STEPPIN' OUT

THE ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & EMPOWERMENT GUIDE OF THE GULF COAST

FEBRUARY 2016 • Volume 15:Issue 06

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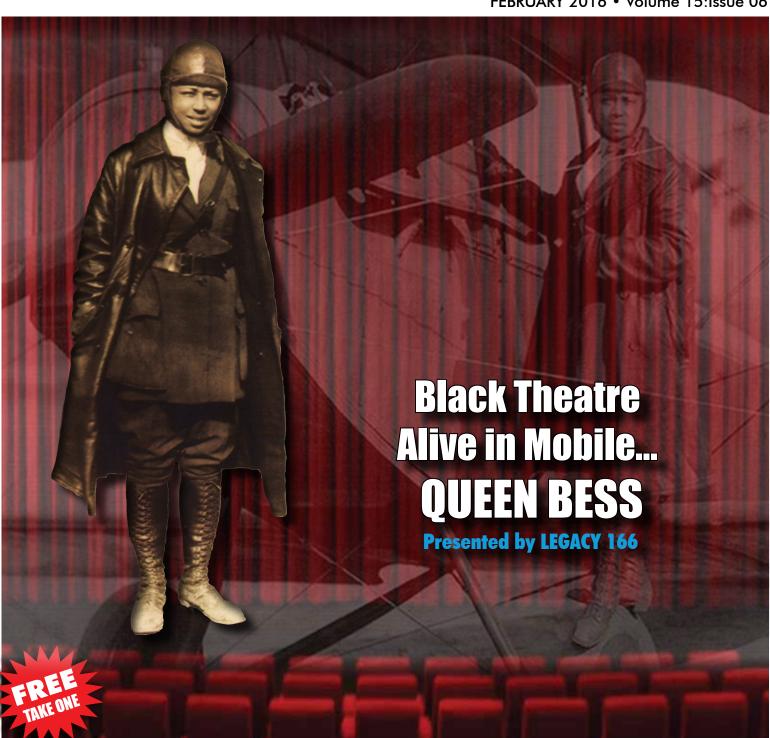


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ABOUT STEPPIN' OUT...

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

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REFLECTION

The Farmer and The Baker

There was a farmer who sold a pound of butter to the baker. One day the baker decided to weigh the butter to see if he was getting a pound and he found that he was not. This angered him and he took the farmer to court. The judge asked the farmer if he was using any measure. The farmer replied, no Your Honor, I am primitive. I don't have a proper measure, but I do have a scale." The judge asked, "Then how do you weigh the butter?" The farmer replied "Your Honor, long before the baker started buying butter from me, I have been buying a pound loaf of bread from him. Every day when the baker brings the bread, I put it on the scale and give him the same weight in butter. If anyone is to be blamed, it is the baker!!!"

What is the moral of the story? We get back in life what we give to others. Whenever you take an action, ask yourself this question: Am I giving fair value for the wages or money I hope to make? Honesty and dishonesty become a habit. Some people practice dishonesty and can lie with a straight face. Others lie so much that they don't even know what the truth is anymore. But who are they deceiving?

Themselves!!!



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STEPPINOUTNEWS@AOL.COM

Native Mobilian Creates "The Perfect Mask For You"

Janice White-Burton is truly an artist with a passion for the arts. She had a reoccurring role in the television series, "In the Heat of the Night." Her first love has always been the arts and it is exemplified by the one of a kind masks that she creates for celebrity clients, local Mardi Gras organizations such as the Order of Mardi Gras Maskers, Inc., and other clients worldwide. Burton-White started designing masks along with her sister, Patricia White in 1981 for friends and private clients. She now is the owner of "The Perfect Mask for You." Some of her masks were on display at the Mobile Museum of Art for their "Art and Design of Mardi Gras" exhibit in 2014-2015.

Her clients have included Oprah Winfrey, Marla Gibbs, Jasmine Guy, Carol O'Connor, Hill Hall, Peabo Bryson, Jean Carne, and many others. Her sister, Patricia White, left the business to raise her children, however, White-Burton, continues to make her one of a kind masks for clients all over the world. Each mask is unique and none of them are duplicated. She said that "the inspiration for each mask comes from a combination of elements including, personalities, styles, the theme or purpose for the mask and color choices." White-Burton also noted that "combining these elements with the gift allows me to design the perfect mask."

This Mardi Gras season, many of her masks were used by members of the Order of Mardi Gras Maskers, Inc. during their ball held on January 29, 2016. The theme of the ball was "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and she created exquisite masks that made the opening truly seem like the characters portrayed were easing on down the road to the Land of Oz.

The Cowardly Lion

Dorothy

Citizen of Emerald City

For more information about this artist, please visit her website at www.theperfectmaskforyou.com -or- contact Harrietta Eaton: 251-454-7513 or hfeaton@aol.com.

Pork & Politics in the Park



Don't miss this opportunity to "ham it up" with local, state and federal officials to find out where they stand on critical legislative issues.

Tuesday, February 16 USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$25 per person. No refunds after Feb. 12.

For reservations, contact Carolyn Hunt at (251) 431-8621 or email chunt@mobilechamber.com with payment information.

Sponsored By: Alabama Power Co. • Austal • Chevron • C-Spire • Hargrove Engineers + Constructors • Mobile Airport Authority Mobile Area Association of Realtors • Mobile Gas • VTMAE

Venue: USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park | Photography: The Jim Owen Studio | Dessert: Cokes by Judi | Catering: Honeybaked Ham Co. | Beverage: Buffalo Rock and Gulf Distributing

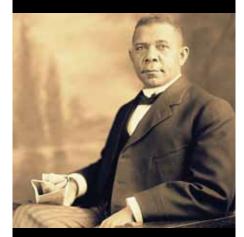
This event has been approved by the State of Alabama Ethics Commission for participation by elected officials and government employees.

MOBILE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT

BOOKER T WASHINGTON His Life & Legacy

SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 14 • 2 PM Bernheim Hall/Ben May Main Library 701 Government Street



Local author Paulette Horton who wrote Death in 60 Days: Who Silenced Booker T. Washington will be joined on stage

by Marshall Washington-Cabiness Abuwi, the great grandson of Booker T. Washington, for a review of the life and legacy of the African-American educator, author, orator, and advisor to presidents of the United States. Following the presentation there will be a Q & A and book signing. Mr. Washington-Cabiness Abuwi is the author of numerous books, short stories and articles. He is a historical writer, lecturer and motivational speaker.

He has described the social reformation and educational philosophies of his great-grandfather, Booker T. Washington in his new book, Booker T. Washington and the Black Revolution. For more information, please contact Ms. Horton at 251-377-5040. This program is sponsored by Working with the Hands, LLC and the Mobile Public Library. Working with the Hands, LLC can be followed on Facebook.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT

LEGACY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN ALABAMA A Public Talk with Frve Gaillard

TUESDAY • FEBRUARY 16 • 6:30 PM Bernheim Hall/Ben May Main Library 701 Government Street



Frye Gaillard explores historical incidents and civil rights issues featured in his book Cradle of Freedom: Alabama and the Movement That Changed America and focuses on the history and ongoing legacy of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama. In response to many of the works from the exhibition, History Refused to Die, Gaillard draws from his historical research and first-hand experiences as a reporter for the Charlotte Observer in the 1960s to explore how these artworks help to build understanding of and compassion for the victims of hate crime and institutional racism.

Frye Gaillard is the University of South Alabama Writer in Residence, a position jointly supported by the Department of Communication and the Department of English. He is the author of 19 works of non-fiction, including Cradle of Freedom: Alabama and the Movement That Changed America, winner of the 2005 Lillian Smith Award for best southern non-fiction, and the 2007 non-fiction Book of the Year recognition from the Alabama Library Association.

This program is sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama Contemporary Art Center, and Mobile Public Library.

THE REAL ENEMY — THE INNER ME

by A.D. McKinley

Understanding Obedience and **Honor**

Obedience is the act of obeying someone's authority (God, parents, family, teachers, and supervisors). To be obedient requires discipline, and discipline requires self-control.

Please move out of your on way, let the past be the past and walk into your destiny. Admit to your wrong doing and deciding to CHANGE and win your life back with a New Perception. You are worth the work you invest into YOU.

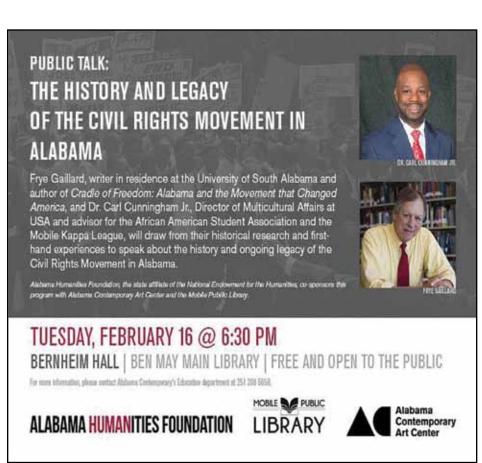
As youngsters, we believe the statement, "Parents just don't understand," by Will Smith. The truth is that parents and authority figures do understand and it is/was their desire for US to do better than them. Go apologize for not listening. You know better NOW. This is Love.

As human beings, it is very important to value obedience and do things that are positive. Positive behaviors will promote positive rewards. Why? Being obedient will save your life or someone else's one day. I believe that we are all inherently created to love and become wise.

Take the time to discover your inner self by meditation, watching positive media outlets, reading and speaking life to self and surrounding yourself with like minds and behaviors.

Your goals motivate and promote: relief, happiness, and peace of mind. Think positive and practice becoming your goals. Greatness is inside of YOU. YOU have to will it and put in the work. Practice makes perfect.

More Knowledge promotes better positive behavior. &



BLACK THEATRE Alive in Mobile

BY GREG CYPRIAN

African American culture is defined as the cultural contributions of African Americans to the culture of the United States, either as part of or distinct from American Culture. In the framework of that definition, many African Americans have been denied the recognition of their contributions because of the color of their skin. Ion the past, societal restraints did not allow for a Person of Color to receive the accolades for their successes that were showered upon others, and in many cases claimed by others. Those denials are reflected in most historical documents and books in this country which translates to a "people" not knowing their history.

Thankfully, the Arts have been always been an outlet to express culture and history and also, to educate.

This month starts a revival of Black Theatre in the Port City. The Mobile Theatre Guild steps "out of the box" for Black History Month to present "THE COLORED MUSEUM", a play by the award winning playwright, George C. Wolfe. A hilarious satire on the inner vision of Black stereotypes, this "serious" comedy will leave you in stitches while provoking serious thought on the influences of racism, and what it is like to be Black (Colored) in America.

The play is a series of 11 "exhibits" (sketches), and has been performed across the country and across the globe in venues such as the Royal Court Theatre in London, England. It has a long list of prominent actors such as Loretta Devine and Denitra Vance. The show can be seen at the Mobile Theatre Guild at 14 N. Lafayette Street each Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm from February 19 through March 6. For more information, go to www.mobiletheatreguild.org or call 251-433-7513.

The LEGACY 166 Arts, Cultural and Education (ACE) series will debut in March with the production **QUEEN BESS:**The Story of Bessie Coleman. Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman (January 26, 1892 – April 30, 1926) was the tenth of thirteen children born to sharecroppers George, who was part Cherokee, and Susan Coleman. She was the first female pilot of African American descent and is also the first Native American woman to hold a pilot license. She is also the first person of African American and Native American descent to hold an international pilot license. This production tells of her struggle and triumph to live her dream to in a world that was stacked against her because of her gender and her race.

Cleveland Actress Sherrie Tolliver who loves to combine history and acting plays this iconic woman. Said Tolliver, "The true-life stories of remarkable women are more fascinating and dramatic than most fictional portrayals of women presented in fictional work. I believe that these women have made such important and significant contributions to history and humanity, it's important to remember and value women's history and keep it vital and assessable to the public." The show can be seen at the Mobile Theatre Guild at 14 N. Lafayette Street on Saturday, March 26 at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm.

DAR HE: The Story of Emmett Till will debut on Saturday, May 14 and will feature North Carolina Native Mike Wiley. This will mark the second appearance in the Port City by Wiley who presented Brown vs. The Board of Education at Bishop State last year. This will be a two show presentation that features a matinee designed for students that is 50-minutes long and recommended for grades 8-up. The evening production is longer and designed for older audiences because of the subject matter.

The show can be seen at the Delchamps Theatre on the main campus of Bishop State Community College at 351 N. Broad Street on Saturday, May 14 at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm.

THE TRUE STORY OF HUEY P. NEWTON: Revolutionary, Political Activist, and PhD will close out the series.

Performed by veteran actor Alton Landry, this story chronicles the life of Newton, co-founder of the Black Panther party in 1966.

This production is the story of a organization and a complex man who the FBI and the media portrayed as villains. The group and the man only wanted equality for their people within a system that wanted their people to be humble, submissive and to support the status quo and a system that eventually forced them to defend themselves.

The show can also be seen at the Mobile Theatre Guild at 14 N. Lafayette Street on Saturday, June 18 at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm. and Group rates are available.

MARCH 26

2:30 pm and 7:30 pm

QUEEN BESS: The Story of Bessie Coleman

Mobile Theatre Guild • 14 N. Lafayette Street

FOR ALL LEGACY 166 SHOWS: Group Rates Available — For More Information: 251-533-5726 or www.legacy166.com

LOCAL FLAVA

ART NEWS

DAR HE-THE STORY OF EMMETT TILL

Saturday, february 20, 7 p.M., Sunday, february 21, 2:30 p.M., Delchamps theatre, main campus bishop state community college student life complex. In 1955, a 14-year old chicago youth traveled to the mississippi delta with country kinfolk and southern cooking on his mind. He walked off the train and into a world he could never understand - a world of thick color lines, hard-held class systems and unbreakable taboos. Ticket prices: \$15.00 Adults, \$10.00 Children. Reduced prices for groups of 5 or more: \$10.00 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

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.

MOBILE LIBRARY NEWS

CHESS CLUB

- Mondays, February 1, 15, 22 & 29 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.
- Tuesdays, February 16 & 23, 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, February 3, 10, 17 & 24, 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, February 4, 11, 18 & 25, 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.

OUT OF THIS WORLD BOOK CLUB-VIA SKYPE

Tuesday, February 2, 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 A Discovery of Witches by Deborah Harkness. 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.

AMERICAN GIRL BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 2, 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 Cecile's Gift. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call the Children's Department at 340-8571.

THE LUV CLUB

Thursdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25, 3:30-5 p.m., Girls ages 7-18, Toulminville Branch, 601 Stanton Rd. "Living Up to Values" for girls is a program designed to empower and encourage all girls through a variety of activities that include - crafts, games, music and special guests. Registration is encouraged. For more information or to register, please call 438-7075.

LITTLE DISCOVERIES WITH MR. WAYNE

Friday, February 5, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Ages 3 to 6, Ben May Main Library, 701 Government Street. Mr. Wayne from the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center presents lessons and projects fusing science and literature for preschool children. For more information, please call the Children's Department at 208-7086 or email crhodes@mplonline.org.

EBONY MOMENTS BOOK CLUB

Thursday, February 11, 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 After the Dance: My Life with Marvin Gaye by Jan Gaye. For more information, contact Betty Kidd at 470-7766.

SMART COOKIE MOVIE:

Friday, February 12, 10:30 a.m., Ben May Main Library, 701 Government Street. Alexander & the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day; Judith Viorst's acclaimed children's book is brought to the big screen. The tale recounts a day in the life of a grumpy young boy who has everything go wrong, all in one day. The film runs 81 minutes and is rated PG. For more information, please call the children's department at 208-7086 or email crhodes@mplonline.org.

MOVIE TIME WITH MR. BUTCH-DISNEY FAVORITES

Friday, February 12, 4 p.m., Moorer/Spring Hill Branch, 4 South McGregor Ave. The feature is Mulan. The film runs 90 minutes and is rated G. For more information, please call 470-7770 or email ftigner@mplonline.org.

EXTRAVAGANT READERS BOOK CLUB

Saturday, February 13, 3 p.m., Toulminville Branch, 601 Stanton Rd. Topics of discussion are All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr and After the Dance: My Life with Marvin Gaye by Jan Gaye. For more information, please call 438-7075.

MOVIE @ MAIN

Saturday, February 13, 3 p.m., Ben May Main Library, 701 Government Street. Adapted from the bestselling novel by author John Green, Paper Towns is a coming-of-age story centering on Quentin and his enigmatic neighbor Margo, who loved mysteries so much she became one. Film runs 109 minutes and is rated PG-13. For more information, please call the Ben May Main Library Children's Department at 208-7086.

POETRY ENTHUSIASTS

Monday, February 15, 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.

THE READER'S CHOICE BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 16, 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 The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown. For more information, please call 208-7097.

(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



WHAT IS HOME?

Some of the common answers are; family, safety, comfort, peace, and community.

One of the amazing things about homelessness is that most people will never be homeless. Overall, homelessness is rare. Regardless of their situation; extreme poverty, untreated mental illness, drug and alcohol abuse – these things do not automatically lead to homelessness. In fact, most of the people with these factors will never become homeless.

You see, homelessness, it's not what you think. When most people think of a homeless person, they have a definite idea in their head – a stereotype about what that person is like. We think we know. How they got there, what their bad habits are, how smart or educated they are, the list is there and complete. But to be a compassionate society, we have to have the courage to look beyond our fixed ideas. It takes courage because to do so – to not blame the victims – we have to accept our own vulnerability to the circumstances that cause people to spiral into these circumstances.

While a few of our neighbors without addresses sometimes meet the stereotype, most of them just don't. They have degrees and jobs. Almost all of them have some kind of income. They did not choose to be homeless because they "don't want to follow the rules"; most of the time they were just like you and me. They worked, they volunteered, they had bank accounts and other trappings of a typical existence. Then something happened. Someone became sick and the medical bills were too much, they were missing work for appointments then they lost their job. The job market wasn't good in their field and no one would hire them for other work due to being overqualified. Or maybe their job ended due to the economy and they could not become adequately employed. Maybe they had to move into their car with their children following a divorce.

Homelessness it's not what we think it is. None of us is immune, and each of us is dependent on the mercy of each other. What separates us from those who struggle with homelessness is our ignorance, fear, and avoidance. However, I believe that Mobile can do better. I believe that this community has the ability to end homelessness because homelessness is not an agency issue, it's a community issue. We have the ability to understand that we are all in this boat together. We are all there but for the Grace of God.



Nominations for EXCEPTIONAL YOUTH OF THE MONTH

Mobile Gas Service Corporation is accepting nominations to recognize the area's exceptional youth of Mobile and Baldwin Counties. They are searching for students in either elementary or middle school who have made their communities a better place to live.

Each month during the 2016 Mobile BayBears Baseball season at Hank Aaron Stadium, Mobile Gas will recognize a student who will also receive 20 tickets to the game. Each guest will receive a free hot dog and drink. Please share this information with as many parents as possible. The deadline is March 18, 2016.

For an application or more information email kesdavis@mobile-gas.com.



JAMS PLUS MEDIA

Anders Osborne's 4TH Holiday Spectacular

December 18-19, 2015Review and Photos By: Beth Childs



Anders Osborne played host to an all star cast with two (2) sold out shows at Tipitinas for his 4th annual Holiday Spectacular in his hometown of New Orleans. Friday night he was joined on stage by Blues Traveler front man and harmonica master John Popper and fellow Southern Soul Assembly member JJ Grey. The show included originals by each artist with clever cover choices thrown into the pot. Osborne opened the show off with original tunes "Old Country" and "Back Together". "Five Bullets", a song about gun violence in New Orleans, was a stand out in set one. Popper played his wildly popular 90's hits "Hook" and "Run Around". He also joined Osborne on "Coming Down" a rich, poignant song about overcoming the struggles of addiction. JJ Grey expressed his admiration for Osborne saying "This guy is like Santa Claus to me. He just gives and gives and gives. He brightens up the world." Grey played crowd favorites "99 Shades of Crazy" and "Brighter Days". He also led the crowd into a sing along of Osborne's funky reggae original "Marmalade". Grateful Dead song "Going Down The Road Feelin' Bad" was also stirred into the mix and a saucy rendition of Muddy Waters' "Mannish Boy" closed the show.

Saturday night Osborne welcomed guitar guru, Jackie Greene and mandolin bluegrass pioneer, Sam Bush. Osborne opened the show with "Echoes of my Sins" and "Back to Mississippi", both of which showcase favorful and innovative guitar style. Bush added texture to "Lafayette" with a crisp mandolin solo. Greene rocked Spread-Heads into a full on hippie shuffle with his soulful cover of JJ Cale's "Traveling Light". A nod was given to the late great Allen Toussaint with "Get Out my life my Woman" (a personal favorite). Osborne kicked the 2nd set into to high gear with his rocking classic "Charlie Parker". Sam Bush brought the heat with "Same Ole Blues". Kirk Joseph and Kevin Harris of Dirty Dozen Brass Band joined the stage adding even more favor to Osborne's sticky roux. All the while some of New Orleans' tastiest musicians kept the show at a steady rockin' rollin' boil (i.e. Carl Dufrene Jr.-Bass; John Fohl-guitar; John "Papa" Gros-Piano/Keys, Chad Cromwell-drums). Needless to say, Anders Osborne and friends served up a smokin' hot helping of some mighty fine music gumbo leaving his audience nothing short of satisfied. *

REVIEWS - REVIEWS

JAMS PLUS MEDIA

Mobile, Music, and the Holidays 2015

Written by Clayton and Rosemary A.W. Roberts

We do not always get what we want in life, but during the Holidays in Mobile, AL you can count on Chris Spies delivering another installment of Mobile's Dead at Thanksgiving, and John Milham bringing the Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas to town in December. Well, this year was right on cue.

Thanksgiving brought Chris Spies and Mobile's Dead downtown, but this year with a twist. Not only was the all star band going to perform Grateful Dead tunes, especially meaningful with the 50th anniversary celebration of the Grateful Dead taking place this year; but they also went the extra mile, bringing out a true Thanksgiving tradition and covering some of The Band's Last Waltz tunes. The lineup consisted of Chris Spies, Albert Simpson, Ben Jernigan, Donna Hall (Wet Willie), Aron Wilkinson (Honey Island Swamp Band), Kevin Scott, and Greg DeLuca. The event was held once again at The Brickyard and the event was stellar. The Southern Rambler's Michelle Stancil has shared some great photos of the event for us.

When December rolls around, chills are in the air for the Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas that John Milham has made an annual tradition. For this seventh annual concert, coinciding with the 50th Anniversary of the beloved animated classic, The Joe Cool Trio with John Milham (drums), Chris Spies (piano) and Chris Severin (bass) performed Vince Guaraldi's Soundtrack "A Charlie Brown Christmas". Follow-up sets would include Mobile's own The Hall Family Christmas (featuring Jimmy & Donna Hall from Wet Willie). Plus, special guests Jennifer Hartswick (trumpet player and vocalist for the Trey Anastasio Band) and Christopher Spies Jr. (sax) would join the soiree, performing their favorite Christmas tunes.

The show was absolutely incredible from start to finish. Many people truly don't understand the incredible talent pool that Mobile has to offer to the music and arts of the world. Catt Sirten stated this so eloquently when presenting the acts as they rolled across the stage, thanking local baseball professional pitcher Jake Peavy (San Francisco Giants) for supporting the concert, and AL.com journalist Lawrence Specker for helping raise awareness of Mobile's shining stars. The Joe Cool Trio could play any stage as the words that come to mind are 'true professionals on their instruments'. Chris Severin laid down some thick heavy vibes on his upright bass; John Milham never ceases to amaze with his laidback yet so-precise drumming; and Chris Spies can rock any keys, but sounded absolutely beautiful stretching out melodies on the grand piano.

Jennifer Hartswick blows that horn like no tomorrow, and during the second set her voice echoed throughout the Saenger Theatre bringing sultry beauty to "White Christmas" and "Merry Christmas, Baby". Meanwhile Christopher Spies Jr. continues to flourish on sax: musical genes run strong in the Spies family! Always a pleasure to see them play; and THEN (speaking of strong musical genes) the Hall Family Christmas program followed. If you are from Mobile, as Catt stated, you are either in the family by Blood or Love. Jimmy Hall is so amazing and yes, he and his family played some Wet Willie tunes, including "Country Side of Life" and "Keep on Smiling". Plus, they treated us to many great Christmas gospels and favorites. Jimmy's voice was angelic for "O Holy Night", and he and his sisters Donna Hall, Cindy Hall McQuillen, and Susie Hall Hewitt brought extra helpings of soul for "Go Tell It On the Mountain" and "Silent Night". With children and grandchildren joining with instruments and voices, it really was a family celebration, and the audience certainly left the Saenger feeling very merry and bright!

Dear Mobile: always remember what we have right here in our own backyard to offer our ears and senses in regards to some of the finest music in the world. Be grateful for our top-notch homegrown music, and support live musical performances every chance you get! See you next year!!









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

Changing the Narrative

In past articles, I've discussed ideas and projects that I'd like to see in Mobile that can help propel the city further along in its growth and revitalization. Another factor that is necessary is for us to change the narrative we have about Mobile. We should champion the Mobile we'd like to see and dwell less on what it doesn't have. We have to work at making Mobile be the city we desire it to be. Working to resolve the problems by getting involved, helping others and turning negatives into positives are ways to achieve this goal. These efforts include improving our schools, invigorating our neighborhoods, energizing our services and highlighting our attractions. It also means holding elected officials accountable for providing leadership and following through on promises to make the city, county and state better.

Keeping the talent in the city and nurturing that talent can make the city viable as a great place to live, work and play. We should embrace newcomers and visitors to the city who have ideas and the desire to get involved in making Mobile a city we all can be proud of. When this energy is working successfully, it will help draw back the talent that has left the city and make Mobile a destination for others to visit.

For too long, Mobile has had the reputation of a sleepy town without much to offer besides Mardi Gras. We have to be more focused and aggressive in promoting ourselves in order to be competitive with other cities in the region and the nation. Recent developments and investments in downtown have indicated that the city is trying to change the narrative and is taking steps to become a modern, progressive city with more to offer.

Those who wish to see better things in Mobile have to work at being ambassadors for the city. Let your voices speak out for the positives that the city offers and stop focusing so heavily on the negatives. You hold the key to helping outsiders learn about the city and appreciate its rich cultural heritage and history. Mobile offers many things that we take for granted; Great historic neighborhoods, thriving seaport, low taxes, affordable housing, good climate (despite the heat and humidity), and residents who represent the best in southern hospitality.

Speaking of southern hospitality, I want to give a shout out to Laurinia Parker and George Moore, two of the concierges at the Battle House Renaissance Hotel. They welcome guests to the hotel in a manner that exemplifies the best of Mobile hospitality. There are many others like them at other businesses downtown thatmake guests and residents feel welcome by offering smiles, service and information about the city. It is these qualities coupled with the things mentioned earlier that gives the city its flavor and helps to set it apart from similar places in the South.

Let's all change the narrative and build on past successes while maintaining the ambiance and culture that is unique to Mobile. \clubsuit







FEBRUARY 2016

INSIDE EDUCATION

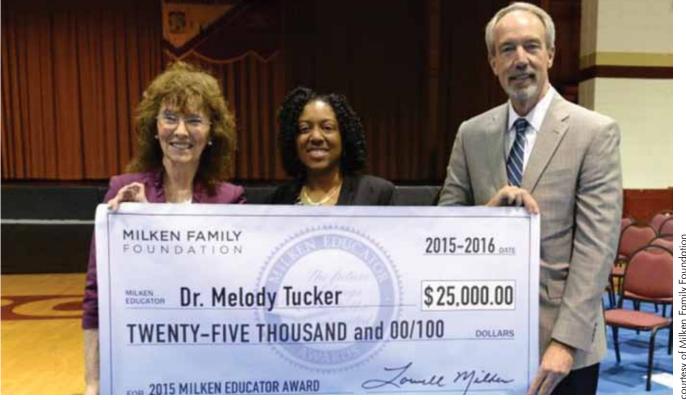
WITH MOBILE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



MARCIE MCNEAL
DIGITAL MEDIA SUPERVISOR
Telecommunications
Mobile County Public School System



Citronelle Educator Gets Exemplary Teaching Award



Dr. Jane Foley (Milken Representative) • Dr. Melody Tucker (Award Recipient) • Dr. Tommy Bice (State Superintendent)



Dr. Melody Tucker SCIENCE TEACHER Citronelle High School



Imagine showing up for a normal work day, attending a meeting and receive a check for \$25,000 just for being exceptional at doing what you love. This actually happened to Citronelle High School science teacher Dr. Melody Tucker.

Dr. Tucker was the recipient of the national Milken Educator Award. The award is considered the "Oscar" of teaching and Dr. Tucker was the only winner in Alabama. She was completely surprised to receive the prestigious award, it is not an award that you can apply or be nominated for, and the Milken committee seeks out exemplary educators whose go above and beyond in the teaching profession with long-range and accomplishments and leadership.

"I'm very surprised. I didn't know anything about it," Tucker said of winning.
"But I'm glad not only that I'm receiving this award but that Citronelle High School is getting so much recognition, because this is a wonderful school with wonderful students." On hand to present the award were several leaders in the community as well as State Superintendent Dr. Tommy Bice, Dr. Jane Foley of the Milken Family Foundation, Mobile County Public Schools Superintendent Martha Peek, Mobile County Commissioner Merceria Ludgood, and Citronelle Mayor Al McDonald.

"We know what the research tells us — that (teaching) is the variable that really does move children from Point A to Point B," Bice said. "It's just an opportunity —especially here in a place like Citronelle, that's a little off the beaten path— to recognize where greatness actually lives and breathes and the difference it's making for kids."

The Milken Educator Award was established by Lowell Milken in 1987 and has been presented to more than 2,600 educators across the country. "At the Milken Foundation, we believe educators have the most important job in our country, because they have the responsibility of preparing you for a bright future," said Dr. Foley. "Research and our own personal experience tell us that the single most important education element determining how much you will learn in school is the quality of the educators you will encounter each year."

Dr. Tucker joins the Mobile County Public Schools club of Milken winners from previous years which consists of five other educators-Jennifer Olewnik of Grand Bay Middle (2013), Stephanie LeGrone, currently MCPSS science supervisor and former Mary G. Montgomery HS a teacher (2009); Lynn McCain, formerly of J.E. Turner Elementary and Semmes Middle (2006); Mike Fletcher of Davidson High (2003); and Scott Nelson of Baker High (1998).

"It is exciting to have the work of an outstanding science teacher recognized," said Mobile County Public Schools Superintendent Martha Peek. "Dr. Melody Tucker is a leading teacher who inspires and motivates students to be engaged learners in the classes she teaches. She is most deserving of this national award."

Growing up in a family of educators she always had a love for learning. When I was in middle school and high school, I had wonderful teachers who made me love science and learning," Tucker says. "I wanted to make it my lifelong goal to share my love of learning and hopefully inspire other students to have the same thing."





QUEEN BESS: The Story of Bessie Coleman

March 26 @2:30 pm March 26 @7:30 pm

MOBILE THEATRE GUILD 14 N. Lafayette Street

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MAY 14 @2:30 PM & @7:30 PM DAR III: The Story of Emmit III

Delchamps Theatre/Bishop State Community College MIKE WILEY PRODUCTIONS

In 1955, a 14-year-old black Chicago youth traveled to the Mississippi Delta with country kinfolk and southern cooking on his mind. He walked off the train and into a world he could never understand — a world of thick color lines, hard-held class systems and unspeakable to



Performance by MIKE WILEY

JUNE 18 @2:30 PM & @7:30 PM

The True Story of Huey P. Newton: Revolutionary, Political Activist, PhD

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



//MO

READING

"WHAT

This feature represents collaboration between Steppin' Out, Timbooktu, the Mobile Public Library, and the 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

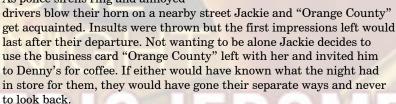
devotes two columns for book reviews; Ebony Moments features reviews from the library's book club list and "What I'm Reading Now" features reviews from submissions by TimBookTu and local authors. Please Note: "What I'm Reading Now" is not affiliated with the Mobile Public Library.

One Night

by Eric Jerome Dickey

"One Night" by Eric Jerome Dickey was a great read. Dickey stayed true to what he is known for, erotic encounters and plot twists. Dickey brought together an unlikely couple, a struggling actress and a wealthy business owner with skeletons in their closets; that they dare to let out. With lust, violence, jealousy, and revenge following the couple, they are in for an eventful night.

The story begins when a down on her luck Jackie approaches the gentleman known as "Orange County" throughout the book in an attempt to con him at a crowded gas station on a dreary evening. As police sirens ring and annoyed

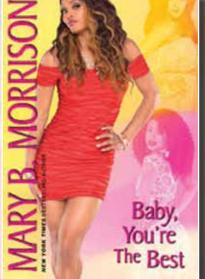


I will not spoil it for you, but Eric Jerome Dickey defiantly gave his fans what they were looking for with "One Night". &

Baby You're the Best

by Mary B. Morrison

Mary B. Morrison is back with a new series featuring the Crystal family. Blake Crystal has the best of almost everything. She's at the top of her game at work, she has four wonderful daughters, and at fifty, she's more financially secure than she's ever been. Blake also has a new younger lover who takes her in breathtaking directions in and out of the bedroom, her younger lover, Spencer. On the surface, Alexis Crystal is an ideal daughter. Confident and beauti ful, she can have any man or woman she wants, so she has both. She



doesn't even care that her next conquest is dating a family member. But she's left unsatisfied by one thing: her father is listed as unknown on her birth certificate. Alexis can't move forward with her life until she stands face-to-face with the man she felt abandoned her. It does not help that her three other sisters don't know the identity of their fathers either.

As the Crystal women celebrate Blake's big birthday, they realize the issues in their relationships are too big to ignore. To get what they want, they'll have to lie, use their seductive power, battle their insecurities, and if necessary, betray each other.

This book has everything from drama to scandal and the characters were created great. The storyline is very good and I am looking forward to reading the next book. This story continues in Book 2 due to be released July 26, 2016: Just Can't Let Go: The Crystal Series 2.

NOTE: Please join the Ebony Moments Book Club on Thursday, February 11, 6:00p.m. at the West Regional Branch Library, 5555 Grelot Road (Mobile). We will be discussing "After the Dance: My Life with Marvin Gaye" by Jan Gaye. &



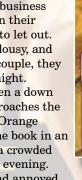
Betty Kidd

REVIEW

CLUB

BOOK

EBONY MOMENTS





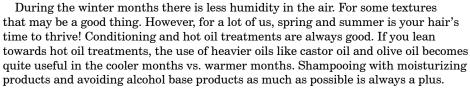
www.SteppinOutMobile.com PAGE 14 FEBRUARY 2016

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 be 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.



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 idea 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! •

Saturday Rabies Clinics Planned

The Mobile County Health Department provides low cost rabies shots for cats, dogs and ferrets during weekend clinics. Here's a list of the rabies clinics planned for Saturdays during February in Mobile County.

February 13 @1:30 - 4:00 p.m. —Pet Supplies Plus, 803 Hillcrest Road

February 20 @11:30 - 3:30 p.m.—St. Elmo Feed and Seed, 9001 Highway 90 West

February 27 @11:30 – 3:30 p.m.—Dauphin Island Town Hall, 1011 Bienville Blvd.

The cost of the rabies vaccine is \$10 per pet except at Pet Supplies Plus and St. Elmo Feed and Seed where the price is \$8. All shots are payable in cash only.

ABOUT RABIES

Rabies is a virus that attacks the central nervous system. It is transmitted from infected mammals to man and is fatal once symptoms appear. Symptoms of rabies include unusual behavior, irritability, headache, fever, inability to eat or drink, balance problems, circling, seizures, coma, and, finally, death. All warm-blooded mammals, including humans, are susceptible to rabies.

Exposure to rabies may be minimized by eliminating all stray cats and dogs; having pet dogs, cats and ferrets vaccinated; staying away from wild animals, especially those acting abnormally; and not keeping exotic or wild animals as pets, health officials said.



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Ask Flo!

DEAR FLO:

You know I like the answer you gave "Not Just The Other Woman"

last month about marriage being a binding contract between a man and a woman. But let me ask this - what if a person is totally fine with being #2 or is fine with sharing - meaning neither one is 1 or 2 - but more like 1 and 1? I ask this from an experience I had with a young lady I was seeing (Lavern) at the same time I was seeing some- one else (Shirley). I really liked Lavern and didn't feel like she should be #2 but had more history with Shirley so I choose to go with Shirley. I explained that to Lavern and her response was - let me make that decision if I want to continue to deal with you and Shirley. I took this to mean that she didn't mind being in a group relationship. I think some people can handle the group relationship and see nothing wrong with it - but it has to be 1 and 1 and not 1 and 2.

—Eric

DEAR ERIC:

There is a lot missing from this question. I would really have to know how Shirley felt about the situation. From what I can gather she did not know about Laverne. Also, it seems as if the only person truly benefiting from the arrangement was you. I would like to ask you to consider your selfish behavior. The fact that you feel that only your wants and needs matter is mind blowing to me. Please consider the fact that a relationship is built on trust and loyalty. A part of living as an adult is making a decision and seeing it through. If Shirley was the woman you decided was the best person to pursue a relationship with then you should devote your time, resources, and commitment to her. If you are not ready to be in a monogamous relationship, I would suggest that you stop pretending with the Shirleys of the world and find you another Lavern and date single and free. It seems that you want total commitment from both of these women but the right to do as you please. Do you think that is a fair, kind, respectable way to enter any relationship? The thing I miss most is your willingness to take responsibility for the dishonest web you have weaved. I would suggest that you take a moment and evaluate your motivation. The road you are traveling of omission and deception can quickly end up on Heartbreak Street. If you are seeking freedom, start with the truth. If you desire love, remember it start with unselfishness; if you want love, share compassion. The answer starts with honesty. &

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

"Chiisai"







A new art exhibition, "Chiisai" (Japanese for "small"), is currently showing at the University of South Alabama Marx Library. The exhibit will be on display in the glass display cases in the Mary Elizabeth and Charles Bernard Rodning Gallery of Art on the third floor of the Library through February 29, 2016. This collection of art features small paintings and sculptural works by local artist Regina Doi-Kolleger. In Regina's 25 year career as an artist, she has painted murals and panels for public display in U.S. embassies, train stations, art walks, and museums. The work is large scale, sweeping and abstract. Yet, there is another side to her, something she calls "Chiisai" small and precious, perhaps child-like. In "Chiisai" she sculpts in wax and casts intricate bronze and precious metal jewelry and sculptures. Regina says, "I sculpt animals as I would like to play with them as a child. If in terracotta clay, my figures are spirits of preciousness within."

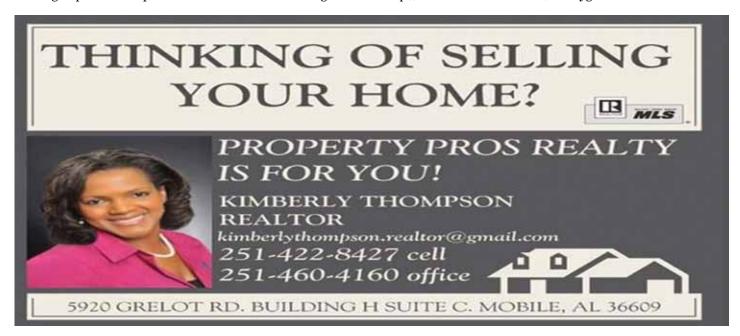
In this exhibit you will view rough castings and waxes, and have a glimpse into the process of "lost wax metal casting—a

process where, an originally sculpted wax is molded then, its model attached to a wax "tree" that reflects the eventual path of poured metal, that occurs in a metal foundry. You will also view sculptural terracotta excerpts from, "Building New York City" a public exhibition from the New York State Museum.

Regina Doi-Kollegger born in Tokyo, Japan is a painter and sculptor. Her fine art is influenced by her Eurasian heritage. Regina's work is displayed in both public and private collections and installations throughout the U.S. and the world, including Saratoga, Manhattan, East Hampton, NY, San Francisco, Austin TX, & Tokyo and Osaka Japan, Dubai and Brunei.

Today, Regina paints, sculpts and plays with her horses, puppies and her painter husband, Benno Kollegger at their studio farm on Heron Bayou, Mon Louis Island, Alabama.

All art exhibitions are free and open to the public during regular Library hours. For more information please visit http://www.southalabama.edu/librarygalleries.





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2016 Mardi Gras Schedule

JANUARY

09: SATURDAY	Krewe De La Dauphine	1:00 pm	DI
16: SUNDAY	Island Mystics	1:00 pm	DI
	Order of Rolling River	2:00 pm	DIP
22: FRIDAY	Conde Cavalier Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
23: SATURDAY	Bayport Parading Society	2:30 pm	Rte A
	Pharaohs Mystic Society Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
	Order of Hebe	7:00 pm	Rte A
	Conde Explorers	7:30 pm	Rte A
24: SUNDAY	Krewe de la Heron Lakes	2:00 pm	HL
	Prichard MGA Royal Coronation	6:00 pm	
27: WEDNESDAY.	Mystics of Ashland Place Parade	12:30 pm	AP
	Order of the Polka Dots Parade		Rte A
29: FRIDAY	Order of the Inca Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
	Apollo's Mystic Ladies Parade	6:45 pm	Daphne
	Prichard MGA Grand Marshall's Ball	9:00 pm	
30: SATURDAY	Hickory Ridge Kids Krewe	10:00 am	T. Cir.
	Mobile Mystics Parade	2:00 pm	Rte A
	Mobile Mystical Revelers	2:30 pm	Rte A
	Mamga Junior Court Luncheon	3:30 pm	
	Maids of Mirth Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
	Knights of Ecor Rouge Parade		Fhope
	Order of Butterfly Maidens Parade	7:00 pm	Rte A
	Krewe of Marry Mates Parade	7:30 pm	Rte A
31: SUNDAY	,		R. Dr.
	Crewe of Woo <mark>dmont</mark>	2:00 pm	Daphne
	Mamga Jr. Monarch's Coronation		
	Neptune's <mark>Daughter Parade</mark>		Rte A
	Order of Isis	7:00 pm	Rte A

FEBRUARY

O1. MONDAY	Order of Venus	6:30 pm	Rte A
UI: MUNDAI			
	Order of Many Faces	7:00 pm	Rte A
02. TUFSDAY	. Order of LaShe's Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
	order or Edding of Grade	minimore pin	
OA. THURSDAY	Order of Impalas	10.00 pm	St. Ig
U4: IIIUKSDAI			_
	Mystic Stripers Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
05: FRIDAY	. Crewe of Columbus Parade	6:30 pm	Rte A
	Mystical Order of Mirams Parade	6:30 pm	OB
	Maids of Jubilee Parade	6:45 pm	Fhope
	MAMGA Grand Marshall's Ball	10:00 pm	

06: SATURDAY	Krewe of Kids Parade	11:00 am	Prichard
	Foley Parade	11:00 am	Foley
	Mystic Revelers Parade		B.Min
	Krewe of Goats		Prichard
	MCA Floral Parade	12:00 pm	Rte A
	Knights of Mobile Parade		Rte A
	Mobile Cadets		Rte A
	Mobile Mystical Ladies Parade		Rte A
	Order of Angels Parade		Rte A
	Krewe of Mullet Mates	2:00 pm	M. Pte
The State of the	Mystics of Pleasure Parade	5:30 pm	OB
	Mystics of Time Parade	6:00 pm	Rte A
The State of	Coronation of King Felix III	6:30 pm	
	and Queen (Convention Center)		
DC LAN	Shadow Barons Parade	6:45 pm	Daphne
100	The second second		
07: SUNDAY	Arrival of K <mark>ing Elexis I</mark>	2:00 pm	
100	(@foot of Government Street)		
	Loyal Order of the Firetruck	2:00 pm	Daphne
PS Det	Joe Cain Parade		Rte A
100	Le Krewe de Bienville Parade		Rte A
	Coronation of King Elexis I	8:15 pm	C. Ctr
100	The state of the s	1000	
08: MONDAY	MCA King Felix III Parade		Rte A
	Floral Parade		Rte A
	Prichard MGA Parade		Prichard
-	MLK BCO Parade		Rte D
	MLK Monday Mystic Adult Parade		Rte D
	Northside Merchants Parade		Rte D
	Order of Mystic Magnolias Parade		Fhope
	Infant Mystics Parade	7:00 pm	Rte F
	Order of Doves	7:30 pm	Rte F



Gulf Shores Parade	10:00 am	GS
Order of Athena Parade	10:30 am	Rte A
Knights of Revelry Parade	12:30 pm	Rte A
King Felix Parade	1:00 pm	Rte A
Comic Cowboys Parade	1:30 pm	Rte A
Orange Beach Parade	2:00 pm	OB
MAMGA	2:00 pm	Rte B
Order of Myths Parade	6:30 pm	Rte C

MOBILE

CONCERTS

For King & Country, Matthew West, Crowder, Lauren Daigle, Red, NewSong, Sidewalk Prophets, Stars Go Dim, We Are Messengers, Trip Lee-Mitchell Center, 2/4 St. Paul And The Broken Bones-Saenger Theatre, 2/5 Jeff Stice-Cottage Hill Baptist Church, 2/9 Katt Williams-Civic Center, 2/12 Seth Walker-Callaghan's, 2/14 Widespread Panic-Civic Center, 2/17 Heartless Bastards, Susto-The Merry Widow, 2/19 Trivium-Soul Kitchen, 2/20

MUSEUMS

—Exploreum

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

— Men's College Basketball

Bishop State vs. Alabama Southern, 2/4 Bishop State vs. Wallace, 2/11 Bishop State vs. Jefferson Davis, 2/22 Bishop State vs. Chattahoochee Valley, 2/24 Spring Hill vs. Lemovne-Owen, 2/15 Spring Hill vs. Central State, 2/18 Spring Hill vs. Kentucky State, 2/20 Spring Hill vs. West Florida, 2/24 Univ. of Mobile vs. Bethel, 2/11 Univ. of Mobile vs. Martin Methodist, 2/13 Univ. of Mobile vs. Loyola, 2/20 Univ. of Mobile vs. Spring Hill, 2/22 USA vs. Georgia State, 2/11 USA vs. Georgia Southern, 2/13

USA vs. Troy, 2/1 USA vs. La.-Monroe, 2/25 USA vs. La. Lafayette, 2/27

— Women's College Basketball

Bishop State vs. Alabama Southern, 2/4 Bishop State vs. Wallace, 2/11 Bishop State vs. Chattahoochee Valley, 2/24 Spring Hill vs. Lemoyne-Owen, 2/15 Spring Hill vs. Central State, 2/18 Spring Hill vs. Kentucky State, 2/20 Univ. of Mobile vs. Bethel. 2/11 Univ. of Mobile vs. Martin Methodist, 2/13 Univ. of Mobile vs. Trinity Baptist, 2/16 Univ. of Mobile vs. Loyola, 2/20 USA vs. Georgia State, 2/11 USA vs. Georgia Southern, 2/13 USA vs. Troy, 2/16 USA vs. La.-Monroe, 2/25 USA vs. La. Lafayette, 2/27

STAGE PLAYS

Dar He: The Story of Emmett Till-Bishop State's Delchamps Theatre, 2/20-21 The Colored Museum-Mobile Theatre Guild, 2/19-21, 26-28

Atlanta Ballet-Cobb Arts Centre, 2/5-7, 11-14

CONCERTS

Carrie Underwood, Easton Corbin, The Swon Brothers -Infinite Energy Center, 2/1 Collin Hay-Variety Playhouse, 2/5 Graham Nash-The Buckhead Theatre, 2/5 The Blind Boys of Alabama-Roswell Cultural Center, 2/6 Spanish Harlem Orchestra-Rialto Center, 2/6 For King & Country, Matthew West, Crowder, Lauren Daigle, Red, NewSong, Sidewalk Prophets, Stars Go Dim, We Are Messengers, Trip Lee-Georgia Dome, 2/6 Wilco, Girlpool-The Tabernacle, 2/10-11 Todd Rundgren-Center Stage, 2/12 Yonder Mountain String Band, Trout Steak Revival -Variety Playhouse, 2/12-13 John Pizzarelli, Jessica Molaskey-Woodruff Centre, 2/12-14

Anders Osborne, Amy Helm-Center Stage, 2/13 Michael Henderson, The Dramatics, Jean Carne-Rialto Bruce Springsteen & The E Street Band-Phillips Arena, 2/18 Bill Maher-Cobb Arts Centre, 2/19 Travis Tritt-Woodruff Centre, 2/19

Vince Gill, Lyle Lovett-Cobb Arts Centre, 2/20 Yanni-Fox Theatre, 2/20 Billy Cox, Buddy Guy, Zakk Wylde, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Jonny Lang, Dweezil Zappa, Eric Johnson, Keb' Mo', Chris Layton, Mato Nanji, Noah Hunt, Henri Brown -Fox Theatre, 2/27

Katt Williams-Phillips Arena, 2/27

Shemekia Coleman-Rialto Center, 2/27 Lizz Wright-The Buckhead Theatre, 2/28

Ringling Brothers Circus-Infinite Energy Center, 2/18-21, 24-28

The New York Metropolitan Opera-Spivey Hall, 2/6

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Europe-Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 2/5 Willie Nelson-IP Casino, Resort and Spa, 2/5-6 Pat Benatar & Joe Giraldo-Beau Rivage Resort, 2/6 Lou Gramm-Golden Nugget, 2/12 KC & The Sunshine Band-IP Casino, Resort and Spa, 2/13 George Thorogood & The Destroyers-IP Casino, Resort and Spa, 2/26 Arlo Guthrie-IP Casino, Resort & Spa, 2/27 Breaking Benjamin-Hard Rock Live, 2/27 Herman's Hermits with Peter Noone-Golden Nugget, 2/27

BRMINGHAM

CONCERTS

Diana Ross-BJCC Concert Hall, 2/5 Buckwheat Zydeco-WorkPlay Theatre, 2/6 Michael Henderson, Ray Parker Jr., George Johnson, The Dramatics, Jean Carne-Bill Harris Arena, 2/6 Brian McKnight-Alys Stephens Center, 2/11 Anders Osborne-WorkPlay Theatre, 2/12 Fantasia, Leela James-BJCC Concert Hall, 2/14 Vince Gill, Lyle Lovett-Alabama Theatre, 2/19

TobyMac, Britt Nicole, Building 429, Colton Dixon, Capital Kings, Finding Favor, Hollyn-BJCC Concert Hall, 2/19 "Chicago"-BJCC Concert Hall, 2/19-21 Lizz Wright-Alys Stephens Center, 2/23 Don Williams-The Lyric Theatre, 2/27 Melissa Etheridge-Jemison Concert Hall, 2/27 Randy Newman-The Lyric Theatre, 2/28

CONCERTS

Dave Mason-House of Blues, 2/2 Naughty By Nature-Republic New Orleans, 2/2 Grand Funk Railroad-Morial Convention Center, 2/7 Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue-Tipitina's Uptown, 2/7 Chris Brown, Omarion, August Alsina-Smoothie King Center, 2/12

Sommore, Mike Epps, Tommy Davidson, Gary Owen, Earthquake -Lakefront Arena, 2/19 Melissa Etheridge-Orpheum, 2/24

Jeff Floyd, Sir Charles Jones, Theodis Ealey, Tucka -Lakefront Arena, 2/27

Peppa Big Live-Mahalia Jackson Theatre, 2/12

SPORTS — Pro Basketball

Pelicans vs. Memphis Grizzlies, 2/1

Pelicans vs. LA Lakers, 2/4

Pelicans vs. Utah Jazz, 2/10

Pelicans vs. Philadelphia 76'ers, 2/19

Pelicans vs. OKC Thunder, 2/25

Pelicans vs. Minnesota Timberwolves, 2/27

(continued on Page 22... see CALENDER)

Summer Intern Program Available to Youth and Employers

Mobile County will be offering a Youth Employment Intern Program this summer that will be available to all area youth. The student deadline to apply for this opportunity is March 20, 2016. This will be the 4th year of the program. The program lasts for five weeks which includes one week of intensive classroom training and four weeks of on-the-job performance.

The interns will be paid through the Summer Youth Employment Internship Program and will work a 40-hour week with a pay rate at or above \$8 per hour. The program typically runs during June and July. The interns will receive job readiness training at the University of South Alabama. The training modules include customer service, telephone etiquette, business etiquette and writing, Microsoft Office, conflict and time management and business math.

Research shows that students need employment opportunities to prepare to seek career opportunities. This program gives great employment opportunity! The youth application can be found at: http://groovetheorydesigns.com/mobileintern. Download and complete the fillable pdf Intern application. Print, sign and mail completed application package to the address at the bottom of the application.

WHY SHOULD EMPLOYERS PARTICIPATE?

This program responds to the on-going community needs for workforce development initiatives and summer employment opportunities for the young adults, 17.5 – 22 years old. We invite Mobile County employers to participate in this workforce development initiative.

The only requirements are that employers provide impactful office work for the intern assigned to their site and that the employer serves as a mentor to the intern. All selected interns must be currently enrolled in school and meet the rigorous requirements of the program in addition to passing both a criminal background and 10-panel drug screenings.

Employers can download and complete the fillable pdf Employer application at http://groovetheorydesigns.com/mobileintern and mail to: Spherion, 12 S. Florida Street, 36606 or email: cherylwilliams@spherion.com.

County Commissioner Merceria Ludgood is the Program Sponsor. Ramona Hill and Cheryl Williams are the Program Facilitators.

FLAVA (continued from Page 06)

TUESDAY GREAT MOVIE ADVENTURE

Tuesday, February 16, 3:15 p.m., Parkway Branch, 1924-B Dauphin Island Parkway. Tomorrowland-When a scientifically minded teenager discovers a technologically advanced trinket that provides an astounding glimpse of the future, she enlists the help of a reclusive inventor to make Tomorrowland a reality today. The film runs 130 minutes and is rated PG. For more information, please call 470-7766.

MEET AUTHOR MARK JOHNSON

Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 p.m., West Regional Branch, 5555 Grelot Rd. What makes a fifty-year-old man quit a highly successful career in char¬ity work to take on the low-paid, dangerous job of being a police officer? Apprehensions & Convictions tells a personal story of how Mark Johnson overcame his own demons to find a new sense of purpose and identity in midlife. His story is of a man who found his courage and changed himself. Mark Johnson is a retired detective with the Mobile Police Department, where he was decorated several times for service and bravery. Prior to his police career, Johnson spent twenty years as a pub¬lic relations director and local executive director for the United Way. Following the presentation there will be a Q & A and book signing. For more information, please call 208-7097.

BAYSIDE BOOK CLUB

Thursday, February 18, 6 p.m., Parkway Branch, 1924-B Dauphin Island Parkway. This month's topic of discussion is The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier Clay by Michael Chabon. For more information, please call Betty Fowler at 476-2600 or 208-7097.

SATURDAY MATINEE

Saturday February 20, 2 p.m., Saraland Public Library, 111 Saraland Loop. Goosebumps; Jack Black stars as acclaimed Goosebumps writer R.L. Stine in this feature-film adaptation of the popular YA book series. A teenager named Zach reluctantly moves from New York City to the quiet town of Madison, DE, where he quickly realizes that his reclusive new neighbor is in fact the horror author of the Goosebumps series. The film runs 103 minutes and is rated PG. For more information, please call 675-2879.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN READ-IN

Monday through Thursday, February 22-25, Toulminville Branch, 601 Stanton Rd. Fun for the Entire Family; Come out and join our special guests as we celebrate Black Heritage in reading, poetry, storytelling and songs. For more information or a complete schedule of events, please call 438-7075.

MOVIE DAY

Monday, February 29, 3:15 p.m., Parkway Branch, 1924-B Dauphin Island Parkway. August Rush-Estranged from his parents by circumstance and nudged toward a foster family, a young boy seeks out his long-lost folks and discovers prodigious musical talent. The film runs 114 minutes and is rated PG. For more information, please call 470-7766.

CLASSICS REVISITED BOOK CLUB

Monday, February 29, 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 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum. 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

BLACK HISTORY MONTH THEME — Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African American Memories

FEBRUARY 06 — AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN

The story of the Black Experience – from the Civil War to the Civil Right's movement all told from the memories of a fictional 110 year old slave.

FEBRUARY 12 — 4 LITTLE GIRLS

The Story of four young girls who paid the price for a nation's ignorance.

FEBRUARY 19 — UNDER GROUND RAILROAD

It had no rails, no phantom trains, no shadowy subterranean tunnels. But for those "passengers" who successfully traveled what came to be known as the Underground Railroad, there was a very real destination: Freedom. For those who failed; a return to the living nightmare of slavery.

FEBRUARY 26 — HARRIET TUBMAN

From 1849 to 1860, in 17 dangerous missions to the Confederate South, she helped more than 300 slaves escape to freedom.

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JANUARY & PASSINGS





NATALIE COLE-65 SINGER • Heart Failure



NFL PLAYER
Bears, Saints



R&B SINGER The Whispers



ACTOR
The Godfather



NOREEN CORCORAN-72

ACTRESS

Bachelor Father

CARDIOPULMONARY DISEASE



SINGER
Tower of Power
HEART ATTACK



WILLIAM GUEST-74
SINGER
Gladys Knight & the Pips
HEART FAILURE



DAN HAGGERTY-7
ACTOR
Grizzly Adams
SPINAL CANCER



PAT HARRINGTON JR-86
ACTOR
One Day at a Time
FALL/ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE



MLB PLAYER
Mariners, Athletics
HEART ATTACK



MEADOWLARK LEMON-8

BASKETBALL PLAYER

Harlem Globetrotters



RICHARD LIBERTINI-82
ACTOR
CANCER



DAVID MARGULIES-78
ACTOR
Ghostbusters



RED PARKER-84
FOOTBALL COACH
OLE MISS



LAWRENCE PHILLIPS-40 NFL PLAYER RAMS



ALAN RICKMAN-69
ACTOR
HARRY POTTER, DIE HARD
PANCREATIC CANCER



WAYNE ROGERS-8
ACTOR
M*A*S*H
PNEUMONIA



ANGUS SCRIMM-89 ACTOR Phantasm



JIM SIMPSON-8 SPORTSCASTER NBC Sports



ABE VIGODA-9

ACTOR

Barney Miller



ACTOR

Archie Bunker's Place

NOW HEAR THIS! USS ALABAMA Living History Crew Drill



The USS ALABAMA Living History Crew, made up of historical reenactors who demonstrate life aboard the USS ALABAMA during World War II, will be aboard ship this weekend!

Saturday-February 27 and Sunday-February 28

Among the activities scheduled for the weekend will be a weapons briefing that will explain the types of weapons used aboard the Battleship. Weather permitting, guests will witness a general quarters rush to battle stations as "enemy" aircraft simulate an air attack by vintage airplanes at Noon on Saturday. Sailors will man the guns and repel the assault. Among the weapons demonstrated will be the firing of the restored twin 40MM Bofor pompom guns mounted on the rear of the ship and the introduction of the newly restored 20MM Oerlikon guns which have also been converted to propane for firing. Damage control teams will perform a fire suppression drill as Corpsmen evacuate "wounded" sailors.

USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park is located at 2703 Battleship Memorial Parkway. Our hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily. Admission is \$15 for children 12 years old to adults, \$6 for children ages 6 to 12, and complimentary for children up to 5 years of age. Active military personnel are admitted free of charge. There is a \$2 per car park entry fee.

For more information on the USS ALABAMA Living History Crew please call Tony Watson, (256)630-9634 or Chip Dobson, (251)476-3448.

For more information on the USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park please visit our website at www.ussalabama.com or visit our Facebook page. •

CALENDAR (continued from Page 19)

STAGE PLAYS

Kinky Boots-Saenger, 2/16-21

Grizfolk-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/18

Don Williams-Saenger, 2/18

PERSAGOVA

BALLET

Sleeping Beauty-The Moscow National Festival -Saenger, 2/22

CONCERTS

Yonder Mountain String Ban, Trout Steak Revival-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/3 For Today, Like Moths To Flames, Phinehas, Vanna-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/4 Agent Orange, In The Whale-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/6 Hawthorne Heights, The Ataris, Mest, Handguns, London Falling-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/8 Martin Sexton-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/14 Ballyhoo!-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/16 Molly Ringwald-Vinyl Music Hall, 2/19

STAGE PLAY

Annie-Saenger, 2/2 In The Mood-Saenger, 2/13 Stomp-Saenger, 2/23 The Lady With All The Answers-Saenger, 2/24

SYMPHONY

Pensacola Symphony-Saenger, 2/13

SIMBIII

CONCERTS

Will Kimbrough-Blue Moon Farm, 2/6

TUSCALOOSA

CONCERTS

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

THINKING OUTSIDE OF THE BOX

Arthur L. Mack

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Mobile, Alabama
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Total Craziness

January has been one crazy, I repeat, one CRAZY month.

From Black actors and actresses once again being shut out of being nominated for the Oscars, from actress Stacy Dash (who happens to be Black and a commentator for Fox News) shooting off her mouth about why Black History Month should be abolished and questioning the necessity of having Black Entertainment Television, to the grievous situation regarding drinking water in Flint, Michigan, this has been indeed one CRAZY month.

A lot of people are up in arms about Dash's comments, and rightfully so. After all, this lady, who starred in the 80s movie Clueless, certainly lived up to the movie's name when she fired her verbal salvos. Apparently, she has a very short memory, because she was featured in a lot of music videos which were (drum roll, please) aired on BET.

In fact, it was because of BET that she was able to get some exposure. Man, how quickly one forgets where they come from! I hope she was satisfied, because if it was attention she wanted when she dissed BET and wanted to blow off Black History Month, she certainly got it.

Beyond that, I respect her opinion. I'm not mad at her, even though guys such as me—who made it a point to learn as much as possible about Black History, not only in February, but throughout the year—should be. If she wants to make a fool out of herself, that's cool. And, surprisingly, I'm not too torn up about Blacks shut out of being nominated for Oscars, even though I'm somewhat disappointed.

See, when you been around as long as I have, you have to expect this sort of craziness to happen. Deep down inside, you know that things are not going to turn out the way you and I hope, because there are so, so many things working against us.

Hence, the importance of a BET, as well as Centric, TvOne, the Oprah Winfrey Network, and so forth. Sure, it would be great if all of these networks had even more variety when it comes to programming, but hey, one step at a time, right? With BET, there is especially room for improvement.

This brings me to the Flint water crisis.

It's hard to believe, but to my knowledge, there has not been as much of an outcry about that as much as the Oscars, but the situation in Flint—at least to me anyway—is 20 times more crucial than any awards show. One may be dealing with accomplishments, but the other is dealing with people's lives.

Children being diagnosed with lead poisoning... thousands of bottles of water being handed out to people as if it was a crisis in a third world country... the finger-pointing about who's to blame for the situation. All the while, instead of a national outcry from ordinary people, the majority of that outcry has come from Flint.

Sure, Cher donated 180,000 bottles of water, but what have we, ordinary people done? Have we organized movements to send bottled water to Flint? Hopefully, by the time this article is printed, I certainly hope we have. Better yet, we need to look at ways to look at infrastructures throughout the country.

We can sit back in the comforts of our home, look at what is happening in Flint, and say 'Wow, that's terrible," but we're going on with our lives instead of joining the outcry and wanting to do something about it. And I will tell you this—who knows what else my happen if a situation such as the one in Flint occurs? It can happen, you know.

The bottom line is this—while people are up in arms about actors and actresses not being nominated for a gold statue, there's a bigger problem—the breakdown of government when it comes to protecting its citizens. That alone should create more of an outcry than any awards show. •

MARKETING YOUR WAY TO SUCCESS

Nathaniel Patterson...Managing Partner, The Patterson Group. He writes to empower 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.



15 Steps to Achieving Your Networking Goals

Ever wonder why networking works for some and not for you? There is not a magic formula but there are some proven methods that will enhance your goals (employment, contracts, and referrals).

- 1. HAVE A PLAN Be very specific about what you want. Have a profile of the people who can assist you in obtaining it. Identify efficient networking groups
- 2. PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT Prepare and practice your elevator speech (30 to 60 seconds).
- 3. POSITIONING How do you want people to see you? Check your attitude, attire, body language and speech.
- 4. INVEST IN YOURSELF Do not break the bank but do dress for success. Purchase a metallic name badge and business cards.
- 5. ORGANIZE YOUR SYSTEM Set up database to manage your contacts by briefly documenting conversations.
- 6. BUILD YOUR NETWORK BEFORE YOU NEED IT Do not wait until you have a need to start networking. It is a year round activity that yields results with patience and diligence.
- 7. READ PRINT MEDIA Read print media for people on the move, those who are achieving milestones. Send them a note and follow-up.
- 8. KEEP IT REAL Treat people like you want to be treated. Integrity and relationships trump.
- 9. HELPING NOT PIMPING Networking is about assisting others achieving their goals.
- 10. LEARN TO LISTEN Less 'I' and ask more questions.
- 11. TIME MANAGEMENT Organize your efforts.
- 12. FOLLOW-UP Be timely and concise.
- 13. UNDERSTAND NETWORKING SESSIONS Recognize who attends your gatherings.
- 14. UTILIZE SOCIAL MEDIA It is an efficient way to open relationships.
- 15. IDENTIFY A MENTOR Select someone who is successful and willing to give advice. \clubsuit

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK





THANKS... I NEEDED THATIII

A woman, Willie Mae, and a baby were in the doctor's examining room, waiting for the doctor to come in for the baby's first exam. The doctor arrived, and examined the baby, checked his weight, and being a little concerned, asked if the baby was breastfed or bottle-fed. "Breastfed", Willie Mae replied. "Well, strip down to your waist." The doctor ordered. She did. He pinched her nipples, pressed, kneaded, and rubbed both breasts for a while in a very professional and detailed examination. Motioning to her to get dressed, the doctor said, "No wonder this baby is underweight. You don't have any milk." "I know," said Willie Mae, "I am his Grandma!!!"

I'VE BEEN BLESSEDII

A distinguished young woman on a flight from Switzerland asked the Father Leroy, the priest beside her, "Father, may I ask a favor?" "Of course, my child", said Father Leroy, "What may I do for you?" She said, "Well, I bought an expensive electronic hair dryer that is well over the customs limits and I'm afraid they'll confiscate it. Is there anyway you could carry it through Customs for me; under your robes perhaps?" Father Leroy smiled and said, "I would love to help you, dear, but I must warn you: I will not lie." She said, "With your honest face, Father, no one will question you." When they got to Customs, she let the priest go ahead of her. The official asked, "Father, do you have anything to declare?" Father Leroy replied, "From the top of my head down to my waist, I have nothing to declare." The official thought this answer strange, so asked, "And what do you have to declare from your waist to the floor?" Father Leroy replied, "I have a marvelous little instrument designed to be used on a woman, but which is, to date, unused." Roaring with laughter, the official said, "Go ahead, Father. Next!!!"

YOU NEED MORE RESTILI

This past Sunday Willie Mae and her Grandmother went to the 10:30am service and the new pastor was long winded and his sermon was quite long. After the service was finally over, Willie Mae said to her Grandmother, "The sermon was beautiful don't you think?" Her Grandmother replied "Oh yes it was, but a bit too long. Next week I'm bringing my cushion to sit on, these benches are too hard." She continued to say, "You know Willie Mae at one point during the sermon I thought my butt went to sleep." Willie Mae said, "I know Grandma, I heard it snore three times!!!"

DOPSIII

Leroy sends a text to his next-door neighbor Willie. "Willie, I'm sorry. I've been riddled with guilt and I have to confess: I have been helping myself to your Wife when you're not around, probably more than you. I know it's no excuse but I don't get it at home. I can't live with the guilt any longer. I hope you'll accept my sincerest apology. It won't happen again." Feeling outrage and betrayed, Willie grabs his gun, goes into the bedroom, and without a word, shoots his wife. Moments later Willie gets a second text from Leroy: "Man, I really should use spell check! That should be 'Wiff'; I've been helping myself to your 'Wiff'!!!"

CAN'T YOU HEARIII

During a recent hot spell, Leroy the bum collapsed on the street. Immediately a crowd gathered and began offering suggestions. "Give the poor man a drink of whiskey," a little old lady said. "Give him some air," a man cried out. "Give him some whiskey," the old lady cried again. "Give him some water," another man said. "Give him some whiskey," the old lady said yet again. Several other suggestions were made, and Leroy suddenly sat up and hollered, "Will all of you shut up and listen to the little old lady!!!"

Mobile Theatre Guild presents

February 19th - March 6th

Fridays and Saturdays: 8:00pm

Sundays: 2:00pm Admission:

General Admission -- \$20

Seniors (62+)/Students/Military -- \$15

14 N. Lafayette Street (251) 433-7513

www.mobiletheatreguild.org

The Colored Museum is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York