



STEPPIN' OUT

THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & EMPOWERMENT GUIDE OF THE GULF COAST

MARCH 2016 • Volume 15:Issue 07

INSIDE...

COVER STORY **05**
2016 CAMPAIGN

VOTE
★ NOVEMBER 8, 2016 ★

EDUCATION **11**
Film Festival Contest



BUSINESS **17**
Diverse Suppliers



Jams Plus Media Reviews..... 08

Events Calendar..... 19

Passings..... 21

Laughter..... 23



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 each month 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 at:

STEPPIN' OUT
PO BOX 6781
Mobile AL 36660
(251) 533-5726

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

VISIT US ONLINE...
steppinoutmobile.com

-and-

E-MAIL US...
steppinoutnews@aol.com

CONTRIBUTORS...



A.D. McKinley
Featured Article:
THE REAL ENEMY - THE INNER ME



Arthur Mack
Featured Article:
THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX



Destinee Bolden
Featured Article:
FASHION HOT SPOT



Florence
Featured Article:
ASK FLO



Joanie Stiff-Love
Featured Article:
AFTER HOURS



Memphis Vaughan Jr
Featured Article:
TAKING MOBILE TO THE NEXT LEVEL



Michelle Krulewicz-Dees
Featured Article:
THE FACE OF HOMELESSNESS



Nathaniel Patterson
Featured Article:
MARKETING YOUR WAY TO SUCCESS



Tanene Jackson
Featured Article:
TRANSITIONING BASICS

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed by the contributors in STEPPIN' OUT are those of the columnist and do not necessarily represent the views of STEPPIN' OUT, its advertisers, LEGACY 166, or its Board of Directors. The contributors in this publication are free to express their own opinions. Nothing in these columns should be construed as STEPPIN' OUT, its advertisers, LEGACY 166, or its Board of Directors supporting or opposing any specific view. ❖

REFLECTIONS

BELTEGLIONS?

Building Bridges

Once upon a time two brothers, John and Jim, who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of them farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch but then, the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and finally it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days work," the man said, "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there. Could I help you?"

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbor, in fact, it's my younger brother Jim. Last week there was a meadow between us and he took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll go him one better. See that pile of lumber curing by the barn? I want you to build me a fence - an 8-foot fence - so I won't need to see his place anymore."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you." John had to go to town for supplies, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day measuring, sawing, nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job. The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge... a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work - handrails and all - and the neighbor, his younger brother Jim, was coming across, his hand outstretched.

You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done," said Jim. The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox on his shoulder. "No, wait! Stay a few days. I've a lot of other projects for you," said John.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but, I have many more bridges to build." ❖

**Want to Receive a Digital Copy of STEPPIN' OUT?
IT'S FREE!**

Just Like Our Newsstand Edition.

**Email Us. Put the Words "ADD ME" In the Subject Line
and We Will Add You to Our Mailing List...**

STEPPINOUTNEWS@AOL.COM

Chancellor Announces Bishop State Community College Acting Presidential Appointment

Alabama Community College System Chancellor Mark Heinrich announced that Dr. Reginald Sykes will serve as acting president of Bishop State Community College in Mobile, effective immediately. Dr. Sykes currently serves as President of Alabama Southern Community College, a position he has held since July 2010.

“I am extremely appreciative of Dr. Sykes’ willingness to serve as the acting president at Bishop State

during this transition” stated Dr. Heinrich. “I have listened to the local leaders and members of this community. We are committed to achieving a sound workforce development training infrastructure to promote economic development success in southwest Alabama. Dr. Sykes shares my vision to lead Bishop State in developing a comprehensive, integrated workforce development system that will create a trained, skilled, and adaptable workforce to meet the needs of employers and citizens in this area.”

Dr. Sykes previously served as dean of students at Meridian Community College for seven years, dean of student services at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Jefferson Davis Campus for one year, and vice president of Jefferson Davis Campus for five years. Before coming to Alabama Southern, he worked for the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, serving as assistant commissioner for community and junior college relations.

Dr. Sykes serves on many local boards. In addition, he is a Monroeville Kiwanis Club member and a Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity-Atmore Chapter member. On the state level, He is Treasurer of the Alabama Community College System Presidents’ Association and Secretary of the Alabama Community College Conference Athletic Committee. Nationally, Dr. Sykes serves as Chairman on the Rural Community College Alliance Board of Directors and the Community College Advisory Council for the American Public University System.

With more than 3,112 credit students enrolled Fall 2015, Bishop State Community College consists of four city campuses, dedicated to serving the residents of Mobile and Washington counties in southwest Alabama. ❖



Photo courtesy of Alabama Community College System

Dr. Reginald Sykes

believe in mobile belong to the chamber

connect ... succeed ... grow

At the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce, our goal is simple – to help your business grow. Membership links you with resources and contacts for success during challenging times. Join us. Get involved in the Gulf Coast’s most dynamic business community. Connect to our more than 2,200 members – network, ask questions, learn, share insights and form important business relationships. Believe in a strong future for Mobile. Belong to the Chamber – because it’s good for business and good for Mobile.



www.MobileChamber.com



350 N BROAD ST.
SUITE F
MOBILE, AL 36603

Pre-Ballet

TAPPING TOES

LITTLE HIP
HOPPERS



What are the benefits for Studio37 Explore Dancers?



- Increases body awareness
- Improves body alignment and flexibility
- Builds GREAT self-esteem
- Develops group learning and communication

Ages 3-8

*every child deserves the
opportunity to dance*

www.dancestudio37.net
2515990191

YOUR VOTE COUNTS...Exercise Your Right!!!

by Greg Cyprian

If you are not happy with the Candidates you have been presented for the 2016 Presidential Elections, you need to Get Out and Vote!

The current group of White House hopefuls is among the least liked by voters in recent history, with many starting out with very high negative ratings. The good news for the Candidates is, because ALL of them are disliked, they all have a fighting chance. Current frontrunners Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are being hammered, but they are still leading the pack.

Your Vote is Your Voice as an American citizen. It's your opportunity to be heard, to hold elected officials accountable for their decisions, and to have a say in important issues that affect your community.

On Election Day in November, EVERY VOTE MATTERS!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

July 18-21

Republican National Convention — Cleveland, OH

July 25-28

Democratic National Convention — Philadelphia, PA

September 26

Presidential Debate — Wright State University/Dayton, OH

October 04

Vice Presidential Debate — Longwood University/Farmville, VA

October 09

Presidential Debate — Washington University/St. Louis, MO

OCTOBER 19

Presidential Debate — University of Nevada/Las Vegas, NV



ENGAGING THE NEXT Generation

MOBILE UNITED'S ANNUAL Young Professionals Volunteer Fair

Come and Get Involved!
During the LoDa ArtWalk & SouthSounds Music Festival

April 8, 2016
BIENVILLE SQUARE • 6-8 P.M.

Visit Engaging the Next Generation on Facebook for more details

News From The Chamber World

The February Prichard Area Chamber of Commerce meeting was held at the Prichard Housing Authority. The meeting was hosted by Mobile Gas who sponsored lunch and speaker Al Hutchinson, the new President/CEO of the Mobile Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau who was appointed to the position in July 2014. He has been in the hospitality industry for more than 23 years and is the recipient of the 2014 Pioneer Award presented by the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners.

Hutchinson currently serves as a Board of Advisor member for the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce and the Gulf Coast Exploreum Board. He is a member of the Mobile Area Lodging Association; Alabama Travel Council; Coastal Alabama Partnership; 100 Black Men of Greater Mobile, Inc.; Mobile Rotary Member 2015; University of South Alabama Business School Advisory Council 2016; and also a member of Religious Conference Management Association Advisory Committee.

Hutchinson received his Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from the University of Alabama in 1982 and is married to Unae Hutchinson and has two children, Asia and Jalen.

Please make plans to attend the PACC next meeting March 23. Meetings are held at Prichard Housing Authority, 200 W. Prichard Ave. Prichard, AL 36610.

For more information about PACC contact us at 251-285-0653. ♣



Al Hutchinson

LOCAL FLAVA

ART NEWS

THE COLORED MUSEUM

Fridays and Saturdays, February 19 - March 6, 2 - 4 p.m., Mobile Theatre Guild, 14 N. Lafayette Street. MTG is celebrating African American History Month with Tony Award Winner George C. Wolfe's groundbreaking comedy. Through 11 hilarious "exhibits" of African-American culture — from the depths of the Celebrity Slave Ship to the spinning heights of Harlem — audiences will explore prominent themes and identities of African American culture through comedy and satire in a show that skewers stereotypes and redefines what it means to be black in contemporary America. For more information, call MTG at 433-7513.

QUEEN BESS-THE STORY OF BESSIE COLEMAN

Saturday, March 26, 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Sunday, February 21, 2:30 p.m., Mobile Theatre Guild, 14 N. Lafayette Street. A story of courage and perseverance: Born to sharecroppers, Bessie Coleman heard stories from pilots returning home from World War I about flying during the war. She learned to fly a Bi-Plane and became the first woman of African American descent to earn an international pilot's license, in 1921. She became a Barnstormer (Stunt Pilot) and quickly gained a reputation as a skilled and daring pilot who would stop at nothing to complete a difficult stunt. Ticket Prices: \$15.00 Adults, \$10.00 Children. Reduced Prices for Groups of 5 or more: \$12.00 Adults, \$8.00 Children. Seniors 60 and over: \$10.00. For ticket information, call 251-533-5726 or 251-458-7758. Visit www.legacy166.com

MOBILE LIBRARY NEWS

CHESS CLUB

- Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 4 p.m., Ages 6 and Above, Ben May Main Library, 701 Government Street. Beginners and experienced players are welcome. For more information, call the Ben May Main Library Children's Department at 208-7086 or crhodes@mplonline.org.
- Wednesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 3:30 - 5 p.m. Ages 8 and Above, Toulminville Branch, 601 Stanton Rd. Mr. Ronald Reece will instruct children on how to play the game of chess. For more information, call 438-7075.
- Thursdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 4 p.m., Ages - 6 to 18, Semmes Branch, 9150 Moffett Road. Learn to play Chess! Beginners and experienced players are welcome. For more information, call 645-6840.
- Mondays, March 7, 14, 21 & 28, 4 - 5 p.m., Ages 8 - 17 Years, West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Road. Come enjoy the fun! Learn to play chess or improve your skills. For more information, call the Children's Department at 340-8571.

OUT OF THIS WORLD BOOK CLUB-VIA SKYPE

Tuesday, March 1, 6:30 p.m., Moorer/Spring Hill Branch, 4 South McGregor Ave. Join us for a SciFi/Fantasy book club from the comfort of your home. Meetings will be conducted entirely over Skype video chat. This month's topic of discussion is *The Book of Strange, New Things* by Michel Faber. To participate in the group chat, download and register for a Skype ID for free at: <http://www.skype.com/en/>. Once you're registered, simply have the Skype program open, log in at 6:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, and click or tap the answer button. For more information or help with Skype set up, contact Jill Stewart at 470-7770 or jstewart@mplonline.org.

TEEN BOOK YAK & MOVIE SNACK

Thursday, March 3, 4 p.m., Moorer/Spring Hill Branch, 4 South McGregor Ave. The Book Thief-Enjoy the Book - Watch the Movie! It's a profoundly moving story of a

girl who transforms the lives of those around her during World War II, Germany. Although Liesel is illiterate when she is adopted by a German couple, her adoptive father encourages her to learn to read. The film runs 131 minutes and is rated PG-13. For more information, please call 470-7770 or email eenglish@mplonline.org.

AMERICAN GIRL BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, March 8, 4 - 5 p.m., Ages 7 - 12 Years, West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Road. Explore America through the eyes of a different American Girl from the popular book series. In addition to the book discussions, there will be activities, crafts, and snacks. Lots to learn and opportunities to make new friends! This month's topic of discussion is *Molly Learns a Lesson*. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Children's Department at 340-8571.

BINGO FOR BOOKS

Tuesday, March 8, 4 - 6 p.m., All Ages Welcome, Parkway Branch, 1924-B Dauphin Island Parkway. Fun for all! Winners get to choose prizes from our table of gently used books. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, please call 470-7766.

A PAGE IN TIME

Tuesday, March 8, 6:30 p.m., West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Rd. If you love Historical Fiction this book club is for you. This month's topic of discussion is *The Hours Count* by Jillian Cantor. For more information, please call Michele at 340-8561.

LIBRETTO BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, March 9, 10 a.m., West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Road. Join Mobile Opera's Stacey Driskell and Scott Wright for a discussion that relates the work of Puccini's Gianni Schicchi to its literary history and its modern application to the stage. Gianni Schicchi, one of the most popular of all operas, is a comedy in one act by Giacomo Puccini to an Italian libretto by Giovacchino Forzano. It was composed in 1917-18 and loosely based on an incident mentioned in Dante's *Divine Comedy*. More particularly, it follows the plot of a story told in an 1866 edition of Dante's work in which Gianni Schicchi sets out, by trickery, to defeat the Last Will and Testament of Buoso Donati. The work is the third part of Puccini's *Il Trittico* —three one-act operas, originally presented together. You can read the libretto online at www.MobileOpera.org. For more information, call (251) 432-6772.

LOOKING FOR GRANTS

Wednesday, March 9, 2:30 - 5 p.m., West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Road. Michael Reimer, Reference Librarian, will show the class how to search internet sites that list grants. Registration is required due to the limited number of computer workstations. For additional information or to register, please call the Reference Department at 340-8561 or e-mail westref@mplonline.org.

EBONY MOMENTS BOOK CLUB

Thursday, March 10, 6 p.m., West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Rd. Ebony Moments is a book discussion designed to increase the awareness of African-American authors, both past and present, and to promote the love of reading for all. This month's topic of discussion is *The Good Enough Husband* by Sylvie Fox. For more information, contact Betty Kidd at 470-7766.

MOVIE TIME WITH MR. BUTCH

Friday, March 11, 4 p.m., Moorer/Spring Hill Branch, 4 South McGregor Ave. Disney Favorites-The feature is *Charlotte's Web*. The film runs 93 minutes and is rated G. For more information, please call 470-7770 or email ftigner@mplonline.org.

EXTRAVAGANT READERS BOOK CLUB

Saturday, March 12, 3 p.m., Toulminville Branch, 601 Stanton Rd. Topics of discussion are *Friction* by Sandra Brown and *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese. For more information, please call 438-7075.

(continued on Page 16... see **FLAVA**)

THE FACE OF HOMELESSNESS

Michelle Krulewicz-Dees

LICENSED, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR
Chief Operations Officer for Housing First, Inc.
Contact Info: 251-445-3481



One of our taglines at Housing First is that, “Homelessness is not an agency problem, it’s a community problem.” This is an important distinction. While there are agencies like ours that specialize in assisting individuals, families, and veterans who struggle with homelessness and housing insecurity, no one agency can tackle all of the issues that contribute to homelessness alone.

Persons who find themselves homeless often have multiple circumstances and/or barriers that have contributed to their housing situation. Things such as poverty, physical disabilities, extreme poverty, chronic illness, mental illness, underemployment, and substance addiction are often factors to be addressed concurrently. While not each person or family is affected by all of these factors, most have at least one factor. It is the norm that a homeless individual would work with 2-5 different agencies as they work to resolve their housing barriers. This requires a high level of cooperation among many of the local agencies and organizations. Some examples of the partner agencies are; Housing First, City of Mobile (or another municipality), Salvation Army, Penelope House, AltaPointe Health Systems, Franklin Primary Healthcare, Health Care for the Homeless, and many others.

Collaboration is key, as you can imagine. In our community, this collaboration is guided by the Board of the Homeless Coalition of the Gulf Coast. This group is developed from individuals who through work or personal interests are experts in working with people who often find themselves unstably housed. The group identifies and develops needed resources, monitors existing projects that serve those in need of housing assistance, develops funding streams for needed resources, and allocates funding across the entire community to maximize the impact of each dollar that the community is able to obtain. Anyone who wishes to join the Continuum of Care should contact Housing First for more information. ❖

Evidence2Success to Assist Area Youth

Dr. Brnard H. Eichold II, Health Officer for the Mobile County Health Department, was among the dignitaries who spoke about Mobile becoming the latest city to be selected for the Evidence2Success program. The news conference took place at Mobile Government Plaza.

The framework designed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation uses an evidence-based approach to promote healthy child development and academic success. Mobile’s efforts will initially focus on three neighborhoods: Maysville, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. corridor and lower Dauphin Island Parkway.

“I attended the Foundation’s site visit several months ago here in Mobile,” Dr. Eichold said at the news conference. “The visit was to determine if Evidence2Success was a good fit with our local goals and aspirations.”

“What I heard made sense to me: let’s listen to the voices of our youth and make smarter choices about proven prevention programs that keep our children safe and healthy — at school, in their homes and in their communities.”

The Evidence2Success framework helps public system leaders and community residents work together to collect local data on the needs and strengths of youth. They will use the data to agree on youth well-being outcomes for improvement and realign public funding to address those needs with proven prevention programs.

The Mobile Area Education Foundation will coordinate the effort. All of Mobile’s systems serving young people and families — MCHD, Mobile County Public Schools System, Mobile County Juvenile Court and Mobile Housing Authority — will be key partners, as will residents in the communities.

“Because this is about children and youth birth to 18 — and the families who love them — it’s important that all public systems come together to make this work,” Dr. Eichold said. “The MCHD looks forward to joining hands with all of you to be a leader in the Evidence2Success process in Mobile and ensure that all our children have a healthy start in life.”

The Foundation will provide initial funding for evidence-based prevention programs in Mobile, with additional funding from MAEF and the Alabama Department of Youth Services. Beyond its grant dollars, the Foundation provides access to tools and technical assistance, including hands-on coaching, a youth survey to gather data on strengths and needs, public financing strategies and the Blueprints database of evidence-based program to help communities implement Evidence2Success.

For more information, visit www.aecf.org. ❖



ACCC PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Chance Morton

FEBRUARY 15-21²⁰¹⁶

Led the Wildcats to a 2-0 week, which clinched the South Division's #1 seed in the upcoming ACCC Tournament

In a 66-54 Win over Enterprise State, Morton tallied 26 Points on 11 of 16 shooting, while adding 10 Rebounds and 4 Blocks

Backed that up by...
Scoring 22 Points; adding 11 Rebounds; 4 Assists; 4 Blocks in a 83-62 Win over Faulkner State

- Currently Ranks 4th — ACCC
- Scoring Per Game — 19
- First in Rebounds Per Game — 11.1
- Mobile, Alabama Native



JAMS PLUS MEDIA

Grace Potter

JANUARY 28 • Saenger Theatre (Mobile)

Photo by Beth Childs



HUKA Entertainment & 92 ZEW presented Grace Potter plus Eliza Hardy Jones to Mobile, AL and it was a HIT! The show was packed, the music was Hot, and the fans ate it up and wanted more. Mobile continues to bring great music to our local music venues and make sure you do not miss the next great act or upcoming bands that come through our port city! Keep up the great work local radio, local music venues, and theaters.

[From AL.com, Lawrence Specker] Potter broke through to national notice with the 2010 album "Grace Potter & The Nocturnals," with Rolling Stone picking the group as one of seven new bands of the year on the strength of its soulful rock. The group appeared at the Hangout Music Fest in 2010 and 2011 and performed at BayFest in 2012. The Nocturnals followed with another Top 20 album, "The Lion the Beast the Beat," in 2012.

In August, Potter released a solo album titled "Midnight." An NPR reviewer described it as a fun, pop-oriented collection of songs, saying that Potter "remains her aggressive, earthy self while getting playful in new ways. With its songs about sex and dancing, self-confidence and risk, 'Midnight' is a mid-career turn for Potter that proves genuinely freeing." ♣

Dumpstaphunk

JANUARY 31 • The Side Bar Theater (Tallahassee)

Story and Photos by Robbey Pye



On January 31st, The Side Bar Theater in Tallahassee hosted a great show. It started off right, as Catfish Alliance opened up for Dumpstaphunk and both did a great job keeping the crowd intrigued by the jams and dancing around from start to finish. The Sidebar Theater did a great job hosting the event, as everything went smooth. There were no issues and the employees at The Side Bar were very accommodating with my media pass. The music itself was awesome coming from both bands and gave the crowd fun and entertainment for the whole duration of the show. I can honestly say that this was one of my favorite shows I've seen here in Tallahassee, and am already planning on seeing Catfish Alliance and Dumpstaphunk again. If you like the phunk, I suggest you do the same, as you will not want to miss out!

Catfish Alliance was one of the most entertaining bands I have ever seen. Their music is considered "sex rock", and the Sexual Manatee no doubt knows how to mesmerize the crowd with his crazy dance moves. The tone was set correctly for Dumpstaphunk, who soon took the spotlight on the stage. If funk music interests you, Dumpstaphunk is a must see. The band is from New Orleans and has played about 12 consecutive years at New Orleans' Jazz
(continued on next page... see **DUMPSTAPHUNK**)

REVIEWS • REVIEWS

JAMS PLUS MEDIA

Widespread Panic

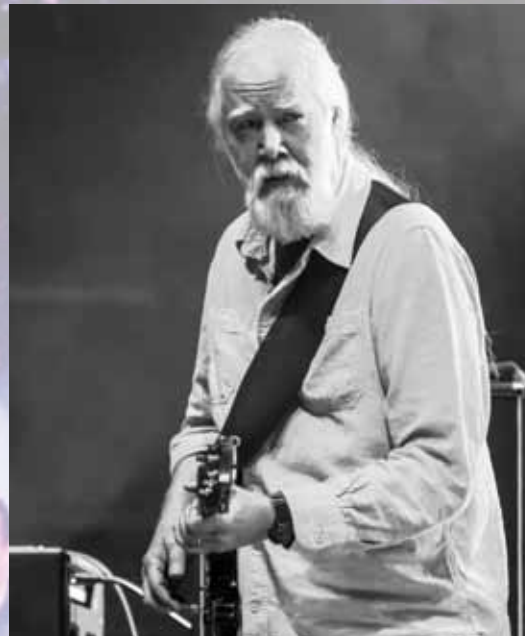
FEBRUARY 17 • Mobile Civic Center Theater

Written by Rosemary A.W. Roberts • Photos by Clayton Roberts

On a Wednesday night in February, the Spreadheads of Mobile, AL certainly showed their longtime love of Widespread Panic by buying every available ticket for their concert at the Civic Center Theater. The theater is small, holds about 1900 people, and the jubilantly rowdy crowd was looking forward to an intimate close-quarters show, where there wasn't a bad seat in the house. As the band took the stage, John Bell greeted Mobile amidst loud cheering; and with "A of D" and "Holden Oversoul" to start the night it was clear the band would bring plenty of old-school treats to the party.

With a song repertoire as large as Widespread Panic has, it is certain that some setlists are appealing, others are hit-and-miss, and one fan may rejoice at what another fan may brush off. But I do not think I speak just for myself when I say that the 02/17/16 setlist was incredible, well-crafted, and worthy of praise. In fact, at the end of the night we would realize the entire show was comprised of original Widespread Panic songs, not one cover song in the mix, and THAT was an unexpected and much appreciated note of distinction. When "Bear's Gone Fishin'" melted into "Pilgrims" early in the first set, it was like unwrapping a beautiful present on Christmas day. "You Got Yours" is always a dirty good time, as well as the set-closing "Imitation Leather Shoes". Two tunes off the 2015 album *Street Dogs* turned up first set and were well-received: "The Poorhouse of Positive Thinking" is quintessential Panic, has a great feel to it; and "Angels Don't Sing The Blues" has some great movements in it, as it grooves into a New Orleans strut feel, and then a gorgeous waltz-time section. Every time I hear "Pleas" I'm thrilled, takes me back to my first time listening to Everyday in high school and instantly loving the band. A highlight of the night came when John "JoJo" Hermann played the beautiful piano intro that brought us to "This Part of Town": I'm sure fans throughout the theater thought fondly of Michael Houser, and I imagine some tears were shed.

The second set opened with the dance-friendly *Street Dogs* song "Steven's Cat". Then to our delight "Little Lily" came out to play and kick off a string of successful segues. From "Hatfield" to "Surprise Valley" to "Tie Your Shoes" back into "Surprise Valley", the band moved and morphed smoothly, and the crowd followed them on the journey. After a brief breath of air, "Fishwater" led into "Drums" and "Drums & Bass" before circling back around. "Old Joe" and "Black-out Blues" closed the set, and the blues continued to the encore of "Contentment Blues" before a nostalgic "Vacation" bid us all a good night. And I do believe a good night was had by all; everyone I spoke with was in great spirits and grateful to be there! I know I sure was glad to be there, in that small space with friends near and dear, listening to Widespread Panic play their music for our enjoyment, giving us a chance to dance away our mid-week cares, giving us a great night to remember. ♣



DUMPSTAPHUNK

(continued from Page 08)



and Heritage Festival, as well as many other well-known festivals. Most of their songs from their show came from their latest album, *Dirty World*, such as "Water", "I Know You Know", "Blueswave", "Dancin' to the Truth", and "Take Time". They also did a few from their earlier album, *Everybody Want Some*, such as "Everybody Want Some", "Gassman Chronicles", and "Do Ya". The highlight of my night was definitely when they busted out a cover of "Red Hot Mama" by Funkadelic. Leave it up to Dumpstaphunk to give the crowd what they want and throw something at us by the funk legend, George Clinton. Listening to such live music from a great band is an exciting experience to have. I wish I could go back and relive the show, and already can't wait to get dumpstaphunky again. ♣

REVIEWS • REVIEWS

TAKING MOBILE TO THE NEXT LEVEL



Memphis Vaughan Jr.

A native Mobilian and editor of literary website, TimBookTu.com
Feedback can be sent to: mempv57@gmail.com

Try Something New

We're all creatures of habit. We often don't realize it, but we settle into a routine and we tend to do the same thing each day, each week or each year. There may be occasions when we change up our routine, but in general we have a pattern established that is very hard for us to deviate from. It's only when some event, person or circumstance pushes us out of this rote behavior do we find ourselves doing something different.

I'm sure we all seek excitement and change but achieving that requires an effort, some thought, some money or some time to find that activity or place or thing that breaks us from our complacency. When we do seek out excitement, it is often in the same narrow vein that we usually tend to focus. If we can't find something new and exciting to stimulate us, we resort to complaining about there being nothing to do in this town.

But have we stopped to look at all the things out there that we've never tried? Sometimes we only want to stay in the same lanes of entertaining ourselves - shopping, dining out, partying and attending sporting events - these may be the only things we do. We're missing out on a whole lot more in life when we limit ourselves to a narrow slate of endeavors.

For example, if you're bored with the selection of shopping, dining and night life choices in the city, why not spend the weekend at the museum or take a boat ride in the Mobile River Delta. There are different types of museums in the city: art, history, cultural, military and others with a specific emphasis. From reading some of the reviews, the new Maritime Museum is a very exciting and interactive museum that is worth visiting. The city has several performing art venues that offer interesting plays, concerts and musical performances that you may not have experienced before. I'm always amazed at how much I enjoy live musical performances no matter what the genre.



Why not take a drive or even a walking tour through Mobile's historic neighborhoods. A leisurely drive along the coast to Dauphin Island, Fairhope or Gulf Shores will help you appreciate the beauty and importance of our maritime environment. Venturing out to our neighboring cities of Pensacola, Biloxi and Gulfport can bring new experiences into your life.

If you're bored with the lack of things to do, there is a wealth of continuous learning opportunities out there - many of them free or at a nominal cost. Cultivating a new hobby or finally implementing that idea that you had can put you on the path to expanding your horizons. Got too much time on your hands, yet nothing to do? Try volunteering and giving some of your time to organizations in need. I believe that if you do this, you'll not only provide service to others but you'll get an appreciation for how you've been blessed.

Many of the things I have suggested may seem boring or too much effort for you to consider. But you won't know until you try it and do so with an open mind. A good place to start is within the pages of this newspaper, Steppin' Out. The entertainment calendar and many of its articles cover a wide variety of events, venues and things to do. The paper's title can refer not only to stepping out on the town but stepping out of your comfort zone and trying something new. ❖

2015 Helen Keller Art Show of Alabama

The 2015 Helen Keller Art Show of Alabama is currently on display in the first floor gallery of the University of South Alabama Marx Library. The show will be on exhibit from January 11, 2016 - May 31, 2016. It is free and open to the public during regular Library hours.

The Helen Keller Art Show of Alabama is an annual show for Alabama students who are visually impaired, blind, or deaf/blind. It was established in 1983 as a cooperative project between agencies serving children with visual impairments. The art show is open to students of all ages in Alabama public, private, residential, and home schools. The philosophy of the exhibit is that all participating students are considered winners and teachers are encouraged to incorporate visual arts into the individual educational plan of each student. The show provides students an opportunity to showcase their special talents and abilities. The artwork is unique with emphasis on creativity, color, and tactile media.

Every year, the art show travels throughout Alabama and is displayed in museums, art galleries, and agencies. The grand prize winner's art remains in a permanent collection at Ivy Green in Tuscumbia, Alabama, which is Helen Keller's birthplace. ❖



UNCF MOBILE
PROUDLY

Live Jazz
Silent Auction

\$50.00
per person

Saturday
JAZZ
BRUNCH

March 12, 2016 11:00 am till 2:00 pm

For Sponsorships, Tickets, or more information: uncfmobile@gmail.com 432-6506

THE HELENA 1568 Saint Stephens Road Mobile, Alabama 36603

INSIDE EDUCATION

WITH MOBILE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



MARCIE MCNEAL
DIGITAL MEDIA SUPERVISOR
Telecommunications
Mobile County Public School System



ATTENTION STUDENTS... Enter the 2nd Annual MCPSS Film Festival

The purpose of the film festival is to encourage student creation, communication, and collaboration by providing an engaging platform and community recognition.

DATES:

- APRIL 01: Submission Deadline
(all entries must be received by 12 midnight)
- APRIL 25: Videos will be available for viewing via MCPSS website
- APRIL 29: Film Festival Awards Ceremony
Baker High School auditorium @6pm

CATEGORIES: (divided by groups: K-5; 6-8; 9-12; Teacher)

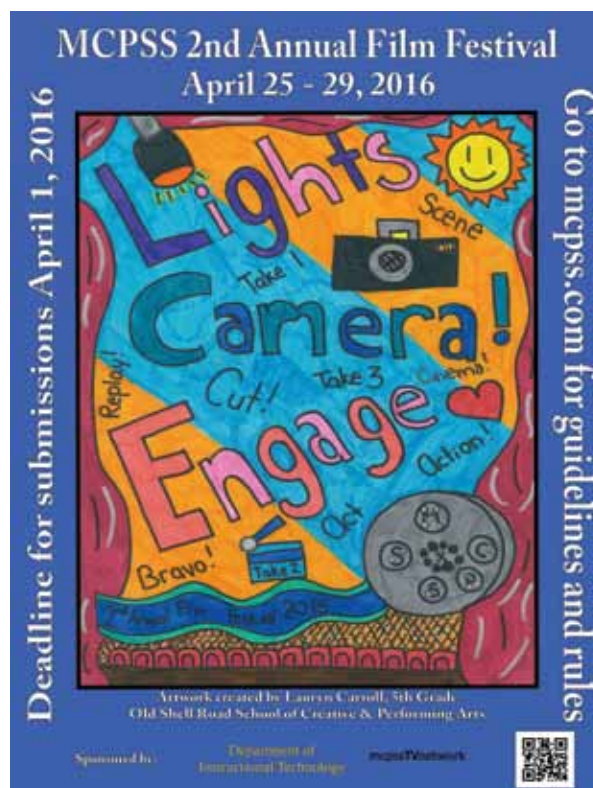
- **DRAMA**—A story about a serious subject portrayed in a dramatic and creative way. *(not to exceed 7 minutes)*
- **COMEDY**—A humorous story intended to make the audience laugh. *(not to exceed 7 minutes)*
- **MUSIC VIDEO**—Video pictures set to original or non-original music. If the music used in the video is not written by those making the video, permission must be granted in writing by the owner of the copyright. (It will be the responsibility of the teacher submitting the video to ensure that all copyright rules have been followed and that permission has been granted for use.) *(not to exceed 7 minutes)*
- **NEWS STORY**—Any original news story about a non-fictional phenomenon. *(not to exceed 7 minutes)*
- **HOW-TO-VIDEO**—A video designed to help people learn about a given topic. *(not to exceed 7 minutes)*
- **DOCUMENTARY**—An original program that provides insight into non-fictional events and people. *(submit first 7 minutes only)*
- **COMMERCIAL**—A video that promotes a product, concept, or perspective (fictional or non-fictional). Commercials created using the iMovie movie trailer template will be accepted. *(not to exceed 30 seconds or length of iMovie movie trailer)*

AWARDS:

- Judges will select one winner from each category for each group (K-5, 6-8, 9-12, & teacher).
- From the winning entries one will be selected as “Best in Show” for each group.
- An additional “Teacher’s Choice” award will be given to one video selected by a group of teachers.

REQUEST:

- This year we are requesting that participants submit their “bloopers” along with their videos. The bloopers will be shown before the commencement of the awards ceremony on the night of April 29.



RULES:

- Entries may not be submitted in multiple categories.
- Entries must be created in the current school year.
- Entries may be produced by an individual, group, class, or club.
- Schools are limited to 3 entries per category.
- Scripts, storyboards, and/or final products must be approved by the submitting teacher before an entry can be submitted.
- Videos must be saved and submitted in either .MP4 or .AVI format.
- Only teachers can upload entries for submission.
- Submitting teachers will need to contact Joe Gaston at jgaston@mcpss.com in order to receive instructions on submitting entries.
- All entries must include the following information: Title; Name of Creator(s); Category; School Name; Grade Level; Name of Submitting Teacher.
- Presentations exceeding 7 minutes will be disqualified. Running time will be counted from first fade/visual/sound to last.
- K-5 productions may be created with the help of a teacher.



- All 6-8 and 9-12 entries must be exclusively student written and produced, and teacher approved.
- Copyright permission must be credited in writing for use of clip art, non-original music, and authoring programs. Copyrighted materials must also be credited at the end of each video. See below for important copyright information.
- Submissions deemed inappropriate for all ages may still be submitted but will not be shown at the awards ceremony.

LEGAL & COPYRIGHT INFORMATION:

- By submitting entries to this competition, submitting teacher confirms that each work submitted is the original work of the student and/or have written permission from the owners of any copyrighted material used. It is the responsibility of each submitting school to provide proper permission documentation, if copyright is in question.
- By submitting entries to this competition, submitting teacher grants the usage rights required by the Mobile County Public School System for promotional purposes for this contest and future contests or any other use the school system deems appropriate.
- By submitting entries to this competition, submitting teacher has obtained written consent from the parent/guardian of the student to grant the usage rights required by Mobile County Public School

(continued on Page 18... see **FILM FESTIVAL**)

LEGACY 166



ACE Series 2016

ARTS • CULTURE • EDUCATION

WBLX and LEGACY 166 presents

QUEEN BESS:

The Story of Bessie Coleman



Performance by
SHERRIE TOLLIVER

MARCH 25 @8:00 PM

MARCH 26 @2:00 PM

MARCH 26 @8:00 PM

MOBILE THEATRE GUILD

14 N. Lafayette Street

TICKET PRICES

\$15 Adults • \$10 Children

\$10 Seniors 60+yrs

REDUCED PRICES FOR GROUPS OF 5 OR MORE

\$12 Adults • \$8 Children



Hosted by **Bambie**

Marketing & Promotions Director
CUMULUS BROADCASTING MOBILE

WGOK★
GOSPEL 900

COOPER
FOUNDATION

104.1
WDLT
DANCE WITH THE STARS, 90'S & TODAY

STEPPIN' OUT
THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & EMPOWERMENT GUIDE OF THE GULF COAST

93BLX
The Big Station!

For Ticket Information: 251-533-5726 • www.legacy166.com

LEGACY 166



ACE Series 2016
ARTS • CULTURE • EDUCATION

WDLT and LEGACY 166 presents

THE TRUE STORY OF HUEY P. NEWTON:
Revolutionary • Political Activist • PhD

JUNE 17 @8:00 PM

JUNE 18 @8:00 PM

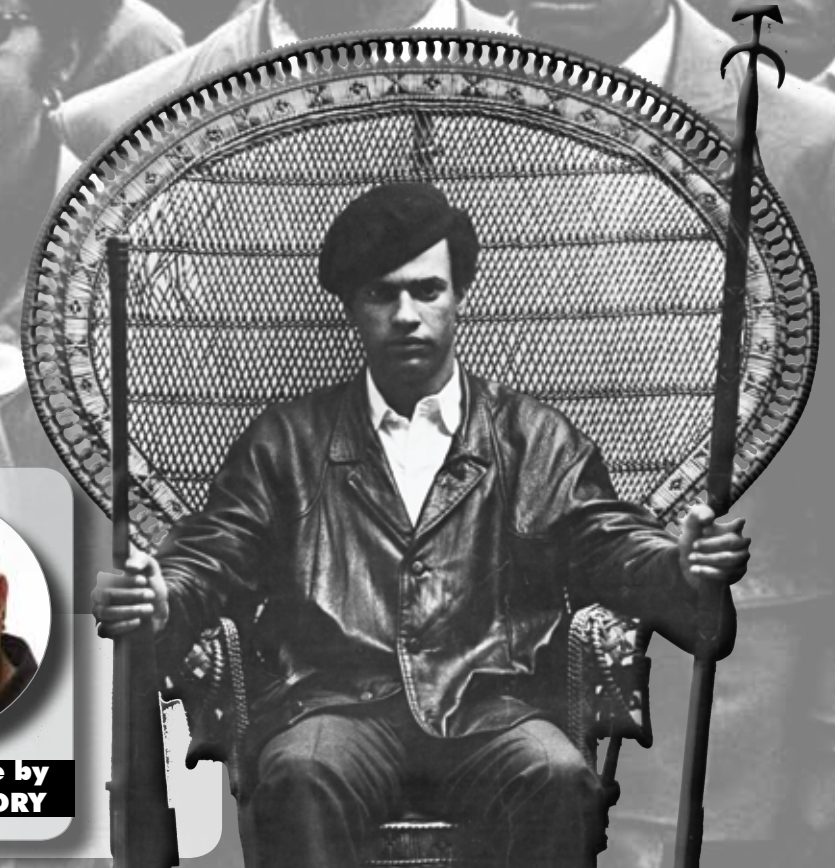
JUNE 19 @2:00 PM

Mobile Theatre Guild • 14 N. Lafayette Street

Huey P. Newton, co-founder of the Black Panther Party, endured jail, police harassment, and drug addiction while serving as Minister of Defense of the Party. While many know the story of Newton and the Party's armed resistance during that turbulent period, few know the story of the programs introduced by the panthers to feed, clothe, educate, and provide healthcare services to their community. ❖



**Performance by
ALTON LANDRY**



TICKET PRICES

\$15 Adults • \$10 Children • \$10 Seniors 60+yrs

Reduced Prices for Groups of 5 or more: \$12 Adults • \$8 Children

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 251-533-5726 • www.legacy166.com



STEPPIN' OUT ON BOOKS



This feature represents collaboration between STEPPIN' OUT, Timbooktu, Mobile Public Library, and Ebony Moments Book Club. It's designed to give local, regional, and national African American authors a place to have their books reviewed and introduced to this market. This feature devotes two columns for book reviews; Ebony

Moments features reviews from the Library's book club list and "What I'm Reading Now" features reviews from submissions by TimBookTu and local authors.

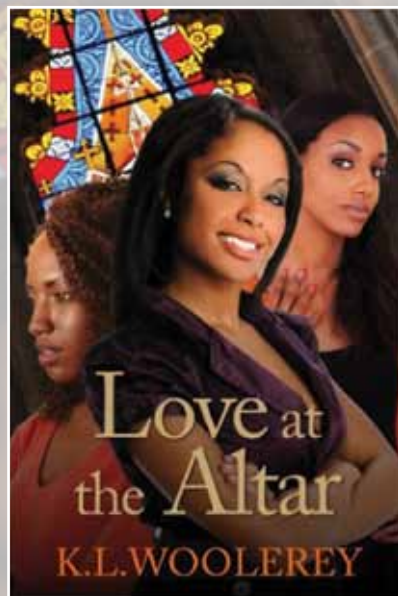
NOTE: "What I'm Reading Now" is not affiliated with the Mobile Public Library

EBONY MOMENTS BOOK CLUB REVIEW

Love At the Altar"

by K L Woolery

If you like reading faith and romance, "Love at the Altar" book 1 of the "Destiny Series" by K. L. Woolery is the book for you. This book is about BFFs, Destiny and Latisha. Destiny is an ambitious and beautiful party-girl. Latisha can party just as hard but has become a Christian. Neither has any idea how their lives and friendship will change after Destiny accepts Latisha's invitation to church. Latisha fancies Pastor Cliff Lawrence of Zion House church. Cliff is extremely handsome and a dynamic preacher wanting to marry and give the church a "First Lady." Destiny thinks the Pastor is the man she has been waiting for all her life, but can she give up the party-life to be a preacher's wife? Latisha is consumed by jealousy and will put their friendship and her faith on the line to win the Pastor. Ida Smith is not your traditional Christian girl in any sense of the word. She is spirited, sexy and only has eyes for the Pastor. Ida wants revenge when she thinks she has lost the Pastor to Destiny. Karina Lawrence, mother of Pastor Lawrence is so proud of her son. She was a traditional "First Lady" and wants her son to have a wife that will be traditional as well. Since her son took over the church after her husband's passing, she has been cooking, cleaning and taking care of him as he Pastor's the church. Will any of the women of Zion House be worthy of the Pastor according to Karina's standards? K. L. Woolery includes lots of twists, turns and plenty of drama. This book is about three women in their quest to put their past lives behind them and discover who they are spiritually. They are different but bonded together by their desire for the Pastor.



MARCH 10 @6:00PM.

Please join the Ebony Moments Book Club at the West Regional Branch Library, 5555 Grelot Road (Mobile) We will be discussing books by Author Pearl Cleage who will be a special guest at the Ben May Main Library on April 30 @2:00 p.m. Following the program, there will a book signing and reception. Program is free for all. For more info call (251) 208-7860 or (251) 208-7097. ♣



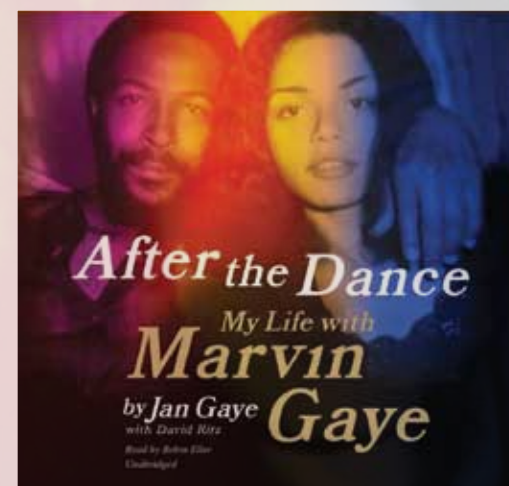
REVIEWED BY
Valerie Russell

After the Dance: My Life with Marvin Gaye

by Jan Gaye

This heartbreaking tale describes to readers the story of how Jan was fascinated with Marvin Gaye since she was seven-teen. Jan was in and out of Foster Care and her hippie mother allowed her to do anything she wanted including dating the married Marvin Gaye. Upon meeting him he was still married to Ann Gordy, the sister of Berry Gordy. Jan gave up school to live and depend on Marvin.

He was her lover, her sugar daddy, the father of her two children, his muse and later her husband. Marvin was a talented superstar who used drugs to numb his horrible life of pain. Marvin was the son of a mysterious evangelical cross dressing father who had beaten Marvin mercilessly. This book chronicles love in all it phases and gives a serious look at Jan and Marvin's love story. Jan also reveals how she and Marvin shared a deep spiritual life and their personal struggle with substance abuse. Marvin had a kinky fetish for want to watch Jan have sexual relations with other people and other R&B singers. This heartfelt love story will keep you glued to the pages until you are finished. A pure honest account of the life and tragic events surrounding the death of one of Motown's greatest singer, Marvin Gaye. It is painful to read at times but will keep you flipping the pages. It makes you think, "What's really going on?" ♣



with David Ritz
Read by Robin Eller
Unabridged



REVIEWED BY
Betty Kidd

"WHAT I'M READING NOW"

Alabama State Theatre Program Breaking Records

Theatre Students Win Kennedy Center Honors for 4TH Consecutive Year



Alabama State University's Theatre Arts program has racked up a record-breaking string of top honors in the prestigious Kennedy Center American College Festival. The department has made history by winning the top honor in the Region IV Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) for the 4th consecutive year.

Sophomore Chayning Jenkins won the Kennedy Center Irene Ryan Scholarship regional award. Her scene partner, junior LaDarreun Taylor, is familiar with this level of achievement since he won the award in 2015. The talented pair will represent Region IV and ASU in the national competition at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

Jenkins and Taylor were the victors from a body more than 200 undergraduate and graduate-level competitors who represented colleges and universities from the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southern Virginia and Tennessee.

Brian Martin, an associate professor in the Department of Theatre and a native of Mobile, who coached, developed and trained the last four consecutive winning acting and singing performance pairs, calls this year's win "unbelievable."

"The students always put in such hard work, many long hours and changes up to competition time, but they always rise to the occasion," said Martin.

Martin said while he is humbled by the recent wins, he also recognizes the long-standing legacy that has been established by Dr. Tommie Stewart, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and former chair of the Department of Theatre Arts.

"She sent winners to the Kennedy Center while I was away in graduate school; so, our history at KCACTF is solid and continues to grow stronger," said Martin.

Jenkins and Taylor were not the only top winners at the festival. Ronald James Jr., won the Marvin Sims Diversity Award, Darrell "DeJay" Morgan won the award for Excellence in a Performance from a New Play or Musical and Brian Martin was honored for Excellence in Directing for "Black N Blue Boys/Broken Men" and "Black Nativity: A Heavenly Vision." Faculty member Ramona Ward was recognized for Excellence in Costume Design for "Black Nativity: A Heavenly Vision." Dr. Wendy R. Coleman, chair of the Department of Theatre Arts, was recognized for Excellence in Directing for ASU's production of "Flyin' West." The 2016 festival also showcased nominations for ASU Theatre Arts Department students in stage management, dramaturgy, sound, set and lighting design, as well as an additional six Irene Ryan Acting scholarship nominees.

"These honors are a testament to the excellent training our students receive in theatre arts," said Stewart. "Four consecutive wins is a milestone and record-breaking achievement for any University in our region. Congratulations to Dr. Coleman, Mr. Martin, the students and the entire department for an outstanding job."

ABOUT THE IRENE RYAN ACTING SCHOLARSHIP

The Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship is an endowment from the estate of the late Irene Ryan, a renowned theatrical, television and film actress perhaps best known for her role as Granny on the hit 1960's sitcom, "The Beverly Hillbillies." ❖

Ruth's
THRIFT & GIFTS

Hats • Purses • Shoes

Clothing:
Plus • Petite, • Misses
Men & Kids

Jewelry • Avon • & More

OPEN EVERYDAY
(Except Wednesdays & Sundays)

10:30AM-5:00PM

140 SOUTH SAGE AVE. SUITE C • 251-802-9194

THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT

HANDS OF LIFE
CHIROPRACTIC & REHAB CENTER

REACH FOR THE HANDS OF LIFE

DR. CARTER SMITH D.C. & DR. STACY CAMERON D.C.

**CAR ACCIDENTS?
LOW BACK PAIN?
HEADACHES**

WE CAN HELP!

NEW LOCATION IN MIDTOWN
2056 DAUPHIN ST.
(AT CORNER OF DAUPHIN AND FULTON)

CALL US TODAY FREE CONSULTATION: 251.447.2142

Hands of Life Chiropractic & Rehab Center • 2056 Dauphin St. • Mobile, AL 36606 • 251-447-2142

DESIGN BY DMT PUBLISHING 251.289.9157

Ask Flo!



DEAR FLO:

When did we decide that it was OK to parade our young girls down the street, half naked and dancing to entertain men? WHEN and WHY?
—A Servant of God

A

DEAR SERVANT:

I'm not sure when we decided to allow our girls to dress like adults or encouraged them to use their bodies for attention. I'm not sure when we decided that the only way to teach our girls they were beautiful was to start showing their bodies. I'm not sure when we decided that we wouldn't question it, comment on it, or speak against it. It is now the culture. It is the music, the television, the advertisement. We seem to be immune to it. I don't know when "we" decided it was OK!

I decided to not participate, applaud, award, or acknowledge the dumbing down of our girls. I spend many hours teaching and encouraging young girls to love themselves and trust that their beauty can shine through their intellect. I give to causes that support girls who make positive choices, I tutor young girls and give pep talks about gratitude and community living. I mentor and share life challenges. I'm disheartened by the state of girls in America, but I think it has more to do with the "I's" and not so much the "We". Girls need role models, girls need places of safety and girls need love and support.

Let me encourage you to make it your goal to help the dance troupe that inspired you to write me. I am sure that they (or at least one of them) could use volunteers and support. The best way to change something is to embrace it, love it, and show it another way. A servant you have the opportunity to spread love, grace and maybe even a little mercy. I am excited that this issue landed on your heart and I look forward to hearing about your new encouraging adventure. We can take our pride back, we can take our girls back, we can make a difference. The victory of 1000, started with one. ♣

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS FOR FLO?
steppinoutnews@aol.com



Mobile County Offers Free Rubbish Disposal

Spring cleaning will get an assist from the Mobile County Commission during a "Clean Sweep" set for south county residents.

On March 5, area residents are invited to clean out their unwanted items and dump them for free from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Irvington Landfill, 7195 Half Mile Road. The event is open to residents only; businesses may not participate.

"This is a great opportunity to purge unwanted items that aren't accepted for regular garbage disposal," said Mobile County Commission President Jerry Carl. "We've been working to fight litter and this is another tool to clean up our neighborhoods." The service is provided at no cost to citizens.

Items accepted include indoor and outdoor furniture, clothing, scrap metal, appliances, household items and yard debris.

No electronics will be accepted. In addition, the county does not accept waste oil and oil filters, junk cars, tires, boats, dead

animals, pressure tanks of any kind, explosives, aerosol cans or household garbage.

County personnel and team leaders from the area will direct traffic to the dumping site and the county will properly dispose of all items.

"We welcome all neighborhoods to participate in these Clean Sweeps," said Mobile County Commissioner Merceria Ludgood. "They help citizens to dispose of unwanted items and cut down on illegal dumping."

"Mobile County helps dispose of thousands of loads of rubbish, junk and litter each year through Clean Sweeps, helping to maintain a cleaner, healthier environment," said Mobile County Commissioner Connie Hudson.

For more information, or to set up a Clean Sweep in your own neighborhood, please call 251-574-STOP (7867). ♣

THINKING OF SELLING YOUR HOME?



PROPERTY PROS REALTY IS FOR YOU!

KIMBERLY THOMPSON
REALTOR

kimberlythompson.realtor@gmail.com

251-422-8427 cell

251-460-4160 office



5920 GRELOT RD. BUILDING H SUITE C. MOBILE, AL 36609



City of Mobile Streamlines Procurement Process to Include Diverse Suppliers

A year ago, Mayor Stimpson established the City of Mobile's very first Supplier Diversity Program to specifically help minority, women and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE) overcome challenges that make it more difficult to win contracts and work on City of Mobile projects. To implement this new program, he established two new roles within the City: Chief Procurement Officer and the Supplier Diversity Manager. He first selected Don Rose, formerly with the United States Coast Guard and the Bay Area Food Bank, as the Chief Procurement Officer. The Mayor then asked me to join their team as the City's very first Supplier Diversity Manager.

For the past 14 years, I have worked for the Mobile Area Water and Sewer System overseeing minority and women owned business certification, compliance, training and outreach. Now, it's my responsibility to oversee certification, compliance, training, and outreach for the City of Mobile. Anchored by the Federal, State and Local Disadvantaged Business Certification Program, the City's programs are designed to identify DBEs, service-disabled veteran owned (SDV), and woman owned business (WBE) according to discrete certification standards. We work hard to mitigate the effects of past and present social-disadvantage and economic-disadvantage by increasing the opportunity of DBEs in the procurement of goods and services by the City.

My vision is to develop a program that will deliver and capture value through supplier diversity. We are growing the capacity and improving accessibility for Mobile's business community, especially for socially and economically DBEs to support the work of City government. Since its inception, the Supplier Diversity Office has launched its first online vendor portal, hosted its first Industry Day and will be holding its first Vendor Town Hall on March 9.

For the first time in the history of the City, vendors can now conduct almost all City business online. All current vendors are already registered in our portal, and all new vendors can now self-register at <https://mobileselfservice.tylertech.com>. At the Vendor Town Hall, we will discuss the new online portal, upcoming City business opportunities and vendor engagement programs.

I encourage all vendors interested in our supplier diversity program to give me a call at 251-208-7967 or send me an email at Archnique.kidd@cityofmobile.org. If you are a minority, woman or disadvantaged business enterprise, I want to present you every opportunity to work with the City of Mobile.

Archnique Kidd
Supplier Diversity Manager
CITY OF MOBILE



Mayor Sandy Stimpson

Mayor Sandy Stimpson named Archnique Kidd as the new Supplier Diversity Manager for the City of Mobile.

Kidd will be charged with jumpstarting the City of Mobile's very first Supplier Diversity Program to help minority, women and disadvantaged business enterprises overcome challenges that make it more difficult to win contracts and work on City of Mobile projects.

"I made a commitment to the citizens of Mobile that I would cut red tape within City government and we are fulfilling that promise," said Stimpson. "If you are a minority, woman or disadvantaged business enterprise, the City of Mobile needs to do a better job of presenting you with opportunities for City contracts. Kidd will lead this effort starting immediately."

Kidd comes to the city with 14 years of experience overseeing minority and women owned business certification, compliance, training and outreach for Mobile Area Water and Sewer System. She will report to the city's Chief Procurement Officer, who is working to re-engineer, streamline and simplify a decentralized procurement process for the City of Mobile and integrate that process with the City's new IT system.

Kidd is a graduate of the University of Mobile; a graduate of Leadership Mobile and a past winner of the South Region's Minority Supplier Development Council Award.



Archnique Kidd

by Destinee Bolden



Fashion hot spot

FEELING BLUE

The Reports Are In... **BLUE is Officially the Color of March!** Who has time for black anymore? No one in the beauty world. The fashion sphere (makeup and all) seem to be diving into **BLUE** like no other. Cosmetic stores such as Sephora and Ulta are already stocking their shelves with **BLUE** beauties; magazines such as glamour and teen vogue have polished their pages in the crisp, clean color. **BLUE** had its glory days back in the 80's and has made a definite comeback for 2016. Fashion bloggers and vloggers are creating content on their channels showcasing creative (and wearable) ways to wear **BLUE** makeup, how to's on incorporating **BLUE** into your daily wardrobe, and how to rock **BLUE** nail art/polish. 100 shades of **BLUE** is a true love story. The great thing about **BLUE** is that there are an abundance of ways to make it look classy as opposed to trashy. You just have to find the most suitable technique for your features. Unlike other more neutral colors, less will always be more. You can't go overboard on **BLUE** if you want a beautiful outcome. Keep the **BLUE** in only one part of your look. Whether it be **BLUE** eyeliner, a **BLUE-GREEN** eye shadow all over the lid, **BLUE** in the outer corners of your eyes, or a light **BLUE** shimmering eye shadow in the inner corners. If you feel like making a statement with **BLUE** shoes, the rest of your outfit should be very toned down. Don't be all over your place with your **BLUE**. Also, match **BLUE** with coordinating colors. See the color wheel for an easy reference. If you know the proper way to wear **BLUE**, everyone will surely be in awe. Stay **BLUE** and Stay Blessed! ♣



AFTER HOURS



JOANIE STIFF-LOVE

A graduate of Birmingham-Southern College, Stiff-Love currently works for the City of Mobile and is active in Community Theater in the Mobile area. She loves all things southern, food, and the arts.

Send article suggestions to joanie.3564@yahoo.com.

There are two live theater productions this month. The final run of *The Colored Museum* is at Mobile Theater Guild on March 4, 5, & 6. The play is made up 11 funny, powerful, and amazing skits that feature a cast of 13 local actors. Written by George C. Wolfe, this piece of satire reminds us to both embrace and move forward from the past. For more information and tickets, go to www.mobiletheaterguild.org.

LEGACY 166 will present *QUEEN BESS: The True Story of Bessie C. Coleman* at the Mobile Theater Guild on March 26 @2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., with the last showing on March 27 @2:00 p.m. A story of courage and perseverance: Born to sharecroppers, Bessie Coleman heard stories from pilots returning home from World War I about flying during the war. She learned to fly a Bi-Plane and became the first woman of African American descent to earn an international pilot's license, in 1921. She became a Barnstormer (Stunt Pilot) and quickly gained a reputation as a skilled and daring pilot who would stop at nothing to complete a difficult stunt. Ticket prices are \$15 Adults, \$10 Children. Reduced prices for Groups of five (5) or more: \$12 Adults, \$8 Children. Seniors 60 and over: \$10. For ticket information, go to www.mobiletheaterguild.org. For group sales call LEGACY 166 at 251-533-5726

The Crescent has *Youth* running March 04 - 10. It is a film about two longtime friends who go on vacation together in the Swiss Alps. Starring Michael Caine and Harvey Keitel, the two men reflect on the past and find that some of their most important experiences can come later on in life. Then beginning March 11, *The Lady In The Van*, starring Maggie Smith and Alex Jennings. It's the true story of Londoner Alan Bennett and a lady named Miss Shepherd. It seems Miss Shepherd parked her van temporarily in Bennett's driveway and lived there for 15 years. Film trailers, tickets, and info can be found at www.crescenttheater.com.

The March calendar for The Saenger has **Robert Plant and the Sensational Space Shifters** performing on the 7th and the **Mobile Symphony Orchestra** performing their St. Patrick's Day Celebration on both the 12th & 13th. For more info on activities at The Saenger, go to www.mobilesaenger.com.

The Civic Center is home to Mobile Ballet's production of Swan Lake March 12&13. This classic ballet will feature local dancers and is a must see for any ballet fan. For more info, including ticket prices, and times, go to their website, www.mobileballet.org.

Soul Kitchen brings the beat to March and starts it off on March 5 with **CeeLo Green and the Love Train Tour**. March 10 will have **Between The Buried and Me** and **August Burns Red**. **The Wild Feathers** and **Bird Dog** will be there March 22 and they close out March on the 31st with **Third Eye Blind**. For more info, including ticket prices, and times, go to their website, www.soulkitchenmobile.com ♣

FILM FESTIVAL (continued from Page 11)

System necessary to display and use personally identifiable or directory information limited to student's name, grade, school, and teacher's name for judging, displaying, and promoting of this contest and future contests or any other use the school system deems appropriate.

Mobile County Public School System reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any entry, for any reason, without notice.

For updates and information, check out the MCPSS Film Festival Facebook Page! ♣

CALENDAR

March 2016

MOBILE

CONCERTS

Lecrae, Liz Vice, DJ Promote-Civic Center, 3/2
Dear Tick, Mutual Benefit-The Merry Widow, 3/3
CeeLo Green-Soul Kitchen, 3/5
Robert Plant & The Sensational Space Shifters
-Saenger Theatre, 3/7
Between The Buried And Me, August Burns Red,
The Faceless, Good Tiger-Soul Kitchen, 3/10
J.J. Grey & Mofro, David Ramirez-O'Dalys Irish Pub, 3/11
Who's Bad-The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute
-O'Dalys Irish Pub, 3/12
Cherish The Ladies-Saenger Theatre, 3/12-13
Elton John-Civic Center, 3/15
Jeremy Camp, Newsboys, Mandisa, Phil Wickham,
Family Force 5, Audio Adrenaline, Danny Gokey,
Citizen Way, Shaun Groves -Mitchell Center, 3/20

The Wild Feathers, Bird Dog-Soul Kitchen, 3/22
Nora Jane Struthers-Callaghan's, 3/23
Laney Jones And The Spirits-The Listening Room, 3/25
JP Soars-Blues Tavern, 3/26
Third Eye Blind-Soul Kitchen, 3/31

MUSEUMS

—**Explorem**
Hands on Hall; ON-GOING
Minds on Hall; ON-GOING
Science Lab (Ciba Lab); ON-GOING
Wharf Wonder; ON-GOING

—Fort Conde

Historic Fort: Founded in 1702, Moved to
Mobile in 1711; ON-GOING

—Museum of Art

Material Imaginings, ON-GOING

—Museum of Mobile

Old Ways, New Days Part I & II, ON-GOING
Walls and Halls, ON-GOING
CSS Alabama Cannon, ON-GOING

—Phoenix Fire Museum

Steam Engines, Motorized Vehicles, Gallery;
ON-GOING

STAGE PLAYS

The Colored Museum-Mobile Theatre Guild, 3/4-6

QUEEN BESS: The Story of Bessie Coleman
Mobile Theatre Guild • 3/25-26

ATLANTA

BALLET

Atlanta Ballet-Cobb Arts Centre, 3/18-20

CONCERTS

CeeLo Green-Terminal West, 3/3
AC/DC, Tyler Bryant & The Shakedown-Phillips Arena, 3/8
John Mayall, Bill Carter-Variety Playhouse, 3/9
Tank-Center Stage Theater, 3/9
Marvin Wayans-World Congress Center, 3/12
The Moody Blues-Fox Theatre, 3/12
Village People-Jennie Andersen Theater, 3/13
Gordon Lightfoot-Woodruff Centre, 3/15
Ricky Lee Jones-Variety Playhouse, 3/16
Joan Baez-Woodruff Centre, 3/17
Kirk Franklin-The Tabernacle, 3/17
Bobcat Goldthwait-Laughing Skull Lounge, 3/17-20
Mystical, Juvenile, Bun B, Trick Daddy, 8Ball & MJG,
Pastor Troy-Fox Theatre, 3/19-2

SYMPHONY

Symphony Orchestra, Indigo Girls- Woodruff Centre, 3/4

BILOXI

CONCERTS

Kansas-Hard Rock Live, 3/4
Michael Bolton-Beau Rivage Resort, 3/4
Jewel-IP Casino, Resort and Spa, 3/5
Kevin Gates, Young Greatness, OG Boobie Black
-Kress Live, 3/5
Little River Band-Golden Nugget, 3/11
Drowning Pool, Wildfire, My Hero The Villian-Kress
Live, 3/12
Peking Acrobats-IP Casino, Resort and Spa, 3/12
Aaron Lewis-Hard Rock Live, 3/18
Rodney Carrington-Beau Rivage Resort, 3/18-19
Get The Led-American Led Zeppelin-Hard Rock Live, 3/25
REO Speedwagon-IP Casino, Resort and Spa, 3/25

BIRMINGHAM

CONCERTS

Merle Haggard-Iron City, 3/6
CeeLo Green-Iron City, 3/7
Marc Broussard-Alys Stephens Center, 3/17
Ricky Scaggs-Iron City, 3/18
Joan Baez-Alys Stephens Center, 3/19
For King & Country, Matthew West, Crowder,
Lauren Daigle, Red, NewSong, Sidewalk Prophets,
Stars Go Dim, We Are Messengers, Tedashii-BJCC
Legacy Arena, 3/19

FAIRHOPE

CONCERTS

George Porter Jr. and Runnin' Pardners-American
Legion, 3/19

GULFPORT

CONCERTS

John Michael Montgomery-Island View Casino, 3/12

NEW ORLEANS

CONCERTS

CeeLo Green, Escort-Tipitina's Uptown, 3/6
Billy Cox, Buddy Guy, Jonny Lang, Kenny Wayne
Shepperd, Naughty By Nature, Zakk Wyld,
Dweezil Zappa, Eric Johnson, Doyle Bramhall II,
Chris Layton, Mato Nanji, Noah Hunt, Henri
Brown-Saenger, 3/6
Regina Carter-Contemporary Arts Center, 3/11
Dave Mason-House of Blues, 3/16
Jeremy Camp, Newsboys, Mandisa, Phil Wickham,
Family Force 5, Audio Adrenaline, Danny Gokey,
Citizen Way, Shaun Groves-Lakefront Arena, 3/18
Yanni-Saenger, 3/26

SPORTS — Pro Basketball

Pelicans vs. San Antonio Spurs, 3/3
Pelicans vs. Utah Jazz, 3/5
Pelicans vs. Sacramento Kings, 3/7
Pelicans vs. Portland Trailblazers, 3/18
Pelicans vs. LA Clippers, 3/20
Pelicans vs. Miami Heat, 3/22
Pelicans vs. Toronto Raptors, 3/26
Pelicans vs. NY Knicks, 3/28
Pelicans vs. Denver Nuggets, 3/31

PENSACOLA

CONCERTS

Common Kings-Vinyl Music Hall, 3/1
Mac Sabbath-Vinyl Music Hall, 3/6
All Dogs-Sluggos's, 3/11
Houndmouth-Vinyl Music Hall, 3/11
The Kickback-Sluggos's, 3/12
Atreyu, Devil You Know, From Ashed To New
-Vinyl Music Hall, 3/12
Blessthefall, Miss May I, The Plot In You, Sirens
and Sailors, A War Within-Vinyl Music Hall, 3/14
Joe Satrini-Saenger, 3/15
The Word Alive, Fit For A King, Out Came The Wolves
-Vinyl Music Hall, 3/16
Flow Tribe-Naval Air Station, 3/19
One-Eyed Doll, Eyes Set To Kill, Open Your Eyes-Vinyl
Music Hall, 3/24
JP Soars-Paradise Inn, 3/27, 29

SYMPHONY

Pensacola Symphony-Saenger, 3/5

SILVERHILL

CONCERTS

Will Kimbrough-Blue Moon Farm, 3/13
Cary Morin-Blue Moon Farm, 3/20

(continued on Page 23... see **CALENDAR**)

TRANSITIONING BASICS

Tanene Jackson... OWNER OF LOCS OF SOUL (www.locsofsoul.com), a natural hair salon and barber shop in Mobile, Al. She is also the organizer to the Mobile Natural Hair and Wellness Expo. You can reach Tanene via Facebook... Locs of Soul and/or email: curiosity4_u@yahoo.com.



Winter is amongst us and the chill is here. Sweaters and hats are being worn. Meanwhile, heaters are turned on high. Therefore, your hair is wreaking havoc. Dryness is seeping into every strand. Protection is a must! And you are wondering what to do! The lovely "M" word spans all four seasons. **MOISTURE! MOISTURE! MOISTURE!** Even more so now than ever.

During the winter months there is less humidity in the air. For some textures that may be a good thing. However, for a lot of us, spring and summer is your hair's time to thrive! Conditioning and hot oil treatments are always good. If you lean towards hot oil treatments, the use of heavier oils like castor oil and olive oil becomes quite useful in the cooler months vs. warmer months. Shampooing with moisturizing products and avoiding alcohol base products as much as possible is always a plus.

Let me not forget the hairstyles! Hairstyles that keep your hands out of your hair can prove beneficial. Whether you choose a weave, extension braids, updos, low cuts, headwraps, etc. you can protect your hair from the elements and from yourself.

Remember cotton, wool, and some synthetic fibers pull moisture away from your hair, leaving it dry. Silk and satin are ideal for covering your hair at night or under a hat, scarf, or headwrap.

Continue to drink lots of water. It is easy to become dehydrated in the cooler months. Eat a balanced diet and circulate that blood. Nurture your body; you will nurture your hair! ❖

New Truck Placed on Duty

Mobile Fire-Rescue has placed its fifth emergency Sprint Truck on duty at Berger Fire Station located on Old Military Road in Theodore. The vehicle has been given the designation of Sprint 10.

Sprint Trucks are Ford Explorer Interceptors made for public safety response. The vehicles can respond quicker, because they can maneuver through traffic easier than the larger fire trucks, they are more efficient and will save on cost and they will save on wear and tear of the larger fire apparatus.

Sprint Trucks are equipped with the same medical equipment that is normally on a fire truck. Four other Sprint Trucks are currently located at Freeman Station (1) on Overlook Road, Edwards Station (6) on Hillcrest Road, McCoske Station (19) on Azalea Road, and Tapia Station (22) on Airport Blvd. ❖



CARTER
LAW FIRM, P.C.

INJURED?
When you hurt, We Help!

2561 Dauphin Street **433-6500**
www.carterlawfirm.com

No representation is made that the quality of legal services performed are greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers

FLAVA (continued from Page 06)

THE READER'S CHOICE BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, March 15, 1 p.m., West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Rd. Join us every third Tuesday for some lively book discussions and tips on what's hot and what's not in the world of books. This month's topic of discussion is *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo. For more information, please call 208-7097.

INSPECTOR CLOUSEAU FILM FESTIVAL

Tuesday, March 15, 5:30 p.m., Moorers/Spring Hill Branch, 4 South McGregor Ave. Enjoy some of your favorite Inspector Clouseau films with commentary and fun facts provided by Frank. Our feature this month is *Return of the Pink Panther*. The film runs 115 minutes and is rated G. For more information, please call 470-7770 or email ftigner@mplonline.org.

TUESDAY GREAT MOVIE ADVENTURE

Tuesday, March 15, 3:15 p.m., Parkway Branch, 1924-B Dauphin Island Parkway. *Jurassic World-In* this thrilling fourth installment of the "Jurassic Park" franchise, two young brothers visit their Aunt Claire who's an executive at Jurassic World, a theme park populated with genetically resurrected dinosaurs. But chaos erupts when a newly created dino escapes its enclosure, forcing the park's animal behaviorist Owen Grady to save the day. The film runs 124 minutes and is rated PG-13. For more information, please call 470-7766.

SATURDAY MATINEE

Saturday March 19, 2 p.m., Saraland Public Library, 111 Saraland Loop. Transylvania 2-Hotel owner Dracula is concerned that his half-human grandson Dennis isn't embracing his vampire heritage. He and his fellow ghouls put Dennis through a "monster-in-training" boot camp, but their efforts are complicated by the arrival of Dracula's dad, a traditionalist vampire named Vlad. The film runs 89 minutes and is rated PG. For more information, please call 675-2879.

POETRY ENTHUSIASTS

Monday, March 21, 6 - 7:45 p.m., Toulminville Branch, 601 Stanton Rd. Join members of Spoken Word of Mobile for an evening of poetry readings at the Toulminville Branch. Students and adults are encouraged to share readings of their own works or works from their favorite poets. For more information, please call 438-7075.

CLASSICS REVISITED BOOK CLUB

Monday, March 28, 6:30 p.m., Ben May Main Library, 701 Government Street. Join us the last Monday of the month for some lively book discussions on some of our favorite classics. This month's topic of discussion is *Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes. For more information, please call 208-7902.

For information on these and other events, visit the web site at www.mplonline.org.

PRICHARD LIBRARY NEWS

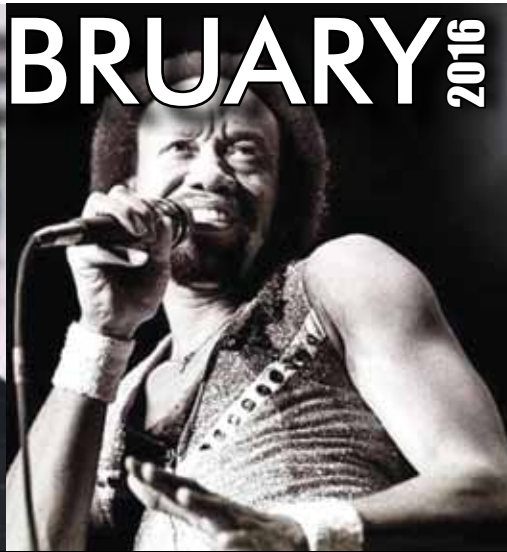
FRIDAY VIDEOS • 12:00-1:00 PM • AGES 3-13 YEARS OLD

MARCH 04—*The Magic School Bus "Gets Ants In Its Pants"*—The Magic School Bus goes into show business when Keesha directs a movie about social animals for the school science fair.

MARCH 11—*Island of the Blue Dolphins*—A heartwarming adventure of a 19th century Indian girl who becomes stranded on a remote island off the California coast.

MARCH 18—*Rock N Learn Alphabet*—Let "Alphabet A1" be your child's guide to this exciting adventure, live action, animation, songs, and games make learning the alphabet fast and fun. ❖

FEBRUARY 2016 PASSINGS



MAURICE WHITE-74

MUSICIAN • Earth, Wind & Fire • **Parkinson's Disease**



JOE ALASKEY-63

VOICE ACTOR
Looney Tunes; Rugrats
Cancer



JOHNNY DUNCAN-92

TV ACTOR
Robin (Batman and Robin)



WILLIAM HAZE-49

ACTOR



GIL HILL-84

ACTOR
Beverly Hills Cop
Pneumonia



SONNY JAMES-87

SINGER
Young Love



PAUL KANTNER-74

MUSICIAN
Jefferson Airplane
Multiple Organ Failure



GEORGE KENNEDY-91

ACTOR



HARPER LEE-89

AUTHOR



KATIE MAY-34

MODEL
Stroke



ALEXA MCALLISTER-31

TV CONTESTANT
The Bachelor
Suicide



ALETHEA MCGRATH-95

ACTRESS
Star Wars Episode II



MICOLE MERCURIO-77

ACTRESS
Flashdance



MIKE MINOR-75

ACTOR
Cancer



DAVE MIRRA-41

BMX/X GAMES RIDER
Suicide



EDGAR MITCHELL-85

ASTRONAUT
Apollo 14 Rams



GEORGIA DAVIS POWERS-92

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST/
POLITICIAN



ANGELA RAIOLA-55

TV PERSONALITY
Lung and Throat Cancer



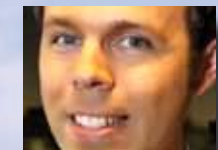
ANTONIN SCALIA-79

SUPREME COURT JUDGE



VANITY (DENISE MATTHEWS)-57

SINGER/EVANGELIST
Renal Failure



NICK WILTGEN-39

METEOROLOGIST
The Weather Channel

THE REAL ENEMY — THE INNER ME

by A.D. McKinley



UNDERSTANDING:

NO PLAN • NO PROGRESS • NO FUTURE

Loving Yourself First is the Step to Enlightenment!

Why is it so important for people to be positive and strive for even better? For self! One thing I know is that teenagers and adults need to be selfish about the things that are valuable and the things that will allow progress to transform and mold them to live successfully. Personal selfishness is for self-satisfaction, and everyone must be willing to do things for self. In order to help someone else you must first help yourself.

BELIEVING IN YOURSELF

I know this may sound selfish and egotistic (and it is), but if you don't believe in yourself enough to live a life full of love and happiness, then who will? No one! Don't expect to find happiness through things and other people. Discover who you are and love yourself. In other words, you have to achieve your goals for self! HINT: Build yourself through education, life experiences, and achievements.

People like to be around people with respect and status. Status encourages the individual to continue to do, and a positive reputation comes with privileges and rewards. There are a lot of people who talk a good game but can't produce any results, watch them. Jealousy and envy is a thief that kills and destroys reputations. People are envious because they are LAZY and don't want to change. Become Your Great! ❖

Ozanam Pharmacy to host annual 'Lucky Ducky' fundraiser

Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy will be hosting the S.S. Lucky Ducky fundraiser at the Alabama Contemporary Art Center on Thursday April 21 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Ozanam's event will be a nautical themed with all of the proceeds going toward the mission of the pharmacy.

Tickets are \$50 in advance and can be purchased online at <https://ssluckyducky.eventbrite.com>. Tickets are \$60 per person at the door the night of the event. The ticket includes dinner, live entertainment and access to an art auction. In addition, there will be a drawing for different several different themed baskets including spa, beauty, home improvement, travel, and food.

If you would like to sponsor this event or donate a prize, please contact Christopher Chambers at c.chambers@ozanampharmacy.org or (251) 432-4111 ext. 110.

Established in 1998, Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy serves people between the ages of 19 and 65, many of whom have been diagnosed with acute illnesses. In 2015, the organization provided more than 30,000 prescriptions to 1,580 unduplicated, uninsured, underinsured, and indigent patients.

If you would like to volunteer or donate funds call (251) 366-0713 or email sarcher@ozanampharmacy.org. For more information, please visit our Facebook page and like us or visit our website at www.ozanampharmacy.org ❖



THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX

Arthur L. Mack

FREELANCE WRITER; Mobile, Alabama
Contact Info: steppinoutnews@aol.com



Act Like a Child... See Who Cares

By now, you may have already heard or read about several police unions urging members to refuse to work security for Beyonce during her tour because of her Super Bowl 50 halftime performance.

In case you may have forgotten about the performance itself, it was part of her song, Formation, which in part mentions the Black Panthers and the shooting of unarmed Black men and women.

Police unions—particularly those in New York City and Miami—have already said that they will not work security during her world tour. The New York City police union, in fact, went as far as saying that they will go ahead and work security for the concert...if Beyonce apologizes for her perceived “anti-police” message during her Super Bowl halftime performance.

I had to laugh at this, because it reminded me of what I encountered a few years ago when a client of mine falsely told my supervisor that I called her a liar after I took her to task for failing to follow instructions. It also reminded me of times that people got mad when they reacted to something that didn't even involve them.

Beyond that, one has to wonder why police unions are up in arms about a halftime performance at a football game. Is it because it's the sign of the times? Is it because some of these police unions are upset because some of their members are indeed being called out because of unprofessional performance?

Is it because they are “butt hurt” because they are indeed reminded of the Black Panthers and the reason they even came into existence (police brutality/harassment)? Or maybe, just maybe, it's because of the old saying, “A hit dog will holler?”

Whatever the reasoning, it is childish and immature at best, and sinister and racist at worst. Here's why.

These same police unions would have no trouble protecting hate groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, Aryan Nations, Skinheads or other hate groups. More often than not, when they are out protecting them, they are outnumbering them. You can bet that these groups would create more problems than a 30-something year-old woman giving a performance.

Maybe that's it...maybe the police unions are simply just intimidated, and looking for a way to get a little payback. It's like the little boy who got mad, took his marbles and decided to go home when the game didn't go his way. But when I first read the news about the proposed boycott, I was totally puzzled as to why a group of grown and macho men went soft and acted like a bunch of three year old kids.

To its credit, the Nation of Islam stepped up to the plate and offered to provide security for Beyonce's tour if cops across the country didn't do their job. Heck, even members of the ‘Beyhive’ would have been able to protect her. Imagine if somebody was foolish enough to even try and mess with her during one of her concerts—the Beyhive would have been on them like white on rice.

Seriously, though, it's all part of a growing problem going on in society. When those who are sworn to support the law let a little thing like a halftime performance—which in no way, shape or form was anti-police—ruffle their feathers and cause them not to do their jobs, then it's a sad reflection on society, indeed. ❖

LIKE
US ON
FACEBOOK



MARKETING YOUR WAY TO SUCCESS

Nathaniel Patterson...MANAGING PARTNER, THE PATTERSON GROUP
Empowers people with effective marketing strategies that increase business development, awareness and enhance personal lifestyles.
To contact Patterson, call 888.599.5502 or connect with him on LinkedIn or Twitter - @journeycoach1.



The One Page Business Plan

“If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail”, Benjamin Franklin. Wisdom says that ventures that are planned have a better chance of succeeding.

When most entrepreneurs consider writing a business plan they think of writing 10-20 pages. Yet, there is an alternative – a one page business plan. It is appropriate as a guiding tool but not to present to banks, investors or venture capitalists. The one page business plan focuses on key sections that are important to you and the development of your organization.

The key to the one page business plan is to be concise, state the facts and utilize size 11 font.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—A concise summary of the primary features of your plan.

MISSION STATEMENT—A guiding statement which highlights the core purpose and primary focus

VISION STATEMENT—Provides a continuing roadmap for growth

CORE VALUES—Guides the culture, behavior and standards for the organization

OBJECTIVES—Your measurable proposed achievements

MANAGEMENT—Describe ownership, organizational development, leadership and key employees

PRODUCT & SERVICES—Listing of primary products and services

MARKETING SEGMENTATION—Listing of primary, secondary and tertiary markets with brief description

MARKETING STRATEGY—Primary and secondary strategy to accomplish revenue goals, inclusive of pricing.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY—Summary of key financial data and projections.

KEYS TO SUCCESS/METRICS—Summary of measurable objectives and how they will be measured. Now you have a one page document that you can review frequently. Evaluate your progress to your goals monthly and make the necessary adjustments. When you are ready for a more detailed business or a strategic plan (resources for growth) call a consultant or go to bplans.com and review the free plans. ♣

CALENDAR (continued from Page 19)

STAGE PLAYS

Kinky Boots-Saenger, 2/16-21

TUSCALOOSA

CONCERTS

Yonder Mountain String Band, Trout Steak Revival-Druid City Music Hall, 2/2



LAUGHTER

YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN!!!

A company, feeling it was time for a shakeup, hired a new CEO. The new boss was determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the CEO noticed a guy leaning against a wall and idly picking his teeth. The room was full of workers and he wanted to let them know that he meant business. He asked the guy, “What’s your name and how much money do you make a week?” A little surprised, the young man looked at him and said, “My name is Leroy and I make a little over \$400 dollars a week, why?” The CEO said, “Wait right here.” The CEO walked back to his office, came back in two minutes, and handed the guy \$1,600 in cash and said, “Here’s four weeks’ pay. Now GET OUT and don’t come back.” Feeling pretty good about himself the CEO looked around the room and asked, “Does anyone want to tell me what that goof-ball did here?” From across the room a voice said, “Sure – that was Leroy the Pizza delivery guy from Domino’s and he was just waiting to collect the money for the pizzas he just dropped off!!!” ☺

NICE TO MEET YOU!!!

As the bus stopped and it was her turn to get on, Willie Mae became aware that her skirt was too tight to allow her leg to come up to the height of the first step of the bus. Slightly embarrassed and with a quick smile to the driver, she reached behind her to unzip her skirt a little, thinking that this would give her enough slack to raise her leg. She tried to take the step, but only to discover that she couldn’t.

With a little smile to the driver, she again reached behind to unzip a little more and again was unable to take the step. After becoming quite frustrated and embarrassed, she once again attempted to unzip her skirt more in order to allow more leg room to get on the first step of the bus. About this time, a large man, Leroy, who was standing behind her picked her up easily by the waist and placed her gently on the step of the bus. Willie Mae went ballistic and turned to the would-be Samaritan and yelled “How dare you touch my body! I don’t even know who you are!” Leroy smiled and said “Well ma’am, normally I would agree with you but after you unzipped my fly three times I kinda figured we were friends!!!” ☺

WE'RE RICH!!!

The science teacher stood in the front of the class and said, “Children, if you could have one raw material in the world, what would it be?” Little Stevie raised his hand and said “I would want gold, because gold is worth a lot of money and I could buy a Corvette.” The teacher nodded, and then she called on little Susie. Little Susie said, “I would want platinum because platinum is worth more than gold and I could buy a Porsche.” The teacher smiled, and then she called on Little Leroy. Little Leroy stood up and said, “I would want silicone.” The teacher said, “Silicone? Why silicone?” Little Leroy said, “Because my mom has two bags of the stuff and you should see all the cars outside our house!!!” ☺

Mobile Theatre Guild
presents



NEIL SIMON'S
BAREFOOT
IN THE
PARK

Directed by Joe Fuselli
April 15th – May 1st

14 North Lafayette Street

251.433.7513

www.mobiletheatreguild.org

"Barefoot in the Park (Neil Simon)" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.