

THE Community VOICE

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Art Show Draws a Diverse Group of Artists

Art That Touches Your Heart Foundation, in partnership with Wichita State University, Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission, National Endowment for the Arts and USD 259, presented a visual art show which included work from national artists Frank Frasier, Randy Leger, and Lucky Easterwood along with art from a number of local youth artists. The show focused on developing and encouraging young African American students in art classes and art careers by having them research the history and display the cultural journey of the African American race from 1877 to 1977. The exhibition took place on Feb. 27. ●●



Photos by Bonita Gooch

PHOTOS: 1. Ray Trotter was among the dozen artists who showed their artwork. 2. Artist and Sculptor Verlene Mahomes

displayed her art of President Barack Obama and family 3. Tremont Turenine, Senior, East, shows a strong Afro adorned woman. 4. North East

Magnet student, Jayla Fennell was a featured young artist. 5. Taylor Bullock exhibited her abstracts.

6. Several ATTYH Foundation Board members are pictured: (L-R) Bob Love, Gabe Lyday, Nicole Childers with ATTYH founder Janice Burdine.

Kansas Politics Draws Thousands

Motivated by the upcoming presidential elections, Kansans took to their political corners preparing for the looming political fight. Kansas Democrats gathered in record numbers for Demofest, their annual trek to the state's capital. Keynote presenters included former Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius and former Kansas Congressman Dan Glickman. The Democrats also held special caucus meetings, including the African American Caucus that drew an overflow crowd.

The next week Democrats showed up across the state in record numbers for the presidential caucuses. Some caucus participants waited hours in line to commit to their candidate. ●●



Photos by Bonita Gooch & HVF Photography

PHOTOS: 1. Timothy Florence, one of just a few African American supporters for Bernie Sanders, tried to convince others at his caucus to join the Sanders fold. 2. Former Senator Rip Gooch visits with former Governor Kathleen Sebelius at Demofest

3. Shirley Carter-Ikerd received the Fannie Lou Hamer Outstanding Service Award from Terry Crowder, Secretary of the Kansas

Democrats. 4. The caucus lines were long on the WSU campus 5. These ladies proudly waved their Hillary signs.



Parks Exhibits Still On Display at Wichita Museums

• A visit to these area exhibits makes a great Spring Break Outing

If you haven't visited either of three current Wichita Exhibits of Kansas native Gordon Parks' works, you're missing out on a rare and special opportunity. Parks, one of the nation's most celebrated photographers, had a way with the camera. With the revealing eye of his lens, Parks' peers into the soul of African-American life in America during the 40s, 50s and 60s.



First Aid, by Gordon Parks. Interracial activities at Camp Nathan Hale, Southfields, N.Y., August 1943.

of his Fort Scott graduating class. These photos taken by Parks for Life Magazine were never published. If you think you know Parks work, these are photos you've probably never seen. This exhibit is on display through May 8.

The Kansas African American

Museum exhibit "The Power of the Image" features photos taken by Parks during the summer of 1943 when Parks worked for the Farms Securities Administration. Parks traveled north of Manhattan to photograph children and adults engaged in summer camps that brought together children, Black and White, to swim, work, play and sing around the campfire. This exhibit ends April 23.

With 177 pieces in their collection,

Wichita State University has one of the most extensive collections of Parks' photos in the country. They pulled out a great number of unique and rarely seen photos for their exhibit "Visual Justice" on display at the Ulrich through April 10.

These exhibits offer the kind of opportunity rarely available, even in large cities. If you haven't seen them, take the kids over Spring Break or take your parents or other family members before the exhibits end.

Wichita Art Museum is open Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$3 for students and free for 5 and under. The museum is free all day on Saturday.

The Kansas African American Museum is open Tuesday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Noon - 4 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is \$5.50 for adults, \$4.50 for seniors and students and \$2.50 for children.

The Ulrich is open 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 1-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is always free.

Bonita Gooch Editor-in-Chief



Spring Forward
Daylight Savings Begins
This Sunday March 13

Notice of Public Hearing Wichita Housing Authority 2016 Capital Fund Program Annual Statement and Five-Year Action Plan

The City of Wichita Housing Authority Board will hold a Public Hearing on April 12, 2016, during the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting, which begins at 9:00 AM in the City Council Chambers on the 1st Floor of City Hall located at 455 N. Main, Wichita KS. The Hearing is being held to receive comments and approve the submission of the City of Wichita Housing Authority 2016 Capital Fund Program Annual Statement and Five-Year Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The proposed 2016 Capital Fund Program spending plans and required forms are available for public review at Housing & Community Services, 332 N. Riverview, Wichita KS, Monday - Friday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM or online at <http://www.wichita.gov/Government/Departments/Housing/Pages/PublicHousing.aspx> beginning February 27, 2016.

Written comments will be accepted at Housing & Community Services, 332 N. Riverview, Wichita KS, 67203 until 5:00 PM April 11, 2016. Anyone who requires ADA accommodations for the public hearing may make a request at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by calling 462-3721 or the Kansas Relay Center at 711 for the hearing impaired.

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4 Coalition Forms to Push Adoption of “Smart” Justice Agenda

By Bonita Gooch
The Community Voice

A new coalition made up of civil rights, faith-based, social service and community improvement organizations from across the political and ideological spectrum unveiled an agenda to reform Kansas’ Criminal Justice Systems during a press conference held Mon. Feb. 29 in the State Capitol. Kansans for Smart Justice called for “common sense changes” to Kansas’ criminal justice system that they say will make communities safer, save taxpayers money and reduce incarceration at the same time.

“The criminal justice system in Kansas is broken and urgently needs reform,” said Michal Kubic, executive director of the ACLU of Kansas.

The coalition proposed an agenda of changes, several of which are already being considered through bills currently being worked in the legislative session. However, Kubic said the agenda is the group’s key priority for this and subsequent legislative sessions.

The agenda includes:

Expanded use of diversion.

Diversion is a tool that allows individuals to avoid criminal charges if they follow a prescribed program. Currently, prosecutors in Kansas have broad discretion in their use of diversion. The Smart Justice agenda calls for the expanded use of diversion, particularly for non-violent drug offenses and for individuals with mitigating circumstances like mental illness. The group also called for a reduction in diversion fees to make its use more affordable.

“Diversion is terribly underutilized in Kansas,” says Kubic, noting that Kansas uses diversion at half the rate of the rest of the country.

The group encouraged passage of HB2681, which standardizes the diversion process, makes individuals better aware of their ability to request a diversion, collects data on diversion requests and denials, and encourages prosecutors to seriously consider diversion as a viable option. If adopted, HB2681 would result in a reduced prison population and reduced costs to taxpayers.

Reduce sentences for non-violent drug possession

Drug offenses are the biggest contributor to admissions in Kansas prisons. The group supports adoption of HB2049 which passed the Kansas Senate 38 to 1 earlier this session. The bill reduces first-time marijuana possession offenses from the current charges of a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and a \$2,500 fine, to a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by no more than six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

Second time marijuana possession offenses would be reduced to a Class A misdemeanor from a felony offense, punishable by fines of up to \$100,000 and jail time ranging from a mandatory minimum 10 month prison sentence up to three and a half years.

The bill does not apply to possession of over 456 grams of cannabis, which would remain a felony possession with intent to distribute charge.

The bill, which was approved by the Kansas House last May, now returns to the House for approval of amendments made in the Senate.

Improve Reentry Services

The group calls for increased funding to support proven, evidence-based programs that help reduce recidivism.

SuEllen Fried, who represented a non-profit group that works with returning inmates, broke recidivism down by the numbers.

“Ninety-eight percent of all people who are in prison will return

to society and 50-67% will return to prisons. Those are the recidivism rates nationally,” said Fried.

Brent Magnuson, executive director of Kansas Appleseed, suggested passage of an adult program similar to the Juvenile Justice Reform bill recently passed by the Kansas Senate. SB367, encourages a reduction in incarceration of juvenile offenders and redirection of the money saved towards support of evidence-based reentry programs.

The group also encouraged adoption of Ban-the-Box and encourages the State of Kansas to follow the lead set by the Cities of Topeka and Wichita and Wyandotte County. Banning the box would strike questions about criminal history from initial state employment applications. According to Fried, 20 states have passed ban-the-box measures.

Reform Civil Asset Forfeiture Laws

Kansas law currently allows law enforcement agencies to permanently seize citizens’ property based solely on a suspicion that it was involved in criminal activity. A citizen doesn’t have to be convicted of a crime to have his/her assets seized.

“Such suspicion is often ill-founded, can be the product of government over-reach, and results in innocent citizens having their property unfairly stripped from them,” said Kubic.



Members of the Smart Justice Coalition posed for a picture after the group’s press conference in the Kansas Capitol. (Front Row L-R) Michal Kubic, ACLU of Kansas; Jennifer Baysiner, Coalition for a Better Kansas; Jennifer Roth, Kansas Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; Kenya Cox, State Conference of NAACP Branches; SuEllen Fried, Reaching Out From Within; Cheryl Brown Henderson, Brown Foundation; Bonita Gooch, Kansas Black Leadership Council. (Back Row L-R) Benet Magnuson, Kansas Appleseed and Rev. Edith Guffey, United Church of Christ. Other organizations in the coalition not pictured: Ad Hoc Group Against Crime, Communities Creating Opportunity, MainStream Coalition, Sunflower Community Action and Urban League of Greater Kansas City.

The Smart Justice Agenda calls for the amendment of Kansas law to require a conviction on a relevant criminal charge before assets are forfeited. Currently, HB 2699, addressing similar reforms in state forfeiture laws, is still alive in this session of the legislature. ●●

Ks Supreme Court: You Do Not Have to Consent to Breathalyzer Tests

The Kansas Supreme Court ruled last week that Kansans cannot be criminally prosecuted for refusing to submit to a DUI test. The court ruled a State law making it a crime to refuse either a blood or breathe test when DUI is suspected constitutes unreasonable search and seizure.

Under the Kansas law anyone who operates a motor vehicle gives implied consent to submit to DUI testing. But the court ruled the tests are searches and by U.S. law, individuals have a right to be free from “unreasonable searches and seizures.”

The Kansas law made refusal to submit to a DUI test either a misdemeanor or felony, depending on the number of occurrences.

In an unusual move, Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt asked the Kansas Supreme Court to hold on implementation of the ruling. The U.S. Supreme Court will hear cases from other states that present similar constitutional questions. Those cases, known together as *Birchfield v. North Dakota*, are scheduled for argument later this spring with a decision expected by the end of June.

“The final word on the meaning of the U.S. Constitution rests with the U.S. Supreme Court,” Schmidt said. “In this case, that final word is near, so it makes sense to put the Kansas decisions on hold until the definitive interpretation of the U.S. Constitution is settled in less than four months and the Kansas court’s interpretation likely is either confirmed or called into question.”

So far, the Kansas Supreme Court has not issued a response to Schmidt’s request. ●●

Make Sense Bills in the Legislature

Here are a couple of bills that make sense that are still under consideration in the Kansas Legislature

HB 2526. Prohibitions on carrying concealed handguns in postsecondary educational institution buildings. The bill would eliminate the requirement now in statute that by 2017 college campuses have concealed carry unless they provide proof everywhere on campus that no weapons are carried by anyone.

HB 2370. Providing for gun violence restraining orders to be implemented by a judge. The bill could temporarily remove guns from someone who has a restraining order taken out against him/her OR from someone who might harm him/herself.

HB 2080 which has been amended into HB 2501. Transparency bill. The people of Kansas would have appropriate access to the details of legislative committees by this bill, which would require all committee proceedings to be filmed live for internet access. ●●

Community Briefs

GRIOTS CULTURAL ARTS ENRICHMENT CAMP ENROLLING FOR SUMMER PROGRAM

The Wichita Griots, keepers of the stories, are currently accepting enrollments for their annual Cultural Arts Camp. The six-day program exposes students ages 6-16 to African dance, drumming acting skills, storytelling, expressions through music, visual arts, reading, recitation and education field trips.

Students develop confidence, people skills, communication skills, problem solving skills, self-esteem, and make memories that can last a lifetime while delivering uplifting messages to their audience.

This year, the camp will be held July 11-16 at Urban Preparatory Academy, 2821 E. 24th St. N. A grand finale performance will be held on July 15 at the Wichita Boys and Girls Club. Registration for camp is \$30 for the first students and \$20 for additional siblings.

Individuals can register online beginning March 15 through June 15 at www.wichitagriots.com. For additional information contact Ms. Jena at 641-4488 or 682-1909.

WICHITA MAYOR'S YOUTH COUNCIL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Wichita Residents Currently in Grades 8-11 Encouraged to Apply

The Wichita Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) has opened its application process for the 2016-2017 academic year. Students who live in Wichita and are currently in grades 8 through 11 are eligible to apply.

The deadline to apply is 4 p.m. on March 18. Applica-

tions are available on the City of Wichita's website at www.wichita.gov and can be submitted to the City Manager's Office on the 13th floor of City Hall, 455 N. Main, or by email at WichitaMYC@gmail.com.

Applicants will be evaluated on their civic interest, community service experience, and leadership potential. Up to 40 members will be selected after application reviews and interviews.

MYC members have lobbied in Topeka, traveled across the country for national conferences, hosted leadership forums, planned community service activities, and provided their feedback to City Council members and City staff, among other member-led initiatives.

FIRST STUDENTS RECRUITING BUS DRIVERS

Bus drivers play a critical role in the academic success of Wichita Public Schools students by getting them safely to school on time, in an atmosphere that helps them begin their day on a positive note, and home again at the end of the day. With Wichita's low unemployment rate, the bus driver applicant pool has diminished, and First Student is asking for citizens who are capable, cheerful, and ready to make a difference in the lives of children to apply for this great part-time employment opportunity.

First Student is hosting a job fair on Thursday, March 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First Student facility located at 4141 North Seneca Street. First Student representatives will be available to answer questions and conduct interviews. Candidates can also apply online at www.firststudentinc.com. ●●

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Boys & Girls Clubs Announce State Youth of the Year

• Winners advance to regional competition in summer

Two Kansas teens are recipients of statewide honors and college scholarships as Kansas Youth of the Year. The recipients were chosen from nine candidates who came to Topeka to present their qualifications and to participate in a youth service project.

Jazmyne McNair, Lawrence, was selected by a panel of judges as the Kansas Boys & Girls Club's Youth of the Year. Essence Carter, Ft. Riley, was named Kansas Military Youth of the Year.

McNair is a junior at Lawrence High School and has been a member of the Club since 5th grade. She is active in her high school orchestra, choir, and the forensic team. Jazmyne is also involved in an activist club for young women helping to give them a voice. Since 7th grade, she has volunteered as a Sunday school teacher for all age levels at her church. Jazmyne has aspirations of going to Kansas State University and major in music



PHOTOS: (L-R) Essence Carter, Military Youth of the Year, Fort Riley Youth Services; Jon Sefel, event emcee, Club alum and theater director at Cowley College; Jazmyne McNair, Kansas Youth of the Year, Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence.

therapy or music education.

Essence is a sophomore at Junction City High School and has been a member of the Club since 3rd grade.

She is in the marching band and member of the Chamber orchestra, playing the violin since 6th grade.

At the Club, Essence is involved in many groups such as Smart Girls and Keystone. She also spends time volunteering with kids at the School Age Center, is active in Youth Leadership Forum and participates in her Club's Youth Council. Essence plans to attend Washburn University and apply to law school.

Peyton Peterson was first runner up for Youth of the Year. He was selected as the Manhattan Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year. The first runner up for Kansas Military Youth of the Year was Jarius Brown, Ft. Leavenworth.

The Youth of the Year program promotes and celebrates young peo-

ple's service to their club, community and family; academic performance; moral character; and public speaking abilities. Carter will travel to San Antonio on June 2, to compete for the regional Southwest Military Youth of the Year honor. McNair advances to the southwest regional competition for traditional clubs in Dallas on June 20. Regional winners advance to a national competition in Washington D.C. next fall.

The Kansas Youth of the Year winner and Military winners each receive a \$5,000 scholarship supported by Boys & Girls Clubs of America's national Youth of the Year sponsors: Disney, Toyota, University of Phoenix and Taco Bell Foundation for Teens. They also each received \$500 from the "Kansas Alliance Leadership Award," sponsored by Devine, Donley & Murray, that recognizes their commitment to academics, leadership and community service. ●●

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Do the Clinton's Deserve the Black Community's Devotion?

By Bonita Gooch
The Community Voice

Black people have been in love with the Clintons since they entered the national scene in 1992. It was Bill's first run for president when he put on a pair of shades and played his saxophone on "The Arsenio Hall Show." Add in his ease around Black people and his close friendship with civil rights leader Vernon Jordan and it's no surprise the community quickly embraced him as the "First Black President."

Now, nearly 25 years later — except for that time we supported Barack -- the African-American community has remained loyal to the Clinton's. According to polls, Hillary is enjoying an 80% favorability rating from African Americans and with a disparity like that, it's almost impossible for Bernie Sanders to win the Democratic nomination. Do the Clintons deserve the Black community's continued devotion? What has Hillary done to deserve the community's support for her presidential campaign and what can the community expect in return?

Loyal Since 1992

When Bill Clinton ran for president in 1992, black communities were suffering from a crime and crack epidemic. Factories jobs that had bolstered the Black middle class had all but disappeared and Black unemployment was sky high.

During the Clinton years, the country turned around. The median household income in African-American households grew by 25% and African-American unemployment plummeted from 14.1 to 8.2%. Of course things were good for all communities, but for once, the Black community wasn't left totally behind.

That was the good news. The bad news is Bill Clinton implemented broad sweeping Crime Bill that tightened punishments for non-violent crime and turned America into the largest warehouse of prisoners in the world, and he championed a policy that desimated welfare, a safety net for the neediest Americans.

When Clinton left office in 2001, the

United States had the highest rate of incarceration in the world. According to Michelle Alexander, author of "The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness," Bill Clinton presided over the largest increase in federal and state prison inmates of any president in American history.

"Clinton did not declare the War on Crime or the War on Drugs—those wars were declared before Reagan was elected and long before crack hit the streets—but he escalated it beyond what many conservatives had imagined possible," wrote Alexander in a recent article in the Nation.

Clinton:

- Supported the 100-to-1 sentencing disparity for crack versus powder cocaine. The results of this policy were devastating to the African American community, with a disproportionate number of Blacks arrested on crack cocaine drug offenses.

- Signed a \$30 billion crime bill that created dozens of new federal capital crimes and put in place "three strikes" laws requiring life sentences for some three-time offenders, and

- Authorized more than \$16 billion for state prison grants and the expansion of police forces.

By 2000, Alexander reports "prison admissions for drug offenses reached a level for African Americans more than 26 times the level in 1983.

Clinton can't be blamed exclusively for the onerous Crime Bill. The bill was approved by Congress with support of nearly two-thirds of the Congressional Black Caucus. Remember, at the time crime was rampant in urban communities and the bill's

supporters believed it was "imperfect but necessary."

Now, both Clintons have renounced the bill and expressed regrets for its passage. Bill says that he "overshot the mark" with his crime policies, and Hillary is running on a platform to overturn much of her husband's Crime Bill. There are a few more of Bill's policy reforms Hillary should consider overturning. The Clinton administration:

- Eliminated Pell grants for prisoners seeking higher education,

- Supported laws denying federal financial aid to students with drug convictions,

- Signed legislation imposing a lifetime ban on welfare and food stamps for anyone convicted of a felony drug offense, and

- Introduced the "one strike and you're out" initiative that made it easier for public-housing agencies to deny shelter to anyone with any sort of criminal history. Under the policy, a whole family can be evicted from public housing because one member commits even a minor offense.

Declaring "the end of welfare as we know it," Bill Clinton dismantled the federal welfare system known as Aid to Families With Dependent Children. Too that point, the system had served as a safety net for the the nation's poorest citizens. Instead, Bill replaced the program with a block grant program to states, imposed a five-year lifetime limit on welfare assistance, added work requirements, and slashed overall public welfare funding by \$54 billion.

By 1996, the penal budget was twice the amount that had been allocated to food stamps, wrote Alexander. During Clinton's tenure, funding for public housing was slashed by \$17 billion (a reduction of 61%), while funding for corrections was boosted by \$19 billion (an increase of 171%). According to sociologist Loic Wacquant "effectively making the construction of prisons the nation's main housing program for the urban poor."

Is Bill's Legacy Hillary's?



It's hard decided how much blame or credit Hillary Clinton deserves for her husband's policy legacy. In fact, it's hard to decide how much blame or credit to give Bill for the products of his administration.

It's difficult to give Clinton credit for the booming economy. Unlike Barack Obama, who championed policies and legislation to save a failing auto and financial industry, the financial boom during the Clinton administration was due mostly to technology advancements, including the introduction of the internet and the dot.com boom. It's hard to say Clinton did much to bring about the change.

On the other hand, it's difficult to blame only Bill for the onerous Crime bill and its harsh effect on the Black community. Remember two-thirds of the Congressional Black Caucus supported the bill and so did a great number of Black community activists who, desperate to clean up their communities, supported the "get tough on crime" movement. However more police and prisons wasn't all the Black community wanted. They also asked for, demanded: more drug treatment programs, better housing, job programs, economic-stimulus in their communities, and access to better healthcare. Clinton failed to deliver on any of those things and the community was forced to deal with increased police on the streets and an disproportionate incarceration rate.

Now, Hillary is running on a platform to reverse many of the policies put in place under her husband's administration. Her Criminal Justice Platform calls for:

- End the era of mass incarceration, reform mandatory minimum sentences, and end private prisons.

- Encourage the use of smart strategies—like police body cameras—and end racial profiling to rebuild trust between law enforcement and communities.

- Help formerly incarcerated individuals successfully re-enter society.

All policies that her Democratic opponent Bernie Sanders also supports.

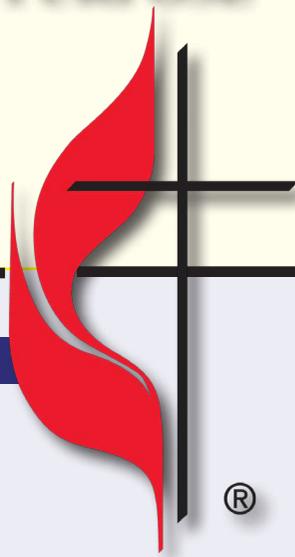
Now back to the original questions. Do the Clintons deserve the Black community's devotion? Their record doesn't necessarily support it.

What has Hillary done to deserve the community's support for her presidential campaign? She's pledged to overturn many of the devastating bills adopted under her husband's administration, but so has her opponent.

Finally, what can the community expect in return? If Bill's legacy is an indication, the community can't expect much. However, if Hillary is to be judged on her own, like with any other candidate, the African-American community is going to have to stand up and demand, not expect, something in return for their loyal support, instead of once again being taken for granted. ●●

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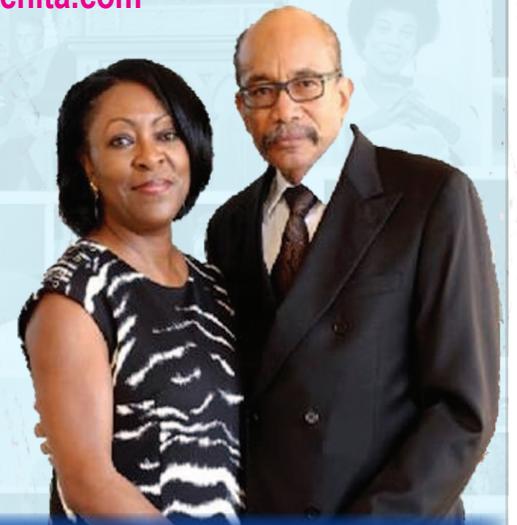
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Sunday School Program
9:00 am
Morning Worship
10:30 am

Good Friday Program
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3.27.16

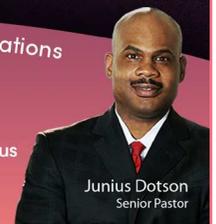
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Junius Dotson
Senior Pastor

See OBITS, page 11

**Jackson Mortuary
Wichita**

Alford, Irene Vivian, 85, die d 2/29/16. She was a retired Unit Clerk at St. Francis Medical Hospital. Service was held 3/8/16 at St. Paul AME Church. She is survived by: niece; Lillie Brim, grandsons; Brenton Walker, Jordan Phillips and granddaughter; Brittany Mitchell.

Brown, Leonard, 82, died 2/23/16. He was a retired Sedgwick County and MB-PLX Processing employee. Service was held 3/1/16 at Holy Temple COGIC. He is survived by : Spouse; : Priscella J. Brown, daughters; Brenda Denman, Kedetra Nero, son; Leonard P. Brown, brothers; Isiah Brown, Aaron Brown, King Brown, Nayden Brown, Walter Brown and sister; Lillie "Margene" Hightower.

Crawford, Peggy, 77, died 3/3/16. Service is pending.

Griffin Sr., John Arthur, 69, died 2/26/16. He was a retired Coleman employee. Service was held 03/04/16 at New Beginning 7th Day Adventist Church. He is survived by: spouse; Parilee Griffin, sons; John Arthur Griffin Jr., Torrance Kelley, James Greer and sister; Dorothy Graves.

Jones, Mary, 73, died 3/5/16. Service is pending.

Morris, Alexis, 26, died 3/7/16. Service is pending.

Patterson, James, 86, died 3/6/16. Service is pending.

Pollard, Louis Kenneth, 70, died 2/21/16. Service is pending. He is survived by: spouse; Mary L. Pollard, sisters;

Susie Winslow, Eunice Speight.

Roberts, Jessie Lee, 68, died 2/21/12. Service was held 3/4/16 at New Jerusalem Baptist Church. He is survived by: spouse; Robin Roberts, daughters; Jacqueline V. Phillips, Alberta Matthews, Andress Hollis, son; Antwon Roland, brothers; Samuel Roberts, Willie "Jerry" Myers III, Derrick Myers, sisters; Rebecca English, Minnie Washington, Rubie Cad-dell, Pealie Garrett, Alberta Roberts, Diana Myers and Arlene Myers.

Tolbert, Alma, 104, died 2/28/16. She was a retired Wesley Hospital employee. Service was held 3/7/16 at Jackson Mortuary Chapel. She is survived by: son; Leonard Tolbert, and daughter; Acylean Pettis.

Walters, Brandon, 35, died 3/3/16. Service is pending

**RJ Bethea
Funeral
Wichita**

Anderson, Clareth, 83, passed 2/26/16. Services will be 03/15/16 at NoonSt. Mark United Methodist Church

Greenawalt, Gary, 69, passed 2/27/16. Visitation was held 3/1/16. He is survived by spouse; Linda, daughters; Cindy Boehmke Greenawalt, Sheri Gates Greenawalt and, brother; Richard Greenawalt

Hutsell, Lushawn Lynn, 83, passed 2/27/16. Service is pending

Mosley Jr., Barry 30, passed 2/27/16. Service was held 3/4/16 at New Hope Baptist Church.

Shaffer, Nina "Connie", 76, passed 2/25/16. Service was held 2/27/16 at Bethel Life Center. She is survived by

spouse; Cliff; daughters, Robin Westphal, Kim He'bert, brother; Bill Burgess and sister; June Kelly

Wasyk, Kevin, 44, passed 2/27/16. Service is pending.

**Biglow Funeral
Wichita**

Bryant Sr., John Henry, 72, passed 3/6/16. Service is pending.

**Central Avenue
Wichita**

Crawford, Vincent H. died 2/7/16. Service was held 2/20/16 at Central Avenue Funeral Services. Vincent is survived by: brother; Roy Crawford, Jr., and sister; Vaniece Crawford .

**Bowser-Johnson
Topeka**

Buford, Donna E., 71, passed 2/27/16. Service was held 3/5/16 at Bowser- Johnson Funeral Chapel. Survived by sons; Victor R. Buford, Brandon D. Buford, and daughters; Yolanda R. Lunkins, Tamara D. Lewis, Babette M. Buford-Williams, Dorene L. Whorley.

**Peaceful Rest
Topeka**

Richey, Duane, 22, passed 2/27/16. Service will be held 3/11/16, 10:00AM at Peaceful Rest Funeral Chapel.

Wilkins, Kevin, 54, passed 2/27/16. Service will be held 3/10/16, 10:00AM at Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church. Survived by his mother; Shirley Wheat, brothers; Anthony Jones, Clarence Wheat, Mario Wheat, Nathan Wheat,

Michael Wheat, sisters; Marilyn Miller, Rhoda Wilson, Michelle Lewis, sons; Anceo Stovall, Kevin Wilkins Jr., Ontario Wilkins, Daquan Wilkins, Christopher Wilhoite, Ian Schuler; and daughters; Shirley Wilkins, Valerie Wilkins, Breonna Wilkins, and Quasiera Johnson.

**Penwell Gabel
Junction City**

Phelps, Judy "Miss Judy", 80, passed 2/24/16. Service was held 3/4/16 at First Christian Church. She is survived by sons

James Phelps Jr. and Reginald Phelps

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1st Lady Fern DeShazer

10 Topeka Links Black History Program Presents Kansas City Ailey Dancers

SOCIAL

The Topeka Chapter of Links, Inc. presented Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey in the performance of "Setting the Stage" on Feb. 27 at Highland Park High

School. The free program was a special Black History presentation. Setting the Stage took the audience on a visual journey through

the channels of African-American dance culture and interwove dance with a multi-media story on the history and legacy of modern

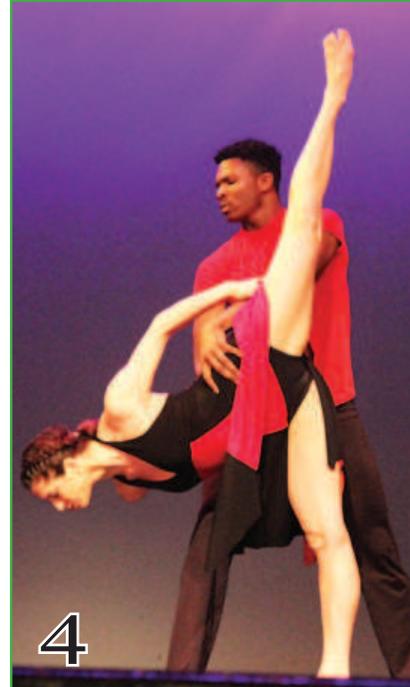
dance. The new program was developed and choreographed by Tyrone Aiken, KCFAA's Chief Artistic Officer. ●●

PHOTOS:

1. Links leader pose for a phot with KCFAA staff and board members: (L-R) LCFAA Board member Leslie Fleuranges, Links Vice President Renita Harris, Links President, Glenda Dubois, KCFAA CEO, Harlan Brownlee, KCFAA Board member Esmond Allyne and KCFAA Executive Creative Director Tyrone Aikens.
2. The dancers showed their talent through agility and strength.
3. The visual effects of the performance captivated the audience.
4. The dancers displayed their talents.



Photos by Bonita Gooch



AileyCamp Accepting Applications For Summer

Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey are accepting applications for their innovative summer program for middle school students. AileyCamp is a physically and mentally demanding program that uses disciplined dance training, creative writing instruction, personal development, communication workshops, field-trips and social activities to develop skills that impact participant's success. Each AileyCamper receives a full tuition scholarship, as well as uniforms, meals and transportation free of charge. Transportation is available from Topeka to the Kansas City site.

The six-week summer day camp is open to students who are currently in the 6th, 7th or 8th grade. The camp begins in mid-June and ends in late July and runs Monday thru Friday from 7:15 a.m. -2:15 p.m. Space is limited, so apply early and there is a selection process. Need, gender and ethnicity relative to district-wide representation are factors in the selection process. No prior dance training is necessary. Interested parents and students may apply online at www.kcfaa.org or by calling KCFAA, 816.471.6003.

AileyCamp is sponsored by Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey, a non-profit organization, incorporated in 1984 to establish an on-going presence of Alvin Ailey in Kansas City. KCFAA receives contributions from corporate, foundation, government and individual donors in addition to school district support. ●●

Alphas Presents Their 19th Annual Tribute of Historical Black Colleges

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc Eta Beta Lambda and Delta Mu Chapters presented their Annual Scholarship Banquet. On Feb. 27 at the Hyatt Regency. For nineteen years, the banquet has highlighted the importance of attending an HBCU. This year the featured school was Lincoln University Jefferson City, MO, with

Keynote Speaker Dr. Said Swell, Lincoln University Provost. The purpose of the event is two-fold: to educate youth about the value of HBCU's and to raise money for scholarships. At the banquet, three young men: Donovan Duggins, Payton Morgan and Sage William were awarded full four-year scholarships to Lincoln University. ●●

PHOTOS:

1. Three young men: Sage Williams, Donovan Duggins and Payton Morgan receive full ride four-year scholarships to Lincoln University.
2. Dr. Godwin & Margaret Opara, owners of Transtecs Corporation were among the attendees.
3. Phillip Oliver, Education Chair, announces scholarship guidelines.
4. (L-R) Dr. Said Sewell, Provost, Lincoln University; Dr. Evies Cranford, Chairperson 19th Annual HBCU Banquet; Dr. James Owens, President, Alpha Phi Alpha, Eta Beta Lambda Chapter; and Dr. T. LaMont Holder, Pastor Calvary Baptist Church pose as Dr. Sewell receives gift. from the chapter.
5. Men of Alpha Phi Alpha pay special tribute to Dr. Evies Cranford

for 19 years as chairperson of the annual banquet.



Photos by Mypictureman Photography



MARCH 10, 2016

THE COMMUNITY VOICE

WICHITA CALENDAR

MAR 15 Fire Safety Class.
Lt. Jose Ocadiz of the Wichita Fire Department will offer instruction on fire safety from 6-7:30 p.m. at 1201 N. Green St. (Habitat for Humanity's model home). Space is limited. Please RSVP to Katharine@wichitahabitat.org or call 269-0755.

17-20 AKA Midwest Region Conference. Event includes a free public program and reception on March 18, 7 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. For a complete list of other public events go to www.communityvoiceks.com.

19 Homeownership meeting. Find out how you can own an affordable home through Wichita Habitat for Humanity. Meetings in English and Spanish. 10 a.m. at Habitat offices, 130 E. Murdock St., RSVP to Katharine@wichitahabitat.org or call 269-0755.

26 "African-American Genealogy" 1-2 p.m. FREE Led by Jozel Smith Eckels. Midwest Historical & Genealogical Society Library 1203 N. Main 316-264-3611 info@mhgs-wichita.org

26 Beautillion XLI Century II, Wichita, 6-0 p.m. Sponsored by the Wichita Chapter of Links, Inc. Tickets are available from local Links or Beautillion participants.

APR. 9 An Evening with Ms. Lady Dee and the Boyz. This event will be from 7-9 p.m. at 40 plus Lounge 3926 E. 13th. Tickets on sale now. Contact Maggie Thompson (316) 655-6967 for tickets. Cost \$10 per person

16 Financial Freedom Expo, The Community Voice along with the Wichita Branch NAACP and other local collaborators present "Money in the Bank"

from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Urban Prep Academy 2821 E. 24th N. The event is free. More information to follow.

16 8th Annual Sisterhood of Queens Event Keynote Speaker will be Valerie Jarrett a Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama. She oversees the Offices of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs and chairs the White House Council on Women and Girls. Event will be 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Holiday Inn East, 540 S. Rock Road.

23 7th Annual Developing Every Man's Opportunity Conference. The event will take place at the Boys and Girls Club 2400 Opportunity Drive from 1 - 4 p.m. The conference is designed to educate and challenge our youth. Keynote Speaker is Shaka Senghor of Washington D.C. cost \$25 for more information contact David Gilkey (316) 312-5705.

OBITS from page 9

Thompson, Helen, 82, passed 2/26/16. Service was held 3/3/16 at Penwell-Gabel Funeral Chapel.

OTHER

Reverend Wanda Mae Lewis McDaniels, 82, Topeka, passed away March 2, 2016. She was born November 28, 1933 in Wichita, KS. Theodosa Whitley and Samuel Lewis were her adoptive parents. She is survived by Richmond Samuel "Mac" McDaniels, Theodore McDaniels, sisters Jean Carter Boniface, Mavis Brown, Betty Jett. Rev. McDaniels was ordained in 1987. She was a member on Mother's Board of Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church and a past member of

Paradise Baptist in Wichita. Her past accomplishments include 1st female Police Chaplain for Wichita Police and Sedgwick County Sheriff Dept.; Board Member of H.O.P.E. Inc., Wichita; President of Wichita NAACP branch, 2000 & 2002, and member for over 50 years; and KS African American Museum member. In 1985 she was recognized in Who's Who in America for teaching/lecturing, plus over 30 other recognition awards in humanities, volunteerism and religious categories. Memorial service was held March 5, 2016 at Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, Topeka. ●●



McDaniel

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