

Steppin' ut *News!*

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

VOLUME 23
ISSUE 02

ARTS • CULTURE • EDUCATION • COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER
2023

MOBILE
COUNTY
TRAINING
SCHOOL



THE TRADITION CONTINUES

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 to volunteer your services... Please contact us...

Steppin' Out
PO Box 6781 • Mobile AL 36660
(251) 327-1708

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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,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Once again, thanks for your continued support!

GREG CYPRIAN
Publisher/Editor
STEPPIN' OUT NEWS





LAUGHTER

But Can You Spell!!!!

Willie Mae died and found herself standing outside the Pearly Gates being greeted by St. Peter. She asked him, "Oh, is this place what I really think it is? It's so beautiful. Did I really make it to heaven?" To which St. Peter replied, "Yes, Willie Mae, these are the Gates to Heaven. But you must do one more thing before you can enter." Willie Mae was very excited, and asked of St. Peter what she must do to pass through the gates. "Spell a word," St. Peter replied. "What word?" she asked. "Any word," answered St. Peter. "It's your choice." Willie Mae promptly replied, "Then the word I will spell is love. L-O-V-E." St. Peter congratulated her on her good fortune to have made it to Heaven, and asked her if she would mind taking his place at the gates for a few minutes while he went to the bathroom. "I'd be honored," she said, "but what should I do if someone comes while you are gone?" St. Peter reassured her, and instructed her to simply have any newcomers to the Pearly Gates to spell a word of their choice as she had done. So Willie Mae is left sitting in St. Peter's chair and watching the beautiful angels soaring around her when a man approaches the gates. She realizes it is her loser husband Leroy. "What happened?" she cried, "Why are you here?" Leroy stared at her for a moment, then said, "I was so drunk when I left your funeral, I was in an accident. And now I am here? Did I really make it to Heaven?" To which Willie Mae replied, "Not yet. You must spell a word first." "What word?" Leroy asked. Willie Mae responded, "Czechoslovakia!!!!"

Why Some Men Have a Dog And No Wife!!!

- The later you are, the more excited your dogs are to see you.
- Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name.
- Dogs like it if you leave a lot of things on the floor.
- A dog's parents never visit.
- Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across.
- Dogs find you amusing when you're drunk..
- Dogs like to go hunting and fishing.
- A dog will not wake you up at night to ask, "If I died, would you get another dog?"
- If a dog has babies, you can put an ad in the paper and give them away.
- A dog will let you put a studded collar on it without calling you a pervert.
- If a dog smells another dog on you, they don't get mad. They just think it's interesting.

And last, but not least...

- If a dog leaves, it won't take half of your stuff.

To test this theory: Lock your wife and your dog in the garage for an hour. Then open it and see who's happy to see you.

—Ocia Williams of Richmond, Virginia



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The next DIGITAL COPY
of Steppin' Out News
Will Drop...



DECEMBER 2023



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



Ready to See the World

Traveling is in my blood. It is something I have done every year of my life for as long as I can remember. It began with my parents, who didn't hesitate to get in a car and take our family to visit relatives in various parts of the United States, primarily in the eastern half of the country. When we lived in Detroit, we would make annual trips 'down South' to Alabama to visit my grandparents and many other relatives. Once we relocated back to Alabama, we would travel back north to visit relatives and friends.

We weren't like the Griswolds of the National Lampoon 'Vacation' movie series, where we went on actual vacations. However, the family road trips were akin to vacations for us, as we got a chance to see some major cities and interesting sites along the way. A particular trip down south from Detroit to South Carolina occurred in 1966 and it took us through Washington, DC. That trip left an indelible impression on me as a nine-year-old kid. We spent just enough time there to see several monuments and ride to the top of the Washington Monument. DC is still one of my favorite cities in the country and the world. When my middle son attended Howard University and subsequently lived there for several years, it gave me a chance to visit at least once a year.

When I started working, my job afforded me the opportunity to travel across the country many different times. Annual training classes for my field of engineering were held in northern California, and I took advantage of those trips to add extra days to my trip and see as much of California and the West Coast as possible. I had many colleagues who thought I was crazy to stay over a few extra days after a week-long course, but it gave me a chance to see places that I wouldn't have visited otherwise.

I've been to many of the major national parks such as Yosemite, Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, and the Grand Canyon. I've been to the wine country in Napa and Sonoma Valleys, Lake Tahoe, Columbia River Gorge, Big Sur, and many other famous sites too numerous to name. I've been to just about every major city in the country.

At the time of this article, I've been to 48 of the 50 states, with only Alaska and Hawaii remaining. My worldly travel stands at

16 countries, with them being mostly in North America and Europe. Perhaps by the time this article is published, I would have stepped foot on the continent of Africa in Tunisia when I take a Mediterranean cruise in NOVEMBER 2023.

The point of this article and how it relates to Mobile is that since childhood, my family has been able to travel to many places and see how others live, to relax and unwind, to discover new things, and to appreciate what this country and the world have to offer. My three sons have taken it a step further and have visited places such as Iceland, Korea, the Philippines, Greece, and Brazil; places I've yet to visit.

By traveling a lot, I have an appreciation for Mobile because I see that it has many things that other places have despite our feelings that it is lacking. Traveling to other places helps to dispel the myths and incorrect information that we have been fed by the media and other sources. There's no better way to experience a place than to see it firsthand for yourself. Not every place is as dangerous and scary as society would have you believe.

My travels have helped me to identify things that Mobile could have to make it a better place to live and visit. Our leadership in Mobile and the state of Alabama is very slow to incorporate many things that are found in other places. I don't know why that is so, although my opinion of state leadership is that they'd rather be defiant against the federal government and other progressive places just because they'd rather cling to the past while the world is passing them by. That has been Alabama's way since its inception. However, the individual cities in Alabama are trying their best to be progressive. But as I've written before, they need to put their foot on the gas and do things in a timelier fashion.

So, I encourage you, when your personal situation allows, to get out and see the country and the world. Even if it's just a side trip to a neighboring state or city. You're bound to see something you haven't seen before, learn something you didn't know, or just get renewed from the humdrum of routine life at home. "Bon Voyage!"♣



Arthur L. Mack
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LANTERN WALK

Maintaining a Tradition

Residents of Africatown, as well as the public will have the opportunity to relive an old tradition when the Africatown Lantern Walk takes place on November 04, 2023.

The Lantern Walk, which begins at 4:30 p.m., will start from Mobile County Training School and end at the Africatown Cemetery. Prior to the Lantern Walk, there will be a brunch at Mobile County Training School from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The featured speaker at the brunch is Stephanie Dortch, the author of *You Need a Schoolhouse*.

Mrs. Dortch is the wife of the grandson of Julius Rosenwald, who established Rosenwald Schools throughout the South to help educate freed slaves. Mobile County Training School is a Rosenwald School, and according to Anderson Flen, the book talks about the bond between Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald, who worked together to create schools for children of color.

It's all part of a big celebration involving history and community, according to Flen.

"As you look at Tuskegee, there's Booker T. Washington lifting the veil of ignorance from a slave," he said. "It's symbolic of saying 'we're taking you from the darkness to the light.' We look at having it (the Lantern Walk) during the November timeframe because a long time ago, Central and Mobile County Training School had a big rivalry at the Turkey Day Classic on Thanksgiving,


"Mobile County Training School is a Rosenwald School, and because of that, we wanted to have the event during that time frame. We'll also have a tour of the Africatown Heritage House that day, and we'll invite people who want to take a tour of it. We want to have a festive time."

Flen said the original Lantern Walk started in 1927 at Mobile County Training School when Benjamin B. Baker, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute (now University) was the principal. Isaiah Whitley, a founder and principal of MCTS was one of Washington's disciples, and is buried at the Africatown Cemetery.



"Baker started the Lantern Walk, and after he left, J.T. Gaines continued the ritual until he left to become principal of Central High in 1952," said Flen. "Last year, we started the tradition back as a way to understand the community's actual foundation. It was all connected in terms of church, school, and community, and that's what made it so powerful.

"It was a ritual where senior graduates would give thanks to those who enlightened them in every way. They would walk to the cemetery to give thanks to Isaiah Whitley. During those times, it was about the education and enlightenment students received, and the educators tried to educate the heart and the head." ❖



ROSENWALD

TOWARD A MORE PERFECT UNION

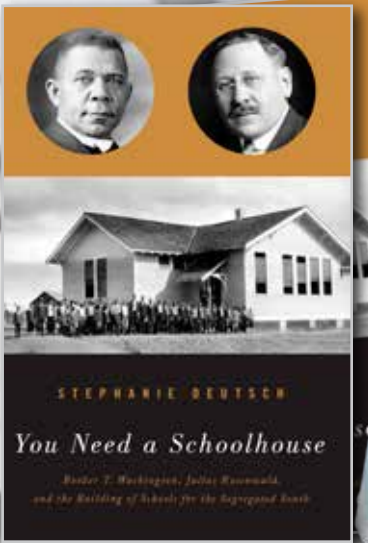

Mobile Library Features ROSENWALD EXHIBIT

The Ben May Main Library featured an exhibit of early African American History that highlights the collaboration between German-Jewish American Businessman Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington. Rosenwald was the President of Sears & Roebuck when he and Washington, Tuskegee Institute, began conversations that would impact African American families in the early 20th century that was responsible for creating close to 5000 Rosenwald Schools.

In addition to the exhibit, Author Stephanie Deutsch will discuss her book, *You Need A Schoolhouse*, on November 03 @4pm at the Ben May Library, *You Need A Schoolhouse*. The program will open with a screening of the short film, *Rosenwald: Toward A More Perfect Union*, by director/producer Charles Poe.

Deutsch's discussion offered insight into the collaboration between Washington and Rosenwald and how they brought thousands of modern Schoolhouses to African American communities throughout the rural South during the era proceeding the Civil Rights Movement. She also spoke on the Rosenwald Campaign, which advocates for the establishment of a National Historical Park that would commemorate and interpret Rosenwald's overall legacy.

Deutsch will also be a guest of the Mobile County Training School Alumni Association on November 04 @9am for a program which will feature a talk and Q&A opportunity. Mobile County Training School was a Rosenwald site and this activity will be a part of the Association's Lantern Walk Activities.

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11/11 • SATURDAY – 9:00AM TO NOON

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11/11 • SATURDAY – 1:00PM TO 3:00PM

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11/18 • SATURDAY – 1:00PM TO 3:00PM

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

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–Rabies Quarantine Fact Sheet–

www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/assets/RabiesQuarantineFactSheet.pdf



NEWS RELEASE

PROTECT CHILDREN'S HEALTH

New Law Prohibits Smoking and Vaping In Vehicles with Children



Secondhand tobacco smoke leads to health problems, and there is no safe level of exposure for children or adults. A newly enacted Alabama law prohibits smoking or vaping in enclosed motor vehicles with children ages 14 and younger as passengers.

Children's smaller bodies take in a larger amount of air, so tobacco smoke is particularly hazardous to them. In infants and children, secondhand smoke can cause...

- Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
- Respiratory infections
- Ear infections
- Asthma attacks

SIDS is the sudden, unexplained, unexpected death of an infant in the first year of life. It is the leading cause of death in otherwise healthy infants. Chemicals in secondhand smoke appear to interfere with regulation of infants' breathing.

Children who are exposed to secondhand smoke are at an increased risk for...

- Pneumonia and bronchitis
- Wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath
- Middle ear disease
- Ear infections and operations to put in ear tubes
- More frequent and severe asthma attacks that can put a child's life in danger
- Slowed lung growth

Protecting children from secondhand smoke also means not using other types of commercial tobacco products. These include e-cigarettes.

- Aerosol from e-cigarettes is not harmless. It can contain cancer-causing chemicals. These include heavy metals like nickel, tin and lead, among other chemicals.
- E-cigarettes are not safe for children, teens, young adults, pregnant adults, or people who do not already use tobacco.
- No e-cigarette has been approved by the FDA as a quit smoking aid.

To protect children riding in your vehicle, do not let anyone smoke. Rolling down windows does not protect them. Smoking or vaping in an enclosed vehicle with children is a secondary violation. This means that if a driver is pulled over for another reason and a child is present, fines are up to \$100.

The Alabama Department of Public Health urges you to make the decision to quit smoking. To get confidential information, referrals and counseling...

- Call this free quitline: 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)
- Go to this website: <https://quitnowalabama.com/>
- Text QUIT to (205) 900-2550.♣



TRUTH, FACTS AND JUSTICE

Sabrina Mass

RETIRED NURSE • CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST
COMMUNITY ORGANIZER • PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

CORRUPTION IN POLITICS

Countering corruption is not a simple task. Changing embedded cultures of corruption requires significant political will, and in some instances, can take decades to achieve sustained progress.

Positive change requires consistent leadership and dedication, public and private accountability, and an empowered and impartial judiciary. It also requires a diverse and independent honest media source, including open-minded writers who choose to print the truth and not just what is popular or what appeases to oneself.

Politicians in 2023 are viewed on all levels. Whether it be local, state, or national, different forms of government are perceived as more corrupt right now; and sad to say, it is the truth.

Specifically, municipal (or local) governments are assumed as the least corrupt per se. The finding is not reducible to one geographic area, but we must focus on the location that impacts our well-being and the decision makers that supposedly have the power to make it easier and more palatable to accept.

As defined, corruption in local governments refers to the misuse of public office and resources by individuals in positions of power at the local level for personal gain or for the benefit of select groups, companies, individuals in which elected politicians seat friends in various positions.

This is illegal and is total corruption, because until we, THE PEOPLE, demand change and VOTE AT THE POLLS FOR CHANGE, it will continue. As all of us can research, there are truly 4 types of corruption in dealing with politics. The most common types or categories of corruption are supply versus demand corruption, grand versus petty corruption, conventional versus unconventional corruption and public versus private corruption. Choose your poison.

I would like to point out and explain how these things are important to our daily lives, because some may ask how. I will showcase it in a nutshell.

Corruption has the following effects: It increases inequality, decreases popular accountability and political responsiveness, and as printed, produces rising frustration in the communities it surrounds and hardships among every citizen, whether rich, poor, or middle-class citizens, who are then more likely to accept or deny or even demand hard handed and liberal tactics.

Once again, CHOOSE YOUR POISON. I will break it down to help you think and consider looking deeper and harder to the elected officials sitting in seats of decision making, whether it be on a local, state, or national level...

IT IMPACTS AND AFFECTS US ALL. VOTE, VOTE, VOTE FOR INTEGRITY AND TRUTH; POPULARITY IS SO PLAYED OUT. TRUTH, FACTS, and JUSTICE.♣



Jason Bark

Firefighter of the Month

Mobile Fire-Rescue
proudly recognizes
Firefighter Jason Bark as
FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH
for August 2023.

Firefighter Bark was hired
November 2018 and serves on
Engine 16 at Lathan Station.





NAPOLEON BRACY JR. HAS ANNOUNCED HIS CANDIDAY FOR ALABAMA'S 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

A native of Prichard, Alabama, Bracy is truly a Hometown Hero. The youngest of seven children, he is a graduate of Blount High School and Dillard University of New Orleans. He received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Pentecostal Bible College of Tuskegee, Alabama. He works full-time for Austal USA, a contractor for the US Department of Defense and is a State Representative for Alabama House District 98.

Bracy joined the Legislature in 2010, at the age of 30, and became the Chairman of the Alabama Legislative Black Caucus in 2013. "After much thought and a rewarding 13 years in the Alabama Legislature, I am proud to announce that we are taking this thing to Congress, said Bracy. When I decided to run for Prichard City Council at the age of 26, I came in with only one goal in mind ...to do whatever I could to change the reality I grew up in. By this time in my life, I had seen the impact of poverty first-hand and lost too many people who couldn't survive the elements of living in a community like mine because they didn't have the resources they needed to live day by day. God made a way for me when the odds said I wouldn't live past the age of 35, and from that, I knew that it was my responsibility to make a way for others."

Representative Bracy feels that this is our time to have a seat at the table. A table that was built on the backs of those who had been disregarded by their Congressional representatives due to their voting record or area code his entire lifetime.

"At the heart of progress is education, healthcare, economics, and workforce development. And in communities where poverty is still real and economic development is scarce, we have watched the world grow around us while feeling the strain of disinvestment with no one to stand in the gap. The only way we can stand up for ourselves is if we stand together, and I am asking the residents of Alabama's 2nd Congressional District to stand with me while we take this fight to Washington."

A member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Prince Hall Masonry and 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, a few of his accolades include Humanitarian of the Year Award, Drug Free Mobile Leadership Award, Hometown Hero Award, Mobile Bays Top Forty under 40, 2014 Alabama Democratic National Convention Delegate for President Barack Obama, Secretary Hillary Clinton and Vice President Joe Biden.

Bracy is married to Melody and has three daughters: Kena, Brooklynn, and Camille. The Bracy's are members of Bethesda Christian Center. ♣



GROCERY TAX REDUCTION

What does and does not qualify as 'food' under Alabama's new law

	Yes	No
Meat, poultry and fish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fruits and vegetables	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dairy products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breads and cereal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cleaning supplies or paper products	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alcohol or tobacco	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pet food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Food from a hot bar at a grocery store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vitamins, cosmetics and hygiene items	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ALABAMA
Arise
alarise.org

"We're Not Out Numbered,
We're Out Organized!"



PORTRAITS in BLACK

Cleveland Abbott

...born December 9, 1892 in Yankton, South Dakota. He is most remembered for his coaching career at Tuskegee Institute (now University) in Alabama.

Abbott was the son of Elbert and Mollie Brown Abbott who moved to South Dakota from Alabama in 1890. He graduated from Watertown High School, Watertown, South Dakota, in 1912 and then from the South Dakota State University at Brookings in 1916. Abbott earned 14 varsity athletic awards during his collegiate career.

In 1916 Cleveland Abbott married Jessie Harriet Scott (1897–1982). They had one daughter, Jessie Ellen, who in 1943 became the first coach of the women's track team at Tennessee State University in Nashville.

Abbott served as a First Lieutenant in the 366th Infantry, 92nd Division in World War I. He saw action at the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in 1918. Abbott was later a commissioned officer in the Army Reserve. (The US Army Reserve Center at Tuskegee is now named the Cleveland Leigh Abbott Center.)

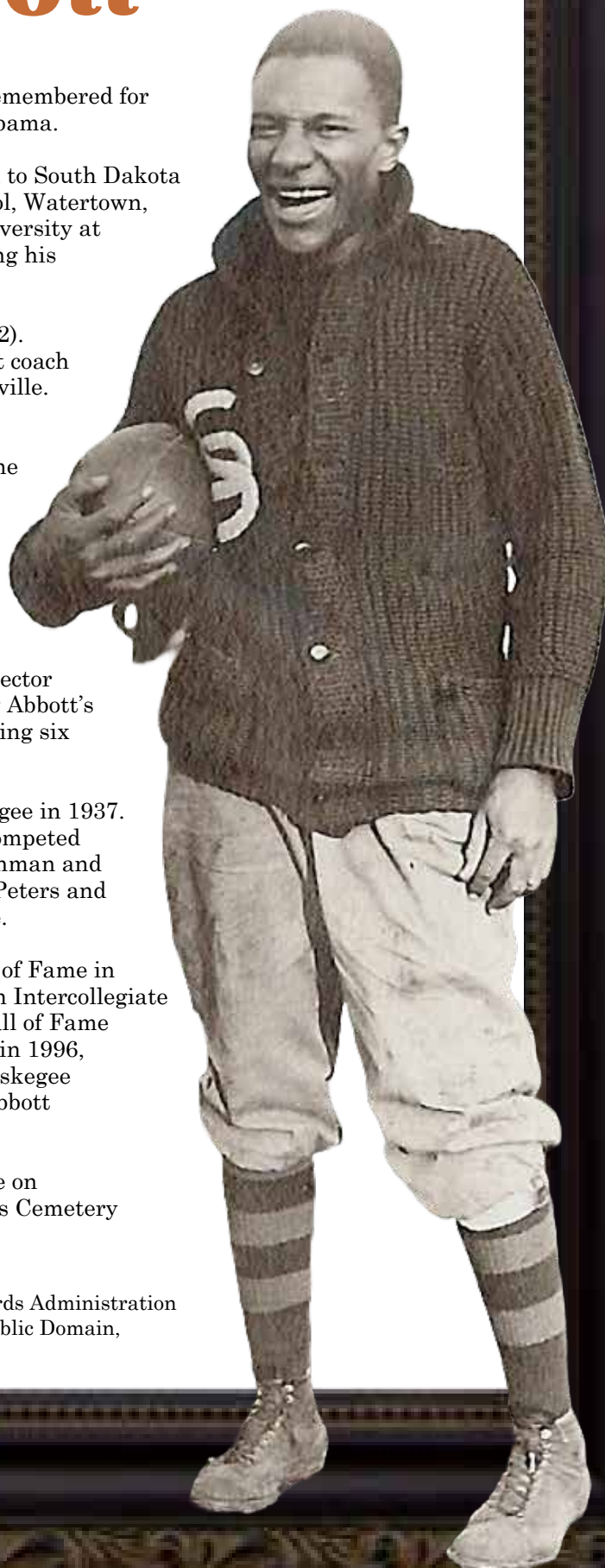
In 1923 Cleveland Abbott was hired as an agricultural chemist and athletic director at Tuskegee Institute, a job that had been personally offered to him by Booker T. Washington in 1913 on the condition that he successfully earn his B.A. degree. As athletic director Abbott was expected to coach the Institute's football team. During Abbott's 32-year career, the Tuskegee team had a 202–95–27 record including six undefeated seasons.

Abbott also started the women's track and field program at Tuskegee in 1937. The team was undefeated from 1937 to 1942. Six of his athletes competed on U.S. Olympic track teams, including gold medalists Alice Coachman and Mildred McDaniel. He also coached tennis stars Margaret "Pete" Peters and Roumania "Repeat" Peters during their college years at Tuskegee.

Abbott was inducted into the South Dakota State University Hall of Fame in 1968, the Tuskegee University Hall of Fame in 1975, the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Hall of Fame in 1992, the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 1995, and the USA Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1996. Also in 1996, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to athletics, the Tuskegee University Football Stadium was renamed the Cleveland Leigh Abbott Memorial Alumni Stadium.

Cleveland Leigh Abbott died at the Veterans Hospital in Tuskegee on April 14, 1955 and was buried in the Tuskegee University Campus Cemetery at Tuskegee, Alabama.♣

Photo by United States Department of War - National Archives and Records Administration -Archival Research Catalog, Record Group 165, ARC Identifier533490, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1411925>.♣





**NOVEMBER 18, 2023
10:00AM - 4:00PM
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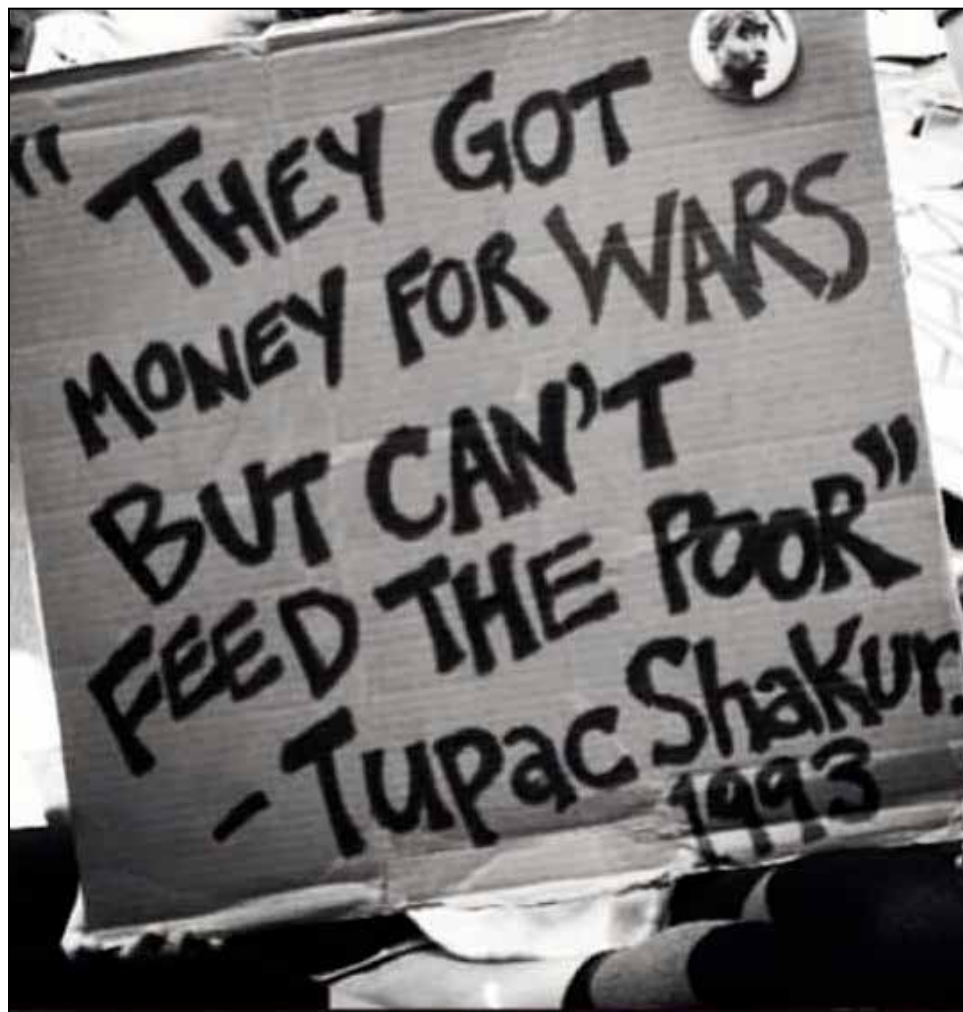


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Dasia Taylor

...a college student, entrepreneur and STEM advocate, became a nationally recognized scientist for her creation of sutures that change color if an infection has occurred following surgical procedures.



Charles Orren Bailiff invented the shampoo headrest. He received the patent for it on this day in 1898. Remember his name the next time you're getting a wash at the salon.

AfricanArchives
Shampoo Headrest

BREAKING:
LSU STAR ANGEL REESE ANNOUNCED AS
FIRST REEBOK BASKETBALL ATHLETE
UNDER SHAQ & IVERSON



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Mobile Sports Authority Reports Record Fiscal Year 2023 Results

The Mobile Sports Authority (MSA), the sports tourism agency for the City and County of Mobile, reported today the organization attracted, supported, and/or hosted 39 sports events during the recently completed FY2023 fiscal year which ran from October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023. As a result of those 39 events, Fiscal Year 2023 generated an estimated \$31 million for the Mobile area economy (see MSA Scoreboard for a complete breakdown). The FY2023 results set a new annual economic impact record for the MSA, smashing the previous best year impact of \$25.6 million in FY2016.

Those 39 completed sports events involved 19 different sports, such as, basketball, gymnastics, volleyball, baseball, track & field, wrestling, football, soccer, and even a world turkey-calling championship, plus many others. As a comparison, over the last 5 fiscal years, the MSA has hosted an average of 32 events per year (even with the Covid year of 2020 included), representing almost a 20% increase over the previous 2012-2018 years. As for another notable number, 15 of the 39 events held last fiscal year were either first or second-time events for the MSA and 24 of those 39 events were youth-oriented, that is, competitors ranging from ages 4-19. And those youth events typically bring in more visitors as more of the families tend to travel for the youth events.

“As we continue to invest in our sports facilities in Mobile, the MSA has seen the returns on our hosted sports events continuing to grow as competitions are flourishing. Much like the trends we’ve been noticing in recent years, we believe that visiting sports events will continue to be an essential part of our future tourism activity. And we’ve been able to attract/ host those quality sports events due to the continued strong support the MSA has received from the Mobile County Commission, Mayor Stimpson and the Mobile City Council, and a very sports-oriented Board of Trustees,” said Danny Corte, Executive Director of the MSA. “In total since 2012, the MSA has attracted, hosted, managed, or co-managed 353 sporting events, which have provided an estimated \$230 million economic boost for the Mobile area. As we continue to tell our story, the future continues to look bright as we’re constantly engaging sports-event owners about the advantages of coming to play in our beautiful area.”

MOBILE SPORTS AUTHORITY CONTACT
Marlene Rathle, Events & Marketing Director
251-725-1794

marlene@mobilesportsauthority.com

www.mobilesportsauthority.com
Mobile Sports Authority Facebook Page.

JOSEPH MITCHELL PHD

Citizen Musician & Politician



What is Shakespeare saying in 'To be or not to be'? In the 'To be or not to be' soliloquy Shakespeare has his Hamlet character speak these famous lines. Hamlet is wondering whether he should continue to be, meaning to exist or remain alive or to not exist - in other words, commit suicide.

Annexation was accomplished. The simple math is that Mobile with Annexation went from being a city of 52% Black and 48% white to approximately 46% black and 44% white. By adding a large population of white people to the city population through annexation, Black citizens, in Mobile lost their edge. Remember that these counts represent voting age populations.

White voters habitually turn out to vote in their best interest. In recent years, and particularly since the civil rights era, Black Voters only turn out when spurred by some event, or an election, when Black candidates provoke Black voter involvement.

The success of the annexation vote has effectively jeopardized the viability of Black self protection through the voting process. An annexation vote was only possible after the city Council voted to permit the annexation referendum. we know that Whites always vote in their best interest, our question is: “Why did the three ‘black-skinned’ city council persons who represent districts comprised largely of Black people not vote in the best interest of them selves and Black people[?]”, i.e., why is it that they did not vote against the annexation referendum vote approval?

At this writing, we have no answers as to why the three black-skinned city council persons representing districts comprised largely of Black people, not vote in the best interest of Black people. We have only suppositions and conjectures. “Supposition” means ‘an uncertain belief’. “Conjecture” means ‘an opinion formed on incomplete information’. To be “as clear as mud” regarding why is it that they did not vote against the annexation referendum vote approval, our few suppositions and conjectures are listed below:

1. With an abundance of pertinent information at their disposal, they didn’t care about BLACK best interests; and/or
2. They were (a) selfish, (b) greedy, (c) niggardly (d) politically conceited and (e) bought off; and/or
3. With an abundance of pertinent information at their disposal, they were/are vacuous, vapid, cretinous, fatuous, obtuse and myopic.

Blacks elected to political office IN MOBILE? To be or not to be?♣



Rants of a Bullying Victim

Ever had one of those days where you just couldn't put words to paper — or in this case, put fingers on a keyboard?

Well, I must confess that I've had days such as those, and let me tell you, it's quite aggravating, particularly when you want to write something that is relevant, but you're afraid by the time it's published, it's outdated. It's a hazard when you write for a monthly, I guess.

But have no fear, readers...just when I get a severe case of writer's block, something comes along that gets the creative juices flowing again and bring my fingers back to life. It serves as a cautionary tale when it comes to dealing with people who are bullied.

One day, when I was just sitting around just relaxing and thinking about the things that happened in my life, I started thinking about some of the hardships I faced during junior high and high school.

Those were some tough days then, and before you start asking me why am I reliving the past, let me say I'm grateful to have survived those days, because some of the days I had then were absolute hell.

There were many events that happened to me from grade school to high school. Some of those events occurred when I was a freshman at Central High School.

That's right — I'm that old.

During my years at Central I was picked on early — and often. I was harassed so much in fact; I dreaded even going to school. When I told my grandparents I was planning on quitting school because of the constant teasing and harassment, my grandfather told me matter-of-factly, "The hell you're quitting school!"

I knew then I was fighting two losing battles; fighting to keep from being harassed at school and catching hell from my grandfather because I wanted to quit and not have to deal with the pain.

I bet you're wondering how a guy like me could have such a hard time as a high school freshman. Let me count the ways. Being teased about my clothes, being hassled about not being popular, being jumped on for no reason, and catching hell for not wearing an Afro was standard fare for yours truly.

Every day, I wondered what would happen next, because kids (and some teachers) seemed to invent ways to make my life totally miserable.

One such incident happened during homeroom during my freshman year. My homeroom teacher knew about the hell I was catching, but she had the unmitigated gall to say it was all in my head.

You've heard of the term 'gaslighting,' right? Well, this woman was gaslighting before gaslighting was cool. At any rate, one day, when I spoke out about being bullied, she had the nerve to say, and I quote: "Mack, you're having hallucinations!"

Imagine that. Hallucinations. What teacher says that when a teenager is being bullied and complaining about it, hoping to get some semblance of relief?

"But Arthur, this was in the late 60s," some might say. "People didn't know how to handle those kinds of situations then!"

That's the point I'm trying to make, people. Here we are, six decades later, and there are young people committing suicide because very few people in authority are taking bullying as seriously as they should. What would scare me is that some of these young people who are being bullied decide to take matters into their own hands and do some very serious damage. The only problem with that is that they'll likely face a stiffer punishment than those who are doing the bullying.

Sure, there are programs here locally and across the country that help those who are bullied, but more needs to be done. Quite frankly, I don't have all the answers, but if school administrators expelled those doing the bullying, it would be a start. I don't want anyone to go through what I did when I was in school — I don't think he or she would be able to handle it.♣

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CONTINUE SUCCESS!

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Are You Being Represented or Sold Out?

I was raised Down-the-Bay. My Mom worked a job and volunteered at our schools. My family attended civic and political meetings. I remember police visiting our home to intimidate. We talked politics and the state of Black America at Church and the dinner table. Coming out of this environment, I have spent my life campaigning, volunteering and impacting civil rights, economic development, politics and social injustice.

Observation

In a City (Mobile, AL) where more than half of the Citizens are African-American, the Politicians who represent very rarely introduce or speak of bills or platforms that will impact economic development.

Alabama is behind on almost all pertinent issues. Then when they introduce something that has been done in other areas for years, the politicians want to act like they are innovative.

Civic Leaders and Politicians often travel to other areas to access projects that successfully impact tourism, economic development and tax dollars. They know what works and how it works – Why is it not done here?

Over the past decade the National Political Party agendas, speech writers and strategies have been embraced in local politics. There was a time when the locals focused on what is best for the municipality or region. Now it is more about connecting to the fame, money and power of the national structure.

We do not hold Politicians accountable for what they say in campaigns or their inability to produce positive impacts.

This Is What I Want To Hear and See (or Cease)

An explanation on why ANY of them should be re-elected when Alabama over the past forty years continues to be last in key quality of life polls. Please do not quote me any meaningless polls – I do my homework.

Politicians who give monthly updates, inclusive of failed actions and/or bills. A listing of proposed bills they are sponsoring, and share their voting records (for those who do not access internet)

Politicians who attend more town hall meetings than lobbyist or donor receptions.

More communication about the actual business and strategies of the sessions.

I want to see more interaction from the Constituency, specifically when what the Politician is saying or doing does not positively impact.

As always **CONTINUED SUCCESS!**✿

MOMENTS IN TIME

Paulette Horton



Nelson Leon Adams

Now that the Clotilda has been discovered, the area of Mobile called Plateau has been the topic of many conversations.

There are many people who made this area a thriving community. One of them was Nelson Leon Adams, a prominent community leader who was born October 29, 1877 in Alabama.

Adams understood the value of education and had a good working knowledge of how to apply it in helping people make a living for their families. Most of his occupations centered around the building and renting of houses. At one time, he had over 100 rental homes.

It was Nelson Adams who enhanced housing by discontinuing the tradition of the shotgun house and building the types of homes seen in Plateau today. He was involved in the political, educational, civic, and religious life of Mobile County.

Adams was chairman of the committee that purchased the first piece of land for the improvement of Mobile County Training School. He and other community leaders went to the board of school commissioners to ask for a full-term school, and permission was granted.

On September 10, 1961, Adams died and was buried in the Plateau Cemetery. Nelson Adams school was named in his honor and dedicated on September 17, 1967.♣

IT'S AN OLD SCHOOL
TOULMINVILLE
November 24, 2023

ALL CLASS
REUNION

Classes Of 1968-1984
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
@ Calirojae Event Center
1004 Dauphin Island Pkwy., Mobile, AL
7:00 pm - 1:00 am | Meet & Greet 7pm - 9pm

Dress Attire: Dressy Casual (in other words break hard Friday 😊)

It's All About Fellowshiping, It's All About Old Memories,
It's All About Positive Energy,
It's All About Being Blessed To See Each Other Again,
It's All About YOU!

A percentage of each ticket sale will go to Leflore High School, our baby rattlers.

Contact Host Darryl (Mr. Shabby Chic) Evans (1975 Rattler)
Event coordinator & promoter for more info at 251-643-3325

Designed by K.C. - 251-452-5200

USA presents HOMECOMING COURT 2023



HOMECOMING KING Ja'Michael Washington

...a mechanical engineering major with a concentration in biomedical engineering and is also active in several student organizations.
Ja'Michael is the son of Michael and Angela Washington.



HOMECOMING QUEEN Maiben Mitchell

...a communication major with a concentration in communication studies from Mobile; The daughter of Drs. Michael and Merlinda Mitchell, Maiben is active in several South student organizations. She was crowned by the 2022 Homecoming Queen, Sydney Green.

THE COURT

The USA Student Government Association presented the HOMECOMING COURT at halftime.
All members of the Court are involved in several student organizations.



GRADUATE MAID
Caroline Whatley Howell
(Mobile AL)
She is pursuing her Doctor of Medicine degree from the Frederick P. Whiddon College of Medicine; the daughter of Bret and Felicia Whatley



SENIOR MAID
Libby Duke
(Tallahassee FL)
...a communications major with a concentration in public relations and advertising; the daughter of Matthew and Sarah Duke



JUNIOR MAID
Emily Fadalla
(Mobile AL)
...a nursing major and the daughter of Michael and Dana Fadalla



SOPHOMORE MAID
Samantha Cochran
(Mobile AL)
...majoring in professional health sciences; the daughter of Dr. Glenn and Mrs. Janet Cochran



FRESHMAN MAID
Aeriel Frazier
(Troy AL)
...a nursing major and the daughter of Ms. Rhonda Pollard

USA National Pan-Hellenic Council STEP SHOW Competition

1ST PLACE WINNERS



2ND PLACE RUNNER UPS

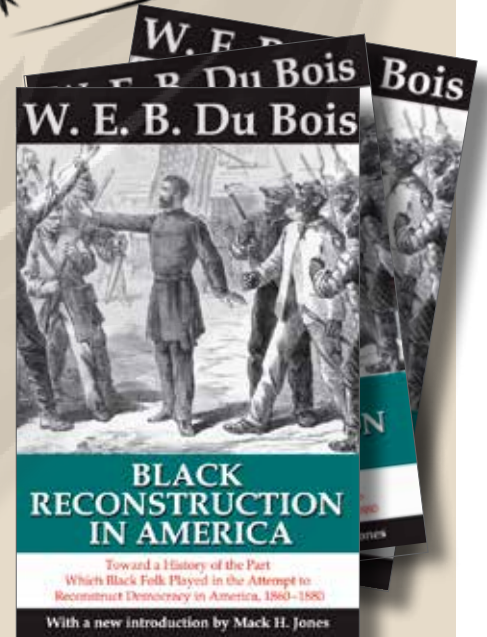
Literary Corner...



W.E.B. Du Bois

Black Reconstruction In America is an essay that's a history of the part that Black Folk played in the attempt to reconstruct democracy, 1860-1880, that was first published in 1935.

This pioneering work is considered a Classic and was the first full length study of the role African Americans played in the crucial period after the Civil War when the slaves had been freed and the attempt was made to reconstruct American society. ♣

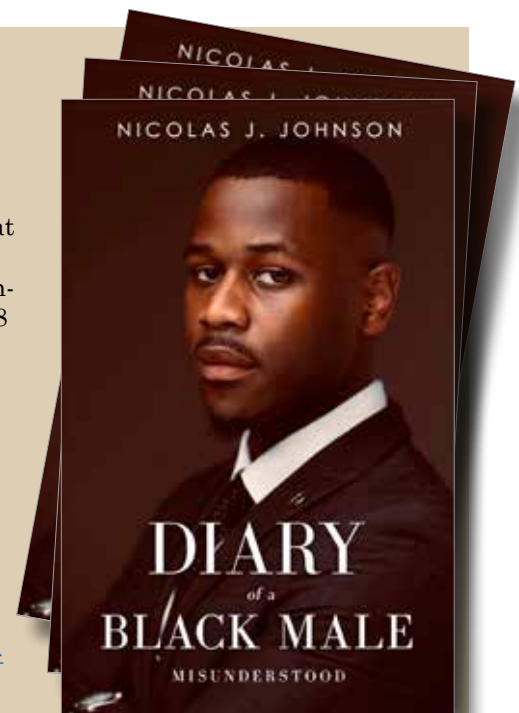


Nicholas J. Johnson

The author of Diary of a Black Male Misunderstood, Nicolas (Nic) Johnson is a Montgomery, Alabama native, where he made a name for himself in both the political and educational arenas. Having served on several political campaigns at all levels, Nic served as a community Activist, worked for the Montgomery City Council, and worked in the Montgomery Public School System as a substitute teacher-through which he received his primary and secondary education. He is a 2018 graduate of Park Crossing High School, a 2022 graduate with honors of Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, and a class of 2025 JD Candidate at Villanova University's School of Law in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Diary of a Black Male Misunderstood revolves around experiences and historical events pertaining to 20th and 21st Century Deep South, Black America, and America. Topics of discussion include toxic masculinity, convict leasing, 40 acres & a mule, health and Healthcare in Black America, the War on Drugs, and so much more! Nic does not hold back in this groundbreaking book.

You can purchase a signed copy of the book by going to www.diaryofablackmale-misunderstood.com, and regular copies are also available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, & Books-A-Million! ♣



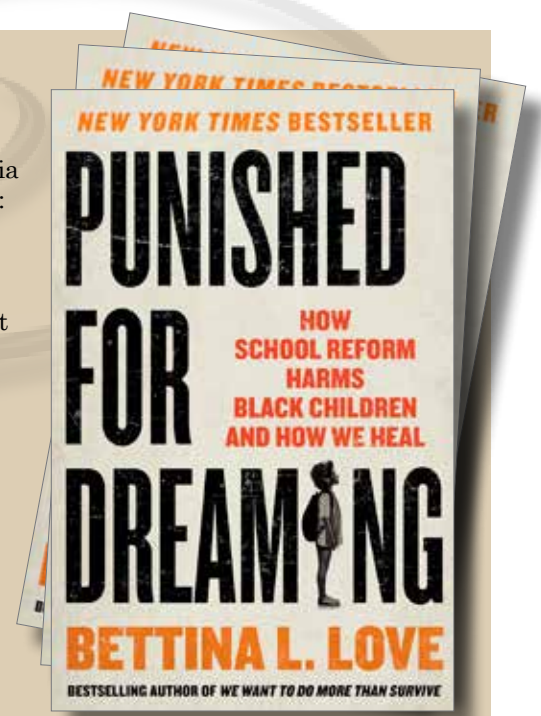
Dr. Bettina Love

Dr. Bettina Love is the William F. Russell Professor at Teachers College, Columbia University and author of this New York Times Bestseller Punished for Dreaming: How School Reform Harms Black Children and How We Heal.

The Kennedy Center named her one of the Next 50 Leaders making the world more inspired, Inclusive, and compassionate. She's a co-founder of the Abolitionist Teaching Network (ATN), whose mission is to develop and support teachers and parents fighting injustice within their schools and communities.

Dr. Love lays bare the impact of 40 years of racist public school policy-from the War on Drugs to zero-tolerance charter schools to the book bans of today-on generations of Black Lives. It is time the US atones for that educational harm and begins to truly educate all of its children.

Decades of reform (from Brown v. Board of Education to No Child Left Behind) have left millions of Black students feeling betrayed, unsafe and punished in school. Dr. Love, an acclaimed educator, reveals how this happened, and offers a way forward for repair, transformation, and healing. ♣





NEWS RELEASE

ADPH ASKS FOR INPUT TO IMPROVE HEALTH IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

CONTACT: Carlene Robinson, (334) 206-5051

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) mission is to promote, protect, and improve Alabama's health and provide the people of the state with the highest quality service possible. To reach this goal, ADPH would like to hear from its residents!

The 2023 Community Health Issues Survey is part of the State Health Assessment that ADPH utilizes to identify health issues in challenges on the county and community level. Previously in 2019, the survey was used to identify 14 top health concerns for Alabama. From this information, ADPH can better serve based on the highest needs.

The survey is for those older than 18 years old, and it should take less than 10 minutes to complete. Participation is voluntary, and all responses will be kept confidential. All responses will need to be completed by November 30, 2023.

**The Branch Located at 2861 Springhill Avenue
HAS PERMANENTLY CLOSED**



We Have Moved WEST to Serve You Better!
Visit Our New Branch Location
3959 GOVERNMENT BLVD
Intersection of Government Blvd and Azalea Road
Mobile Alabama 36693

YOU CAN STILL VISIT THE TOULMINVILLE BRANCH
located at 2214 St. Stephens Road in Mobile (AL)

www.ecommonwealthbank.com

Gulf Coast Ethnic & Heritage Festival

Hosea London Jazz Music & Education AWARD WINNERS

2023 HALL OF FAME Inductee



Dr. Joseph Mitchell

2023 HALL OF FAME Inductee



**Joseph Austill
Morris Sr.**

Hats Off

HAPPY 8TH WEDDING
Anniversary!

Ronald & Renea
ALI



Congratulations!
Khelsea Cooper
Named new AMBASSADOR
for COLLEGE OF ENGINEERS
University of South Alabama



HAPPY 64TH WEDDING
Anniversary!
Dr. Leon & Aurelia
CHASTANG



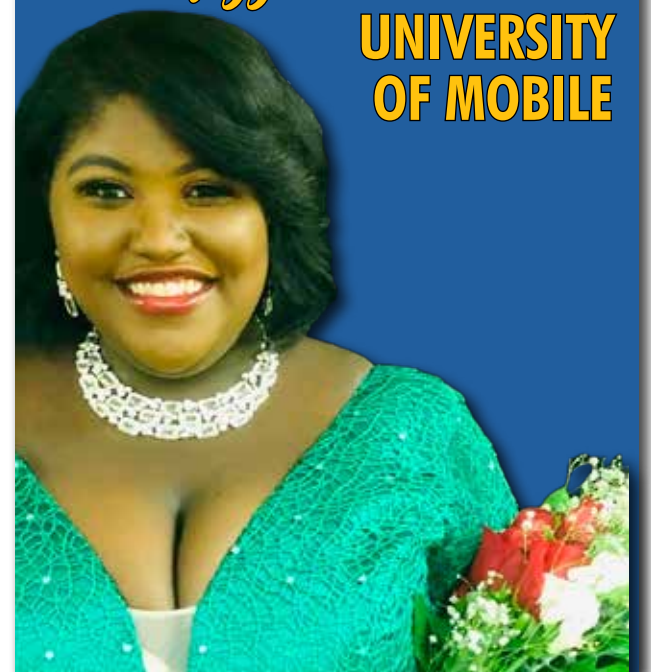
Congratulations!
Sherri Johnson
Elected
CHAIRWOMAN
of Henry County
Democratic
Party



HAPPY 5TH WEDDING
Anniversary!
Kenny & Chandra
HOLDER



Congratulations!
Kiersten Alexanderia
Pettaway
Selected
Miss **CONGENIALITY**
UNIVERSITY
OF MOBILE



Hats Off

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Celebrating **70** *Years*

CEDAR STREET MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"A Church with a Purpose"

Pastor Ray Powell

HAPPY 34TH WEDDING

Anniversary!

**Leandrew & LaRhonda
PEARS**



Congratulations!

Dr. Kena Lane

Become a

State of

Alabama

LICENSED

PHARMACIST



HAPPY 25TH WEDDING

Anniversary!

Charles & Earline

MARTIN



HAPPY 30TH WEDDING

Anniversary!

**Leon & Andrea McKinley
BROWN**



Hats Off

Congratulations!
Vanessa Washington
Named **PRESIDENT** of
Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc
Beta Xi Chapter for 2023-24



HAPPY 28TH Wedding
Anniversary!
Wesley & Brenda
WASHINGTON



Congratulations!
Eola Lewis Dance
PRESIDENT & CEO OF
THE MONTPELIER FOUNDATION



Operators of
James
Madison's
Historic
Home in
Virginia

HAPPY 40TH WEDDING
Anniversary!
Carl & Angela
PENNINGTON



Congratulations!
Janice Malone
of **VIVIAN'S DOOR**
Selected as an **AARP's 2024**
PURPOSE PRIDE AWARD WINNER



Congratulations!
Shiloh
Missionary
Baptist
Church
Announces
the Election
of the new
SENIOR PASTOR...
PASTOR-ELECT
Bernard
Lambert Jr.



Hats Off

Congratulations!

Judge Vickie Davis

Sworn in as
**CIRCUIT
COURT
JUDGE
13th Judicial
Court**



Congratulations!

**Anne Brooks of Mott MacDonald;
Dora Franklin Finley
African American Heritage Trail;
and Franklin House
for receiving a
GOLD DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARD
from the Alabama Chapter of
American Society of Interior Design
for Historic Preservation**



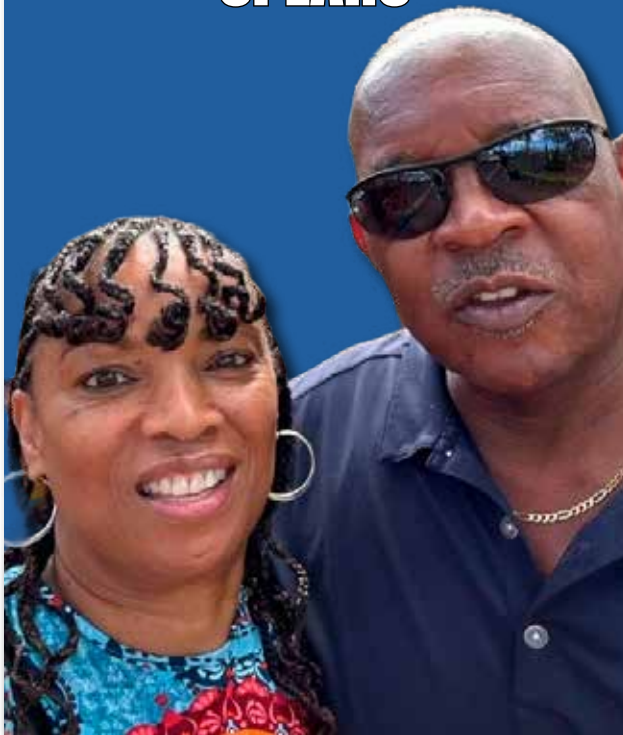
Congratulations!

C. Pichoff-DeLorca

**Named
Mobile
County
Democratic
Party VIDEO
CHAIR for
LGBTQIA+
Affairs**

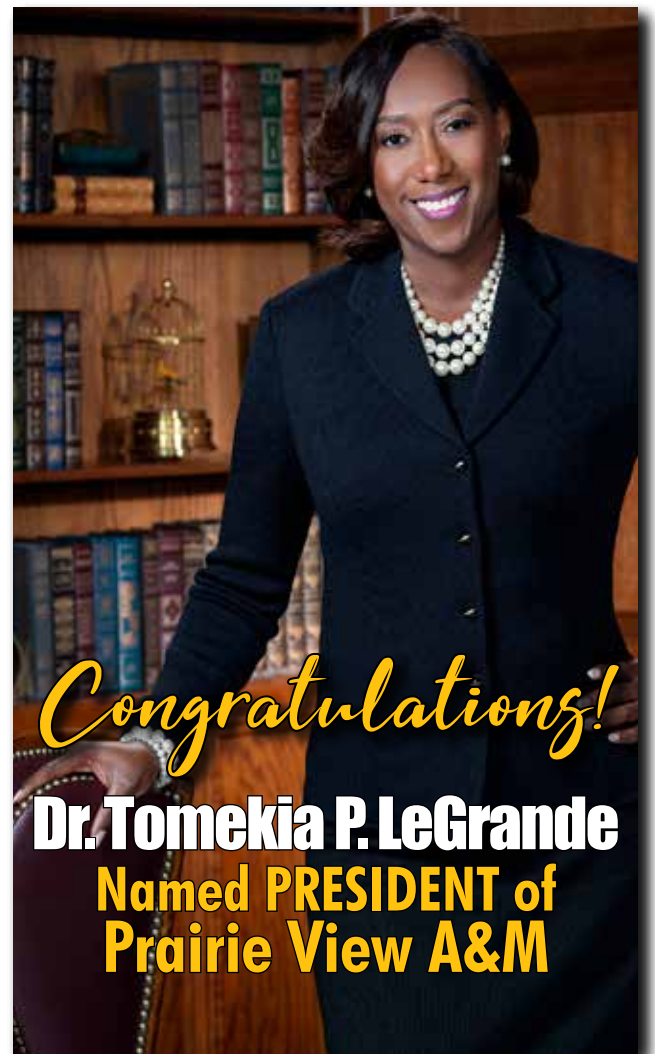


**HAPPY 40TH WEDDING
Anniversary!
Ron & Linda
SPEARS**



Congratulations!

**Dr. Tomekia P. LeGrande
Named PRESIDENT of
Prairie View A&M**



Hats Off

HAPPY 49TH WEDDING
Anniversary!
Robert & Ruth
PETTAWAY



CUMULUS
M E D I A
MOBILE



Beverly McDowell • Nikki DeMarks • Ben Gordon
Kevin Jenkins • Ty Burden • Chuck Nobles (seated)

BALL HEALTHCARE SERVICES, INC.
STUDENT COMMONS AREA



Bishop State's Grand Opening of the Center of Nursing and Health Sciences



Arthur L. Mack
FREELANCE WRITER
steppinoutnews@aol.com



Tearing Down a Building... BUT NOT a MISSION

It's the end of an era of sorts for the Optimist Boys & Girls Club, which for many years has stood at 1417 Plaza Drive in the heart of the R.V. Taylor Housing Development.

As of September 29, the building housing the Optimist Boys & Girls Club was vacated because it, along with the R.V. Taylor Housing Development and the Thomas James Housing Development, will be torn down. The Mobile Airport Authority will assume control of most, if not all, of the property.

Yet while the building will be gone, the Optimist Boys & Girls Club will still be in existence, though at a different location, said William Burks, the club's branch director.

"I've been through three executive directors of the Boys & Girls Club of South Alabama (Mary Zoghby, Tim Wills, and Robert Kennedy, Jr.) since I've been here," he said. "A long time ago, they were talking about building a new club because the community was going to be demolished 10-plus years ago. There has been talks about building a new club for many years, but nobody's stepped up to the plate to make that a reality."

To that end, Burks is leading the charge in finding a new location. Until that happens, the Optimist Boys & Girls Club will be based in the Harmon Recreation Center and run by Nonnie Parker, who has been a longtime employee of the Boys & Girls Club.

"My first preference is to build a club in this community," he said. "Meanwhile, I'll be supervising the club at the Harmon Recreation Center as well as the Kiwanis Boys & Girls Club in Crichton. I just want everyone to understand that the Optimist Boys & Girls Club is not going away. The building may be closing and be demolished, but we're still going to be the Optimist Boys & Girls Club in some point of time — sooner rather than later."

Burks said the Optimist Boys & Girls Club has been in existence since 1957, and has been at the Plaza Drive location since the early 1960s. It served as the model for other Boys & Girls Clubs in the Mobile area.

"We used to have our administrative building right in front of the Housing Board building," he said. "This was the first club and it helped to open up other clubs throughout the city. Whenever people came to look at building a Boys & Girls Club in other places in the city, this was the model. Everything was patterned after this club."

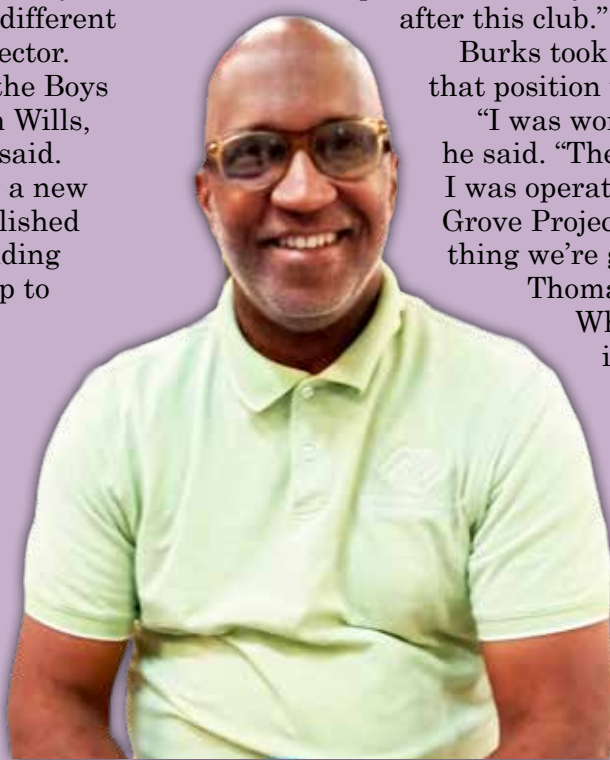
Burks took over as club director in 2008. How he got in that position was a story in itself.

"I was working in my family business for many years," he said. "The year before I became executive director, I was operating the convenience store where the Orange Grove Projects were. They were going through the same thing we're going through now (with R.V. Taylor and Thomas James)."

When the people from Orange Grove moved out, it took about 90 percent of my business, along with the expansion of Bishop State and the fact I was getting unfair gasoline prices from the gasoline industry."

With a family to support, Burks got word from Boys & Girls Club of South Alabama executive Jermaine West there was an opening for someone to teach Smart Move classes at the Optimist Branch.

"He said, 'Why don't you do that until you get back on your feet as far as your business is concerned?'" Burks recalled. "When I was doing the Smart Move classes, the opening came open for branch director. My plans were not to work as branch director for the Boys & Girls Club;



William Burks
DIRECTOR
Optimist Boys & Girls Club of South Alabama

continued on Page 22... see **Boys & Girls**



Down the Bay History Day

November 4
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

James Seals Jr.
Recreation Center
540 Texas Street

- Connect with friends
- Share your memories
- Learn about the University of South Alabama's Down the Bay Oral History Project and I-10 Mobile River Bridge Archaeology Project
- Lunch is provided!

USA SOUTH ALABAMA CENTER FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Oral
History

Boys & Girls... continued from Page 22

I was just trying to make ends meet because my business had gone down."

Another person connected with the Boys & Girls Clubs of South Alabama, Thelma Thrash, thought Burks would be a good fit because she wanted to be sure the club succeeded. After a rough patch where people from Orange Grove moved to R.V. Taylor and clashed because of territorial issues. Fortunately, Burks knew some parents of children living in Orange Grove from the convenience store he had operated there, as well as knowing some parents who patronized a business that he owned in the Maysville community.

"They were having what you would call turf wars," Burks said. "She felt I could bring some stability into what would've been a very chaotic atmosphere for the kids in those communities. You had kids coming from Orange Grove; you had kids coming from R.V. Taylor and the Maysville community. A lot of times, that can be pretty chaotic.

"So I went through some growing pains while I was here. The kids were a little unruly, and we had a huge population of teenagers. The kids felt like they didn't have to follow rules; so when I came in and started instilling the rules, I was not the most popular guy in town. It was a rough situation, and back then we had 150-200 kids. A large percentage of those kids were teenagers."

In time, after questioning himself, Burks realized the club and the community needed his guidance.

"Eventually, the parents and the kids got to appreciate what I was trying to do," he said. "That gave me the motivation to continue on."

For many years, the Optimist Boys & Girls Club has had many activities. One of them was the Pancake Breakfast, which has been successful since it first began in 2008.

"All of the directors of each branch were tasked with raising money for each particular club," said Burks. "We met in Montgomery, and I heard this one young man whose club was in Birmingham and he mentioned one of the fundraisers he had, which was a pancake breakfast. That's where I got the idea.

"It started out small, and it started out with the idea to raise money. The first year, we raised about \$5,000. The Wings of Life played a very integral role in helping me to pull it off. They had just partnered with us, and we had just had a tragedy where one of the members of our club committed suicide. They heard about that tragedy, came over, and wanted to lend their support."

As a result, Burks said, every time there was an event, the Wings of Life was on hand to help.

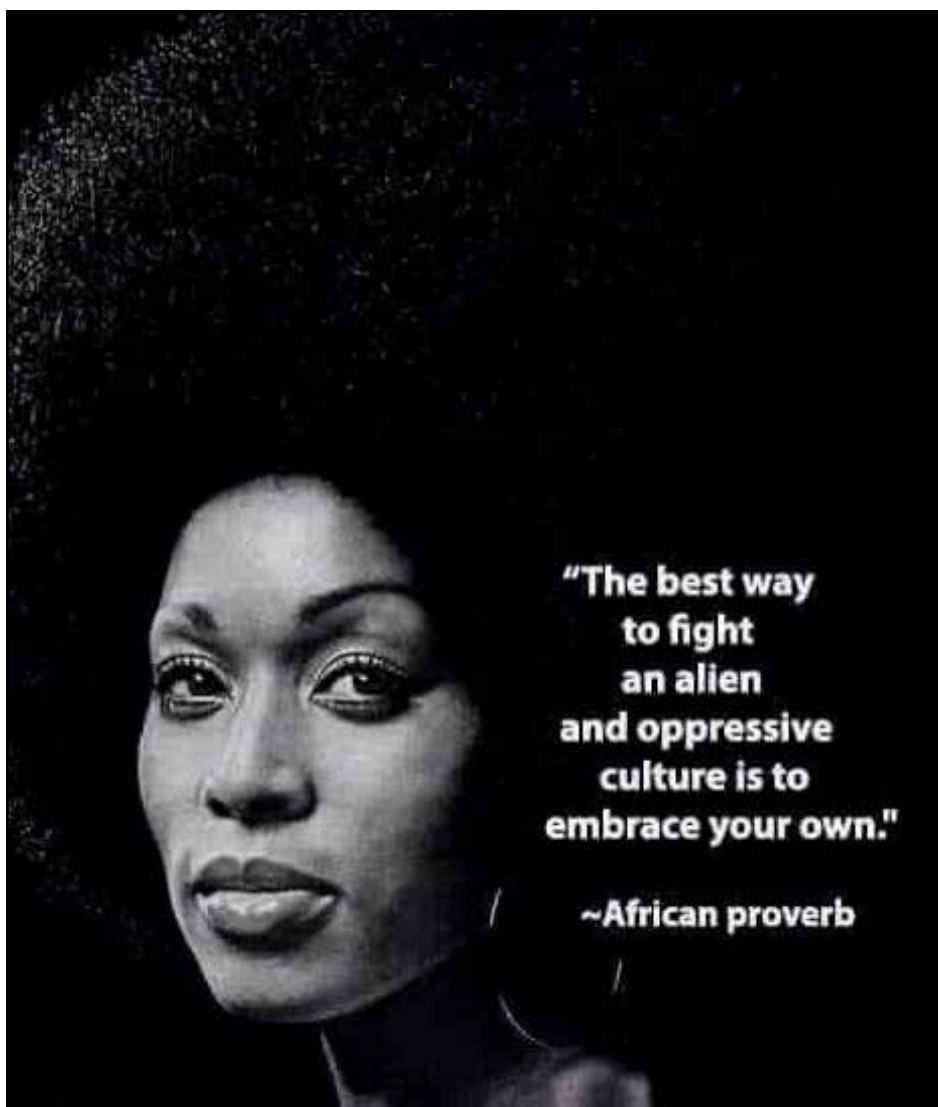
"They were always right there to help pull things off," he said. "So they came with their supporters to help us with that first Pancake Breakfast we had. They did most of the cooking, most of the setting up and everything went from there."

Another event the Optimist Boys & Girls Club sponsored over the years has been an annual Christmas Party. Burks said it was a tradition even before he became executive director.

"We had a gentleman from the Mobile Optimist Club provide money for toys, the club provided the Santa Claus and the food, and made sure the kids had a great Christmas," he said. "That's something we continue to do over the years. The kids and the parents always look forward to that."

Now with the building on the verge of being demolished, Burks looked back on some of the other Boys & Girls Clubs in the Mobile area that have shut down over the years.

"Over the last 15 years I've been here, I've seen so many clubs close their doors," he said. "I made it a goal of mine to not let that happen to the Optimist Boys & Girls Club. I told Tim Wills before he left, and I told our new executive director (Kennedy) I'm not going to let that happen. I'm going to do everything I can in my power to make sure this club continues."❖



"The best way
to fight
an alien
and oppressive
culture is to
embrace your own."

~African proverb

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BLACK LIVES MATTER

Tommy Green

Facebook Blogger & Former Editor for Mobile Beacon



Brothers and sisters, #45/trump showed his true colors in 1989 when tried to get the Central Park five electrocuted before they had been convicted of raping a white lady. If trump/MAGA Republicans are elected, they will wreck-havoc on the constitution, primarily affecting Black people and other disenfranchised groups. According to Wallin & Klawch, "In criminal cases, most courts (state and federal) require a unanimous vote by the jury to find the defendant guilty. Currently, courts in only two states allow for conviction of a defendant via non-unanimous voting, and those are generally reserved for minor charges."

I have been reflecting on #45, so I don't believe that a jury of 12 white Americans will find him guilty. Therefore, Black people need a backup plan. That means for Black Americans, we must vote as though our lives depend on our vote, which will be a reality if #45/Republicans win the presidential election in 2024. We cannot allow our destiny to be in President Biden administration, the Supreme Court, or the U.S. Congress. We have a chance in 2024 to determine our destiny as Black men and women.

The Pew Research Center, "Reported in 2017 that Black voter's percentage declined by 7% from 2012 to 2016 in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin and those are the states that determined who became president in 2016. Black's percentages in 2012 for Obama was 66.9%, and they declined to 59.9% in 2016 for Hillary."

We must remember that you don't vote for someone because you like them. You vote for someone who will support your issues. If we were educated on voting and the history of this country, it would have shown how dangerous, it was for #45 to become president. The conservative SCOTUS ruled on the Biden administration overstepping its authority last year when it announced that it would cancel up to \$400 billion in student loans. Three of the conservative justices are on the court because #45 ensured that they were. Therefore, educated voters are paramount in defending their rights and Democracy.

On September 6, 2022, Politfact.com reported, "Republican members of Congress whose Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) loans were forgiven: Matt Gaetz (R-FL) \$467,000, Majorie Taylor Green (R-GA) \$180,000, Greg Pence (R-IN) \$79,444, Vern Buchanan (R-FL) \$2.8M, Kevin Hern (R-OH) \$1,070,000, Roger Williams (R-TX) \$1,430,000, Brett Guthrie (R-KY) \$4.3M, Ralph Norman (R-SC) \$306,520, Ralph Abraham (R-LA) \$38,000, Mike Kelly (R-PA) \$974, 100, Vicki Hartzler (R-MO) \$451,200, Markwayne Mulin (R-OK) \$988,700, Carol Miller (R-WV) \$3.1M."

Those members of Congress above were the ones who were against student loans forgiveness for low-income students, primarily Black students President Biden has also worked to ensure equitable access to high-quality education for Black students. I am providing this information because some brothers and sisters don't believe their lying eyes. You can use your phone to goggle information, so you will be an educated voter. "BLACK VOTERS MATTER!"♣

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NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA
PUBLIC
HEALTH

Protect Children's Health

New Law Prohibits Smoking and Vaping in Vehicles with Children

CONTACT: Wes Stubblefield, M.D., (256) 340-2113

Secondhand tobacco smoke leads to health problems, and there is no safe level of exposure for children or adults. A newly enacted Alabama law prohibits smoking or vaping in enclosed motor vehicles with children ages 14 and younger as passengers.

Children's smaller bodies take in a larger amount of air, so tobacco smoke is particularly hazardous to them. In infants and children, secondhand smoke can cause:

- Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
- Respiratory infections
- Ear infections
- Asthma attacks

SIDS is the sudden, unexplained, unexpected death of an infant in the first year of life. It is the leading cause of death in otherwise healthy infants. Chemicals in secondhand smoke appear to interfere with regulation of infants' breathing.

Children who are exposed to secondhand smoke are at an increased risk for...

- Pneumonia and bronchitis
- Wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath
- Middle ear disease
- Ear infections and operations to put in ear tubes
- More frequent and severe asthma attacks that can put a child's life in danger
- Slowed lung growth

Protecting children from secondhand smoke also means not using other types of commercial tobacco products. These include e-cigarettes.

- Aerosol from e-cigarettes is not harmless. It can contain cancer-causing chemicals. These include heavy metals like nickel, tin and lead, among other chemicals...
- E-cigarettes are not safe for children, teens, young adults, pregnant adults, or people who do not already use tobacco.
- No e-cigarette has been approved by the FDA as a quit smoking aid

To protect children riding in your vehicle, do not let anyone smoke. Rolling down windows does not protect them. Smoking or vaping in an enclosed vehicle with children is a secondary violation. This means that if a driver is pulled over for another reason and a child is present, fines are up to \$100.

The Alabama Department of Public Health urges you to make the decision to quit smoking. To get confidential information, referrals and counseling...

Call This Free Quitline: 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)

Go to This Website: <https://quitnowalabama.com>

Text QUIT to (205) 900-2550





Kimberly Williams Pettway THE NARRATIVE

Black on Black Bias – Part I

“I Am My Sister’s Keeper, but I Am NOT My Sister”

Let’s talk about how we aide the American culture of white supremacy with our own internal biases towards one another. The racialized culture of our country does not only reveal itself through racist people and institutions that continue to perpetuate the myth of racial superiority, it has also become interwoven so intrinsically into our own culture we see it as normal. Every year since I have been an educator, I ask my students, “have your family members spoken negatively about other races.” Typically, 98% will respond yes. It doesn’t matter what the race or ethnicity is, this has occurred for 16 years. Then I ask, “have your family members spoken negatively about their own race.” Without fail, ALL of the African- American students raise their hands. It has become our norm, it’s what we do. As a community, we have been conditioned to not only degrade one another, but in many instances uphold inequitable treatment from others.

Let’s consider Carlee Russell. I’m certain most of you remember this case well. The young African American woman in Birmingham, AL who faked her own kidnapping. Initially most of us were concerned, while some openly expressed their doubt. Sadly, they were right. She lied and then the barrage of degradation from those who look like Carlee Russell began. I get that people were upset; I too was annoyed. But I am a firm believer that some things need to stay within the village. I try my best to be aware of instances when I begin to sound like those who target and oppress us. With Carlee, we took it a step further. Not only did we publicly denounce her, we gave the justice system permission to generalize us with Carlee. I saw women repeatedly saying “she’s messed it up for all of us”; “now no one will take us serious”; “the next time a black girl is missing, she won’t be believe.” “that’s why they don’t search for us now.” I was appalled. I don’t care what she did, my expectation is that our system takes other reported kidnappings of black children, as serious as they did her alleged disappearance. In those comments, we see how our own internal implicit biases cause us to reduce our expectation of the systems to serve us. Therefore, we regulate ourselves accordingly. When something happens, we expect the system to fail it as it has since the inception of this country. I get it. But why do we excuse it based on the actions of other African Americans. How will we have combat it, overturn it, dismantle it, if we continue to accept it. I Am My Sister’s Keeper, but I Am NOT My Sister.

I am not Carlee. I could never do what Carlee did. I do not excuse her behavior and I WILL NOT accept a system that generalizes us so freely that the actions of one is expected to cause consequences for all. This system is already not working in our favor. Why uphold their reasoning. If my daughter went missing tomorrow, I could care less about the actions of one young lady. My expectation is that my daughter and any other African American be given the same treatment as others. We must stop accepting generalizing ourselves. We must dig deep to uproot this internalized bias that we have against one another. We must stop echoing the stereotypes that others created for us to ensure our demise. We are falling right in line with those who created these ideals centered around race and we are blind to it. Yes, our sister made a horrible decision, that will cost her dearly. Nonetheless, I will not publicly shame her and I would never give the system charged with protecting me an excuse for not doing so.♣



NEWS RELEASE

Office of Communications
mbryant@mchd.org | 251.690.8823

Covid-19 Self -Test Kits Available to Households

The Mobile County Health Department has ceased COVID-19 operations at the Festival Centre location (3725 Airport Boulevard, Mobile) on Friday.

However, households will again be able to order four free tests through the following link... <https://www.covid.gov/tests>.

These tests will detect the currently circulating COVID -19 variants. Individuals are encouraged to use the free tests immediately to prepare for travel and gatherings with friends and family throughout the 2023 holiday season.

Before you throw out “expired” test s, please check with the Food and Drug Administration at <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests> to see if your COVID -19 tests' expiration dates have been extended.

“Everyone can still receive the COVID-19 vaccine from their local provider or pharmacy,” said Dr. Kevin Philip Michaels, Health Officer for Mobile County. “And anyone who is high-risk and hasn’t already received the latest vaccine should do so as soon as possible to allow greater time to pass between receiving the current and new versions of the vaccine. It is the safe st way to protect yourself, family, and friends from severe disease and hospitalization.”

The <https://www.vaccines.gov/> website is an excellent resource for searching for available vaccines nearest your location. Current patients with Family Health – the primary care division of MCHD – may call 251- 690- 8889 to learn about the availability of the new COVID-19 vaccines

OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP



Rid your home of unwanted appliances, computers, printers, household items, yard debris and more.



September 30, 2023
7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
1113 Hubert Pierce Rd., Mobile



November 4, 2023
7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
7195 Half Mile Rd., Irvington



OCTOBER 14, 2023
7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
12740 US-43, Axis



December 9, 2023
7 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
7195 Half Mile Rd., Irvington

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Furniture
- Clothing
- Scrap Metal
- Appliances
- Household Items
- Yard Debris
- Phones, Microwaves
- Electronics
- Tires - **RESTRICTIONS APPLY, CALL FOR DETAILS**

NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Waste Oil & Oil Filters
- Junk Cars, Boats
- Dead Animals
- Pressure Tanks
- Explosives
- Aerosol Cans
- Household Garbage
- Tubed TV & Tubed Computer Monitors
- Roofing

LEARN MORE:
251-574-7867

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR SENIORS



How it Works:
It's simple... Load your unwanted items into your vehicle. Then properly secure your load with a tarp, bungee cords or netting. Finally, drop off your unwanted items for free. **NO CRT TV AND MONITORS ALLOWED.**

Want to continue to help keep your community clean? We are looking for community groups to volunteer. Please reach out to Mobile County Department of Environmental Enforcement at 251-574-STOP (7867).

TRIBUTE LEGENDS



— 1942-2023 —

Celebrations of Life...



Billy "Soul" Bonds (1946 - 2023)

Mister Sock-It, Sock-It, Billy Soul Bonds, tragically lost his battle with Prostate Cancer.

A native of Brisco, Arkansas, Bonds began to rise within the music scene in the 1980s with hits that included "Scat Cat, Here Kitty, Kitty," "This Time," and "Baby I've been Missing You."

His unique voice and warm-hearted nature will be missed and his music will last for generations to come.♣

Jimmy Buffett (1946 - 2023)

A world renowned musician and songwriter, Buffett was best known for his "tropical natured music" often described as Island Escapism. His music included his such as "Margaritaville," "The Big 8," and "Cheeseburger Paradise."

Born in Pascagoula, Mississippi, Buffet was a devoted New Orleans Saints Fan. He attended St. Ignatius School and graduated in 1964 from McGill Institute in Mobile, Alabama. He attended Auburn University but finished with a B.A. in History from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1969.

His business ventures included Margaritaville and LandShark Bar & Grill with locations in Alabama, Atlantic City, New Orleans, Nashville, Turks and Caicos, Las Vegas, Baltimore, Orlando, Jamaica, and the Cayman Islands. He partnered with Anheuser-Busch to produce Land Shark Lager and had business interests in casinos, retirement homes, sports franchises, cannabis, video games, and Berkshire Hathaway.♣



Mabel Walker-Thornton (1928 - 2023)

Born in Camden, Alabama, Thornton ran track at Tuskegee University. She qualified for the 1948 Olympics in London, England, after running in a AAU Track Meet. Those Games were the first to be held following World War I in the 1936 Olympics that destroyed Adolf Hitler's delusion of Arian Race Supremacy. The 18-year old Thornton ran the 100 Meter Dash and the first leg of the 4x100 Meter Relay.

She moved to Mobile where her grandparents lived after college and married in 1950. She was inducted into the Mobile Sports Hall of Fame in 2010.♣

Celebrations of Life...



Richard Davis (1930 - 2023)

...a legendary Jazz Bassist who performed with jazz artist that included Pharoah Sanders and Eric Dolphy to rock artists Bruce Springsteen, Paul Simon, and Van Morrison.

Davis was born in Chicago to a musical family and spent his high school years playing classical and improvisational jazz. He moved to New York City in 1954 and found work playing with Ahmad Jamal and Sarah Vaughn. He also played with Miles Davis, Dexter Jordan, Frank Sinatra, and Joe Henderson. He moved in 1977 to teach at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he taught until 2017. He passed after spending two years in hospice care.♣

Rodney Lee Sr. (1963 - 2023)

...a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and MLK High School, Rodney studied Business Management at the University of Arkansas-Granham. He served as Vice President/ Compliance Officer at Commonwealth National Bank. He was also a former contributor to this publication writing articles on behalf of the bank that were targeted to those interested in financial and banking education and information. Rodney was a former Master Sergeant with the U.S. Marine Corps and a former 8412 Marine Corps Career Recruiter.

An avid Philadelphia Eagles Fan and a Connoisseur of the Philadelphia Cheesesteak, Rodney Lee will be missed by this publication and all that knew him.♣



Frank Owens (1943- 2023)

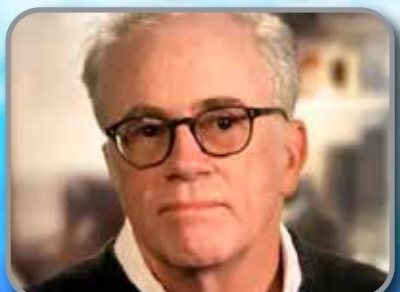
...born in Harlem, New York, Owens was a Broadway and New York City Legend. He was a Pianist for over six decades across stages on TV, Theatre and Recording Studios he backed artist and institutions: Washington Ballet, Lena Horne, Ruth Brown, Johnny Mathis, Barbara McNair, Nell Carter, Savion Glover, Sammy Davis Jr., and John Denver; was musical director for "Showtime at the Apollo" for seven seasons. His Broadway Credits include Ain't Misbehavin', Sophisticated Ladies, and Maurice Hines' production "Uptown It's Hot"; produced, directed and performed in Elegant Ellington, a tribute production dedicated to Duke Ellington.

Owens also had a Mobile connection. In 1995, Steppin' Out publisher Greg Cyprian presented the African American Cultural Series. In its inaugural season, the Series presented Shades of Harlem, a musical production that was a tribute to Harlem and the famed Cotton Club. Owens was the Musical Director for that production. That series was the genesis of Legacy 166, the Non-profit Arts and Culture Organization started by Cyprian and the newly launched Imani Theatre Company. Imani is now in the process of launching it's inaugural season and negotiations are underway to bring back Shades of Harlem, which will be dedicated to Owens and the Late Adam Wade, another New York legend and a Shades participant and producer in Mobile.♣



PASSINGS... **Rudolph Isley • 84**

SINGER/SONGWRITER • The Isley Brothers • Heart Attack



DENNIS AUSTIN-76
CO-CREATOR OF MICROSOFT
PowerPoint
Lung Cancer



RUSSELL BATISTE JR.-57
MUSICIAN
The Meters
Heart Attack



DICK BUTKUS-80
NFL HALL OF FAME
Chicago Bears



MARK GOODARD-84
ACTOR
Lost In Space
Pulmonary Fibrosis



TAIL DRAGGER JONES-82
BLUES SINGER



DAVID MCCALLUM-90
ACTOR
The Man From U.N.C.L.E.



LARA PARKER-84
ACTRESS
Dark Shadows



BROOKS ROBINSON-86
MLB HALL OF FAME
Baltimore Orioles
HEART DISEASE



SUZANNE SOMMERS-76
ACTRESS
Three's Company
Breast Cancer



HOLLIS WATKINS-82
CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST
Mississippi Freedom Fighter



GARY WRIGHT-80
SINGER/SONGWRITER
Dream Weaver
Parkinson's Disease
& Lewy Body Dementia



BURT YOUNG-83
ACTOR-Rocky,
China Town,
Back To School



It's Not About Me IT'S ABOUT THEM!

NOTE TO SELF: When someone responds angrily or negatively towards me, it's not about me – it's about them! Write that down and read it often.

Those profound words have stuck with me for days after attending a business conference last month. The instructor was a doctor from Brooklyn, New York who delivered my 'aha moment.' She explained that most of the time, people respond to others from the perspective of their own life experiences.

It's usually their own fears, insecurities and past hurts that make them respond negatively to others. So why should I be hurt, disappointed or even angry because of their actions? She asked a room full of working women two questions:

1-Are you going to let someone ruin your day because they are having a bad one?

2-Are you going to let someone else make you angry because they are angry?

"Not me, you're not stealing my joy!" said Dr. Brenda Boyd-Bell who teaches at Chrysallis Healing Light Ministries in Brooklyn. She says that anyone can respond with more empathy and offer more grace when you accept the fact that others may be hurting and responding in their pain.

"More importantly," she added, "you learn to protect your joy". I'll be the first to admit that I've often allowed the behavior of others to hurt my feelings, cause disappointment or even anger me. But Dr. Boyd-Bell made it clear, that we are entirely in control of our responses and how we let others affect us.

It's not always easy to "go high- when they go low" as instructed by our forever First Lady Michelle Obama.

Sometimes people will just take you there, make you lose your religion and folks often say.

But on this year's journey of happiness and health, I've learned that I'm in control of ME- every fact of ME. And I don't have to let others take me there!

One recent and brilliant response to hate came by way of social media guru Tabitha Brown.

You may know her and her famous afro Donna by way of her vegan recipes, hair products, seasonings and clothing now sold in Target. Auntie Tab (as she is lovingly called by many) was attacked on social media recently because she attended a Beyonce concert. Some of her followers said she claimed to be led by God so why was she attending Beyonce's concert.

Auntie Tab replied by way of a social media video that said:
"One thing about Tab, she knows her assignment from God. And she's
continued in NEXT COLUMN



2024 | BUDGET

MOBILE COUNTY COMMISSION
BUDGET APPROVED 09.25.2023

Budgets are posted at www.mobilecountyal.gov/government/departments/budget-and-finance/

The Mobile County Commission Approved its Fiscal Year 2024 Budget of \$203,350,036

The 2024 Budget is a 6% decrease from the previous year because several one-time capital expenses included for FY 2023 are not present in FY 2024.

As is typical, the Mobile County Commission's single largest expenditure category in the FY 2024 Budget is Public Safety at 47% (\$95.7 million), which includes the Mobile County Sheriff's Office, Metro Jail, Strickland Youth Center, Court Police, and subsidies to the courts and District Attorney's offices. Its second largest funding area is General Government at 36% (\$74.6 million), which includes the offices of the License and Revenue Commissioners, Probate Court, County facilities, County services, and related administrative expenses.

Retaining and recruiting employees is a priority for Mobile County Commission and Commissioners Merceria Ludgood, Connie Hudson and Randall Dueitt chose to invest in Mobile County employees and increase salaries across the board through a 5% cost of living (COLA) increase. This is the third year in a row that Mobile County Commission has provided a COLA. Mobile County will also absorb the costs of a 3.5% health insurance increase. Several staffing additions are also planned, for example a director and other positions in Parks & Recreation to accommodate expected increases in programs and services as a result of Mobile County's Parks Initiative. Fueled with funding from GOMESA, Deepwater Horizon-related resources and other sources, Mobile County Commission's multi-year Parks Initiative will increase public access to water and public outdoor recreational facilities through existing parks' enhancements and expansions as well as the development of new parks and boat launches.

For the fourth year in a row, Mobile County Commission's budget addresses the need to replace aging equipment and \$4.2 million is budgeted for capital assets.

Budgets are posted at <https://www.mobilecountyal.gov/government/departments/budget-and-finance/>

It's About Them (continued)

very clear about it. Perhaps you need to get clear about YOUR OWN assignment because attaching others is probably not a part of it!"

She closed by praying for all those who attacked her! Kudos Tab!

Instead of attaching back, she replied with a 'teaching moment.' Wouldn't it be awesome if we all could find it in ourselves to use every opportunity as a teaching moment, rather than a 'clapback.' That's my goal this month in my pursuit to live a more blissful life. I hope you try it too!♣

2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

All Home Games Are CAPITALIZED



NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

N. 05 CHICAGO Noon
N. 12 at Minnesota Noon
N. 19 BYE WEEK
N. 26 at Atlanta Noon

D. 03 DETROIT Noon
D. 10 CAROLINA Noon
D. 17 NEW YORK Noon
D. 21 at LA Rams 7:15 pm
D. 31 at Tampa Bay Noon

J. 02 ATLANTA TBA

COLLEGIATE

SOUTH ALABAMA

N. 02 at Troy 6:30 pm
N. 11 ARKANSAS STATE TBA
N. 18 MARSHALL BA
N. 25 at Texas State 2:00 pm

ALABAMA

N. 04 LSU TBA
N. 11 at Kentucky TBA
N. 18 CHATTANOOGA TBA
N. 25 at Auburn TBA

ALABAMA A&M

N. 04 FLORIDA A&M 1:00 pm
N. 11 at Bethune-Cookman . 1:00 pm
N. 16 MISS. VALLEY ST 6:00 pm

ALABAMA-BIRMINGHAM

N. 04 FLA. ATLANTIC TBA
N. 11 at Navy 3:30 pm
N. 18 TEMPLE TBA
N. 25 at North Texas TBA

AUBURN

N. 04 at Vanderbilt TBA
N. 11 at Arkansas St. TBA
N. 18 NEW MEXICO ST TBA
N. 25 ALABAMA TBA

ALABAMA STATE

N. 04 at Grambling 5:00 pm
N. 11 at Miss. Valley State... 3:00 pm
N. 18 at Prairie View A&M ... 3:00 pm
N. 23 TUSKEGEE 3:00 pm

JACKSONVILLE

N. 04 at South Carolina TBA
N. 18 LOUISIANA TECH 1:00 pm
N. 25 at New Mexico State .. 3:00 pm

MILES

N. 04 TUSKEGEE 4:00 pm

NORTH ALABAMA

N. 04 CENTRAL ARK 4:00 pm
N. 18 at Florida State TBA

SAMFORD

N. 11 at Mercer 2:00 pm
N. 18 UT MARTIN Noon

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

N. 04 Louisiana Monroe TBA
N. 09 at Louisiana 6:30 pm
N. 18 at Mississippi State .. 11:00 am
N. 25 TROY TBA

TROY

N. 02 SOUTH ALABAMA 6:30 pm
N. 11 at Louisiana Monroe . 2:30 pm
N. 18 Louisiana 2:30 pm
N. 26 at Southern Miss TBA

TUSKEGEE

N. 04 at Miles 4:00 pm
N. 23 at Alabama State 2:00 pm

WEST ALABAMA

N. 04 VALDOSTA STATE 1:00 pm
N. 11 at Shorte 11:00 am

HIGH SCHOOL

ALMA BRYANT

N. 03 NORTHRIDGE

BAKER

N. 02 MARY G. MONTGOMERY

BALDWIN COUNTY

N. 03 at Robertsdale

BLOUNT

N. 03 at Murphy

CHICKASAW

N. 03 at Satsuma

CITRONELLE

N. 03 ELBERTA

COTTAGE HILL CHRISTIAN

N. 02 ST. LUKE'S

DAPHNE

N. 02 at Blount

DAVIDSON

N. 02 JACKSON

ELBERTA

N. 03 at Citronelle

FAIRHOPE

N. 03 BRIARWOOD CHRISTIAN

FAITH ACADEMY

N. 03 at Leflore

FOLEY

N. 03 at P.D. Jackson-Olin

GULF SHORES

N. 03 B.C. RAIN

LEFLORE

N. 03 FAITH ACADEMY

MARY G. MONTGOMERY

N. 02 at Baker

McGILL TOOLEN

N. 03 SARALAND

MOBILE CHRISTIAN

N. 01 CITRONELLE

MURPHY

N. 03 BLOUNT

ORANGE BEACH

N. 03 FT. WALTON BEACH

B.C. RAIN

N. 03 at Gulf Shores

ROBERTSDALE

N. 03 BALDWIN COUNTY

ST. LUKE'S

N. 02 at Cottage Hill

ST. PAUL'S

N. 03 THEODORE

SARALAND

N. 03 at McGill-Toolen

SATSUMA

N. 03 CHICKASAW

SPANISH FORT

N. 02 at Saraland

THEODORE

N. 03 at St. Paul's

UMS WRIGHT

N. 02 at Williamson

VIGOR

N. 02 SIDNEY LANIER

WILLIAMSON

N. 0. UMS-WRIGHT

Mark Your Calendar...November 2023

MOBILE/BALDWIN

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY & EVENTS

Ms. B's Production Artist Southern Soul Showcase hosted by Ms. Mary;

Rascals Lounge, Every First Sunday, @6pm

The Tree BBQ and Lounge Presents Ladies Night Thursday, Prichard, Every Thursday

Alabama State University Gulf Coast Chapter Alumni Association Feel The Sting Week:

—**Alumni Mixer**, Canary Bar, 11/01 @6pm;

—**ASU Recruitment Fair**, Bishop State Community College, 11/02 @6pm;

—**Hornet Takeover**, Kazoola, 11/02 @7pm

Port City Classic Black Business Expo, Mobile Convention Center, 11/03 @9am

Port City Classic All HBCU Comedy Show & Afterparty, Mobile Convention Center, 11/04

The Grind Awards, The Battle House Hotel, 11/04

NOMOCO Farmer's Market, North Mobile County Food Park & Market, 11/04 @8am

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church-Installation of Pastor Elect Jahmarkus Rabb,

Tuesday Lunch and Learn; Government Street Presbyterian Church feat Chief of Mobile Police Paul Prine, 11/07 @Noon

The Alabama Career Center Spilltech Hiring Event, Alabama Career Center, 11/08 @9am

The Historic Mobile Preservation Society-Columns & Cocktails Fundraiser,

Richards DAR House, 11/09 @6pm

Turkey 10 Miler, 10K, 5K, Run/Walk, River Delta Marina, Creola, 11/11 @8am

Mobile! Let's Rock The Vote presented by Stand Up Mobile, Dearborn YMCA and

Community Center, 11/11 @9am

Tuesday Lunch and Learn at Government Street Presbyterian Church feat Historian

Tom McGehee, 11/14 @Noon

City of Mobile Lighting of the Christmas Tree, Mardi Grad Park, 11/17 @5:30pm

Cirque Dreams Holiday, Civic Center Theatre, 11/18 @Noon & 4pm

The Carnival Krewe Du Rue First Annual Bridgerton Masquerade Ball,

The Calirojae, 11/18 @8pm

The Excelsior Band's 140th Anniversary Concert, History Museum of Mobile, 11/19 @2pm

Palmer Williams Group 7th Annual Iron Bowl Legends Benefit Gala feat Keynote Speaker

Willie Anderson, Battle House Hotel & Spa, 11/20 @6pm

City of Mobile Small Business Holiday Market, Cathedral Square, 11/25 @Noon

CONCERTS/MUSIC

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

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

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

Carvin Jones, Arlene Mitchell Theatre, 11/04 @8pm

George Thorogood and The Destroyers, Brooks Young, Saenger Theatre, 11/10

CULTURAL EVENTS

LODA ArtWalk, Downtown Mobile, 2nd. Friday Monthly

FESTIVALS

Alabama Pecan Festival, Southwest Mobile Chamber of Commerce, 11/03-05

Port City Classic Tailgate Festival, Ladd-Peebles Stadium, 11/04 @8am

Green Health Cultural Festival Collard Green Cook-Off, North Mobile County Food Park & Market, 11/11 @9am



LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Rosenwald Schools Exhibit, Ben May Main Library, 11/01-12/01

Good Listener Storytime, Parkway Branch:

—**Tuesday Time Out Storytime**, Grand Bay Branch, 11/07, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28, @11am

—**A Page In Time Book Club**, West Regional Branch, 11/07 @2pm

—**Wonderful Wednesday Storytime**, Theodore Branch, 11/01, 11/08, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29, @10am

Good Listener Storytime, Moorer Branch, 11/01, 11/08, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29 @10am,

11/01, 11/08, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29 @ 11:30 am: 11/01, 11/08, 11/15, 11/22, 11/29 @1pm

Preschooler Storytime, Saraland Branch, 11/01, 11/08, 11/15, 11/22 @10:30am

Read and Sign (ASL) Storytime, West Regional Branch, 11/01-02, 11/08-09, 11/15-16, 11/29-30 @11:00am

Shake, Rattle & Read, West Regional Branch, 11/01-02, 11/08-09, 11/15-16, 11/29-30 @10am

Rock n' Storytime, West Regional Branch, 11/02, 11/09, 11/16, 11/30 @4pm

Book-Worm Book Club, Ben May Main Library, 11/06, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27 @4pm

Read & Play Storytime at Main, Ben May Library, 11/07, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28, 10/31 @10am

Good Listener Storytime Semmes Branch, 11/01, 11/08, 11/22, 11/29 @10:30am

Firefighter Safety Storytime, Theodore Oaks Branch, 10/11 @10am

By the "hook" Book Club, Grand Bay Branch, 11/27 @2pm

Reader's Choice Book Club, West Regional Branch, 11/21 @1:00pm

Bernheim Storytime at the Main, Ben May Main Library, 11/15 @10am

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, 3rd Monday Monthly

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Coffee with the Chamber, Goldstein's Jewelry, 11/01 @8am

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Growth Alliance Task Force, Community Foundation of South Alabama, 11/07 @Noon

Mobile Bay Sierra Club, 5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, 11/07 @5:30pm

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 11/08 @ 0:30am

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Forum Alabama feat Alabama House Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter, Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel, 11/09 @11:30am

Mobile County Commission Conference Meeting, Government Plaza Assembly Room, 11/09 @10am

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Business After Hours, The Ice Box, 11/09 @4pm

Alabama Coastal Foundation's Annual Cocktails for the Coast, Bluegill Restaurant, 11/09 @5:30pm

Mobile County Commission Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 11/13 @10am

YP of MOB Lunch and Learn, Mobile Chamber of Commerce, 11/14 @11:30am

Focus Women's Conference, Central Midtown, 11/15 @8am

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Networking at Noon, Outback Steakhouse, 11/15 @Noon

The Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals-Bowling for Books, Eastern Shore Lanes, 11/15 @5:30pm

Alabama Capital Access Procurement Conference, The Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel & Spa, 11/16 @9am

The American Advertising Federation Mobile Bay and United Cerebral Palsy of Mobile host "The Inclusion Advantage", The Original Oyster House, 11/16 @ 11:30 am

Mobile Chamber of Commerce-Executive Roundtable, Chamber, 11/21 @8am

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 11/21 @ 10:30 am

Mobile County Commission Meeting & Conference Combined Meeting, Government Plaza Assembly Room, 11/22 @10am

Wade In The Water Monthly Meeting, Bethel A.M.E. Church, 11/27 @6pm

Mobile City Council Meeting, Government Plaza Auditorium, 11/28 @ 10:30am

Mobile Area Black Chamber of Commerce feat. Takia Rocker of Remington College, Byrne Hall Spring Hill College, 10/26 @11:30am

MUSEUMS/CULTURAL FACILITIES

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

Alabama Contemporary Art Center, Project 42-Work by Molly Jae Vaughn, through 11/13

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

Mobile Museum of Art, Art in Focus, Ongoing

Mobile Museum of Art, Spotlight: Alexander Calder, Ongoing

Mobile Museum of Art, Fantastical Forest, Ongoing

Mobile Museum of Art, Dusti Bonge: The Creative Life, Ongoing

continued on Page 34... see **CALENDAR**

USA Archaeology Museum-Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile Exhibit,
through April
USA Archeology Museum Stretch and Relax followed by Yahoo Tea Tasting,
Native Plant Garden, 11/01 @2:30pm
Alabama Archeology Society Meeting, Archeology Museum, 11/14 @5:30pm

SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Bishop State vs Baton Rouge CC, 11/6
Bishop State vs Delgado, 11/09
Bishop State vs Pensacola State, 11/16
Bishop State vs Coastal Alabama-North, 11/20
Bishop State vs University of Mobile, JV, 11/29
University of Mobile vs South Alabama, Mitchell Center, 11/06 @7pm
University of Mobile vs Spring Hill College, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/8 @7pm
University of Mobile vs Thomas University, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/16 @6:30pm
University of Mobile vs Faulkner University, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/18 @2pm
University of Mobile vs William Carey University, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/28 @7:30pm
South Alabama vs University of Mobile, Mitchell Center 11/6 @7pm
South Alabama vs Nichols St., Mitchell Center, 11/16 @7pm
South Alabama vs Denver, Mitchell Center, 11/17 @3pm
South Alabama vs SIU-Edwardsville, Mitchell Center, 11/19 @Noon
South Alabama vs. Lynn, Mitchell Center, 11/21 @7pm
Spring Hill College vs University of Mobile, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/08 @7pm
Spring Hill College vs West Florida, Outlaw Recreation Center, 11/18 @4pm
Spring Hill College vs Auburn Montgomery, Outlaw Recreation Center, 11/21 @7:30pm
Spring Hill College vs Morehouse, Outlaw Recreation Center, 11/30 @7:30pm

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

University of Mobile vs South Alabama, Mitchell Center, 11/06 @5pm
University of Mobile vs Thomas University, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/16 @5:30pm
University of Mobile vs Faulkner University, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/18 @Noon
University of Mobile vs William Carey University, Pharr Gymnasium, 11/28 @5:30pm
South Alabama vs West Alabama, Mitchell Center, 11/02 @7pm
South Alabama vs University of Mobile, Mitchell Center, 11/06 @5pm
South Alabama vs Central Michigan, 11/09 @7pm
South Alabama vs Tougaloo College, 11/14 @7pm
South Alabama vs University of New Orleans, 11/29 @7pm
South Alabama vs James Madison, 11/09-10 @6pm
Sunbelt Conference Championship, Foley, 11/15-19
Spring Hill College vs West Florida, Outlaw Recreation Center, 11/15 @5:30pm
Spring Hill College vs Eckerd, Outlaw Recreation Center, 11/18 @2pm

FOOTBALL

Port City Classic-Grambling vs. Alabama State, Ladd-Peebles Stadium, 11/04 @4pm
South Alabama vs Arkansas State, Hancock Whitney Stadium 11/11 @4pm
South Alabama vs Marshall, Hancock Whitney Stadium, 11/18 @4pm

BILOXI

CONCERTS

Cam, IP Casino Resort Spa, 11/3
Patti LaBelle, Beau Rivage, 11/10
Foreigner, IP Casino, 11/11
Peter Frampton, Hard Rock Live, 11/11
Tower of Power, Beau Rivage, 11/11
King George, Tucka, Pokey Bear, J-Wonn, Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 11/11
Blues Traveler, IP Casino Resort and Spa, 11/18
Rickey Smiley, Beau Rivage, 11/24

NEW ORLEANS

CONCERTS

Maze feat Frankie Beverly, Midnight Star, UNO Lakefront Arena, 11/03
Margaret Cho, Orpheum Theatre, Orleans, 11/05
Kirk Franklin, Tye Tribbett, The Clark Sisters, David & Tamela Mann, Israel Houghton,
UNO Lakefront Arena, 11/18-19
Maxwell, Smoothie King Center, 11/24
Lyfe Jennings, House of Blues, 11/25

FESTIVALS



Oak Street Poboy Festival, 11/19

CLASSIFIEDS

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
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Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile



Opening Reception

September 8th, 2023
from 6:00pm-8:00pm

Exhibition On Display

September 2023-April 2024

Museum Hours

Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm

Free Admission

USA Archaeology Museum

6050 USA Drive South, Mobile Alabama

(251)460-6106

archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu

YouTube @USAArchaeology

Instagram @southarchaeology

Facebook @TheArchaeologyMuseum

Learn more at
SouthAlabama.edu/org/archaeology/museum

Meet the Lewis, Owens, and Griffin families.

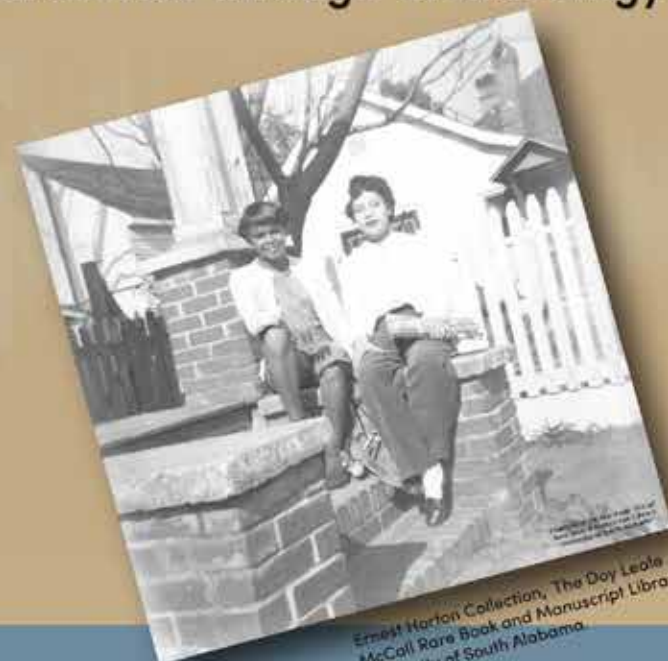
They lived in different parts of Mobile, but they shared much in common. As Black families, they navigated Jim Crow segregation. They all owned homes at a time when many Black Americans did not, and their homes were excavated by archaeologists.

In the mid-20th century, development transformed their neighborhood, erasing homes, schools, and shops from the landscape. Though their houses are no longer standing, we can learn their stories through archaeology and oral history.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

The National Endowment for the Humanities:
Sustaining the Humanities Through the
American Rescue Plan



Ernest Horton Collection, The Doy Leale
McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library,
University of South Alabama



The USA Archaeology Museum is located in Mobile, Alabama on the Main Campus of the University of South Alabama. Parking for Museum visitors is in Lot 303.