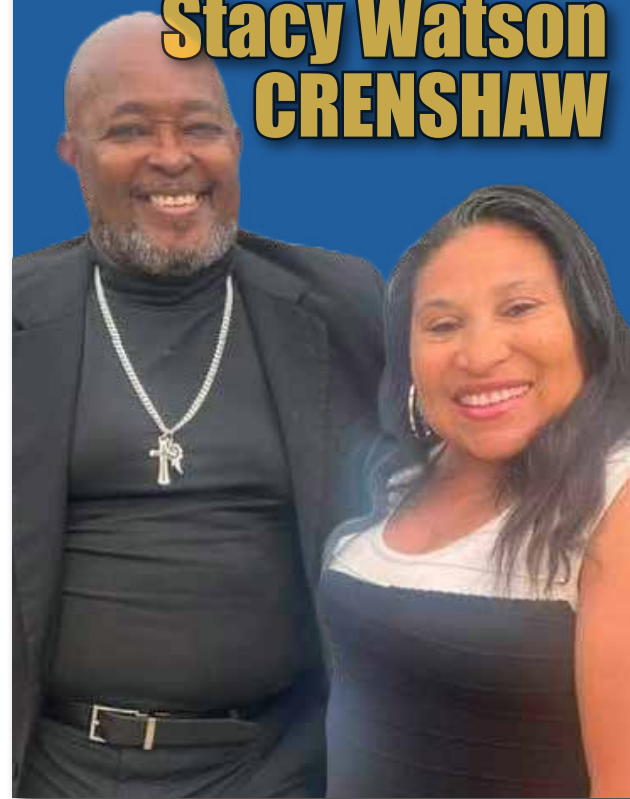


Congratulations!
Sylvia Horn Kelly



Celebrating 50 Years as a MARY KAY COSMETICS SUPPLIER GROUP LEADER/ SALES PERSON

HAPPY 30TH WEDDING Anniversary!
Ricky & Stacy Watson CRENSHAW



Congratulations!
Kearyon Chestang



Named FEBRUARY'S MFRD FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH

HAPPY 21ST WEDDING Anniversary!
George & Gwendolyn WASH



Congratulations!
Kayleigh Carey



Inducted into NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY Leflore High School

TRIBUTE 2 LEGENDS



Lou Gossett Jr.

1936 – 2024



Mark Your Calendar...

April 2024

MOBILE/BALDWIN

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY & EVENTS

Ms. B's Production Artist Southern Soul Showcase

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

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

Every 3rd Monday @6pm

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

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

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission Master of Balance Class Series,

Recency Church of Christ, 4/1 @ 10 am

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission New to Medicare/Medicare Counseling,

SARPC-AAA Office, 4/2 @ 9 am

Minority Build A Business Accelerator Spring Class of 2024, Mobile Area Black Chamber

of Commerce LaBlanc Conference room-Student Center @ Spring Hill College,

4/2 @ 5:30 pm

Mobile County Public School System Career Fair, The Grounds, 4/3 @ 8 am

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Certification Workshop, Bishop State Community

College Center for Advanced Manufacturing Technology, 4/6 @ 9 am

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission SHIP Volunteer Training, SARPC-AAA

Office, 4/9 @ 9 am

Mobile Botanical Gardens 50th Birthday Celebration, Gardens, 4/11 @ 6 pm

City of Mobile and the Better Business Bureau Community Shred Day, Metal of Honor

Park, 4/12 @ 9 am

Mobile Chocolate Festival Presented by Penelope House, The Grounds, 4/13 @ 10 am

Alabama Career Center 2024 Gulf Coast Area Job Fair, Fort Whiting, 4/16 @ 9 am

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission Caregiver College, Gulf Shores

Methodist Church, 4/16 @ 10am

Baldwin County Child Advocacy Center's 15th Annual Under the Stars Fundraiser, Oak

Hollow Farms, Fairhope, 4/19 @ 6 pm

Mobile's Largest Yard Sale, The Grounds, 4/20 @ 7 am

Money Moves Bootcamp presented by the City of Mobile, Thomas Sullivan Community

Center, 4/27 @ 1:30 pm

CONCERTS/MUSIC

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

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

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

The Tree BBQ & Lounge Presents Ladies Night, Every Thursday

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

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, 8 REALE (Speakeasy) @ The Wharf, 4/3 @ 7 pm

The Mohammed Rafee Shakir Ensemble Presents: The Modern Vanguard - The Continu-

um of Jazz, The Excelsior Band, USA Laidlaw Performing Arts Center, 4/4 @ 7:30 pm

Cedric Brooks & Phil J, San Bar @ The Wharf, Orange Beach, 4/4 @ 8 pm

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, 4/5 & 6 @ 6 pm

Spring Fling, The Grounds, 4/6 @ 10 am

Mobile Symphony Orchestra performs Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Requiem, 4/6 @ 7:30 pm,

4/7 @ 2:30 pm

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, 8 REALE (Speakeasy) @ The Wharf, Orange Beach, 4/10 @ 7pm

Cedric Brooks & Phil J, San Bar @ The Wharf, Orange Beach, 4/11 @ 8 pm

Katt Williams, Mobile Civic Center, 4/12 & 13 @ 6 pm

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, 8 REALE (Speakeasy) @ The Wharf, Orange Beach, 4/17 @ 7pm

Cedric Brooks & Phil J, San Bar @ The Wharf, Orange Beach, 4/18 @ 8 pm

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, 8 REALE (Speakeasy) @ The Wharf, 4/19 & 20 @ 6 pm

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, 8 REALE (Speakeasy) @ The Wharf, 4/24 @ 7 pm

Cedric Brooks & Phil J, San Bar @ The Wharf, Orange Beach, 4/25 @ 8 pm

Cedric Brooks-Solo Piano, 8 REALE (Speakeasy) @ The Wharf, 4/26 & 27 @ 6 pm

An Evening of Jazz w/Cedric Brooks & Special Guest, 8 REALE (Speakeasy), 4/28 @ 6pm

CULTURAL EVENT

LODA ArtWalk, Downtown Mobile, 2nd. Friday Monthly

The Harlem Globetrotters, The Mitchell Center, 4/22

Archaeological Down The Bay Exhibit and Panel Discussion feat. Rachel Hines-

USA Center for Archaeological Studies, Ben May Library, 4/26 through May

FESTIVALS

Spring Fling Music Festival, The Grounds, 4/6 @ 10 am

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Book-Worm Book Club, Ben May Library, 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/23, 4/29 @ 4 pm

Read and Sign (ASL) Storytime, West Regional Branch, 4/1-2, 4/8-9, 4/15-16, 4/22-23, 4/29-30 @ 3:30 pm

A Page in Time Book Club, West Regional Library, 4/2 @ 2pm

Read & Play Storytime, Ben May Main Library, 4/2, 4/23 @ 10 am

Good Listener Storytime at Parkway Branch Library, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 @ 10am

Tuesday Time Out Storytime, Grand Bay Branch, 4/2, 4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30 @ 11 am

Shake, Rattle, & Read Storytime, West Regional Library, 4/3-4, 4/10-11, 4/17-18,

4/24-25 @ 10 am

Wonderful Wednesday Storytime, Theodore Oaks Branch Library, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17,

4/24 @ 10 am

Good Listener Storytime at Moorer/Spring Hill Branch Library, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17,

4/24 @ 10:30 am & 11:30 am

Good Listener Storytime at Semmes Regional Library, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, @ 10:30am

Preschooler Storytime at Saraland Public Library, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24 @ 10:30 am

Listen & Learn Storytime, West Regional Library, 4/3-4, 4/10-11, 4/17-18, 4/24-25 @ 11 am

Rock n' Storytime, West Regional Library, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25 @ 4 pm

Ebony Moments Book Club, West Regional Library, 4/11 @ 6 pm

By the "Book" Book Club, Grand Bay Library, 4/15 @ 2 pm

The Reader's Choice Book Club, West Regional Library, 4/16 @ 1 pm

Wonderful Wednesdays at West, West Regional Library, 4/17 @ 3:30 pm

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

Africatown Redevelopment Corporation Monthly Meeting – Robert Hope Community

Center, 2nd. Tuesday Monthly

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

Church Activity Center Room; 236; Third Monday Monthly

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

Every Month @ 6pm

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/2 @ 10:30 am

Mobile Chamber Growth Alliance Task Force, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, 4/2 @ Noon

City Councilman C.J. Small District 3 Community Meeting, Maryvale Elementary

School, 4/2

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

4/3 @ 11:30 am

Mobile County Commission Conference Meeting, Government Plaza Assembly Room,

4/4 @ 10 am

Southwest Mobile County Chamber of Commerce 2024 Business Expo,

Tillman's Corner, 4/5 @ 2 pm

Mobile County Commission Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/8 @ 10 am

Councilman Cory Penn District 1 Community Meeting, Friendship Baptist Church, 4/8

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/9 @ 10:30 am

2024 Member Appreciation Day, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, Mobile Chamber,

4/11 @ 4 pm

Young Professionals of Mobile April Social, Mobile Chamber of Commerce,

4/11 @ 5:30 pm

MOBILE FAIR HOUSING 2024 REGIONAL JUSTICE LEADERSHIP

SUMMIT: Building Beloved Communities, Redlining

Film Screening and Panel Discussion feat. Robert

Dickerson, Jr. & Henry Hasseb, Heritage Avenue

Cultural Center, 04/10 @ 6 pm

COMMUNITY MAPPING TOUR & LUNCH

(Tours by Eric Finley and the Dora Franklin Finley

African American Heritage Trail Tour Company)

Mobile Fair Housing-602 Bel Air Blvd. Suite 7,

04/11 @ 9 am

NETWORKING HOUR AND AWARDS CEREMONY

National Maritime Museum of the

Gulf of Mexico, 04/12

Executive Roundtable-Speaker Derek Boulware, CEO of Housing First, Mobile Chamber

of Commerce, 4/16 @ 8 am

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/16 @ 10:30 am

Mobile County Commission Conference Meeting, Government Plaza Assembly

Room, 4/18 @ 10 am

Mobile County Commission Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/22 @ 10 am

Councilman Joel Daves District 5 Community Meeting, Dickson Elementary School, 4/23

Mobile Area Black Chamber of Commerce feat. Troy Ephriam-Ephriam & Associates &

Casi Calloway-City of Mobile, America, Byrne Hall Spring Hill College, 4/24 @ 11:30 am

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/23 @ 10:30 am

AI Awareness Seminar with Abe Harper, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, 4/30 @ 8am
Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 4/30 @ 10:30 am

MUSEUMS

Africatown Heritage House Museum – Clotilda: The Exhibition – Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm
Exploreum Science Center, Now Playing – Tiny Giants and Backyard Wilderness

PGI Digital Dome, Ongoing

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

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

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

History Museum of Mobile – The Global Language of Headware: Cultural Identity, Rites of Passage, and Spirituality – Through 6/7

Mobile Museum of Art’s – “Art In Focus”, Katharine C. Cochrane Gallery, Dusti Bonge; The Creative Life, Pets; Loyal and True Companions, American Still Life, American Prints, American Glass, and Childhood – Ongoing

Mobile Museum of Art – Contemporary Alabama, Ongoing

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

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

USA Archaeology Museum – Special Exhibit-Unwritten: Archeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile – Through 4/24

USA Archaeology Museum-Archaeology & Oral History of Down The Bay feat Rachel Hines, Phillip Carr Ph.D, and Ryan Morini Ph.D, 4/2 @ 3:30 pm

USA Archaeology Museum-Where is the Parity: Exploring the Gap Between Health Disparities and Health Equities feat. Tiquera Hall and Franklin Trimm M.D., 4/3

After School-Kids Sustainable Art Class, Ages 5-11, Mobile Museum of Art, Tuesdays, 4/2-23 @ 4 pm

Art Talk: Paul Bonge, Mobile Museum of Art, 4/6 @ 6 pm

USA Archaeology Museum-Documenting the Historic Plateau Africatown Cemetery feat. Alexandra Jones Ph.D, 4/9 @ 6 pm

Fantastic Beast Vases in Clay, Mobile Museum of Art, 4/9-12 @ 10 am

GulfChat feat. Troy Ephraim Presented by Ephraim Environmental Services -The Western Delta Watershed: An Ecosystem Prospective, National Maritime Museum of the Gulf Coast, 4/11 @ 6 pm

USA Archaeology Museum-Memory of the Civil Rights Movement in Mobile feat. David Messenger Ph.D, 4/10 @ 3:30 pm

Make & Take Art, Mobile Museum of Art, 4/18 @ 1 pm

USA Archaeology Museum-Black History Under Ground feat. Tracy Neely, 4/30 @ 3:30 pm

SPORTS

BASEBALL-MEN'S

Bishop State vs. Wallace Community College-Selma (DH), Bishop, 4/6 @ Noon & 3 pm

Bishop State vs. Lurleen B. Wallace Community College (DH), Bishop, 4/11 @ Noon & 3 pm

Bishop State vs. Coastal Alabama North (DH), Bishop, 4/20 @ Noon & 3 pm

University of Mobile vs. Spring Hill College, Jacobs Field, 4/9 @ 7 pm

University of Mobile vs. William Carey University, Jacobs Field, 4/12 @ 6 pm, 4/13 @ 1 pm & 3 pm

University of Mobile vs. Stillman College, Jacobs Field, 4/25 @ 6 pm, 4/26 @ 1 pm & 3 pm

Spring Hill College vs. Lemoyne-Owen (DH), Sims-Galle Field, 4/5 @ 5 pm,

4/6 @ Noon & 2:30 pm

Spring Hill College vs. University of Mobile, Sims-Galle Field, 4/9 @ 7 pm

Spring Hill College vs. West Florida, Sims-Galle Field, 4/16 @ 6 pm

Spring Hill College vs. Miles College (DH), Sims-Galle Field, 4/26 @ 5 pm,

4/27 @ Noon & 2:30 pm

University of South Alabama vs. Southern Miss, Stankey Field, 4/5 @ 6:30 pm,

4/6 @ 2 pm, 4/7 @ 1 pm

University of South Alabama vs. Arkansas State, Stankey Field, 4/12 @ 6:30 pm,

4/13 @ 2 pm,

University of South Alabama vs. James Madison, Stankey Field, 4/26 @ 6:30 pm,

4/27 @ 2 pm, 4/28 @ 1pm

BASKETBALL

Port City Spring Jam Basketball Tournament, Mobile Convention Center, April 12-14

ABA Championship, Hosted by the Gulf Coast Gladiators, Spring Hill College, 4/19 & 20

GOLF

3rd Annual South Pawlooza hosted by the USA Volleyball Team, Magnolia Grove, 4/4 @ 9 am

GYMNASTICS

2024 USA Gymnastics Trampoline & Tumbling Region 5 Championships, Mobile Civic

Center, 4/19-21

LACROSSE

Northern Gulf Lacrosse Alliance (NGLA) Tournament, Mobile County Sportsplex, 4/20-21

MOTOR RACING

Southern Super Series Late Model Race, Mobile International Speedway, 4/27

TRACK & FIELD

31st Annual Mobile Challenge of Champions Track & Field Meet Presented by the Mobile

Sports Authority, Open Division @ UMS-Wright, 4/5 @ 3 pm, Invitational Division

@ St. Paul's Episcopal School, 4/6 @ 11 am

SOFTBALL WOMEN'S

Bishop State vs. Chattahoochee Valley Community College (DH), Bishop, 4/4 @ 1 pm & 3 pm

Bishop State vs. Lurleen B. Wallace Community College (DH), Bishop, 4/13 @ 1 pm & 3 pm

Bishop State vs. Northwest Florida State (DH), Bishop, 4/15 @ Noon & 2 pm

Bishop State vs Coastal Alabama-North (DH), Bishop, 4/18 @ 1 pm & 3 pm

Bishop State vs Beville State Community College (DH), Bishop, 4/25 @ 1 pm & 3 pm

University of Mobile vs. Brewton-Parker College (DH), UM Softball Field, 4/5 @ 3 pm,

University of Mobile vs. Middle Georgia State University (DH), UM Softball Field, 4/6 @ Noon

University of Mobile vs. Faulkner University (DH), UM Softball Field, 4/16 @ 2 pm

University of Mobile vs. William Carey University (DH), UM Softball Field, 4/23 @ 4 pm

University of Mobile vs. Stillman College (DH), UM Softball Field, 4/26 @ 3 pm

Spring Hill College vs. LeMoyné-Owen (DH), Murray Field, 4/6 @ 1 pm & 3 pm, 4/7 @ 1 pm

Spring Hill College vs. West Florida (DH), Murray Field, 4/10 @ 2 pm & 4 pm

Spring Hill College vs. Lane College (DH), Murray Field, 4/20 @ 1 pm & 3 pm, 4/21 @ 1 pm

University of South Alabama vs. Georgia Southern, Jaguar Field, 4/12 @ 6 pm,

4/13 @ 3 pm, 4/14 @ Noon

University of Mobile vs. LSU Alexandria (DH) – UM Softball Field, 3/12 @1pm & 3pm

University of Mobile vs. Thomas University (DH) – UM Softball Field, 3/21 @4pm

Spring Hill College vs. West Alabama (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/7 @2pm & 4pm

Spring Hill College vs. Mississippi College (DH) – Sims-Galle Field, 3/20 @ 1pm & 3pm

University of South Alabama vs. Louisiana Lafayette – Jaguar Field, 3/15 @ 6 pm,

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

University of South Alabama vs. Louisiana Monroe – Jaguar Field, 3/22 @6pm,

3/23 @ 2pm, 3/24 @Noon

University of South Alabama vs. McNeese State – Jaguar Field, 3/26 @5pm

University of South Alabama vs. Texas State – Jaguar Field, 3/28 @6pm, 3/29 @6pm,

3/30 @1pm

Rodeo Professional Bull Riders Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour, Mobile Civic Center, 3/9

TENNIS

2024 Serve It Up With Love Tennis Tournament, Mobile Tennis Center, Mixed Doubles

& Al Fuch's Memorial Junior Championship-4/7 @ 2 pm, Women's-

4/9 @ 9 am & Men's-4/9 @ 6pm

2024 AHSAA AL. State Tennis Championship Tournament, Mobile Tennis Center,

Class 4A-5A & 7A, 4/22-23, Class 1A-3A & 6A, 4/25-26

VOLLEYBALL

2024 USA Volleyball Gulf Coast Region Championship, Mobile Convention Center/
Mobile Civic Center/Expo Hall, 4/26-28

STAGE PLAYS

Mame The Musical, Joe Jefferson Players' Playhouse, 4/5-21

BILOXI

CONCERTS

ZZ Top and Lynard Skynard, Black Stone Cherry, Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 4/4

Gary Allen, Beau Rivage Theatre, 4/19

Ashanti, IP Casino Resort and Spa, 4/20

Andy Grammer, IP Casino Resort and Spa, 4/26

Celtic Woman, Beau Rivals Theatre, 4/26 & 27

FESTIVALS

Crawfish Music Festival, Mississippi Coast and Convention Center, 4/19-21

BIRMINGHAM

CONCERTS

Ledisi, Raheem DeVaughn, Alabama Theatre, 4/2

Trey Songz, Jaheim, Keyshia Cole, Legacy Arena at the BJCC, 4/13Q

Rick Ross, Boutwell Auditorium, 4/21

Jon Batiste, Avondale Brewing Company, 4/29

NEW ORLEANS

CONCERTS

Ledisi, Mahalia Jackson Theater, 4/5

Trey Songz, Jaheim, Keyshia Cole, Smoothie King Center, 4/12

Kountry Wayne, Orpheum Theater, 4/13

Bill Bellamy, Tony Roberts, UNO Lakefront Arena, 4/20

War, The Wailers, Orpheum Theater, 4/28

Mavis Staples, New Breed Jazz Band, Civic Theatre, 4/28

FESTIVALS

New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, Fairgrounds, 4/25-5/5

***** **NEW FEATURE** *****

Beginning with our May Edition and based on several request for us to better serve Our Community with a much needed service, Steppin' Out will start an OBITUARY SECTION to honor our loved ones who have moved on to Glory. We thank the Family of Frances Lee Jernigan Torrence for allowing us to Honor their Family Matriarch and show the community an example of our Premium Obituary Package. We have several options ranging from Basic to Premium Package. For More Information about this New Feature, Please Contact Us at (251) 217-1220.

– REST IN PEACE FRANCES "MOM" TORRENCE... YOU WILL BE MISSED! –

– OBITUARY –



Frances Lee Jernigan Torrence

AUGUST 25, 1936 – JANUARY 13, 2024

A native of Marshall, Texas, Frances was a longtime resident of Mobile. After graduating high school, she attended Bishop College and moved to Dallas, Texas. She was employed for many years by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. She met, dated, and fell in love with Fred Lee Torrence, Sr. They married in 1968 and moved to Mobile, sharing an intense love for the Lord. They were married for forty-seven years. They joined the Emmanuel Seventh-Day Adventist Church. As a loyal, faithful, and devoted member of the church, she served in many capacities; Publicity Committee Member, Alter Guild, Senior Usher Board, and Youth Usher Board Leader.

After moving to Mobile, Frances was hired as secretary of the Newsroom at WKRG-TV5 on September 11, 1972. Over the years, she and the newsroom became a family and she was known as "Mom". She managed all the needs of the newsroom with brilliance, enthusiasm, and kindness. Frances was also known for her organizational skills. Before the computer, she was responsible for typing the names and details of all stories covered by the station on index cards along with creating a filing system that she maintained. She retired from WKRG-TV5 on September 29, 2009, after thirty-seven years of dedicated service.

Frances enjoyed cooking and having family and friends over for dinner after church for her "Zucchini Squash Casserole". She enjoyed traveling, shopping, and spending time with her family and grandchildren. She loved music, especially the Gaither Homecoming and Gaither Band. She was the President of the Gaither Club and attended several Gaither concerts. She was beloved by all and will remain in Blessed memory.

She was preceded in death by her PARENTS Jimmie and Minnie Bell Jernigan; HUSBAND Fred L. Torrence, Sr.; BROTHERS: Reverend James Jernigan and Willie Dee Jernigan; FATHER and MOTHER-IN-LAW Cornelius Sr. and Matilda Torrence; GRANDSON-IN-LAW James Demetric Hutchins; SPECIAL NIECE Little Sandra Jernigan; STEP-MOTHER, Thelma Jernigan; sisters-in-law: Henrietta Torrence-Broom, Betty Torrence-Huey, Ella Louise Hogan, Kathryn Torrence, and Linda Torrence; BROTHERS-IN-LAW: Cornelius Torrence, Bobbie Torrence and Henry Austin; AUNT Lessie Torrence; UNCLE Robert Torrence; GODMOTHER, Catherine Altice; DEAR FRIENDS: Ollie Smith, Ann Parker, Lula Florence and Ethel Ray.

Frances leaves to cherish her precious legacy and loving memories, her CHILDREN: loving and devoted daughter LaTrenda Torrence-Salter, Fred (Sandra) L. Torrence, Jr., Sheloundus (Samuel) Torrence -Hale, Vanessa D. Hill, Dexter (Helaine) Stallion; GRANDCHILDREN: Brittany Torrence, Samuel (Christal) Hale, II, Stephen Hale, LaTiah Stallion, Antoine Stallion, and her devoted "twins"...Amber Darnelle Torrence and Ashley Frances Torrence-Hutchins; her loving GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN: Twanda Lee Nobles, Katilyn Jahleah Nobles, Jackson Miles Hutchins, Antoine Stallion, Jr., and Lijah Stallion; SISTERS: Jessie Helen Jernigan, Adell Sellers, Lillie Hawkins and Alice (Henry) Gaines; SISTERS-IN-LAW: Linda Torrence, Louise Torrence, and Esther Austin; two BROTHERS: Elder Herman (Iris) Taylor and Elder Charles Sellers; AUNTS: Lettie Harris, Florence Waller, Grace Torrence and Betsy Barleston; and a host of NIECES, NEPHEWS, COUSINS, OTHER RELATIVES AND FRIENDS, DEAR FRIENDS: Jean Dukes, Lillie Minor, Dorothy Harris, Catherine Jackson and Shirley Snell.





PASSINGS...

Sandra Crouch – 81

GOSPEL SINGER/MINISTER
Grammy Award Winner



JIM BEARD – 63
KEYBOARDIST
Steely Dan



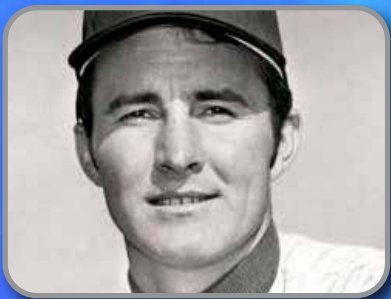
BOSS – 54
RAPPER
Kidney Failure



W.C. CLARK – 84
BLUES MUSICIAN
Cancer



STEVE LAWRENCE – 88
ACTOR-The Blues Brothers
SINGER-Go Away Little Girl
Alzheimer's Disease



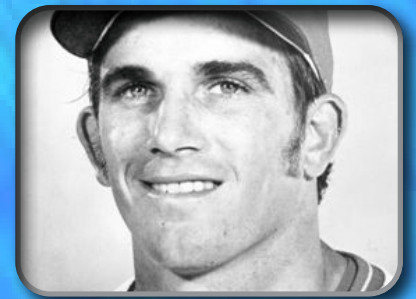
JIM MCANDREW – 80
MLB PLAYER
Mets • Padres
'69 World Champion



CHRIS MORTENSEN – 72
SPORTS JOURNALIST
ESPN • Atlanta Constitution
Throat Cancer



ARMISTEAD NEELY – 76
PRO TENNIS PLAYER
Mobile Native
Cancer



BILL PLUMMER – 76
MLB COACH/PLAYER
Reds • Mariners • Rockies
Heart Attack



KEVIN TONEY – 70
JAZZ MUSICIAN
The Blackbyrds
Cancer



M. EMMET WALSH – 88
ACTOR
Blade Runner • Fletch
Cardiac Arrest



U.L. WASHINGTON – 70
MLB PLAYER
Royals • Pirates • Expos
Cancer



BLUES BOY WILLIE – 77
MUSICIAN
Stroke

Alabama Advocacy Institute 2024



Join the SPLC's Advocacy Institute to make positive change in Alabama.

Application Deadline: April 30th

SPLCENTER.ORG/ALABAMA-ADVOCACY

Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

Speaker Series

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

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

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

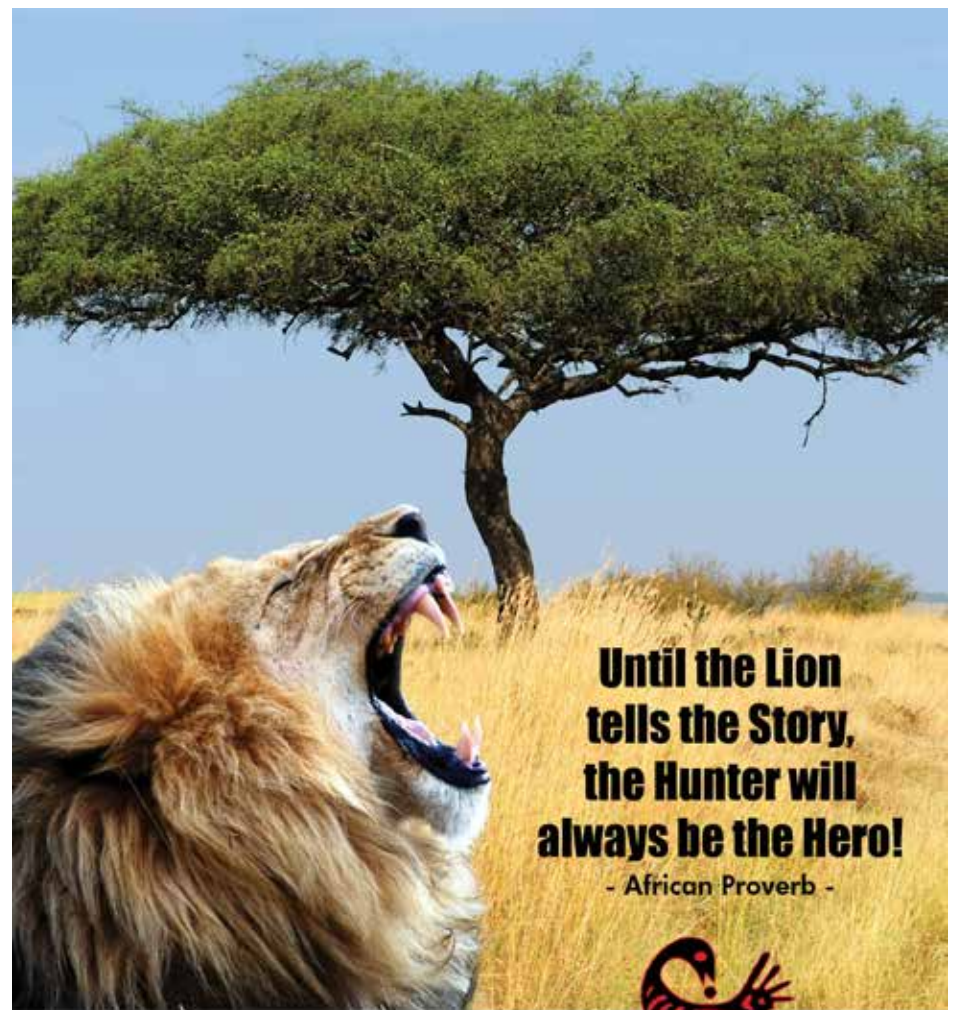
April 10: "Memory of the Civil Rights Movement in Mobile" by David Messenger, Ph.D., USA Department of History at 3:30 p.m.

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



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

FREE Public Events!



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

- African Proverb -



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



Rx MIDTOWN PHARMACY

Special Services

- Immunizations
- Curbside Pickup
- Specialty Services
- Patient Counseling

Local pharmacy dedicated to your family's health

Accepts All Insurances

251-479-2424

midtownpharmacyrx.com

2152 Airport Blvd, Mobile, AL 36606  Like Us

CLASSIFIEDS



Deadline to Apply: May 3, 2024

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

Internship Opportunity

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

Funded by: 



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



Leadership Mobile

A Mobile United Program

Now accepting nominations for the Class of 2025



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

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

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

Application schedule:

Nominations open through:

Friday, May 3rd, 2024

Applications open:

May 13th - May 31st, 2024

Interviews held:

June 2024

Notifications sent:

July 2024

Class begins:

September 2024



Steppin' Out News!

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

DON'T MISS OUT!
GET A DIGITAL COPY
Delivered Directly To YOUR INBOX!

EMAIL US and
Put "ADD ME"
in the
SUBJECT LINE



Info@SteppinOutMobile.com

EMPLOYMENT

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

REQUIREMENTS

Valid Driver's License, Transportation

Some Construction Experience, Ability to Work Some Weekend Days

PAY SCALE

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

EXAMPLES OF WORK INCLUDE

Sheetrock Hanging & Finishing • Painting • Exterior And Interior Renovation

Construction Framing • Metal Buildings

Woodwork/Millwork • Misc. Plumbing and Electrical

Bathrooms/Tile Work • Flooring

Email: crconstruction.mobile@gmail.com

Phone: 251-751-6545

Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

Free Admission

**On Exhibit Now
Until April 2024**

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

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

USA Archaeology Museum

6050 USA South Drive (251) 460-6106

southalabama.edu/org/archaeology/museum

