Volume 23 Issue 5
P.O. BOX 771 Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902
50 CENTS

ANTONIO JONES THRIVES IN D. C.

U.S. Senator Mark Pryor thanks Antonio Jones of Fort Smith who is interning in his Washington D.C. office. During his five-week internship, Jones has assisted Pryor with constituent services, legislative activities, communications, and administrative responsibilities. He has also volunteered weekly at a local soup kitchen.

Antonio is the son of Lois Jones and the grandson of lincolnettes Jean and Graylyn Jones.

DICK GREGORY HONORED

Legendary comedian-actor activist Dick Gregory will receive a coveted star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame next year.

“We know that the new selections represent the best of the entertainment industry and will be a great addition to the Walk of Fame for both the Hollywood community and fans from around the world who visit Hollywood every year,” Maureen Schultz, Chair of the Walk of Fame selection committee, said in a statement.

The 82-year-old comedian, author, and entrepreneur, has also earned enduring respect as one of the first black stand-up comedians to cross the color line by performing in a white nightclub, namely Chicago’s Playboy Club in 1961. A quick trip through Gregory’s bio attests to his resilience and fearlessness. He participated in sit-ins and voter registration drives led by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in the ‘60s. He ran for president in 1968 as a candidate for the Freedom and Peace Party, earning somewhere between approximately 50,000 according to The New York Times) and 1.5 million votes his own bio.He’s been researching and publishing counter-narratives on key events in American history since the ‘60s, publishing books on the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and John F. Kennedy, among other topics. And as for that “entrepreneur” title, during the ’90s and ’90s, Gregory promoted a powdered diet mix (the Bahamanian Diet Nutritional Drink), which he said would help the famously 1200-pound Walter Hudson get down to a healthy weight.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HUDSONS’

Mr. and Mrs. James Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. James Hudson, of Roland celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. They were married June 26th, 1989.

Mrs. Hudson, the former Diane Brock of Roland, is retired from Whirlpool.

Mr. Hudson is a retired army veteran from Alzheimer, Arkansas.

The New Serenity House follow up will be posted on the web at: www.thelincolnecho.com"
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY JULY

July 1, 1889 - Frederick Douglass named U.S. Minister to Haiti.

July 2, 1872 - Elijah McCoy patents his first self-lubricating locomotive engine. The quality of his inventions helped coin the phrase "The Real McCoy".

July 3, 1889 - Frederick Douglass named U.S. Minister to Haiti.

July 2, 1872 - Elijah McCoy patents his first self-lubricating locomotive engine. The quality of his inventions helped coin the phrase "The Real McCoy".

July 3, 1688 - The Quakers in Germantown, Pa., make the first formal protest against slavery.

July 4, 1900 - Trumpeter Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, jazz pioneer, born.

July 5, 1892 - Andrew J. Beard patents rotary engine.

July 6, 1957 - Althea Gibson wins women's singles title at Wimbledon, becoming first African American to win tennis's most prestigious award.


July 8, 1943 - Faye Wattleton, first African American director of Planned Parenthood, born.

July 9, 1893 - Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performs first successful open-heart operation.

July 10, 1875 - Educator Mary McLeod Bethune, founder of Bethune-Cookman college, born.

July 11, 1905 - W.E.B. Du Bois and William Monroe Trotter organize the Niagara Movement, which demanded abolition of all race distinctions.

July 12, 1949 - Frederick M. Jones patents air-conditioning unit used in food transportation vehicles.


July 14, 1955 - George Washington Carver Monument, first national park honoring an African American, is dedicated in Joplin, Mo.

July 15, 1867 - Maggie Lena Walker, first woman and first African American to become president of a bank.


July 17, 1953 - Jesse D. Locker appointed U.S. Ambassador to Liberia.

July 18, 1939 - Saxophonist Coleman Hawkins records "Body and Soul" one of the classics of jazz.

July 19, 1925 - Paris debut of Josephine Baker, entertainer, activist and humanitarian.

July 20, 1950 - First U.S. victory in Korea won by Black troops of the 24th Infantry Regiment.

July 21, 1886 - Mary Church Terrell elected first president of the National Association of Colored Women.

July 22, 1939 - Jane M. Bolin of New York City, appointed first African American female judge.

July 23, 1778 - More than 700 Blacks participate in Battle of Monmouth (NJ).

July 24, 1807 - Shakespearean actor Ira Aldridge, born in New York City.

July 25, 1916 - Garrett Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescues six people from gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio.

July 26, 1948 - President Harry S. Truman issues Executive Order 9981, ending segregation in the U.S. armed forces.


July 28, 1866 - 14th Amendment granting Blacks full citizenship rights, becomes part of the Constitution.

July 29, 1895 - First National Conference of Colored Women Convention is held in Boston.

July 30, 1822 - James Varick becomes first bishop of African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

July 31, 1874 - Patrick Francis Healy inaugurated as president of Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

2014 REUNION AND HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

The Holiday Inn City Center will be the host hotel again this year as former Lincoln High School students come home from all across the United States to renew friendships, remember those who have passed on and relive the wonderful, fun-filled happy days of our youth. They will come by train, plane, bus or car just to be surrounded by precious memories of growing up in Fort Smith and once again hear old friends call out childhood nicknames.

We have been invited back to the Lincoln Youth Service Center by Director, Alvin Bradley for Registration Week which starts on Monday, July 21st at 9:00am and runs through Friday, July 25th at 5:00pm. Reunion guests will be able to pick up registration packets, purchase t-shirts, souvenir books and other memorabilia. Pre-registered guests arriving after Friday at 5:00pm will need to call 479-420-1162 to pick up packets.

The Reunion weekend events will begin Friday morning, 10:00am at Elm Grove Community Center in MLK Park for a ceremony honoring the late Dr. H.P. McDonald. Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. Fort Smith Chapter, along with FS Parks and Recreation Dept. and FS Historical Society, will place a memorial bench at the park in his honor. The public is invited to attend.

Other exciting activities include:

Meet & Greet night with a dance at the Holiday Inn on Friday 7:00pm; Mayor’s Luncheon at Kay Rogers Park Pavilion on Saturday at 11:00am and the Awards Banquet on Saturday night, 6:30pm, hosted by the Classes of 1965 and 1966. These alumni members represent the last two graduating classes at Lincoln High School. We will worship together on Sunday at a local church and have a family picnic at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park on Sunday afternoon from 2:00pm – 5:00pm.

*For Hotel reservations, call Holiday Inn City Center at 479-783-1000. Registrations fees may be mailed to LHSAA, P.O. Box 4020, FS, AR 72914

For more information, contact:
Sherry Toliver, Alumni President
Office: (479) 434-4854
Mobile (479) 420-1162
Email: stoliv44@gmail.com
By Allene Stafford

Denise J. Gordon Johnson Writes:

Family Fun In Fort Smith, Arkansas

THIS-charming small amusement park at 2000 S. Wells Lake Road. 479-452-3993

Deer Acres Zoo-916 Jenson Road in Alma-479-632-0700.

Midland Bowl-Kelley Hwy & North 32nd-479-646-5050. 72 lanes of fun, 12 pool tables, an arcade, a snack shop, a pro shop, and Xtreme glow bowling.

Bowling World-6100 S. 36th Street.-479-646-8805

Gator Miniature Golf-7200 South Zero in Ben Geren Park-479-646-6015

Putt Putt Golf and Games-4901 Towson Avenue-479-646-3677

Crystal Palace Skating Rink-3800-3900 South 70th-479-452-0973

Jack's Skateland-1411 Phoenix Avenue-479-452-4706

Chuck-E-Chees's-14-18 Central Shopping Center Place-479-452-0111

Boon-Doc's Paintball Park-3325 Catcher Road Van Buren-479-474-0304

All American Paintball-Hwy 22 in Charleston-479-965-2068

Duck Ridge Paintball Park-1715 Battlefield Drive in Greenwood-501-996-0470

Alma Family Aquatic Park-731 City Park Road in Alma-479-632-0700:

Bowling World-6100 S. 36th Street-479-646-5050. 72 lanes of fun, 12 pool tables, an arcade, a snack shop, a pro shop, and Xtreme glow bowling.

Midland Bowl-Kelley Hwy & North 32nd-479-646-5050. 72 lanes of fun, 12 pool tables, an arcade, a snack shop, a pro shop, and Xtreme glow bowling.

Duck Ridge Paintball Park-1715 Battlefield Drive in Greenwood-501-996-0470

Alma Family Aquatic Park-731 City Park Road in Alma-479-632-0700:

Best of all, the Nature Center is open six days a week (closed Mondays & major holidays), and its activities are FREE for the whole family. Location: 2000 S. Wells Lake Road. 479 452 3993

The Park at West End
This charming small amusement park at the west end of historic Garrison Avenue in downtown Fort Smith is one of Fort Smith's most recognizable sights, as the park's working Ferris wheel (used in the World's Fair) is visible from the bridge going into Oklahoma. The park also features an Italian hand-painted carousel with the sounds of a vintage casino band, a double-decker British bus with concessions, an arcade, and an old Pullman dining car converted into an eatery for lunch specials, special events and private parties. Rides on the Ferris wheel and carousel are $1.00, and park admission is free. The park is available for private engagements. Location: 15 North Second Street.

Family Fun In Fort Smith, Arkansas

Fun and Educational Art Camp For Ages 4-13 This Summer At Rami. Afternoons of July 22-26. To Sign Up Call 479-784-2787 or email info@fsram.org

1601 ROGERS AVENUE
FORT SMITH, AR 72901
SPACE IS FILLING UP FAST - SO SIGN UP TODAY!

BE Exceptional

University of Arkansas Fort Smith

uafs.edu/apply • 479-788-7120

What's Going On

This enchanting nature center on lovely Wells Lake features interactive indoor exhibits for children and adults, and a vast variety of outdoor activities, from guided hikes to archery to nature photography, kayaking, canoeing and fishing as well as a trading post. Special events are offered throughout the year. Location: 2000 S. Wells Lake Road.

Animal feedings at 2 p.m. daily are especially popular with the children, particularly Friday when the staff feeds the exotic Expaterr. The Nature Center’s working Ferris wheel (used in the World’s Fair) is visible from the bridge going into Oklahoma. The municipal parking lots at North 2nd and B Streets and North 3rd and A Streets are reserved for handicapped parking. Food and beverages will be available from concession stands. Harry E. Kelley Park, North A Street and Riverfront Drive, Fort Smith, AR 479-783-8888.

Fun and Educational Art Camp For Ages 4-13 This Summer At RAM! Afternoons of July 22-26. To Sign Up Call 479-784-2787 or email info@fsram.org

1601 ROGERS AVENUE
FORT SMITH, AR 72901
SPACE IS FILLING UP FAST - SO SIGN UP TODAY!

Lincoln High School Reunion

The Lincoln School reunion and homecoming celebration, hosted by the 1965 and 1966 classes will be held July 25 - 27. Registration will be held at The Lincoln Youth Center on 8th street. Save the date.

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POET'S THOUGHTS

We've come a long way but we still have a ways to go

By Napoleon Black

I grew up in a small town named Fort Smith, Arkansas during the forties and fifties. Although segregation was the law of the land and there was not a hostility between the races. This may have been because there was so few Americans of African descent living in Fort Smith at the time.

My father was drafted into the Army with five kids. He worked for Continental Trailways as a baggage handler. The bus drivers, all white at the time, were considered essential and none were drafted. The Black men in the Community, led by Mr. Woody, the carpenter, worked two days building chicken coops and fences so our family would have a place to live while my mother was gone. The white bus drivers would come by with goods and do what they could to help. I lived in an area where the age of your skin does not determine what’s in your heart.

I attended kindergarten at Ninth Street Baptist Church with Mrs. Trammel as our teacher. I then attended Howard Elementary School on H street across from Quinn Chap-ael M.C. Church. I entered The third grade at the new Howard School at its present location on eighth between M and N street. In the eighth grade I attended Lincoln High School with African American kids from Fayetteville, Alma, Van Buren, Charleston, Hunting- ton, Coal Hill, Ozark, Barling and Moffett, Oklahoma. During this time, I made friends with everyone.

Meredith and her family came to Fort Smith with her father who was stationed at Fort Chaffee. Meredith and her family lived with us in Fort Smith for about a week. My mom and sister were so excited when they saw them. They went to the movies and did all the things we did. My dad took them to the movies on the street across from Quinn Chapel. They had never seen any African American kids before. They were fascinated with the color of your skin does not determine the problems of the day and what we could do to impact them. One of the participants in the post Smith was named Dania Jones who had us in her home for a meeting. This was in the summer of 1958 and is as much segregation in our northern cities as there ever was in the south. Northern schools now are like southern schools in 1946. We are better than this. The vocal minority of Black and White NOR DO WELLS are getting most of the attention while the silent majority says and does nothing. Life like politics must be participatory to achieve maximum results. You can’t win from the sidelines.

The world is not Black and White, it is live and in living color. We should embrace it. Our internal organs are inter changable. you can transplant one to the other regard less of the skin color. Our internal organs are inter changable. you can transplant one to the other. Our internal organs are inter changable you can transplant one to the other regardless of the skin color.

As was done in the sixties, we must do today, rise and let our voices be heard. Allen, Kenneth and DeVaugh peace.

By Luuvies

Another school shooting happened, and I had the nerve not to be immediately enraged and disheartened by it. It’s either I’ve become a robot, I’m suffering from Acute Outrage Fatigue Syndrome or these tragedies happen too often to punch me in the chest like they used to. I think I’ll go number 3. Thirty-six school shootings have been reported in 2014 alone, and we’re only halfway through the year. That means we’re averaging more than 1 shooting a week at places we send our kids to learn. We have failed so badly that the word “fail” is currently holding a grudge against us for giving it a bad name.

It is not ok that shootings have been reported in 2014 alone, that we just continue with our days. But I guess detachment is our coping mechanism since these things are now so common that being heartbroken and cynical is the norm. Life like politics must be participatory to achieve maximum results. You can’t win from the sidelines. How did we get to this point where those injured and killed no longer feel like brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and cousins? Now they’re just numbers to add to the list of things you’re in the stats for. And what can we do to stop it?

The most obvious answer is tightening up gun laws, but that bid failed in the Senate last year and nothing new has been passed. Apparently, it’s too much to require that people who want guns be subjected to comprehensive background checks. It makes NO logical sense that we won’t do anything related to gun control on a federal level with all these shootings. What else needs to happen? Congresswoman Gabrielle Gifford was shot, too. I’ve heard nothing about gun laws. People don’t feel safe sending their kids to school. Congress is out here playing bald-headed games and allowing the NRA to keep them from taking actions to keep citizens safe.

Meanwhile, I have to go through airport security in sobs and bring only 3oz of lotion because of that one time that the dude whose name I’ve forgotten failed. You know how many people have used 4 oz. toothpaste to hijack a plane? Zero. Zero. Do you know how many people die from gun violence in the U.S. every year? Over 32,000. ALL THE SIDE-EYES; AMERICA! All of them!

People (some think it’s all white) have informed me that they haven’t been confirmed said “the definition of insanity is doing the same thing every year and over again but expecting different results.” As these tragedies happen repeatedly, we are standing around doing nothing to prevent them. Basically, we’re insane as a country to think anything will change any time soon.

It’s basically like if you decide to play in front of a fan and the blades cut you since you were too close to the screen or just not go near it? Apparently not.

Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me. Shoot up 74 schools since December 2012 but we don’t act on it to keep it from happening again, shame on everyone.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Lincoln Echo, USPS 240, is published each month at 115 N 10th in Fort Smith, Arkansass. Napoleon Black is the Publisher. It is entered as periodic matter at the USFPO in Fort Smith. SUBSCRIPTIONS PER YEAR: $25 per year nationwide, Single copy $.50 POSTMASTER: Send all ad

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Correction Policy

The Lincoln Echo will print corrections of any errors published in the newspaper. The correction will be made ASAP after it has been brought to the attention of the Editor.

The Lincoln Echo

Napoleon Black
Publisher

Denay Burns
Advertising Manager

Allene Stafford
Office Manager

Cecil Greene, Jr
Executive V.P.

Joel Culberson
Web Master

Allen, Kenneth & DeVaugh Black Inspiration
"The Voice That Brings the Community Together" Established June, 1992
Sixty years after Brown,

be with people who are like you—racially, economically, religiously or academically. In fact, for many students, moving to a new school means that they will encounter other students from different backgrounds.

Fort Smith Public Schools is committed to ensuring that diversity is a natural part of school life. The school district is committed to providing a quality education for all students, regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status. This commitment is reflected in the school’s mission statement, which emphasizes the importance of diversity and inclusion in the classroom.

Legal Notice
City of Fort Smith Transit Department
Goal for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Participation
2015 - 2017

The proposed overall goal for Federal Fiscal Years 2015-2017 for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation for Federally-Assisted Transit Projects is .27%. DBEs include minority-owned and women-owned firms certified as eligible to participate in projects funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. A report describing how the City of Fort Smith Transit Department obtained .27% participation in Federal Fiscal Years 2015-2017 is available for inspection during normal business hours at the Fort Smith Transit offices located at 6821 Jenny Lind, Fort Smith, Arkansas, for a period of forty-five (45) days following the date of this notice. To obtain a copy of this report, contact the Director, City of Fort Smith Transit Department at (479)783-6464 or at www.fortsmithar.gov/Transit.

The Transit Department will accept comments on the goal for a period of forty-five (45) days following the date of this notice. If you feel you qualify as a DBE, Fort Smith Transit Department encourages participation in the certification process. Staff will make every effort to assist interested parties with the application process. Comments or questions should be addressed to: Fort Smith Transit, P.O. Box 1908, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902.

Ken Savage,
Director
Fort Smith Transit
New York City and this was just too easy to get publicity," recalls Dick Molpus, who was a teenager at the time and later became Mississippi’s secretary of state. “There was this sense that there was this evil, this brutality, in the American South in particular, we’ve been through some trials and difficulties we’ve been through as a state. We deeply regret what happened here 25 years ago,” he said at the time. “We wish we could undo it.” Molpus says his intention was to put Mississippi and his hometown on a path toward redemption. But it was slow to happen. They burned the church that night. It was June 21, Father’s Day. James Chaney, a longtime member of Mount Zion. Her mother and brother had been at a church board meeting that evening and were late getting home. “Finally they came in and my mother was all upset,” McDonald says. “We looked up and said, ‘What happened to y’all?’ And my mom said, ‘We were beaten. There was Klan, white people outside the church tonight.’”

On June 21, Father’s Day, three young civil rights workers — James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner — came to check on the freedom school in Neshoba County. The rural Mount Zion Church in Neshoba County was supposed to host one of those teach-ins. But on June 16, the Ku Klux Klan made sure that would not happen. “They burned the church down that night,” recalls Dick Molpus, who was a teenager at the time and later became Mississippi’s secretary of state. “There was this sense that the national media was treating Philadelphia as a bunch of uneducated rednecks,” he says. “And that became the topic of conversation rather than that there was this evil.” As secretary of state in 1989, Molpus for the first time offered an official apology at a memorial service at Mount Zion Church. “We deeply regret what happened here 25 years ago,” he said at the time. “We wish we could undo it.” Molpus says his intention was to put Mississippi and his hometown on a path toward redemption. But it was slow to come. Ten years ago, a local interracial group — the Philadelphia Coalition — called for justice and pressured authorities to prosecute the murderers who were still living in the area. The town had to acknowledge its place in history, says Jim Prince, co-chairman of the coalition and editor and publisher of The Neshoba Democrat newspaper. “This was the Pearl Harbor of the civil rights movement,” Prince says. The incident got the nation’s attention. A year later, the Neshoba Youth Coalition. “They don’t teach civil rights at [my school] at all,” she says.

K.J. Critticles, 17, says he’s learned that history matters. “If you didn’t know how something happened, you couldn’t stop it from happening again,” he says. “So it’s good to know why it happened, how it happened, and what happened.” For civil rights worker Michael Schwerner, his goal was to ensure the future success of our families, state, and nation. "I've been fighting to keep higher education affordable and accessible for all Arkansas students. Last summer, I supported a bipartisan student loan compromise that immediately dropped interest rates for borrowers and locked in low rates over the life of the loan to reduce uncertainty and help our students plan for their futures. Earlier this month, I supported common-sense legislation to allow an additional 200,000 Arkansans graduates to refinace their existing student loans at the same low rate provided to new borrowers in the student loan program. The bill fell short of the votes needed this time, but I’ll keep pushing to make college more affordable. I’ll keep fighting to secure funding for programs like Pell Grants and TRIO, which have helped tens of thousands of disadvantaged and first-generation students civil to obtain higher education. Without these programs, higher education may only be accessible for those who could pay out-of-pocket, leaving thousands of bright Arkansans and future leaders behind. We must continue to put Arkansas students first. By working together, I'm confident we can open the door to higher education for our children and ensure the future success of our families, state, and nation."
“Our cuisine designed with you in mind”

Entrees

PARSLEY LEAVENED CHICKEN
GRILLED CHICKEN THIGH PRESENTED ON A BED OF SAUTEED ZUCCHINI, SQUASH, AND BUTTON MUSHROOMS AND SERVED WITH A MOUND OF HOUSE MADE GARLIC MASHED POTATOES. 12

FRIED CHICKEN
YOUR CHOICE IF EITHER DARK OR WHITE MEAT BONE IN CHICKEN SERVED WITH HAND BREADED OKRA, WHITE MEAT 12, DARK MEAT 10, MIXED 12

GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST
GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST SERVED WITH A SIDE OF GREEN BEANS AND GARLIC MASHED POTATOES. 10

CATFISH
THREE SEASONS CATFISH CATFISH WITH BUTTERMILK "A LIGHTER SIDE OPTION AVAILABLE"

PORK CHOP
A DELICIOUS FRIED PORK CHOP IN A BED OF RED ONION AND BUTTON MUSHROOMS SERVED WITH A SIDE OF SMASHED SWEET POTATOES AND GREEN BEANS. 13

Sides

MOM’S BISCUITS
HOMEMADE BISCUITS SERVED WITH BUTTER AND HAM OR JAM.

PECAN COBBLER
A FLAKY AND TENDER CRUST FULL OF COLORFUL AND RICH TASTING PECANS SPECIALLY HARVESTED TO PRESERVE THAT FRESH PICKED FLAVOR. 7

PECAN COBBLER
A HOME-STYLE BAKED COBBLER FULL OF SWEET AND JUICY PEACHES. 6

ADD A SPOONFUL OF BUTTERMILK DESSERT FOR JUST 1.50

Beverages

CHEF ALEX’S FRUIT TEA 3, RASPBERRY TEA 3, PEACH TEA 3, RED TEA 2.5, SOFT DRINKS 2.5, COFFEE 1, HOT TEA 1

Phone: (479) 735-5962 · chefalexio@gmail.com · 5709 Rogers Ave. Suite #36 · Ft. Smith, AR 72903

WELCOME HOME, BAD, BAD PIRATES!!

Hours:
11am - until - Tuesday - Sunday
Week of Lincoln Reunion only!

10% Discount to all Lincoln Alumni
**JULY OBITUARIES**

Melvin Arnell Hutchison, of North Chicago Illinois was called to rest on May 16th 2014. He was born in Huntington, Arkansas on October 9, 1938. Melvin was the fourth of nine children born to Golda and John Ellis Hutchison. He dedicated his life to Christ at an early age then began playing the guitar and singing at the Church of God in Huntington, Arkansas. He graduated from Lincoln High School May 31, 1958. Melvin served in the US Army 1962 -1964. After being discharged from the Army, he continued his education at Commercial Trades Institute and completed training in Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heating. He also attended Coyne American Institute in Chicago, Illinois and received diplomas in Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heating as well as Electrical Training. Melvin was employed at Outboard Marine Corporation as a Leadman for 15 years. He then worked at Abbott Laboratories as a Building Servicer for 23 years prior to retiring in 2003. Melvin married Elizabeth (Lizzie Bea) Gates on August 18th 1962 and to this union 2 children were born. Melvin enjoyed Baseball, Basketball and reading about current events. He loved watching Westerns and his favorite past time was spending time with his family, as grandchildren and great-grandchildren were his pride and joy. Melvin was preceded in death by his Father, John Ellis and Mother Golda Shervil Hutchison, and three brothers Charles Hutchison, Bruce Hutchison and William Hutchison. Melvin leaves to cherish his memories his wife of 51 years, Elizabeth Hutchison, three children: Joyce Gates, Mabelvale, Arkansas, Sheila (Rashan) Blaze of Beach Park, Illinois, Jennifer Thomas of Wallakegan, Illinois, five grandchildren: Selenia (Eric) Butler of Gurnee, Illinois, Wilhelmina (Gerard) Garay of Buffalo Grove, Illinois, Angela Gates, Mabelvale, Arkansas, Xavia (Darrin) Williams of Affton, Missouri, and Marquita Scott of Beach Park, Illinois, three great-grandchildren: Giovanni Butler, Shania Williams and Darrin Williams, sisters Doris Johnson Hogue, Corene Thompson, Carolyn Robinson, Karen Evans, brother Tommy Hutchison and a host of other family and friends. A Celebration of His Life Service will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, May 24, 2014 at the Christian Valley Missionary Baptist Church, 2690 Argonne Drive, North Chicago, IL. Pastor Henry Woods, Sr., Officiating. Interment will be at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Zion, IL. Visitation will begin at 10:00 A.M.

**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

1. Mildred Bryant
2. Kyra Driver
3. Stanley Templeton
4. Wymona N. Suarez
5. Ahmad Templeton
6. Latresha Carter
7. Emma L. Lofton Curtis
8. Lydia Parish
9. Anthony Nelson
10. Ruth Almeda Smith
11. Delbert Williams
12. Ashley Cowan
13. Theodore Hall

McKenna Parish
Patrick Johnson
Roslyn Ann Andrews
Glennda Snowden
Michael Moore
Leonard M. Brogdon
Doris Williams
Robay Gertrude Lucas
Shelton Lucas
Mae E. Moore
Sandra Tidwell
Nadine Campbell
Johnny Andrews
Cheryl Davis
Christine Moore
Nathaniel Barrett
Curtis B. Adams
Brandon Deas
Sherry Toliver
Shawna Hawkins
Emma L. Hayes
Timothy Black
Lavonda Williams
Cathy Wilson
Miranda Gary
T. Baridi Nkokheli
Johnny Franklin
Annika Alston
Minnie Hill Brogdon

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**Fort Smith’s Favorite Pharmacy**

Fort Smith’s Favorite Pharmacy

**I prayed for twenty years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.**

Frederick Douglas

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**I prefer to be true to myself, even at the hazard of incurring the ridicule of others, rather than to be false, and to incur my own abhorrence.**

Frederick Douglass
If you’re like me, you know how long it takes to get to work from home. I plan my morning routine based on the time it takes me to make it to my first meeting and supper at my daughter’s house in order to get home. Unfortunately, it doesn’t always work the way I planned due to weather, accidents and construction.

While construction cones and road crews may not be a welcome sight if you’re late to work, it’s a sign of progress, investment and economic development.

You can see this on Rogers Avenue right now. The $95 million Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department plans transportation infrastructure projects around the state. This is a lengthy process that includes getting bids for projects, securing a contractor and making sure they are in order to pay for the construction.

Unfortunately, concerns about the availability of federal funds are stopping some Arkansas road repairs before they even start.

The Highway Trust Fund (HTF), the major source of federal funding for road improvements nationwide, is expected to run out of money late this summer. This has forced Arkansas highway officials to alter plans and postpone some proposed projects.

Congress needs to revamp the funding mechanism to the HTF. The Arkansas Highway Department can support the infrastructure needs of our state and plan for future projects. The highway fuel tax, used to fund HTF, is no longer reliable because of changes in driving habits and more fuel efficient cars mean less money for this account. Right now there is more money being spent from the account than coming in.

We are working toward a solution. As a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, I am engaged in hearings and discussions about how to address this problem. In May, committee members unanimously supported a six-year surface transportation bill. The “MAP-21 Reauthorization Act” provides for the maintenance of our existing roads and it will also allow for the proper development of our nation’s infrastructure for the coming years. This legislation lays the groundwork to provide certainty for our nation’s transportation and infrastructure projects.

The strong bipartisan support for this bill should serve as an example for Senators who work on other committees with jurisdiction on this important piece of legislation. I encourage members of the Finance Committee to work together in the next session to find a reasonable answer that enables us to contribute to infrastructure and transportation projects in a fiscally responsible manner.

Determining a funding mechanism is vital because Arkansas has benefited greatly from the reauthorization. The EPW-panel’s transportation act estimated funding to the state over the next six years. This allows Arkansas the opportunity to make greater strides in completing projects, putting more people to work and making travel safer.

The “MAP-21 Reauthorization Act” specifically highlights the Projects of National and Regional Significance (PNRS) program. This provides funding for high cost projects of national or regional importance. I support this.

The largest incomplete portion of I-49 is between Texarkana and Springfield. I-49 will pass through Chaffee Crossing and bring even more potential for development. This major infrastructure project will create construction jobs.

Private investment will follow, bringing more employment opportunities and money into the region, Arkansas and the other states I-49 will run through.

We need a transportation infrastructure system that is safe, efficient and long lasting. This is an important key to long lasting growth and development. While road construction can bring inconveniences to drivers, it’s an encouraging sign of improvement for our state and nation.

I like most Americans, am very concerned about the recent revelations of systemic problems and allegations of misconduct within our U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The men and women who have served our country are forced to maneuver a healthcare system that is carrying a massive backlog, outdated equipment and, sometimes, dangerously long waits at VA hospitals. Federal leaders must find the answers to fix medical-care failures and meet the needs of our veterans.

While we have V.A. facilities in our State, we also have a separate Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs. When it comes to providing direct care to Arkansas veterans, the department is best known for operating two residential facilities in North Little Rock and Fayetteville. The Little Rock home closed in 2012 after the State was unable to afford repairs and improvements to the aging building. Other homes were found for the residents and the facility was shuttered. However, with current funding now approved by the Arkansas General Assembly, plans are in motion to turn the Little Rock veteran home for Central Arkansas, located in North Little Rock.

Fayetteville Veterans Home began 2014 with a new administrator, and, this month, has reached an important milestone. The Department of Human Services annually conducts unannounced visits to the home, just as it does to residential facilities across Arkansas. This allows for an accurate snapshot survey of the care being provided and the daily operations at the home.

Earlier this month, DHS’s Office of Long Term Care gave the Fayetteville State Veterans Home at Fayetteville a six-year reauthorization. The EPW-committee with jurisdiction on this important piece of legislation. I encourage members of the Finance Committee to work together in the next session to find a reasonable answer that enables us to contribute to infrastructure and transportation projects in a fiscally responsible manner.

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Rainey was born 1878 in Red River County, Texas. They were parents of Burris born February 08, 1877 in Red River County, Texas and died August 10, 1936. She was born 1904 in Red River County, Texas and married Robert Johnson on January 8, 1935 in Sebastian County, Arkansas. Flossie is interred in Oak Cemetery. Catherine Rainey was born in 1908 in Texas.

Everett Edward Rainey was born in 1912 in Oklahoma. He married Enora Brown on August 15, 1940 in Sebastian County, Arkansas. She was born in 1921 in Sebastian County. Enora Brown was reared by her mother Sadie Porter Thompson and Pleas “Liss” Thompson. Enora was one of the 11 Thompson children.

Everett and Enora Brown Rainey were parents of 4 children; Everett L. Rainey, Charlene, Charles, Peggy and Barbara Rainey.

**LITTLE JIMMY SCOTT**

“When I was scatting Jimmy was singing these desparate love songs with such depth of feeling women would openly weep.” No wonder he was adored by Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington, Big Maybelle and me. Later on, Nancy Wilson modeled her career on his style.

“I loved his style” said Marvin Gaye as did all the early do-woppers like Harvey Fuqua and his Moonglows.

Because of a hereditary hormonal condition later identified as Kallmann syndrome, Mr. Scott never went through puberty, and his voice did not change when he reached adolescence. He was slight of build, had no facial hair and stood only 4 feet 11 inches tall until he inexplicably grew several inches in his mid-30s. For years, he was billed as “Little Jimmy Scott.”

“Some people thought he was a woman in drag,” said Gordon. He caught hell for being different, not just as a singer but as a person. Yet I never saw him anything but positive, cheerful and ready to roll to the next gig with a smile. On his face.

After leaving Hampton, he hooked up with Savoy record label, the leading bop label. He sat in with Charly Parker and cut a series of classic records that went unnoticed.

In the early sixties, Ray Charles, so taken with Scott signed him to his Tangerine label and produced the great masterpiece, Falling in love is wonderful.

“Ray advanced me $2,500,” Jimmy said, “which was ten times more than I was getting from Savoy.” “He hired the best jazz arrangers in Hollywood, Gerald Wilson, and Marty Paich and let me pick ten love songs I thought best suited my voice. Ray played piano behind me on every track.” When we were through Ray said: “Jimmy, this is it baby.” “This record is gonna get you the recognition you deserve.”

It didn’t. In fact, the record was locked in the vault for 49 years before Rhino record label put it out in 2002. In 1962, the year it was recorded Savoy claimed to have Scott under contract. The leading bop label. He sat in with Charly Parker and cut a series of classic records that went unnoticed.

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By William Reed

Inventor, electrical engineer, and business executive Jesse E. Russell, Sr. was born on April 26, 1948 in Nolensville, Tennessee to Mary Louise Russell and Albert Russell. He was the youngest of six siblings. In inner-city Nashville along with his ten siblings. In 1972, Russell received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Tennessee State University. As a top honor student, Russell became the first African American to be hired directly from an HBCU by AT&T Bell Laboratories. The following year, he earned his M.S. degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University.

To this point, the economic growth leader of the 21st century is the wireless communications industry. Millions of people regularly use cellular phones. With today’s cell phone, you can talk to anyone on the planet. Cell phones include: a camera, microphone, speaker/soundboard, display screen, and a powerful circuit board with microprocessors that make every phone a miniature computer. When connected to a wireline, a bundle of modern-day technology allows you to make phone calls or exchange data with other phones and computers around the world.

Jesse Eugene Russell is an African American inventor who brought the world cell phones. Trained as an electrical engineer at Tennessee State University at 163, Russell is recognized globally as a thought-leader, technology expert and innovator of digital cellular technology.

He has more than 30 years experience in advanced wireless communications and is the recognized father of digital cellular technology. The Historically Black College and University (HBCU) graduate is former chief wireless architect for AT&T Bell Laboratories and served as chief technology officer for incNETWORKS. An icon in the industry, Russell holds more than 75 patents in digital cellular technologies, dual-mode digital cellular systems, and digital cellular voice/data systems.

By the decision of Mr. Scott’s record was taken off the shelves and was not rereleased for 40 years. When Lubinsky quizzed the release of another album in 1969, Mr. Scott returned to Cleveland and all but abandoned his singing. He took a series of menial jobs, from funeral home to hospital orderly to shipping clerk. He battled a drinking problem that, he admitted, contributed to divorces from his first four wives, Ophelia Sharon, Channie Booker, Ruth Taylor and Earlene Rodgers. Survivors include his wife of 10 years, Jeannette Richardson Scott; and four children. Mr. Scott remained mostly forgotten until the late 1980s, when broadcasters and journalists rediscovered him, and he began to make the occasional nightclub appearance.

Over the years, Mr. Scott was friends with many top musicians. One of the few who cared to play for him was singer-songwriter-pianist Pomus, a polio-stricken blues singer and songwriter whose hits included “This Must Be The Place (Na, Na, Na)” and “Save the Last Dance for Me.”

Pomus had requested that Mr. Scott sing George and Ira Gershwin’s “Someone to Watch Over Me” at a wedding in November 1958. Pomus died in 1991, and the crowd at his service was mesmerized when Mr. Scott began to sing, but few knew who he was. One of the people at the funeral was Seymour Stein, an executive with Sire Records.

“Someone comes from row to row, Who is it? Who’s singing?” — suddenly phones and digital software radio. An American legend, in 1995 Russell was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering for “pioneering work in digital communications technology.” Russell’s innovations continue to spark the international economy. The globe cell phones’ popularity over the past 20 years is the faster and easier communications it provides. A cell phone is really a very sophisticated and versatile radio. Much like a walkie-talkie, a cell phone receives and sends radio signals.

Wireless networks operate on a grid that divides cities or regions into smaller cells. One cell might cover a few city blocks or up to 250 square miles. Every cell uses a set of radio frequencies or channels to provide service in its specific area. In each cell, there is a base station consisting of a wireless antenna and other radio equipment. The wireless antenna in each cell links callers into the local telephone network, the Internet or another wireless network.

African Americans can take pride in what Russell has achieved in the planet’s business advancements. From being honored by the Clinton administration for his work in cell phones and wireless communications, Russell continues to innovate, specifically in the next generation’s (4G) broadband wireless communications technology.

Russell is married to Amanda O. Russell, they have raised four children: Tina, Jesse, Jr., William, and Catalina. Vegas and continued to perform, sometimes in a wheelchair, until his mid-80s. Even then, the unmistakable voice was still there, penetrating and clear, some would say, filled with pain and grace, all at once. “All I needed was the courage to be me,” he told his biographer. “That courage took a lifetime to develop.”

Mr. Scott continued to record into the 21st century, notably for the Milestone label, and to perform. His last appearance was in June 2012 at the Blue Note in Greenwich Village. In 2007, he was named a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts and a Living Legend by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, Mr. Scott married Jeannette McCarthy, his fifth wife, in 2003. Besides her, he is survived by a son, Tracy Porter; three sisters, Nadine Walker, Betsy Jones and Tina Rogers; and four grandchildren.

Finding himself in demand a half-century after his first album, Mr. Scott released his first new recording in decades. “All the Way” received universal acclaim.

Realized it could only be Little Jimmy Scott,” Stein told Ritz. “My God, I thought someone in the world can sing this soulfully.” Contract negotiations began the next day, and in 1992, Mr. Scott released his first new recording in decades. “All the Way” received universal acclaim. He sang No. 4 on the Billboard jazz chart and received a Grammy nomination. To a new generation of listeners, Mr. Scott’s particularly haunting vocal style was a revelation. Other albums followed, along with international bookings, but Mr. Scott never quite attained the level of success many thought he deserved. His way of singing was just too rarified for widespread fame.

He sang at one of President Bill Clinton’s inaugural balls in 1993. He became a popular concert attraction in Europe and Japan. He sang on the soundtrack of “Philadelphia” and other movies and acted in the independent film “Chelsea Walls” in 2001. Mr. Scott spent his final years in Las
WHERE DO WE STAND?

Andre Good Ward 2

Just a quick reminder - Ward 2 which is the north side of Fort Smith boundaries are River Front Dr. to I-540, N. 35th St to Garrison Ave and back to River Front Dr. Regardless of the boundaries, any elected City of Fort Smith Board member can and do address concerns and issues city-wide.

Reminder - The ward 3 neighborhood board meeting continued for THURSDAY, JULY 17, 6:00 p.m. It will be held at the Shared Services Center Fort Smith (Community Health Systems), 4600 Towsow Ave., Suite 136 (the former Phoenix Expo location)

Special Election – The Board of Directors approved an ordinance request; a library millage increase of 2 additional mills by the library board which would allow citizens to have a voice in the future funding of the Fort Smith Public Library.

Fort Smith Public Library Director Jennifer Goodson said the library would focus on offering more of “nearly everything” offered by the library, including an expanded selection of traditional books, audio book CDs, as well as a larger selection of e-books, online magazine, Spanish language and large print books.

The increased millage would also provide the library with more WiFi, increased internet speeds, as well as more on-site computers for library patrons. “While traditional use of the library is still being utilized, patrons of the library are in need of new offerings available in other libraries around the country. Some of these should be available at Fort Smith’s library in coming years with the approval of the millage increase” Goodson said.

As a tax-paying citizen and an elected official, I am in support of the millage increase. As an advocate of diversity education, the public library system has been a place for me to help educate others. Fort Smith’s community is very diverse. Diversity and inclusion are fundamental values that come naturally for some but needs to be taught to others.

The need to access information resources, services and technologies by all peoples, for example those who have barriers to equal education, employment, and housing, but especially those who may experience language or literacy-related barriers, cultural or social isolation is of the most importance. The economic impact of a well-educated, diverse community has the power to change entire cities.

NOW, with an opportunity that allows Fort Smith voters to approve its 1st millage increase since 1957, we can brag on all of the reasons our library system has experienced such growth as well as the many reasons to invest back into ourselves by supporting this 2-mill increase. The special election is scheduled for August 12th, 2014.

Beautiful Fort Smith efforts are still in full swing! According to the June 11th, 2014 meeting minutes, the old White Dairy property, the triangle shaped property at North 10th and B Streets, will be taken on as a beautification project. The land is currently a small city park/green space area. Andrea Beckman, a former Northside High School student and Beautify Fort Smith member will be applying for the Arkansas Giving Tree Grant in August to secure funds to put toward this project.

Beautiful Fort Smith is not a member of the Keep America Beautiful, Arkansas chapter however; the group is certainly making its presence known! Congratulations to Andrea Beckman who recently received a Lodestar Ward. The Lodestar Foundation encourages individual philanthropy and nonprofit collaboration. Baridi Nkokheli, Fort Smith’s Director of Sanitation went to Little Rock and accepted the award on Andrea’s behalf. BFS is a partner organization with the city’s DOB. If you would like to get involved with the BFS effort, their next meeting is July 16th at noon at the Creekmore Park Community Center.

The Building Safety Division issued the following noticeable commercial permits for June 2014 --- 3609 Phoenix Ave – Renovations to Orr Elementary School - Cost $962,383.00, 3201 S. 5th St – Remodel to Markham Supply – Cost $610,000, 5001 Phoenix Ave - Renovations to Academy Sports – Cost $900,000.00 and 5204 Phoenix Ave – Renovations to Orr Elementary School – Cost $962,383.00, 3201 S. 5th St – Remodel to Markham Supply – Cost $610,000, 5001 Phoenix Ave - Renovations to Academy Sports – Cost $900,000.00 and 5204 Phoenix Ave – Renovations to Oxford Elementary School

Some of these projects are reinvesting back into our community.

Reminder – Upcoming Board Appointments: Building Board of Adjustments and Appeals, Oak Cemetery Commission, Advertising and Promotion and the Parking Authority.

Current Employment Opportunities: Maintenance Machinist I-IV, EOIII Landfill and FSPD Telecommunicator.

a deputy director of finance and an Internal Auditor. All job vacancies are listed on the City website.

I hope you find these articles beneficial and motivational. Be encouraged - good things are happening! If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please feel free to reach out to me Good4ward2@aol.com or 479-285-4932.

YES WE CAN

African-American teenager Kwesi Enin first defied the odds and got into all eight Ivy League schools. Then Oakland teenager Aminette Ahmad, with his 5.0 GPA and 2,100 SAT score, showed that genius comes in all shapes by revealing he’s on his way either to Yale or Brown, but he’s just a regular “Oakland street dude.” Now several young black and Hispanic teens from Central High School in Champi
go, Ill., have created what amounts to an effective acheive
manship for minority males: “Suit & Tie in the 217.”

The group of student scholars, athletes, Eagle scouts and future college students reveal they have the aspirations and work ethic like the rest of America’s youth — and they do it in style. The saying “Clothes make the man” is firmly entrenched in our everyday parlance, but is it true? If how we dress can alter one’s perception of us, can wearing a suit instead of a hoodie protect young Black men from being mistaken for “thugs,” even when they’re not? A group of Illinois teens hopes so.

“When people see a Black person, they don’t really think he can be smart,” Feli Keti, a se
nior at Central High School, tells WACC.

Keti, along with students at Central and Centennial high schools in the school district, participated in a video project called “Suit & Tie in the 217” in the hopes that by seeing them dressed up, America will begin to view young Black men differ
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