

The Southern View

Tiffanie Lewis

CEO & Founder, J. S. Clark Leadership Academy



Robert P. Benoit

Fire Chief, Lafayette Fire Department

Students ~ J. S. Clark Leadership Academy



Education ~ Careers ~ Black Female Scholars
P.L.A.C.E.S. of the South

September / October 2016

The Year of Women



Hillary Rodham Clinton
{Photo, 08 State of the Black Union, NOLA}
Presidential Candidate



Dr. Jill Ellen Stein
Presidential Candidate



Caroline Fayard
US Senate Candidate



Marilyn Castle
Associate Justice Supreme Court
3rd Supreme Court District



Deidre Ledbetter
Council Member District 4
City of New Iberia



Madeline Taylor
Council Member District 3
St. Landry Parish

Above are some of the Female Candidates on the November 8, 2016 ballot!
Women in politics are no longer presumed to be weaker or less capable leaders...

Publisher's Message to Readers



As election day grows closer and closer, many Americans are anxious to know who will be our next Commander in Chief; Democrat or Republican; Female or Male; Clinton or Trump. At this point in time, there is nothing definitive to ensure the country one way or the other. Seems like we'll have to wait until the polls officially close on November 8th. In the meantime, I encourage all of you to exercise your right to vote in this Presidential election and let your voice be heard.

Also, remember to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month during October.
Check online for events in your area.

<http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/>



Susannah Johnson Malbreaux

September / October 2016 The Southern View Magazine

The Southern View

a magazine focusing on P.L.A. C.E.S. of the South

In this issue

People

Robert P. Benoit, A Chief's Story 6
Shirley Chisolm, 1972 Run for the Presidency 9
African American Female Scholars 12

Lifestyles

A Tale of Motherhood, Chapter IV 18
Tips for a Healthy Halloween 19
The Thoughts of Women 19
Faith House Celebrates:
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Change Matters! 20
9th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards Banquet 22
Join RSVP Today 25
Wedding Focus 28

Culture

National Museum of African American History & Culture 5
Slavery by Another Name 5
Mother May I? 14
The Hillary I Know 15
US Senate/Congressional Candidates 24
We have to put a stop to this...34
A Glimpse of Lafayette Musicians 36

Education

The Pursuit of Knowledge:
Black Women's Journey in Higher Education 10
J. S. Clark Leadership Academy 16
Upcoming Elections 23
The Importance of a College Education 26
A Glance at Today 30

Economic Development

LaToya Whitlow, Creating a Ripple 29
Joseph Prejean, One More Mountain 32
Curly Couture 35

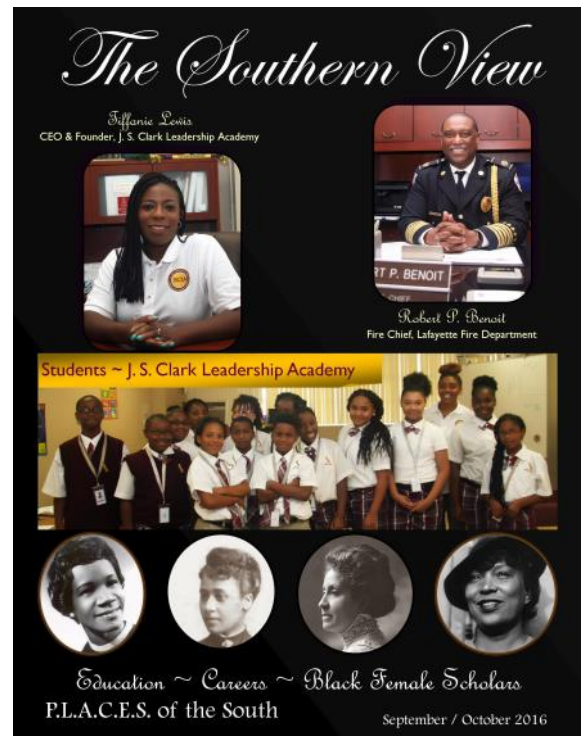
Spirituality

Offering Support at a Time of Loss 33
Stanley "Buckwheat" Dural, Jr. 37

Publisher's Message 2

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Cover: Marquia Whitehead's article, "Black Women's Journey in Higher Education" propelled me to search Black Female Scholars. A focus on education through charter school and the story of our Fire Chief, the 1st African American Chief in Lafayette, LA.
Cover by Susannah Johnson Malbreaux

In every issue

What's Going On! 4
A Tribute to Jamie Porter James 21
Black History Facts 36
R.A.P. Rhythm, Art s& Poetry 36
It's Just F.Y.I. 37
In the Spotlight 38- 39
TSV's Business Directory 40

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What's Going On!

Friday, Oct. 14, 2016 ; 11am to 2pm

Lafayette Lupus Foundation
of Louisiana

Knights of Peter Claver

1400 North University Ave • Lafayette, LA 70506

Pork
Steak Poboy
WITH **Chips**
& **Soda** **\$8**



Contact: Jamika Andres, (337) 693-1655

SAVE THE DATE !

Thursday, November 10, 2016

19th Annual "Connections For Independent Living Expo"

Hosted by SMILE RSVP ~ Retired & Senior Volunteer Program
A health & information Fair for Seniors, their Families & Caregivers!

This event is **FREE** to the public.

9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Robicheaux Recreation Center
1919 Eraste Landry Road; Lafayette, LA

Health Screenings * Flu Shots * Mini Massages Warm-up Exercises *
Booths * Door Prizes * Entertainment

Continental Breakfast and Lunch Served!

VENDORS, Reserve Your Booth By Calling:

Susannah J. Malbreaux, RSVP Project Director 337.234.3272 ext. 252

Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016

southern
soul Food
showdown

Fried Foods
Greens
Meat, Rice & Gravy
Pork Delicacy
Open Dish
SOUL FOOD
Desserts & More

10 am - Booth Judging
11 am - Food Sold to Public
3 pm - Awards



FOOD * SOFT DRINKS * WATER * BEER WILL BE SOLD
LAWN CHAIRS ARE WELCOME
(NO OUTSIDE DRINKS * NO ICE CHESTS * NO PETS)

GOOD FOOD * GOOD MUSIC * GOOD PEOPLE * GOOD TIMES
DJ HOMIEE OF MOBSTAR DJZ

Nov. 12, 2016 **10 am - 5 pm**
Mon Ami in Grand Marais
7304 E. Hwy. 90 Jeanerette, LA

From Lafayette US 90 East
exit right at Darnall Rd. overpass
turn left on Frontage Rd.
drive 1.5 miles then turn right on
College Rd.

Hosted by: Grand Marais Mardi Gras Assn.
For info call Tina Olivier 337-339-8654
or to enter in Cook-Off



40 Years Strong
to
Vision to Reality

Dec. 16, 1976 ~ Dec. 16, 2016

OPEN HOUSE

The Public is Invited

Greenhouse Senior Center
110 N.E. Evangeline Thruway, Lafayette, Friday
Dec. 16, 2016

10:00am - 2:00pm

Light Refreshments & Door Prizes
Music by Major Handy & Frances
Come Pass A Good Time!

Articles & Pictures will be on display of how
the Greenhouse Senior Center was born.



National Museum of African American History and Culture



The National Museum of African American History and Culture is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. It was established by Act of Congress in 2003, following decades of efforts to promote and highlight the contributions of African Americans. To date, the museum has collected more than 36,000 artifacts. Nearly 100,000 individuals have become charter members of the museum. When the NMAAHC opens on **September 24,**

2016, it will be the 19th and newest museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

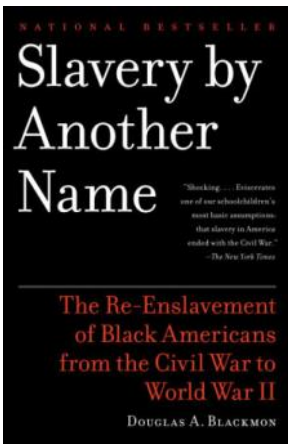
There are four pillars upon which the NMAAHC stands:

1. It provides an opportunity for those who are interested in African American culture to explore and revel in this history through interactive exhibitions;
2. It helps all Americans see how their stories, their histories, and their cultures are shaped and informed by global influences;
3. It explores what it means to be an American and share how American values like resiliency, optimism, and spirituality are reflected in African American history and culture; and
4. It serves as a place of collaboration that reaches beyond Washington to engage new audiences and to collaborate with the myriad of museums and educational institutions that have explored and preserved this important history well before this museum was created.

The NMAAHC is a public institution open to all, where anyone is welcome to participate, collaborate, and learn more about African American history and culture. In the words of Lonnie G. Bunch III, founding director of the NMAAHC, "there are few things as powerful and as important as a people, as a nation that is steeped in its history."

This Museum will tell the American story through the lens of African American history and culture. This is America's Story and this museum is for all Americans. LONNIE G. BUNCH, III, *Founding Director, NMAAHC* For more information on the Museum, visit: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/>

An Excerpt from the book: *Slavery by Another Name*



Contrary to the congratulatory pronouncements that followed Georgia's "abolition" of the practice of selling black prisoners in 1908, the state had more forced labor slaves than ever by 1930. In excess of eight thousand men – nearly all of them black – worked in chain gangs in 116 counties. Of 1.1 million African Americans in the state that year, approximately half lived under the direct control and force of whites – unable to move or seek employment elsewhere under the threat that doing so would lead to the dreaded chain gang. (p. 371)

Blackmon writes of the thinly fictionalized condemnation of Georgia's penal system published in 1902, *Georgia Nigger*, by the socialist journalist John L. Spivak. Spivak had charmed his way into extensive tours of the system by officials. Blackmon writes that Spivak "unstintingly portrayed a system designed to enslave or intimidate black men into obedience." (The book is currently on sale at Amazon.com under the title *Hard Times on a Southern Chain Gang*.)

Blackmon writes of Charles E. Bledsoe pleading guilty in federal court in Mobile, Alabama, on October 13, 1941, to a charge of peonage for holding a black man named Martin Thompson against his will. Bledsoe's punishment was a fine of \$100 and six months probations. "The futility of combating black slavery," writes Blackmon, "was clear."

"was clear."

In early December, 1941, when the US entered World War II and a move to national mobilization for the war effort began, the Roosevelt administration pushed on the Justice Department, under Attorney General Charles Biddle. Writes Blackmon: "Biddle was informed that federal policy had long been to cede virtually all allegations of slavery to local jurisdiction – effectively guaranteeing they would never be prosecuted." Biddle, on December 12, 1941, issued a directive – Circular No 3591 – to all federal prosecutors to direct their attention to "the possibilities of successful prosecutions stemming from alleged peonage complaints..." (p 377-8)

Blackmon continues:

In August, 1942, a letter from a sixteen-year-old black boy arrived at the Department of Justice all alleging that Charles Bledsoe – the Alabama man who received a \$100 fine for peonage prior to Biddle's memo – was still holding members of the boy's family as slaves. Despite the Biddle directive, FBI director J. Edgar Hoover initially saw no need to mount another aggressive investigation. The U.S. attorney in Mobile, Francis H. Inge, was similarly disinterested. "No active investigation will be instituted," Hoover wrote to assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, attempting to close the file. (p. 379)

Berge wrote in a terse letter ordering Inge into action. As the war progressed, the Department of Justice prosecuted the "U.S. Sugar Company in Florida for forcing black men into their sugarcane fields. Sheriffs who colluded with the company were brought to trial. (p. 380)

Blackmon writes of President Truman's Committee on Civil rights recommending "bolstering the anti-slavery statute to plainly criminalize involuntary servitude." In 1948 "the entire federal criminal code was dramatically rewritten, further clarifying the laws against involuntary servitude. (p. 381)

Firefighting ~ A Chief's Story

By Susannah Johnson Malbreaux

Robert Benoit grew up in Lafayette, LA. He attended Truman Elementary till seventh grade. In eighth grade he attended Scott Middle during a period of integration; he recalls it being an experience. His high school years were at Lafayette High School. While at Lafayette High, Benoit experienced two fires in one year. The students had to be rezoned, sending Benoit to Acadiana High for his junior and senior year. He has always been an individual that's comfortable in his environment and adapt to changes. This was just one of the many transitions he had to manage in his life. Having to deal with racism at a young age made him stronger. Being shy and an introvert helped him to adjust to the violence associated with integration.

Firefighting was a childhood dream of Benoit. Around the tender age of six he was first introduced to firefighting through a coloring book. He saw a firefighter with the hat, helmet and boots. He said, "It peaked my interest; I think I would like something like that". He also shared his interest in being a firefighter with everyone in his family. The goal stayed with him; he based his education on becoming a firefighter. He focused on learning and being a good student. Benoit graduated from high school at age 17, but did not have the opportunity to become a firefighter because he was too young. Being too young, he still wanted to work; his first job was at Lafayette Drug Company near his home. While he held many jobs growing up, the job at Lafayette Drug Company was his first real job, he was a stock boy.

At age 18, he went to the fire department (the station he now manages) to get an application. He had never met a firefighter or even spoken to a firefighter; he had

never been in a fire station. He walked in to get the application and was told he needed to be 21 years old. Disappointed, he continued working and decided he would wait until he became of age. Benoit also worked at Martin Mills where he sewed and pressed underwear and t-shirts. "That was an experience working there" says Benoit. At 20 years old, some of his neighborhood friends indicated they were going to apply for fire department. He thought it was strange; they're all the same age, how could they apply. Unbeknownst to Benoit, the age limit was lowered to age 18. He then applied; four months later he was called and had the opportunity to get the job, May 3, 1979. Benoit went through the training; he had not done a lot of research prior to applying, he did not know what the fire department was all about; it was a paramilitary type environment.

Once Benoit got into the organization, that's when he learned the ins and outs of how the organization worked; the different positions, levels and divisions. He went through the academy and began to take advantage of learning the trade, which was the start of his college education. The department gave him an opportunity to get college credit towards certain classes that was needed in fire service. He was able to further his education by taking advantage of going to college. He began to progress with no idea that he would one day become Fire Chief. Being Chief wasn't on his radar, he was just happy being a firefighter. He was very enthusiastic about learning the trade and moving up the ranks, something he did very quickly. After six years, he found a home in fire prevention. In the mid 80's, Benoit transitioned into fire prevention, during this time there was a



lot of people burning houses and cars and there were many vacant buildings, businesses had move out of Lafayette and kids were burning them; they had no place to hang out. Kids used these buildings as playhouses. Benoit began working with the investigators at this time; he got creative and enjoyed it. He worked in the field of fire prevention for another seven years. Fire Chief still was not on his radar, he was happy and moving forward getting his education through college and getting his degrees. Throughout this time, Benoit was the Union president for the Lafayette firefighters. These gave him an opportunity to network with the administration and also take care of the needs of the firefighters.

Simultaneously, the Civil Service Board was in the process of making changes in the qualifications of Fire Chief and Police Chief. The new change would require both positions to have college degrees. With all the discussions, changes and the rules, this peaked Benoit's interest; if he was going to be a part of the change then he should apply for the job as well. He then made the decision to apply; Benoit applied and was successful,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

he was appointed by former Mayor, Kenny Bowen. It's been 23 years!

90-day basic training was provided at the location on Bertrand Drive in Lafayette. The next level of training was fire suppression more intense training, where you learned how to master the dynamics of being a firefighter. Specialized training was provided at the LSU Fire Training Academy in Baton Rouge, LA. As the Lafayette Fire department grew, it was challenging to continue sending firefighters, they grew the Fire Training Center in Lafayette. This center trains folks from start to finish; it provides an 18-month training program. At the end of this training, the person is confirmed and they have a position. The center is on cutting edge technology; not only do they provide training for the department, they train volunteer firefighters, as well and departments within the city.

Working in his gift, it has not been challenging running the fire department. He doesn't have to struggle to make decisions or how he's going to run the organization. "I think it's my gift, so I'm going to take advantage of it and make sure that I always take the high road and do the right thing", say Benoit.

The job now of Chief is systemic. It more dealing with office work, personnel issues and how better to apply solutions to problems in a positive way. If you think the education you received ten years ago is going to carry you through, it's not going to happen. Benoit calls his resume a "growing resume" because you never stop growing and learning. If you plan to stay in this business, then you have to stay on the cutting edge of technology and make sure that when something new comes out, you go seek it out; you learn it, apply it and share it with the staff. Other duties are the managing of the budget and



the various fire houses as well as making presentations to the council. Benoit makes a point to keep the council abreast of information and keep them on top of what's going on. He believes in transparency.

One of his greatest successes was when they made the transition to partner with Acadian Ambulance by getting involved with some of the medical responses. In 1998, they were trained in the use of automatic external defibrillators (AED's). The state statute dictated that you must have a Medical Director to oversee the operations. While they were trained and ready to go in the use of AED's, they did not have anyone on board and ready to take on the responsibilities and oversee the operations. A young doctor by the name of Charles Wyatt came to town, he was a firefighter at a young age in the volunteer department; he loved firefighting. Dr. Wyatt stepped up to take the Medical Director position. Partnering with Acadian Ambulance and Mr. Richard Zuschlag, the Fire Department was ready to take on some of the medical calls. These are lifesaving events; if there is no response within the first three minutes it will be crucial. Acadian provided training in these areas. Dr. Wyatt put together a mass CPR Training which was held at the Cajundome.

They came up with a way of teaching the public how to do CPR, called bystander CPR. In most cases, if someone was going to have a medical emergency, it's usually in front of a family member. They knew if the family member knew how to give first aid and administer CPR, they could start giving chest compressions and resuscitate until the fire department arrived. The fire department has a rule and track record of responding, anywhere in the city, within three to five minutes.

There are several volunteer fire stations in Lafayette parish. Each station operates independent of each other; they have their own Chief and personnel. While the majority of them are volunteers, some of the smaller towns compensate them. About 35% of the volunteers work for the Lafayette fire department; they return to their own community and volunteer. To a certain extent, the fire department provides training to the volunteers; they also seek online training and also training at the LSU Fire Training Academy in Baton Rouge. They also train at the training center on N. Dugas, which is used for all training. Lafayette Fire Department also has a retraining agreement with the volunteer fire departments; if there is a large fire in the city of Lafayette they will respond and vice versa. Lafayette fire department also has agreements surrounding parishes such as St. Martin Parish.

One unique thing that people don't see is when someone dials 911, a truck shows up; folks don't know where the fire truck is coming from. The Lafayette Fire Protection Association, which is made up of 8 chiefs, 7 are the Volunteer Fire Chiefs and Benoit. They decide how fire protection is handled in the city and in the unincorporated areas of the parish and the smaller towns. They come together and make policy

with how they will distribute response.

Though Benoit has held the position for a long time, there are still challenges; which he manages well. In an evolving world, you have to be able to adapt and go with the changes and make sure that you stay positive regardless of what's going on. As Chief, Benoit has to answer to the public, the firefighters, the administration, the council; all of those factors are something that if you don't stay on top of your game, not only will it overwhelm you but it could remove you from the system.

Benoit realized early on as chief that he needed to give back to the community. He's involved in a number of organizations. He selected a number of non-profit organizations that were doing good work in the community and got involved with them. Kiwanis is the organization where he pretty much got his start in volunteering. He also selected Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, United Way and the Salvation Army. He was able to bring the fire department into these organizations with him. This has been a positive occurrence; especially firefighters interacting with children. In looking at the good that these non-profits do in the community, he felt good about it and has stuck with it. His involvement is also for personal growth. He sees the fruit of his involvement because they have definitely made a positive impact on the community.

Benoit shared closing comments, "We're always looking for firefighters. Right now we're in the recruitment stage and in the process of hiring firefighters right now. It's a very easy event to become a part of the organization. It's a three step process; the first step has to do with taking a civil service test. How do you do that, you come to the Lafayette Fire Department and pick up an application; follow the rules that



the application calls for; submit it back to us and then the state examiner's office in Baton Rouge will call you and give you the date on when they are giving the exam and where. They will also give you a study guide, similar questions and answers that are on the exam; just to give you an idea of what it's like and a feel for the test. Once you complete that and you pass the exam with a 75% or better then the civil service board in Lafayette will certify those scores. Once that is done, you get a letter from my office inviting you to take the second portion of the exam which we call a physical. You have to run a mile and a half, you have to do so many push-ups, sit-ups, climb a ladder. Then in all those things, we give you a work booklet ahead of time so you can practice on how to do those evolutions. Once you complete that, you come back for a final interview with the interview committee and give them an opportunity to talk to you and ask why you want to be a firefighter. Once that [is] finished, then you go on a waiting list. When we start to hire, you get an interview with myself in my office where I will question you and ask you what's the reason you want to be a firefighter, give you some tips, send you get a physical, get a drug screen, background check and when all that comes back satisfactory then we send you to the academy and we train you on how to become a firefighter. "One of the things I want to also say in regards to that, this is not a job where you're going to become a millionaire; but it's a job that has a good pay, it

has good benefits to it as well. I've never seen a firefighter in Lafayette ever get laid off because of a bad economy. So you can be assured that Lafayette is a unique city where government employees don't make a whole lot of money, but they can make an honest, good living to raise their families because the benefits far outweigh the cost of the salary. That's pretty much [what] we look for in trying to recruit firefighters."

END



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 1ST AFRICAN AMERICAN POLICE CHIEF](#)

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44 Years Ago, Shirley Chisholm Became the First Black Woman to Run For President



During her decades-long political career, Shirley Chisholm established a lot of firsts. A community activist and educator-turned-congresswoman from the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bedford-Stuyvesant in New York, Chisholm became the first black woman ever to be elected to the House of Representatives and a founding member of both the Congressional Black Caucus and later, the Congressional Women's Caucus. But perhaps most significantly, just a few years after arriving in Congress, Chisholm became the first black woman to run as a major party candidate for president of the United States, breaking down barriers and paving a path for people like President Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

Chisholm was first elected to Congress in 1968 and when she stepped onto the floor of the House of Representatives, she quickly became known not for her race or gender, but for being outspoken and unafraid to fight for what she believed in, [Rajini Vaidyanathan writes for the BBC](#).

"I have no intention of just sitting quietly and observing. I intend to speak out immediately in order to focus on the nation's problems," Chisholm said at the time, Vaidyanathan reports.

In her first floor speech on March 26, 1969, she spoke out against the Vietnam War, vowing to vote against any new military spending. She fought for immigrant rights, to improve access to education and to help create the Consumer Product Safety Commission, according to [her House of Representatives biography](#).

"Can you imagine being a woman, and black in congress then?" California Congresswoman Barbara Lee, who [once worked for Chisholm](#), tells Vaidyanathan. "Some of the men in Congress did not respect her, she just stood out and they didn't get her. But she wouldn't back down. She didn't go along to get along, she went to change things."

In 1972, just a few years after being elected to Congress, Shirley Chisholm announced that she was seeking the Democratic nomination for the presidency, running against politicians like George McGovern, Hubert Humphrey, and George Wallace. But while Chisholm admitted that she never expected to win and her campaign was largely symbolic, she ran in order to prove that Americans would vote for a black woman.

"I stand before you today, to repudiate the ridiculous notion that the American people will not vote for qualified candidates, simply because he is not white or because she is not a male," Chisholm told supporters when she launched her campaign. "I do not believe that in 1972, the great majority of Americans will continue to harbour such narrow and petty prejudice."

Chisholm's campaign wasn't easy. During the road to the primaries, she survived multiple assassination attempts; sued to make sure she would appear in televised debates and fought her way onto the primary ballots in 12 states. Though she didn't win, in the end Chisholm won [10 percent of the total vote](#) at the Democratic National Convention, clearing a path for future candidates that weren't white or male.

"Shirley Chisholm would have been proud of our achievements," Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, who represents part of Chisholm's district, [tells Mary C. Curtis for NBC News](#). But, she says, Chisholm still wouldn't be satisfied.



"Why more than 40 years after she entered the Democratic Party primary for president of the United States, this nation has yet to elect a woman of color as president; she would go right to the heart of it because her style, her way of capturing the hearts and minds of Americans was courageous and it was forthright," Clarke tells Curtis.

Editors Note, January 29, 2016: This post's title has been amended to clarify that Shirley Chisholm ran as a major party candidate in the 1972 presidential race. Margaret Chase Smith was the first woman to run for president as a major party candidate.

END

SOURCE: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/44-years-ago-shirley-chisholm-became-the-first-black-woman-to-run-for-president-180957975/#Yoe50mzRcEAjzGe.99>

The Pursuit of Knowledge: Black Women's Journey in Higher Education

By Marquia Whitehead



Shirley Chisholm



Mary McLeod Bethune

Upon contemplating a topic to research for purposes of my dissertation in the doctoral program, I was initially led into women's studies. At first, I thought that I wanted to know more about the feminist movement and issues that women have overcome in time. Then, I had to think further. We, black women, still have not overcome as much as other races. We still have a lot more success to obtain. We are still being held back. We have to fight even harder and tougher when trying to pursue our dreams and aspirations. So, as I completed my study, I just knew that was not the study the Lord wanted me to complete. I became uneasy as I reviewed my scholarly writing, which showed that something had to change. I prayed to God for clarity, and of course, He provided what I needed, just as He always does. I was given the epiphany to research, write, and bring forth knowledge about more than just women, but women of color, specifically Black women.

With my research, many things were discovered. First, research has shown that Black women account for the largest population of individuals enrolled in college. Second, Black women are leading the list for degrees obtained, meaning actually graduating in fields. And, lastly,

Black women are leading industries in success and entrepreneurs. However, not many Black women are viewed in mainstream media, or viewed positively in everyday life. Why is that? Why is a Black woman's pursuit of knowledge not illustrated as much as other groups? Why do colleges and universities not pay homage to the Black women who helped found institutions? Why are Black women so easily distracted and discouraged while continuing on their journey in higher education? Research has provided several, different connotations about these topics; however, as a Black woman in the positions of an educator and student, I live and breathe this topic daily. Therefore, I have drawn my own conclusions.

Black women are constantly stereotyped in society. Either individuals feel Black women are angry, or we are too independent. They also feel that Black women are no more than government assistance recipients who live off of the lives of others. In actuality, statistics say otherwise. But, I still wonder what has gone wrong in society? The development of successful Black women in society starts as a young girl. A woman tends to demonstrate the activities she has seen by others. Did she have a mother that worked

hard? Was her grandmother a hard worker? Was God head of their household? Did she see her mother date different men? Was dress code not a code of conduct? The list of questions is endless. On top of upbringing, black women are still stereotyped. Even if she speaks profoundly, God-fearing, dresses well, takes care of her household, possesses the highest degrees, and a career-oriented woman, Black women are still under appreciated, by not just other races, but her own. Harsh reality!

Nevertheless, Black women must be able to understand their pursuit of knowledge and remain loyal to that journey. As a young woman in college, and a single mother, I had to learn "the game." I began to observe societal issues and utilize certain avenues to become who I wanted to be. I also had to understand that it was ok that I was on government assistance, but it was only temporary. Now, I look at my life as a doctoral student and higher education instructor and realize certain key elements that assisted my journey as a Black women obtaining knowledge.

1) I can be my own enemy. I had to understand that sometimes it was not the world. I was hurting myself! I was down talking myself,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

when I should have maintained joy through it all.

- 2) Not everyone is your enemy. Some people want to genuinely help you, but I had to learn to decipher between the two.
- 3) Friends were not always friends. There were people who would encourage, and then there were disguised enemies, known as friends. I also had to learn to decipher between the two.
- 4) Time is what you make it. If I could spend so much time with friends, then I had the time to study and work towards my goals. If I did not do it, it would not get done. I had to work for what I desired.
- 5) Become the best version of me. Even if it takes time, it has to be done. Do not settle for the lesser version of you.
- 6) Acquire more and more knowledge. I understood that knowledge was beyond the classroom. I started looking into things that were not shared in class, more about my culture and heritage. I was self-educating myself about things the world would not openly teach me.
- 7) The number of completion – God will never add more to your journey if He did not think you could make it through! I use to fault God for a lot of things, when it was not even His fault. He was making me stronger. He was testing my faith. He was making me the woman that He needed me to be. Eventually, everything lined up. Failures were not really failures. They were actually aspects that God prevented. I also learned that what He has for me is for me and NO ONE can prevent it from occurring.



Anna J. Cooper



Zora Neale Hurston

All things considered, Black women have endured a lot, even dating back to slavery. Wearing so many hats at once, Black women still have a lot to overcome. Yet, we are leading in many aspects, especially in education. As we pursue more and more, it seems as if it is never enough to be fully accepted in society. But, does that stop us? It never has and never will. Black women must continue on the journey of success and education, becoming women that our ancestors are proud to see. By using the list that I live by constantly, we have the recipe to attain all of our dreams. Personally, I share the same sentiments as Zora Neale Hurston “Sometimes, I feel discriminated against, but it does not make me angry. It merely astonishes me. How can any deny themselves the pleasure of my company? It’s beyond me.” We may live in a world of inequalities and discrimination, but education is that one facet that can never be taken away!

END

Marquia Whitehead is an author, educator, entrepreneur, and owner of “Miss Educated”.

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For more information on the Wonderful Women Illustrated in Marquia’s article, turn to page

African American Female Scholars

Born in 1858 in North Carolina to her enslaved mother, **Hannah Stanley Haywood**, and her white slaveholder, Anna Julia Cooper spent her lifetime of over a century redefining the limitations and opportunities for women of color in a society set up for their disempowerment and subjugation. A distinguished scholar and educator, Cooper saw the status and agency of black women as central to the equality and progress of the nation. She famously wrote in her 1892 book *A Voice from the South*, “only the **BLACK WOMAN** can say when and where I enter, in the quiet, undisputed dignity of my womanhood, without violence and without suing or special patronage, then and there the whole Negro race enters with me.” She fought tirelessly throughout her life to re-center and uplift the voice of black women in pursuit of a more just society for everyone.



Shirley Chisholm was the first black woman to be elected to Congress, winning in New York in 1968 and retiring from office in

1983. She campaigned for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1972, but is best known for her work on several Congressional committees throughout her career. A feisty politician, Chisholm has also been recognized in popular culture and in the political and academic worlds for her symbolic importance and career achievements.



Pauli Murray-In 1938 she began a campaign to enter the all-white University of North Carolina. With the support of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). However, it was not until 1951 that Floyd McKissick became the first African American to be accepted by the University of North Carolina. In 1941 Murray enrolled at the Howard University law school with the intention of becoming a civil rights lawyer. The following year she joined with George Houser, James Farmer and Bayard Rustin, to form the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

After Murray graduated from Howard University in 1944 she wanted to enroll at Harvard University to continue her law studies. In her application for a Rosenwald Fellowship, she listed Harvard as her first choice. She was awarded the prestigious fellowship but after the award had been announced, Harvard Law School rejected her because of her gender. Murray went to the University of California Boalt School of Law where she received a degree in law.

Before Barack Obama & Hillary Clinton, there was **Shirley Chisholm!**

Mary Church Terrell - In 1884, Mary received her bachelor's degree at Oberlin College in Ohio. She was one of the first African American women to be awarded a college degree. She went on to teach at a black high school in Washington and then at Wilberforce College in Ohio. Terrell decided to leave the United States and went to study in Europe for two years. She became fluent in French, German, and Italian.

Terrell was appointed to the District of Columbia Board of Education in 1895. She was the first black woman in the United States to hold such an honored position. She was a charter member of the National Association of Colored Women and became the first president of the organization in 1897. Terrell helped in finding the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She founded the association with Josephine Ruffin in 1896. Mary Church Terrell became well known for her resistance of racial segregation and her support of women's suffrage.

In 1918, Terrell resigned as a French instructor from Howard University. She actively accepted a position for a special department under the Playground and Recreation Association of America. It was for the war and navy department commission on training camp activities.





Marian Wright Edelman became the first African American woman to pass the bar exam in Mississippi. She is a graduate of Spelman College and Yale Law School. She directed the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund office in

Jackson, Mississippi. Edelman has written numerous works on racial inequality, and founded the Children's Defense Fund in which she has been an advocate for disadvantaged Americans.

Mary McLeod Bethune was a racial justice activist who sought to improve educational opportunities for African-Americans. She is best known for starting a school for African-American students in Daytona Beach, Florida, that eventually became Bethune-Cookman University. She also served as both president of the National Association of Colored Women and founder of the National Council of Negro Women.



Flo Kennedy was one of only a handful of black, women students admitted to Columbia Law School in the first half of the 20th century. She did not matriculate until she was in her 30s, and after graduation she jumped feet first into burgeoning women's movement. Flo became fierce defender of the rights of women known for her brash sense of humor and no holds barred conversation style. She was a founding member of the National Organization of Women, but soon left because of organization disagreements. Shortly after Flo founded the Feminist Party which went on to nominate Shirley Chisholm for President in 1972. She traveled the country speaking on feminist issues until her death in 2000.



Ida Bell Wells-Barnett's life was dedicated to ending horrible injustices against African-Americans. She traveled the country, speaking and writing about civil rights issues, unfair laws, and crimes against blacks. As more and more civil rights laws were ignored by society in the late 1800s, she became increasingly involved in politics to stop the trend of social injustice. She was instrumental in the fight against lynching, proving that these acts were essentially murders of innocent black men, women, and children, and boldly demanded that their white murderers be held responsible for their crimes. Later in life, she also founded or was involved in the creation of several organizations encouraging the advancement of women and other minorities.



Condoleezza Rice is an American diplomat who served as the 66th United States Secretary of State. Often considered a role model for other African American women striving to reach great professional heights, Rice is the first African American woman to ever hold the position of the United States Secretary of States. A high achiever, she had served as the National Security Advisor during the firm term of President George Bush, becoming the first woman to do so.

As a young girl growing up in the racially segregated Alabama, a political career was the last thing on her mind. She was musically inclined from childhood and took classes in ballet and piano with the aim of becoming a professional pianist. However, while at university she realized that she did not have it in her to become a professional musician, and chose to study international politics instead. She became a professor of political science at Stanford University and was selected the university's provost owing to her brilliance and strong character. She had always been actively involved in politics and had served as the National Security Advisor before being selected the Secretary of State.



Mother May I?

By Ryan E. King



Gye Nyame ~ "Except God"

Now I got a question.

What is there to stop a collective of individuals from organizing and establishing for themselves a system of governance to ensure the right of life, in all of its fullness, for themselves and their posterity?

In the 19th century, during the period of westward American expansion over the continent, of what is commonly referred to as North America, the people of the United States embraced an attitude, popularly known as Manifest Destiny. According to which, they were destined to conquer the lands from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast. That sentiment drove them to blaze a trail from one end of the continent to the other. Anything that came in their way was either killed or subjugated. Whole nations of people, even with whom they may have had some sort of peace treaty with, were annihilated. They were so in tune with their creator that they were driven to massacre and subjugate millions of people in order to establish what they consider a just and noble nation. While this may not be an exploration into the movement of the melanin recessive beings as a whole, let it suffice to say that the story of America's birth is not the only one filled with such horrific exploits in the context of "European imperialism". While I do not agree

with their methods of engagement, I cannot help but respect their conviction to their beliefs.

The book of Genesis proclaims that man was created in the image and likeness of that which created it. Genesis 1:26-28 goes on to spell out man's constitution. According to which, man was constituted to have dominion over all the earth. Further, in Genesis 2:19 man was charged to name all things that the creator presented for that purpose. This seems to reason that man, made in the image and likeness of that which created it, is responsible for bringing definition to its reality in the same manner that the creator brought definition to the cosmos in Genesis 1:1 when it created heaven and earth



bringing forth order from the infinite chaos. Like its creator, man has the ability and indeed the dictate to establish order from chaos. All that lies outside of one's self can be said to be in a state of chaos. Therefore, it is one's own responsibility to bring order to that chaos; and how one relates one to another falls squarely within that realm of creation. No flesh and blood being can dictate to another how one is to relate to the things of this world or the next. That is one's own prerogative. If one



chooses to allow another flesh and blood being to dictate one's reality, that is also one's own prerogative.

The law of allowance is constantly at work within our lives. Every moment of our lives presents to us a choice. Even where there seems to be no choice or a choice between two apparent evils, as in electing a president for instance, each of us must decide on a course of action that will best satisfy our needs. We can either allow our circumstances to dictate and make a choice for us or we can choose to act upon our circumstances. It is not set in stone that one must fall victim to the circumstances that one may find one's self. The way that we perceive our experiences is what determines our reality. If one chooses to perceive one's circumstances in a negative, defeatist, or inferior way, who is another to force them to see otherwise. However, it seems to reason that if one chooses to allow a positive perception of one's ability to bring order to chaos, surely that one will have unlocked the secret to establishing dominion over the earth as charged by one's creator. Likewise, in our relations one to another, we must behave in a manner of mutual respect in order that we may build and secure a bright future for generations to come.

Why must melanin dominant beings, individually and as a collective,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



continue to allow themselves to live under the fallacy that the “American” system will change from what it was designed to do? The framers, melanin recessive beings, in drafting the U.S. Constitution during a time when melanin dominant beings were thought to be the scum of the earth, made it is clear in the preamble that the American system is designed to perpetuate itself by maintaining an order that ensures the blessings of liberty for themselves and their posterity. It is reckless and detrimental for any melanin dominant being to promote the idea that the American system will ever have their best interest in heart. The idea that melanin dominant beings will somehow be accepted as equals worthy of mutual respect by electing a presidential puppet that serves the interest of “America” and the global socio-economic order, seems nothing more than a flight in fantasy.

Mother may I consider myself as sovereign sentient being? Mother may I develop the external channels and means to route the current that flows directly from my creator to myself? Yes, you may. You have the authority to be who you are constituted to be according to the dictate of your creator regardless of whether or not another flesh and blood being agrees with your dictate. It is your responsibility to deal with the circumstances of a collected reality in a manner most befitting of your interest. The manner in which you relate to another should be ordered by your understanding of your constitution. If you perceive that building a community, whatever the size, with similarly constituted individuals is the best mode of securing the blessings of liberty for yourself and your progeny then you must work diligently towards that aim. If a relationship is toxic to that security, you have the right according to nature to discontinue that relationship. And if that relationship threatens your survival, you have the authority to dispose of that relationship in a manner most befitting to neutralize said threat. It is your own responsibility to ensure your survival. Become in tune and align yourself with your creator so that you may have the strength and indeed the power to manifest a reality that is conducive to your best interest!



END

Contact info: rynelkng@gmail.com, Facebook @King Ryan;
 Hashtags: #RhynoVision, #theSOK, #theMessage, #NaturalLaw, #KnowThySelf, #IAmThatIAm, #TreeOfLife, #GodIsAlmighty

On November 8, 2016 I intend to proudly cast my vote for Hillary Clinton, plain and simple. Hillary Clinton is not new to the fight for middle class families. Throughout her public life she has consistently fought to expand and strengthen the middle class. I have no doubt she will continue that fight as president. Expanding and strengthening the middle class starts with quality jobs. Hillary knows the economy of the future depends on a well-educated and trained workforce, and she understands the cost of education — from preschool to college and beyond — increasingly strains family budgets with unprecedented debt. That’s why she’s laid out a specific, workable plan to address these strains and make a good education available to all our children. However, a secure footing requires more than a good paying job and access to education. It means a foundation that cannot be undone by injury or illness. Hillary will preserve those protections gained under the Affordable Care Act instead of putting insurance companies in the driver’s seat, and will look for ways to expand access to affordable health insurance coverage for all Americans and continue to bend the cost curve of health care. Every lowan knows good ideas aren’t enough. We recognize the most successful presidents are those who can both lead and govern, while navigating the toughest job on earth. In other words: Leadership inspires. Governance delivers. As President, Hillary Clinton will both inspire and deliver results. I know because I have worked with her and called her a friend for nearly two decades. She leads by example. Her courage in China as First Lady when she declared “women’s rights are human rights” continues to inspire people all over the world to demand equality and freedom. As a twice-elected Senator, she worked with the president to get the funds needed to rebuild after 9/11 in New York. And as Secretary of State, she helped to establish a program that delivers food assistance to over 12.5 million hungry children in some of the poorest countries in the world. This just scratches the surface of her career of inspiring and delivering for people around the country and across the globe. On a personal note, Hillary Clinton is one of the most loyal people I know and that is rare in politics. That is why I support her. When I met Hillary in Baton Rouge she showed so much compassion in our conversation. Hillary Clinton has the right policies to strengthen and expand the middle class, is battle tested, and has the experience and relationships to lead and govern well. For all of those reasons, I will vote for Hillary Clinton on November 8, 2016 and I ask you to do the same because we have so much as stake for our country!

The Hillary I know



END

Tiffanie Lewis, CEO & Founder~ J. S. Clark Leadership Academy



Tiffanie Lewis is originally from Houston, TX; she currently resides in Opelousas where she has lived for 14 years. She is married to Victor Lewis and has two daughters. Lewis has been in education for over 25 years, serving in the capacities of Teacher, Administrator and even custodian. She remembers when she was a student in school, “I struggled a lot”. Lewis came from a single family home in a rough neighborhood of Houston, 3rd Ward. Her mom decided that this was not the education she wanted for her daughter. Her mother drove 20 miles to bring Lewis to a school in the “safer” neighborhoods with better educational opportunities. Even though the principal knew that she did not live in the district, he decided she could stay. The principal informed Lewis they were not going to change her school because she was going to be a success and said “You’re going to be successful”. That was the first time that someone had really invoked success in a school environment to her. It made her want to be better and from that day forward, she formed a relationship with the principal; she had a relationship with her teachers. Every one of them pushed her to be successful. Hence, she wanted to start a place where kids could go and that could happen every single day.

The moment that challenged her to get into education was when she took over a class from another teacher; the teacher told her that she didn’t have to do much because, “these Mexicans can’t learn”. She walked into the classroom, looked at the kids and said, “These kids are no different from anybody else, because I know what was said about me”. From that point on, it was her mission to be in education. She’s been very efficacious; she’s an out-of-the-box teacher. Even though she runs the school, she teaches English as well. “It’s just been a passion that God put in me and this is where we come; and this is all through him”.

Lewis taught in a school for six (6) years; she then became a school counselor for four (4) years then moved to Opelousas. She then became a counselor at Carencro High School, an administrator at Northside High School and then she worked at the Louisiana Department of Education as the Supervisor of School Counselors statewide for four (4) years. Then the opportunity for J. S. Clark presented itself.

The charter school movement was new, even before Lewis got into it. She’d been working on the charter school project for years. She felt there needed a place where students who struggled could have that love and support and make mistakes and still get the support they needed. When she got a solid plan to start the charter school, she presented it to the Lafayette Parish School System who denied the request. She then went to BESE (Board of Elementary and Secondary School Education), who denied her as well. She re-grouped herself, with the encouragement of her husband, who told her she needed to try again. So the next time, she applied for 2 schools, Lafayette and St. Landry. Upon the approval process she was informed

By Susannah Johnson Malbreaux

that she did not have the capacity for two schools. Just getting started, she had a small board; they asked her which school would she like to have? Living in Opelousas, she decided on the St. Landry location. They went through a lot more research before they got to the naming of the school and where the location would be; she reached out to the community and spoke to lifelong residents. The one common name that kept coming up was J. S. Clark. They met with some of the alumni from Houston and Opelousas. They asked, “What was so important about J. S. Clark”? Everyone they spoke to had this spirit about themselves when they said J. S. Clark. They also wanted to create leaders, so they added Leadership to the name, J. S. Clark Leadership Academy. J. S. Clark was the 1st President of Southern University.

Currently, Ms. Lewis has three campuses located in Opelousas. J. S. Clark campus (grades 5th through 8th) is called the gateway because it is the entrance to learning. The second campus is J. S. Clark at SLCC (South Louisiana Community College). There is an agreement where the students in grades 9th through 11th earn a high school diploma and a college degree at the same time. At present they don’t have 12th grade. The third school is an online program; while it’s online, the program does allow students to participate in extracurricular activities. Between the three campuses they currently have over 370 students.

J. S. Clark and T. H. Harris came together to form T. H. Harris Technical School. The schools are run by a board of seven members called the Outreach Community Development;

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



board members are from the Opelousas area. The first campus opened in 2012.

The first year Clark opened, the school was classified “D”. Says Lewis, “Most charter schools don’t open as a “D”, they usually come in as an “F”. Clark is a Type II school, meaning they can accept students from all areas, even failing and low-achieving schools. Over the first couple of years, they were able to look at the needs of the students and make the necessary adjustments to the curriculum. In the second year, growing 14 plus points, Clark became a “C” school; they grew an additional 6 points in their third year. This sent the message that every student is growing academically. Lewis indicated that they are tight on academics and discipline. At Clark, the students are accountable for their actions. One of the biggest differences Lewis notes, students have a uniform, not a dress code! The students have to look a certain way; a look that invokes a certain pride in themselves. They have the pride; now they have the standard for their behavior; they are expected to rise to excel. Pupil ratio: on average, higher grades are 20:1; smaller grades are 16:1.

Parents are definitely involved; they show up for parent teacher conferences, awards shows, etc. It’s the nature of Schools of Choice. Parents respond swiftly in the event of discipline issues.

Clark has open enrollment and there are no criteria. Open enrollment is held annually between

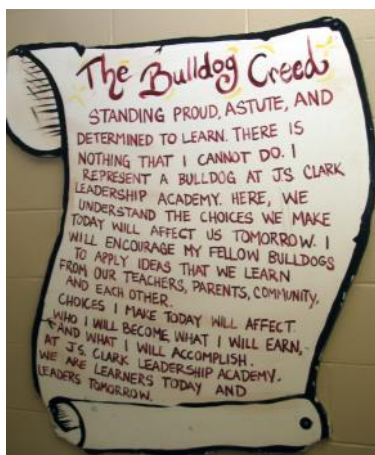
February and April. Students from other schools are allowed to apply online; they operate under a lottery system, once they reach the maximum number per class, there’s a lottery to pull the rest of the students.



Currently Clark has a waiting list of over 200 students. An opportunity for expansion. However, 750 is their maximum.

Plans are underway for a new facility. Groundbreaking is tentative February or March 2017. From there it will take about a 1 ½ years before the building is completed. The project will be done in phases. Members of the community serve on the Building Committee which give them an opportunity to work on the plans along with the staff. The new school will be constructed in the present location of the temporary facility located at 1517 Statesman Road, deep in the country of Opelousas, LA.

Transportation is offered to students; however, door to door is not available.



Extracurricular activities are available for students such as volleyball, basketball and track. Not many at this time because the student body is still small. As the Clark grows, they hope to expand these opportunities. A football field is included in the plans for future development. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to

play sports. Clark has an excellent arts program; the art teacher is among the top artists in the area. Many of the students have won awards; their music program is known throughout the parish. Clark also has a drumline and turning it into a band this year. Other activities include dance, cheerleading, 4-H and BETA. Bull Dawgs is the mascot for Clark, which the students came up with.

Ms. Lewis shared her excitement about the expansion of the campus. They have a long waiting list and would like to accommodate more students in this environment. {Tune in to the video to see the expansion plans}.

J. S. Clark is a family oriented school. “We love our children” says Lewis. That comes with discipline and it comes with giving students praise. “We are teaching students to be learners today so that they can be our leaders for tomorrow”. END

For more information contact:

J. S. Clark Leadership Academy
1517 Statesman Rd., Opelousas, LA.
Ph: 337.948.3112 or 337.418.4222

Website: <http://jsclarkcharter.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JS-Clark-Leadership-Academy-Charter-School-210971365631174/>



A Tale of Motherhood, CHAPTER IV

By Corrie Gallien, Wife and Mother



Corrie Gallien, The Epitome of Motherhood

If you have been following along my journey through the nine months of pregnancy, you would know that I had some blissful moments and some tough moments. But the nine months were all worth it, because as I write this, I am reflecting on my beautiful one month old (6 weeks to be exact) baby and her beautiful smile. She was worth every nauseous moment, every painful contraction, all of it.

We had our sweet bundle of joy



on August 14, 2016. This date may not seem like anything out of the ordinary to the next person, but if you were in south Louisiana, you would know that we were dealing with the record breaking rainfall and flooding on this date.

The day before I had had several contractions, and I had finally started timing them with the Baby Bump app. But I was not sure if they were regular enough to be considered labor contractions. I was in constant contact with my sister, who had just had a beautiful baby boy three months earlier. I flooded her with questions about how far apart the contractions should be and how painful before I go to the hosp-

tal. I was nervous because I knew our vehicles would not make it through the flood.

My husband and I decided to head to my sister and her husband's house to wait out the flood so that my sister could help me monitor if I should go into the hospital. Throughout the day, the contractions increased in frequency, but they were not very painful to me, so I was determined to wait it out at home. After much prodding from my husband, sister, and mother, I finally let them contact an ambulance around 3 p.m. that day. The ambulance made it to the end of the road and we had to drive through the flooded yard to meet them, because they had been instructed not to enter any flooded properties.

I was a little nervous about whether the ambulance would make it to Women's and Children's Hospital from my sister and brother in law's house in Breaux Bridge, but fortunately, one route across Lafayette was clear of high waters, and the trip there was relatively quick and smooth despite the flooded areas.

We got to the hospital around 5 p.m., and they first monitored my contractions and how dilated I was to determine if they would keep me. The nurse admitted that if it were not for the flooding and my arriving by ambulance, they probably would have discharged me to allow me to wait further. However, my contractions were frequent enough that they decided to keep me and if my water did not break before I a.m. on the 14th, they would induce labor.

I was very adamant that I want my water to break naturally, but I was not going to refuse induction and go home if it did not happen. I had opted out of an epidural because I preferred a birth that was as natural as possible, and honestly, the large needle in my back scares

more than child birth. My contractions for the first couple of hours after being admitted into the hospital were uncomfortable but not painful. I took each one in strides. My water broke around 10 p.m. on the 13th, and that's when the contractions became worst.

I was hoping that the baby would come before midnight, and I honestly thought she would because my sister's baby came within 10 minutes after her water broke. I knew each pregnancy was different but I was hoping for the best. Midnight came and the contractions were becoming unbearable but I was still not dilated enough to start pushing. At one a.m. I called the nurse and they told me the baby would be here any minute. I started the pushing with my husband beside me, holding my hands, which really helped me to stay calm and focused, (I love you honey!) and she was here before I knew it.

She weighed in at seven pounds and measured 20 inches even. Ten fingers and ten toes! She was perfect! We named her Raynah, which means 'Song of the Lord' in Hebrew. She made one month on September 14th, weighing/measuring 11 pounds and 21 inches even (something about those even numbers with her). We are enjoying our bundle of joy! Thanks so much for following along with my journey to meeting our beautiful baby girl. END



Tips for a Healthy Halloween



By Dr. Jennifer Jackson, RD, LDN

Halloween is a fun day full of costumes, imagination and, of course, tons of candy. Don't fear, the spooky day can be both fun and healthy with a few simple tips.

Remember Balance and Practice Portion Control

Provide small portions. Choose fun-size - instead of full-size - candies, miniature cupcakes or muffins, and smaller cookies and brownies (think 2 inches). Serve each child rather than leaving treats out on a table in order to regulate how many servings each child consumes.

Limit Leftover Candy

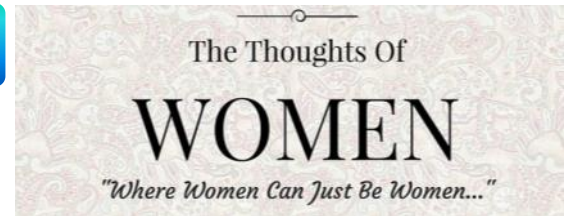


When the fun of Halloween night is over and the kids are left with bags of candy, encourage candy control without depriving the trick-or-treaters completely. Try putting the candy away in a place that is out of sight and you may find that the kids forget about it after a few days. Mix leftover candy with whole-grain cereal, nuts and a few pretzels to make

a homemade trail mix for snacks.

Make this Halloween an opportunity to enjoy special treats in moderation as part of an overall healthy diet. END

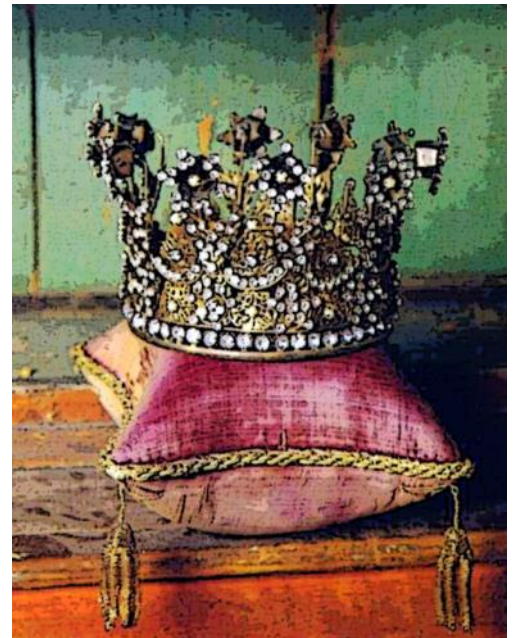
Source: Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics



[Marquia Whitehead](#) [September 25 at 11:33pm](#)

Well Queens....

Before you go to sleep, be sure to lay your crown on the pillow. In the morning, adjust it and get ready for an awesome week! [#TimeForSuccess#Queens](#) [#Goodnight](#)



[Erica Franklin-Carter](#) [September 23 at 9:17am](#)

If there's any readers in the group, I'd love it if you all would check out my second release!! Thanks in advance!! Now available!!! Only 0.99¢ and FREE w/ KU!!!



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The Southern View Magazine will be sharing positive and inspiring posts from "The Thoughts of Women" Facebook page!

SVM

Faith House Celebrates Domestic Violence Awareness Month Change Matters!

By Michelle Izzo-Voss, Faith House

More than **one in three women** have experienced physical violence, rape and/or stalking by a partner in their lifetime. **Change Matters!**

Nationwide, a woman is battered every **nine seconds**. **Change Matters!**

Four million women in the United States experience a serious assault by a partner during an average 12-month period. **Change Matters!**

Approximately **15.5 million children** are exposed to domestic violence each year. **Change Matters!**



During the entire month of October, organizations across the United States are working to bring awareness to domestic violence as they proudly display the color purple—the color representing domestic violence awareness.

Louisiana actually ranks **3rd in the nation** in the number of women murdered by men and half of homeless women and children are fleeing domestic violence. **Change Matters!** We must resolve to change society's views of domestic violence and take a stand against all forms of abuse. Every individual can make an impact in reducing violence in our community through a variety of means.

“**Change**” can look like:

- Changing how we treat others;
- Changing the stereotypical views of men, women and relationships;
- Creating change by standing up to all types of violence; supporting a friend you suspect is in an abusive relationship and encouraging them to seek help.
- Creating Change by advocating for stronger laws to protect victims of abuse

Another way **Change Matters** is through raising funds to support the various programs Faith House offers to survivors of domestic violence. Faith House believes that many people giving small amounts of change can do as much good as a few people giving a lot. A dollar or two, or just a handful of change; that's all it takes to create Change in our community and provide safety and shelter for those in need.

If you know someone who you suspect is being abused by an intimate partner, there are immediate ways you can help.

- **Listen:** if someone reaches out to you, support them by explaining they do not deserve the abuse; it's not their fault.
- **Speak up:** Call police if you see an assault; help hold the abusers accountable.
- **Believe:** Believe in the victim, show them their words carry meaning. Let them know: “You Don't Deserve This”, “It's Not your Fault”, “Help Is Available”

You too, can help spread awareness during the Month of October or any month you choose. Paint the Town Purple and create **Change that Matters** in our community. Hosting a **Change Matters** drive will let Faith House continue the lifesaving services provided every day to those fleeing domestic violence.

If you are interested in our Paint the Town Purple Awareness Campaign or hosting a Change Matters Drive, please contact Faith House at 337-267-9422 ext. 1825.

END

Faith House is a domestic violence crisis center whose mission is to provide safety, shelter, empowerment and advocacy to survivors of domestic violence and their children. The center has six components: an emergency shelter, a non-residential program, a transitional housing program, a permanent housing program, a 24-hour crisis line and a public education program. Faith House provides services in seven parishes throughout south and central Louisiana. To learn more about domestic violence and Faith House services visit www.FaithHouseAcadiana.com.

This article is in Remembrance of Jamie Porter James, a victim of Domestic Violence on February 27, 2016

In Loving Remembrance of my dear friend, Jamie Porter James. The lives of Jamie and her mother, Adeline Porter Etienne were tragically and horrifically taken on February 27, 2016 by Jamie's exboyfriend.



Adeline Porter Etienne



Jamie Elizabeth Porter James



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Outstanding Democrat Award
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and Attorney Glenn Armentor



Kristopher Harrison, Gabrielle Stewart and James
Thomas



US Senate Candidate Caroline Fayard, Congressional
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9th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards Banquet



Important & Upcoming Elections

2016 ELECTIONS

SOURCE: <http://www.sos.la.gov/>

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Get Involved!

Date of Election	March 5	April 9	May 14	November 8	December 10
Type of Election	Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Primary	Municipal General/ Special Primary	Special General	Open Primary/ Presidential/ Congressional	Open General/ Congressional
Deadline: Special Races	11/4/2015	n/a	n/a	6/22/2016	n/a
Deadline: Propositions	11/4/2015	2/23/2016	n/a	6/22/2016	10/25/2016
Qualifying Dates	12/2/2015 – 12/4/2015	Special Election 3/7/2016 - 3/9/2016	n/a	* 7/20/2016 – 7/22/2016	n/a
Last Day to Register to Vote	2/3/2016	3/9/2016	4/13/2016	** 10/11/2016	11/9/2016
Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar (other than Military and Overseas)	3/1/2016	4/5/2016	5/10/2016	11/4/2016	12/6/2016
Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot (other than Military and Overseas)	3/4/2016	4/8/2016	5/13/2016	11/7/2016	12/9/2016
Early Voting Begins	2/20/2016	3/26/2016	4/30/2016	10/25/2016	11/26/2016
Early Voting Ends	2/27/2016	4/2/2016	5/7/2016	11/1/2016	12/3/2016

US Senate & Congressional Candidates

By Susannah Johnson Malbreux

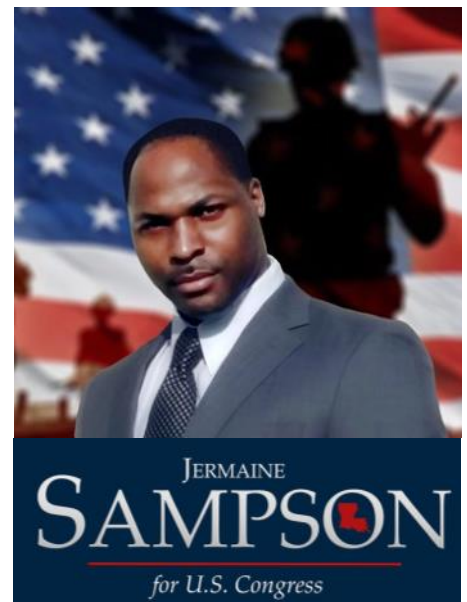


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Current Volunteer Work Stations

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ARC of Acadiana
Diocese of Lafayette
First Presbyterian Church
Hospice of Acadiana
Jean LaFitte Nat'l Park
Lafayette Consolidated Government
Lafayette General Medical Center
Mary House
Retired & Senior Volunteer Program
United Christian Outreach

Acadiana Heritage Apartments
Bethany MHS Health Care Center
Evangeline Oaks Guest House
Gethsemane Christian Academy
Imani Temple #49
Lady of the Oaks Retirement Manor
Lafayette Convention Visitors Commission
Lamm Family Care
Muscular Dystrophy Association
River Oaks Retirement Manor
United Way of Acadiana

Amelia Manor Nursing Home
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The Importance of a College Education



By: Seanathan Polidore

While living in the Do-It-Yourself, self-starter, fast track to entrepreneurship age many people have asked me what is the point of going to college in this day and time. In the past, from childhood through your early adulthood you were drilled to go to college after high school as if it was just another natural progression in life. Now with many more opportunities of various types popping up out of nowhere, a lot of teens and young adults are the fences more than any time before as to whether they should take the bold move to pursue a college education or not. In this article, I shall reveal a few of the vital components to a college education that does not get spoken of enough when a college education is the topic of discussion.

College can make you a visionary



Whether you are participating in a two -year degree or attending a four- year university, we all know that college is not a fly by night type of goal. For many students, they will change their major many times and for others, they may change schools altogether over the course of their college career. To be a successful college student, you will need the ability to chart out a large overarching goal, deconstruct that

goal into smaller workable chunks, and lastly be able to go about executing that plan to completion despite the bumps of life that may come along your way. Whatever your voyage to the finish line may be, once you graduate you will have proven that you possess the ability to see a long term goal to manifestation. Which is something that many people without the college experience lack in their repertoire as your long term sightseeing will play a significant role in all of your future endeavors. Starting a new career, building a business, creating a family or just investing will all require that you understand and embrace the beauty of deferred compensation for all of the hard work that you put into a goal that you will want the immediate return on investment for by nature. College and life can prove themselves to be a game of patience to be victorious.

Expand Your Personal & Professional Development



A great dynamic about the college experience is the vast demographic of people that you will have to opportunity to interact with. Numerous organizations, clubs, and societies afford you the opportunity to foster life-long bonds with like-minded people. Once you are out of college, a large number of your peers will be the supervisor, managers, CEO and owners of a wide range of occupations spread throughout the nation. If you have formed strong enough bonds, these are the very people that may be able to help you find your future

employment or introduce you to the proper circle of people to carve out your path to being an owner in your right. The relationships that you form during the formative years from boy to man will benefit you greatly in the network of resources you want to create to aid in future success.

Climb the Corporate Ladder at a Higher Rate



I have always viewed a college degree as a passport. You don't need a passport to go from one country to the next physically, but the rules and regulations say that you do. The same holds true for a lot of the higher paying occupations and positions in a lot of jobs in the workforce. Corporations want to know that you can be disciplined enough to be trusted with larger tasks that can be responsible enough to govern yourself in getting the job done without supervision. Most important they want to know that you have spent some time studying and hands on doing the operations they require in their respective realm of expertise. A significant number of jobs require that managers and supervisors to have a college degree before they let you have the responsibility of having subordinates under your direct influence. This is a significant area where having a college degree will directly impact your ability to break through the "glass ceiling" and improve your

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

COLLEGE EDUCATION CONTINUED

earning potential and quality of life.

Increase your Self-Efficacy



Nothing compares to the boost in confidence that will you gain in yourself once you have proven that you can take on life's biggest challenges and come out on the other side unscathed. In college you are required to tackle large assignments, decipher the information your own, troubleshoot any technical difficulties that WILL come along way, all the while still demanding that you perform your scholarly duties at a high level. After you have displayed these qualities week in and week out over the course of your college career, you feel as if there is no mission in life that you can't handle. The minute you leave that graduation stage you will hold your head a bit higher, your shoulders will drop more, and your chest will protrude forward with extra pride like you have never experienced before. This sense of accomplishment will carry over into all of the other areas of your life.

Create a Legacy for your Family

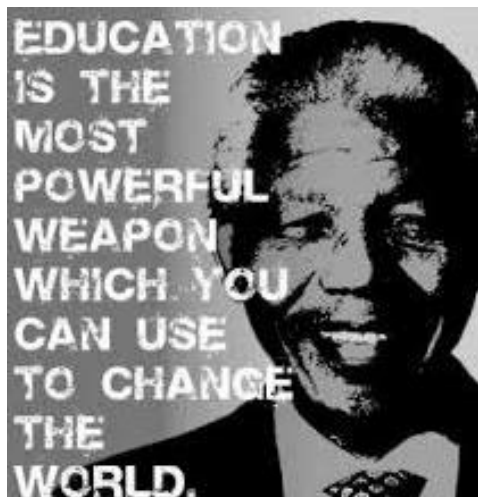
The most important reasons for a person to pursue a college degree in my opinion would be to leave a lasting legacy for your family. Children that are raised by parents who have never acquired a college degree have a decreased chance of receiving one for themselves. When you earn your college degree, you have now set the educational expectation for your direct household and the

generations to come. Some children have never seen a college campus in person; have never seen a college graduation, and no idea of what a college diploma looks like. How can we push our children to make good grades earn the opportunity to go to a place that they can't conceive? By taking on your personal college journey, you afford your family with the



chance to make all of the sights and sounds of the college experience tangible to them when you speak of it at home. By way of you getting your college education, the glass ceiling is forever lifted off of the generations that will sprout down your family tree and the expectation of excellence will be elevated to an all time high. The same way that some of the ills of society can become a generation curse over individual families, we can flip that dynamic to our advantage and create families that are destined for success because our bloodline makes it so.

END



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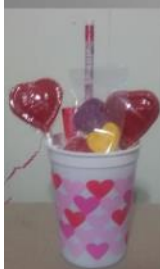
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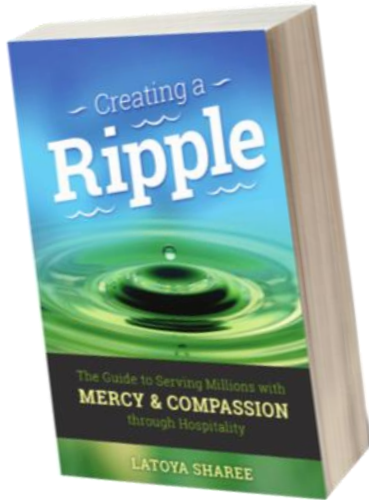
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Business Spotlight

Creating a Ripple: The Guide to Serving Millions with Mercy & Compassion through Hospitality



When most people think of hospitality, they think about the industry of service. After doing a little bit more research I discovered that the Greek definition of hospitality is "love of strangers".

In this book, you will learn how to create ripples of love and peace in every aspect of your life. We will go deeper than learning how to make your holiday parties better. We will learn how to build great relationships with strangers, the ones you love and cherish, to seeing a homeless person in a different way. This book is going to make you think and hopefully change the way you look at your life, others and the world as a whole.

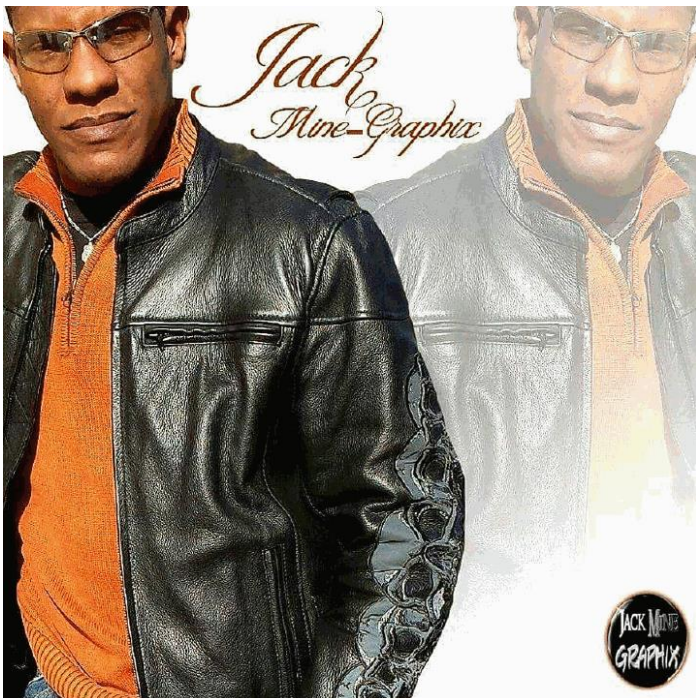
From janitorial workers, restaurant servers, stay at home mom/dads, police officers to CEOs of multi-billion dollar corporations, this book is for everyone. Read with an open heart and mind and think of the many ways you can incorporate and start creating ripples in your everyday life.

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LaToya Sharee is the author of the new book entitled "Creating a Ripple: The Guide to Serving Millions with Mercy & Compassion through Hospitality"

LaToya Sharee is an entrepreneur, hospitality trainer, keynote speaker, published author and certified Christian life coach. Her drive and fervor coupled with over twelve years of experience as an executive assistant and customer service manager, were key components that led her to found and continue to run her own private international hospitality support firm. LaToya also manages Elite Life Coaching Through Love, where she coaches women and young girls out of the hands of depression and into the arms of love. It is LaToya's implicit desire to continue to amplify the success of those in her path by displaying true hospitality.

LaToya offers a planning, writing & publishing course. Please contact her if you are interested or have questions.



Contact LaToya Sharee

Office: 470.296.3351

www.latoyasharee.com ls@latoyasharee.com

November 8th Election Day!



Life for a black, African American or person of color (which ever description you choose to identify with) in America, is an interesting thing, to say the least. From the moment of our arrival here, we have bared and weathered some of the cruelest and inhumane conditions and situations than any other race of people on the planet. Ponder this... The majority of people of color here cannot trace back their lineage more than 2 or 3 generations. It is not for the lack of trying or desire to be enlightened in this area, but it is due to the system of chattel slavery that abounded at this countries inception. So many family ties and connections have been severed and placed into a pocket of irreconcilable repair that many have just settled for only knowing their immediate ancestry and nothing more. But what has been the effect of this "disconnection" from our roots? Before I delve into that, let me highlight what we were given along with the disconnection. From the moment that our ancestors were taken into captivity, the conditioning to remove every aspect of who they truly were began. Our people endured the most harsh, unlivable conditions known to humankind. They were taken away from their homeland and on top of that, stripped of all that they believed and lived by. Even their native

language was shunned and they were punished for trying to uphold it.

Fast forward to today.... It is an election year, on the heels of the final term of the 1st African American president. While having the first African American president elected was an astronomical feat, the resurgence and resurfacing of racial under and overtones have become more and more prevalent. I mention this being an election year for the simple purpose of highlighting the state of the black community, as we stand going forward. After the primary elections, we now stand with two very different, but very similar candidates on the ticket (Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump). I don't have to go in depth about the differences,



because they each do their best to make them clear and plain to us on a daily basis. But what I will point out are their similarities. Both of these candidates have had their share of "instances" with the African American community, yet one has been a bit more subtle in their approach. But if you were to probe into their history TOGETHER, you would see that they both operate out of the same boat and are actually friends. And we all should be aware that politics is just a game of preserving

power for those who are already in power. Once you have this understanding, it changes your approach to this topic all together. But we will come back to this.

On our social front; emotions are on an all-time high! You have protests of all sorts taking place (marches, boycotts, sit downs, etc.) at all levels. We have "patriots" that are pushing the narrative of nationalism being synonymous to total agreement and adherence to the right. When in actuality, the very foundation that birthed the so-called "patriotism" was created and enforced by a set of laws that did not see every man as an equal.... To the contrary, people of color were viewed as property and 3/5th of a person. Police brutality and corruption is plaguing society as a whole, but even more concentrated in urban communities. Our youth are dying at the hands of each other and they are being locked up for it and losing their lives. But at the same time, the police are able to carry out some of the same acts without recourse. Even with all of our efforts and acts of kindness and forgiveness, it doesn't seem that much is changing in our favor.

With all of this said... how can we truly find our light in the proverbial tunnel? In my opinion, the only way to overcome is to UNITE!!



CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

While this has been the mantra for ages, as a people, we are more divided now than ever. Thanks to technology and advances in general, it has become easier for us to distance ourselves from each other over time. But this has to change! We still have issues of colorism, religious decree and status that seem to keep a wedge between us and the forward progress of our people. And when you combine this with the lack of opportunities, disparities in education and absence of means to seek it out, you now have the state in which we find ourselves. But the major issue concerning our community is that of our socioeconomic status. Basically, we are behind the curb on the world's financial scale! While this is not our fault completely (as others had a jump start with free land and labor), it is upon the US to change this. In order to do so, it is imperative that we take a page out of Black Wall Street's (Tulsa, OK 1920s) book. We have to begin to take control of the dollar and how it flows within our communities. When you look around this country, each major group of people has their own collective community. The Chinese have Chinatown, the Koreans have K-Town, etc. But when you come into the black community, everything is black EXCEPT the businesses!! You CAN NOT go into these other communities and setup shop, because they have people and law makers in place to ensure that



you don't. And this brings me back to the topic of politics. In Washington, NOTHING gets before congress or passed with it being presented or lobbied. But how do lobbyists get their agendas before them so that they pass? I will tell you, it is all about the money. If you cannot put forth the capital, it won't make it to the capitol! It is plain and simple. And the same applies within our communities. It is imperative that we are able to place those that have our best interests at heart within those areas that we need. Until then, we will continue to be in this endless circle and striving for change that will never come.



In closing... although things may seem to be a bit rough right now, we WILL get through it!! We are the most resilient people on this earth. But it will take the unification of us all in order to see any type of progress. We have to unite financially, socially and as a community in order to be strong enough to weather the storms that may come our way. The moment we begin to embrace these ideals, we can begin to build the change that WE need from within and no longer look for it from those on the outside. I have said none of this in malice of any other race or ethnicity, but if you can't love yourself and your own people... how can you truly walk in love for your fellow man? One Love!

END

Brian K. Steward is an author, motivational speaker, youth life coach and two service (Army & Navy) veteran. A native of Franklin, LA. Brian left the area immediately after high school in order to pursue his dream of being in the armed forces. While serving, Brian held fast to his love of writing and community. "To make a difference in one, so that they can BE the difference for more!" This has been the mantra that drives Brian to unselfishly give his all to all that he encounters. Brian is also a husband and father of two beautiful children.

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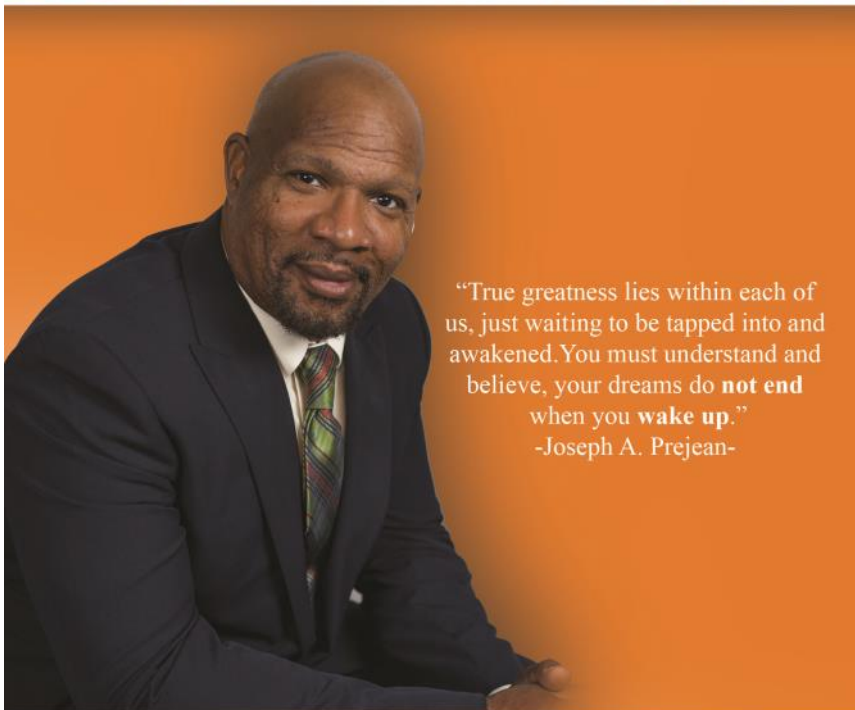
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Business Spotlight



By Joseph A. Prejean, Motivational Speaker
Edited by Sherry T. Broussard



JP
Joseph Prejean
Professional Speaker



If there were two words that could sum up Joseph “Big Poppa” Prejean it would be “real and relatable”. While resting on these two core values as a dynamic communicator, Joseph Prejean is able to impact a wide range of individuals.

As Joe puts it himself, “In reality the only thing that differentiates the offender and the executive is outlook, attitude, and opportunity.” Joseph Prejean truly believes that greatness lies within you waiting to be tapped into and awakened. While roadblocks are inevitable, Joseph Prejean specializes in showing individuals and corporations the “DETOUR” sign to transition from mediocrity to maximizing their full potentials. Joe grew up in the foster care system in a crowded home, where motivation and hope was hard to find. Joseph knew his only chance to make it out and succeed was to dedicate himself to working hard, every day of his life. Today, Joseph Prejean can proudly look back at his life and see his success in overcoming his childhood, two years in prison, and other brokenness. As a successful businessman himself, Joe is devoted to sharing his message of hard work and perseverance with others in need. Everyone has great dreams, and Joseph truly believes, “Your dreams do not end when you wake up.” With lessons learned from Joe’s speaking, you can follow those dreams and make them your new reality.

“True greatness lies within each of us, just waiting to be tapped into and awakened. You must understand and believe, your dreams do not end when you wake up.”
Joseph A. Prejean

CONTACT: 337.417.1536
800 W. Congress Street, Suite B; Lafayette, LA
<http://josephprejean.com/>

Left: Angela Guillory (Mother-in-law); Mrs. Louisiana Juanita Prejean, wife of Joseph Prejean, Joseph and their son, Kingston.

Offering Support at a Time of Loss



By Stephen W. Bartley

For people of any age, the death of a parent can be a time of enormous challenge, but perhaps none feel this pain more acutely than children. And each year, an estimated 2½ million children in the United States under the age of 18 experience this trauma.¹

In these circumstances, it's very important for children to get support from the adults around them. For adults, this task must not start with assumptions about what children understand or feel about death. It is also vital to be patient with children as they attempt to express their feelings. Adults often think kids are resilient and they are “too young” to grieve. Actually, all children grieve, often in ways different than adults.

Just being ready to listen attentively is a very good way to start. But the main thing you need to do is to demonstrate in some way that you are there to provide help in whatever way you can.

What Should You Say?

- What should you say to a child who has just experienced a loss? Here are some suggestions²:
- wish I had the right words, just know I care.
- You and your loved one will be in my thoughts and prayers.
- I am so sorry for your loss.
- My favorite memory of your loved one is...
- Sometimes it's just best to be with the child and not say anything.

Resources You Can Turn To

If you or someone close to you is experiencing a loss and needs help coping, resources you can turn to include: your primary health care provider, a community-based bereavement program or hospice service, counseling services, a faith group, friends and family members or even Web-based support services. Any of these can provide a start on helping children heal.

This educational third-party article is being provided as a courtesy by [\[Stephen Bartley, Agent\]](#).

For additional information on the information or topic (s) discussed, please contact

[\[Stephen Bartley\]](#) at [\[sbartley@bartleyfinancial.net\]](mailto:sbartley@bartleyfinancial.net) or [\(337\) 366-1495](tel:337-366-1495).

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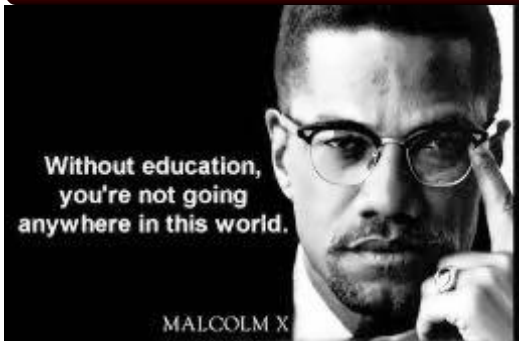
¹ Social Security Administration (2000). Intermediate Assumptions of the 2000 Trustees Report. Washington, D.C.: Office of the Chief Actuary of the Social Security Administration.

² Kessler, David and Kubler-Ross, Elizabeth (2005). *On Grief and Grieving*. New York: Scribner.

To learn more about the information or topics discussed, please contact Stephen Bartley at 337-366-1495.



We have to put a stop to this...



In a video, over 50 years ago, Malcolm X explained how cops get away with murder! Malcolm also said, "We have to put a stop to this. And it will never be stopped until we stop it ourselves."

<https://www.facebook.com/OccupyDemocrats/videos/1178091962283856/?pnref=story.unseen-section>

My question to a few UL Lafayette College students was, "How do We stop it"?



The best way to avoid the repeat cases is to educate ourselves and those around us of the law. The reason white cops still kill us is because they are naturally intimidated by black people. Unfortunately, no amount of riots and angry protests will fix this. In fact, violence is only exacerbating the situation. We have to take it upon ourselves to know the law and be compliant to the law. Of course, it's a two-way street: cops ALSO need to know the law and abide by it. This prejudice and natural intimidation is all a product of ignorance. How do we combat ignorance? Knowledge. We educate ourselves and be smart about any precarious situation we may find ourselves in. *By Jeff Prevot, Information Technology*

Compliance. In order for us to stop the violence and show the world that we will not back down is by being compliant. We, as African Americans, so desperately want to win the battle that we forget about the war. In order to win, we have to show them [the police] that we are stronger, we are wiser, and that our spirit will not be broken. At the end of the day, police are people too. It is so easy to forget that they have families and friends and homes they want to go back too. I believe it is a necessity to have police officers psychologically evaluated every six (6) months. Police officers undergo a lot of physical and mental stress which might cause them to react in ways they normally wouldn't. This, of course, is no excuse for their actions; but, I believe it might be an explanation. As a community, it is our job to help police officers like it's their job to help us. We need to make sure they are getting the proper mental treatment ensure we avoid the reoccurring instances that are happening to the people of our nation. It is also our job to be compliant. Like stated before, we do not know the stress level of the officer that a person may be dealing with. The safest bet is to be compliant and if there is trouble, report the officer to his/or department head rather than trying to pick a fight.



By Gabrielle Stewart, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Criminal Justice major, Psychology minor

Malcolm's final words of the clip really resonated with me. "In America democracy is hypocrisy." It resonated with me so well because it is still relevant. The relevancy is so frightening. It still applies to the corrupt system we call the United States judicial system. I believe that we have taken necessary precautions to stop some of the brutality against black people like dashboard cameras and body cameras. Cameras provide evidence, evidence provides justice, and justice is what black America wants. However, even with these measures taken to ensure we get justice we still have instances of extreme, deadly police brutality. So my solution is to start dismantling systematic racism first and foremost. The oppressors clearly do not see as human and even if we conduct ourselves in a way they see most fit, we will still get killed. So, even though we shouldn't have to educate them on the basics, we should start by educating. Educating the youth in schools, not just glossing over the civil rights era. Educating the police officers thoroughly, not just training them to shoot and kill. I believe education is key. *By Madison Dugas*



CONTINUED ON PAGE 35



After watching the video of Malcolm X speak on the issue of cops getting away with murder, I can agree that this is still very relevant to today and what I think the black community can do to stop this is by becoming active members of our community. Not only should we be demanding respect but attention. We get that attention by taking upon ourselves to vote. I often hear a lot of people especially people my age say voting is pointless because our votes don't matter but to quote our current president "Don't Boo, Vote!". Even though it seems like votes for the president don't matter, who we put in our local government can at least change our communities. We can also encourage and support when black officials run for office. I feel like the lack of representation in the local offices is one of the reasons that riots of Ferguson happened. I also think getting to meet and work with the officers in the black community is very important. Sadly because of the events that have happen throughout the year of 2016, I do feel that there is a lot of hostile feelings between black people and police officers. There is a belief that all cops are bad but coming from Lafayette and having a few family members who worked many years for the department in Vermillion Parish, I can say honestly there are good cops. We need the cops to stand with the protesters and acknowledge that enough is enough. It is up to us as a community to stop having black men and women become a hashtag. I feel coming together and demanding attention to these crimes is the only way we can stop cops from getting away with murdering innocent black people.

By Courtney Johnson, Psychology major

END

QUOTES BY MALCOLM X:

"A race of people is like an individual man; until it uses its own talent, takes pride in its own history, expresses its own culture, affirms its own selfhood, it can never fulfill itself."

"You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom."

"Who taught you to hate the color of your skin? Who taught you to hate the texture of your hair? Who taught you to hate the shape of your nose and the shape of your lips? Who taught you to hate yourself from the top of your head to the soles of your feet?"

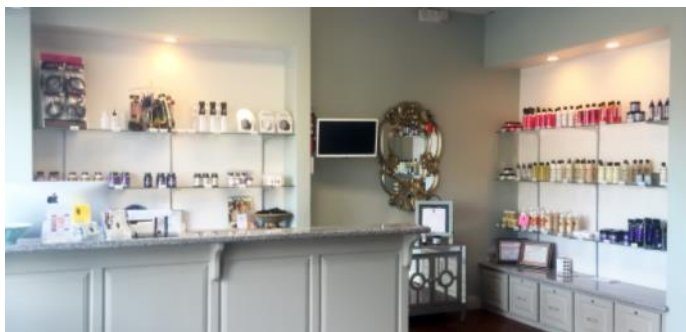


Curly Couture is a natural hair product retail store & a natural hair salon located at 601 Kaliste Saloom Rd. Suite I-B Lafayette, LA.

The doors for Curly Couture opened on January 5, 2016. For those unfamiliar with the term "natural hair", it is used to define kinky, coily, curly, or wavy hair that has not been straightened through chemical processing.

The idea for an exclusive spot for naturals was born from my personal struggle with my young daughter's hair. She struggled with moisture retention, breakage, and split ends. All research and education was strictly online; which of course was not customized to fit me personally. There was not a location in Lafayette where I could physically speak to educated and licensed professionals.

Curly Couture specializes in creating & growing healthy strong hair. We then educate the customer on how to maintain their natural tresses in between salon visits.



A few of the services offered

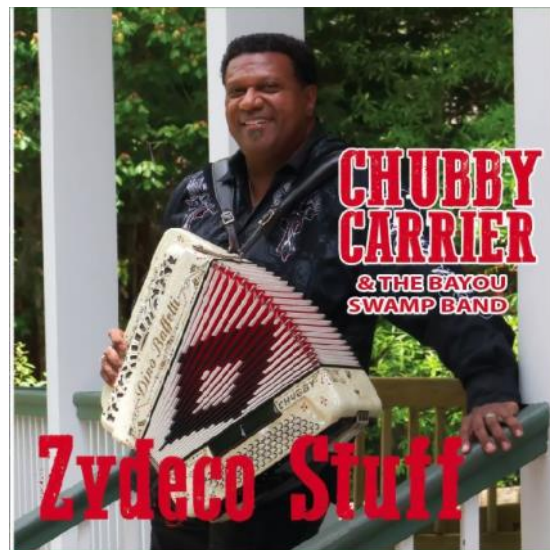
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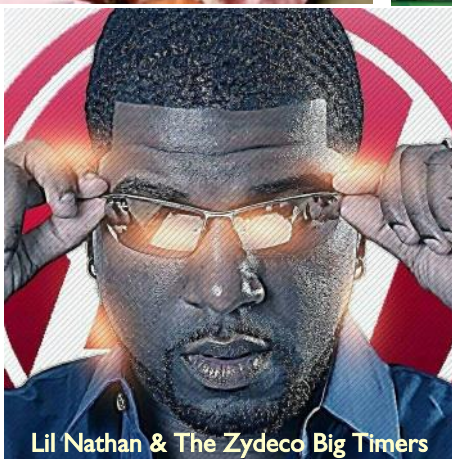
A Glimpse of Lafayette Musicians...



National BRA Day

BREAST RECONSTRUCTION AWARENESS BENEFIT

Professionals and Breast Cancer Survivors unite to benefit local charities.



A Few October Black History Facts

- ◆ 1st 1940 - Charles Drew named supervisor of the "Plasma for Great Britain" project.
- ◆ 3rd 1956 - Nat King Cole becomes first Black performer to host his own TV show.
- ◆ 4th 1864 - First Black daily newspaper, The New Orleans Tribune, founded.
- ◆ 10th 1899 - Isaac R. Johnson patents bicycle frame.
- ◆ 11th 1887 - Granville T. Woods patents telephone system and apparatus.
- ◆ 13th 1579 - Martin de Porres, the first Black saint in the Roman Catholic Church, born. Garret A. Morgan patents the gas mask.
- ◆ 14th 1964 - At age 35, Martin Luther King, Jr. becomes youngest man ever to win Nobel Peace Prize.
- ◆ 15th 1991 - Clarence Thomas confirmed as an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, the second African American to serve on the court.
- ◆ 16th 1995 - Million Man March held in Washington, D.C.
- ◆ 17th 1888 - Capital Savings Bank of Washington, D.C., first bank for blacks, organized.
- ◆ 20th 1898 - The first African American-owned insurance company, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, founded.
- ◆ 22th 1953 - Clarence S. Green becomes first African American certified in neurological surgery.
- ◆ 23th 1947 - The NAACP petitions the United States on racial conditions in the U.S.
- ◆ 25th 1992 - Toronto Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston becomes first African American to manage a team to the World Series.
- ◆ 27th 1954 - Benjamin O. Davis Jr. becomes first African American general in U.S. Air Force.
- ◆ 30th 1979 - Richard Arrington elected first African American mayor of Birmingham, Alabama.

SOURCE: <http://www.camden.k12.nj.us/ECMS/Black%20History%20-%20October%20Page.htm>

Stanley "Buckwheat" Dural, Jr. (November 14, 1947 – September 24, 2016)



Stanley Dural, Jr., better known by his stage name Buckwheat Zydeco, was an American accordionist and zydeco musician. He was one of the few zydeco artists to achieve mainstream success.

If you've gotten into Zydeco music, or felt its influence, or watched the world celebrate this great aspect of Louisiana culture over the past 30 years it's likely been because of Buckwheat Zydeco. The band can claim the three largest selling Zydeco albums of all time. No other Zydeco artist has come close to selling as many records or exposing the music to more people around the world. Bringing the unique sound of Zydeco into the musical mainstream, Buckwheat Zydeco released the first-ever major label Zydeco album in 1987: Island Records'

"On A Night Like This." Last month Jimmy Fallon asked Buckwheat Zydeco to play that title tune with him and the Roots to [kick off his final *Late Night* show](#) before taking over the *Tonight Show*.

Over the course of Buckwheat Zydeco's career, Buck has gigged with everyone from Eric Clapton (with whom Buckwheat also recorded) and U2 to The Boston Pops. The band performed at the closing ceremonies of the 1996 Summer Olympics to a worldwide audience of three billion people. Buckwheat Zydeco even performed at both of President Clinton's Inaugurals. More national television appearances include PBS's tribute to Paul Simon, where Buck performed with Lyle Lovett; sitting in with Paul Shaffer on *The Late Show With David Letterman* (and playing "Hot Tamale Baby" for Martha Stewart); and feting Ozzie Osbourne among other's on VH-1's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Buck

was recently profiled in a ten minute feature by Scott Simon, on National Public Radio's *Weekend Edition Saturday*. The band has appeared six times on *Letterman*, and on *CNN*, *The Today Show*, *MTV*, *NBC News*, *CBS Morning News* and many others.

BUCKWHEAT
Zydeco



In the Spotlight! A glimpse of past events...

July 30, 2016 Social Security Part II ~ Birthday Celebration Lafayette, LA



August 8, 2016 14th Annual "Kuts for Kids" & "Stuff A Backpack" Lafayette, LA



September 14, 2016 SMILE RSVP ~ 911/Day Observance With 1st Responders ~ Lafayette, LA





October 4, 2016 National Night Out Against Violence , Lafayette, La



October 6, 2016 Open House and Tour, Lafayette Renaissance Charter Academy Lafayette, La



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