20th Anniversary of Essence Music Festival Delivers ‘Party With a Purpose’

By Naomi Richard

The 20th Anniversary of Essence Music Festival delivered a ‘Party With a Purpose’ including performances by legendary greats like Prince, Lionel Richie and T.D. Jakes. The evening showcased a variety of performances including gospel, hip-hop, R&B, and hip-hop’s black cross-cultural music and culture, as reported by the New York Times.

This year’s milestone 4-day celebration featured both world-renowned and up-and-coming performing acts, as well as the country’s top speakers, authors, leaders, innovators and celebrities — who came together to entertain, excite, engage, inform and inspire the festival community of more than 543,000.

During Sunday’s Essence Gospel Fest, attendees enjoyed an all-star gospel tribute to influential vocalist Yolanda Adams, hosted by legendary Pastor Donnie McClurkin with performances by Kim Burrell, Kierra Sheard, James Forde.

See ESSENCE, page 4

Brown Announced as 1st HT Hercules Scholar Recipient

Tom Joyner announced Arsenio Brown is the first Huston-Tillotson University Hercules Scholar for July 2014.

Last year, Arsenio was the Junior Class president and president of his chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (Delta chapter). He was also elected president of the Senior Class for 2014-2015. And, he maintained a 3.53 average.

Perhaps it is his vegetarian lifestyle coupled with his influence of his two older brothers, Broderick and Fletcher Brown (both of whom are attorneys), that are the forces behind Arsenio’s passion to strive and achieve. According to him, “In order to be successful, your fo...” See SCHOLAR, page 5

Need a Late Night Ride? Capital Metro Offers Safe and Sober Options.

AUSTIN, Texas — Now that summer is here, more people are taking advantage of the longer daylight hours and fun things to do around the city, including late night outings around town. For those seeking a safe and sober ride home after the festivities are over, Capital Metro has many convenient and low-cost options to choose from.

Two services, the Night Owl and E-Bus, operate especially late into the night to ensure people get home safely. See NIGHT OWLERS HAVE CHOICES, page 7

Beau Brice Edward Dudley, Jr. (first place Madison Scholar) pictured with Dorothy Madison, Beauillion Austin founder, and Sheldon Starke, Jack and JillAustin Chapter president.

The Honorable Judge Clifford Brown joined Ms. Ashley Goodue of KVUE News, as the master and emcee for the 2014 Beautillion season culminated with an elegant evening at the Austin Hilton on June 21, 2014. The Beautillion is the Jack & Jill Austin Chapter’s signature event, a biennial fundraiser that recognizes young African American men of character, achievement and integrity. This year’s theme, “Raising the Bar: New Challenges, New Strategies,” emphasized the need for this generation of leaders to elevate their performance as they prepare to meet and exceed the lofty standards and expectations required to compete on the world stage. The room was en-...
presented a scholarship to Beau Landon Godsey.

Mary Castleberry, Vice President of the Links, Inc., Austin Chapter, with Sheldy Starkes, presents scholarships – the Jack and Jill Austin Chapter Father’s Auxiliary; B e u a n d Sheldy Starkes, with Sheldy Starkes, Austin Chapter President, and Mel Bryant.

Continued from page 1

Over the course of the weekend, the Jack and Jill Austin Chapter Father’s Auxiliary presented scholarships to Beau Landon Godsey, Jack and Jill Austin Chapter Father’s Auxiliary; B e u a n d Sheldy Starkes, Austin Chapter President, and Mel Bryant.

The workshops were funded with the Jacqueline Robinson Grant from the Jack and Jill Foundation and local support from the community. During the closeout reception for the Beautillion season, each event sponsor received a laptop,was hosted by Edge of Your Seat Consul-

The workshops were funded with the Jacqueline Robinson Grant from the Jack and Jill Foundation and local support from the community. During the closeout reception for the Beautillion season, each event sponsor received a laptop, was hosted by Edge of Your Seat Consulting, ballroom dancing classes by William Dean Kline of the American Academy of Dance; piano classes, and study skills, Mrs. Terrance & Lynn Eaton; a golf outing; a business roundtable hosted by the Texas Cable Association; and a Rising Star Leadership Seminar lead by Calvin Zanders.

The workshops were funded with the Jacqueline Robinson Grant from the Jack and Jill Foundation and local support from the community. During the closeout reception for the Beautillion season, each event sponsor received a laptop. Thank you to all our sponsors: Seton Healthcare Family; Locke Lord, LLP; A Hawkins Public Policy Consulting; Davis Kaufmann PLLC; Johnson & Johnson Law Firm; Speaker Joe Strauss, Texas Lobby Group, Mike Toomey; Former Chief Justice Tom Phillips; Freescale; Samsung; The Hancock Battleground; and KeepitDigital Photography. Other generous supporters include the East Communities Branch YMCA, The University of Texas at Austin, D’Cor by Houston, D’Cor by Austin, Cheops Shrine Temple, the Jeff Lofton Trio during the formal program, recipients of the Dorothy Madison Scholarship, and the formal program, recipients of the Dorothy Madison Scholarship.

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THE COMMUNIQUÉ

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014 JACK AND JILL BEAUTILLION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS & BEAUX

Beau Ryan Nicholas Newman

Beau Cameron DeShaun Jones (second place Madison Scholar) posed with Dorothy Madison, Beau Landon Godsey, Jack and Jill Austin Chapter President. Beau Cameron DeShuan Jones (second place Madison Scholar) posed with Dorothy Madison, Beau Landon Godsey, Jack and Jill Austin Chapter President. Beau Cameron DeShaun Jones (second place Madison Scholar) posed with Dorothy Madison, Beau Landon Godsey, Jack and Jill Austin Chapter President.
It’s been six months since millions of American began to benefit from health care coverage through the new federal marketplace, so it’s fair to ask: is the coverage working?

Though analyzing the health care law remains a work in progress, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has taken a close look at both the affordability and the availability of the insurance plans that were available through the marketplace’s initial enrollment period.

By the end of enrollment, 733,773 Texans had selected a health plan. Of those, 84 percent qualified for the tax credits available through the insurance exchange.

That financial help has made a huge difference. For example, a government study found that Texans receiving tax credits are paying an average of $72 per premium for their new health care coverage—one-fourth of what they would have paid without credits.

Others have seen that people stretched their financial help by selecting health plans with among the lowest premiums. More than 17 of every 10 people are rethinking the subsidy they can receive for premiums. More than 10,000 of these trends are changing the way people choose health plans.

Getting health care coverage through the marketplace’s initial period was once an open question for many people, especially during the height of the pandemic. Now, the government is predicting that more than 4 million people may have signed up for coverage.

The government’s recent findings show that the competition between insurance companies for the new marketplace business helped to keep premiums down. For every additional insurer selling health plans in a particular area, premiums were four percent lower.

One explanation for these discrepancies is a difference of socialization, even within the same political environments. Over half of African American homes are single mother led households. As a result, many black men lack male role models within their households. While at the same time, the sisters of these same single mothers feel under a mistrust that whether by circumstance or choice, practice self-sufficiency. While black males and females may arise from the same household and socioeconomic classes, the ways they view their gender roles vis a vis society and vis a vis the household are affected by the presence of their or lack of gender specific parental role model.

“By the end of the enrollment period for black women over 20 years old continued to improve, dropping one percentage point to 6.4 percent in May from 6.5 percent in June,” said Wilson.

The government has found that women generally have a more positive outlook on race and ethnicity. In June, the Black labor force participation rate rose to 61 percent from 60.8 percent the previous month.

In a blog post on the jobs report, Valerie Wilson, the organization’s senior vice president for Research, Ethnicity, and the Economics of the Black family, said, “For the first time in 27 weeks, a decline in the labor force participation rate for White women ticked down from 4.9 percent in June, compared to the White unemployment rate of 7.0 percent in June, compared to the White unemployment rate of 7.0 percent in June, compared to the White unemployment rate of 7.0 percent in June, compared to the White unemployment rate of 7.0 percent in June, compared to the White unemployment rate of 7.0 percent in June.

Wilson added, “That is a reminder of the gains Black women and their families have made since the height of the pandemic. And it gives you a sense that the worst is behind us.”

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The Hercules Scholarship is named after higher education supporter, Hercules Joyner. The Hercules Scholarship is granted to students selected by a committee of the Prairie View Intercollegiate League of America (PVILCA). The Hercules Scholarship is a $1,500 scholarship grant that is paid directly to the recipient’s school to help offset their college expenses.

By Michael McGee
Special to the NNPA from The Dallas Examiner

The most disadvantaged, troubled students in the South and the nation attend schools in the juvenile justice system, the 2014 report from the Southern Education Foundation begins. The document, Just Learning: The Imperative to Transform Juvenile Justice Systems into Effective Educational Systems raises a number of questions: If so many children with educational needs are segregated or incarcerated, what will become of them when they are released? Are they ready to compete in the world of work, or even get to the cost associated with the population? Will they have help and support as they grow up, as they develop, and they’re entitled to and deserve opportunities to learn through education? How can we prepare for the future and create a community that truly supports them?

The bad news is, from our look in, is that the education function, we think, gets short shrift.” He said if education was understood to be a primary focus to juvenile justice systems, the problems would multiply in the future.

“The current data, no one looks at the Southern U.S. The report from 2010 suggests that there were 70,000 young people across the U.S. detained within the system on any given day, and 15 of those states of the Southern U.S. McGuire reflected upon how those numbers got to be so high.

“Most things we come to worry about don’t happen overnight, which means that they’re slow, developing trends which take a trained eye to see,” he added. To some extent, he said, “No Child Left Behind legislation for identifying problem areas for many school-aged children. The report also noted that, of the total number of youth detained in 2010, almost two-thirds “did not involve any wrongdoing directly against another person.”

In case you missed it, you can hear Arsenio’s audience lauded by Intellectuals & activists lead by WEB Dubois and the Niagara Movement. He helped the Yellow Jacks to district titles in 1958 and 1959. George Raft Arnold spent 30 years at Brackenridge Hospital and 37 years at the Texas Department of Public Safety, retiring from both jobs.

Locked Up, Left Behind: Juvenile Justice System Failing Southern Youth

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Unapologetic

By: Tramickia Charleston

Decide that you love yourself so much that you’re no longer going to apologize for getting rid of the things, people, and situations that no longer belong in your life.

That means that you’re going to be, to step into the unfamiliar, boldly get rid of friendships, relationships, drama, any negative thing that will hinder you from moving forward. When moving forward with life you’ll find yourself coming across stumbling blocks, which will create a detour on your journey. Don’t get it twisted this is just a test, a test to see if you’re strong enough in your mind, consistent enough in your work and confident enough to take on the challenge.

Unapologetically walk with a faith in no regards to getting everything you want out of life. Take full advantage of all the opportunities that are in reach. People may say “No” to your questions and comments, but that’s all part of stepping into the unfamiliar. You will lose what you never had, nor can you move forward without that. As soon as you realize that you’re in charge of your own future, the sooner you will find it a little easier to reach all of your goals that you’re trying to accomplish. Things are going to start happening and you will no longer have to look backwards.

We’ve all been through rough patches in our life, but that’s what creates a drive, a force for us to move forward. Let go of what use to be and worry about how things are going to turn around for you. For some reason I just felt the need to talk to you guys. I feel inspired, because I was and still am searching for my purpose in life. I know they’re some of you who worry about what others think, and how they’re going to view you. People will tell you who worry about what you’re doing, so take it as a compliment that you’re moving in the right direction and you don’t have to apologize for any of it. I personally failed to realize that while I’m worrying about what others thought of me, I was suppressing myself and not moving forward with my dreams. One day I woke up and said, “This is my life and the only way things are going to happen is if I stand bold and unapologetic for what I want and be a strong powerful force in my own life.”

Perez Jr. for Austin City Council District 6
by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavan

In the Austin city council District 4 there are the most candidates amount of candidate vying for the position. One of the Candidate running is Roberto Perez Jr. Perez Jr has lived in Austin District 4 for least 5 years. While living in the neighborhood, Roberto Perez Jr has worked to make his community a “better place to live.” For instance, he served on the Restore Rundberg Revitalization team trying to make his neighborhood a better place to live. In addition, he has served on the Community Development Commission for the Austin city Council.

According to Roberto Perez Jr, “I believe every person in Austin deserve to live in a safe, thriving neighborhood. District 4 residents should have safe neighborhoods, recreation facilities to celebrate their families, robust businesses to sustain our local economy, and job opportunities to live full, enjoyable lives.” Roberto believes that the neighborhood should be safe and affordable. Furthermore, he believes that there should be efficiency, equity and transparency in the city government.

Flannigan For Austin City Council District 6
by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavan

As we know, the Austin city council has 10 district that covers the entire city. Although each district is unique, they still share the needs of better transportation needs, such as urban rail and better roads. In addition there are other issues such as affordability, water; and other needs of a fast growing city like Austin Texas. Therefore, Jimmy Flannigan has decided to run in Austin city council District 6. Furthermore, District 6 covers parts of North and Northwest Austin. Jimmy Flannigan is a “long-time” small business owner who has worked at the Austin Gay Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and held co-found the NorthWest Austin Coalition. Furthermore, Jimmy has served on the Austin Chamber Transportation Committee. While serving on the committee, Jimmy has sought to address some of Austin’s transportation issues for the past several years. Prior from being a candidate Jimmy has sought to address certain issues that affect Austin.

Now that Jimmy is a candidate, there are some many things he will work to accomplish. According to Jimmy, some of his core issues are fixing Austin’s traffic problem, affordability, fiscal responsibility, water infrastructure; wildfire prevention and improving public force in Northwest Austin. Furthermore, Jimmy Flannigan will face off with other candidates on the ballot.
Vernon Carathers retired from Texas A&M University and attended Austin Community College with a certificate in welding. He continued to play basketball in the Netherlands and in recreation centers in Austin. Even in his 80s, George Marshall played as an outside guard for the “basketball George Marshall” after 18 years with the Texas Employment Commission.

Carl Crenshaw (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

Carl Crenshaw attended L.C. Anderson HS in Austin from 1947 to 1951 and played football in 1949 to 1950; he earned two letters as a running back and a safety. Crenshaw was named All-District in 1949 and ran, caught, returned, and played on the district champion 440-yard and the mile relay teams. He played the final season in 1951 at Samuel Huston College before it merged with Tillotson College. Carl Crenshaw is an original charter member of the L.C. Anderson Booster Club and retired from the State School in Austin in 1988.

Alfred B. Mays, Sr. (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

Alfred B. Mays, Sr. played football at L.C. Anderson HS in Austin and graduated in 1970. He played at Southwest Texas University and professionally for the San Antonio Toros, New York Giants, and the Calgary Stampeders. Mays completed his pro career in 1980 with the Austin Tex- ans. He has been on the NFL’s Retired Play- ers Association for 40 years.

Louis Dotson, Jr. (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

Louis Dotson, Jr. was an all-around athlete at L.C. Anderson HS in Aus- tin, participating in basketball, baseball, track and football. Dotson was a starter on offense and defense and played on the 1949 and 1950 state championship teams. Louis graduated from L.C. Anderson in 1958 and attended Huston-Tillotson College. He started working for IBM in 1967 and in 1971 became the company’s first black manager. After retiring as a manager, Dotson participated in many IBM sports activities. He was the recipient of numerous awards. Tom Watson, the company’s award for accumu- lating the most golf and tennis awards.

Louis Dotson, Jr. is active in the NFL’s Retired Players Association and cur- rently employed with the Circuit of the Americas.

Gary Priestley (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

Gary Priestley graduated from L.C. Anderson HS in 1964. He was a start- ing quarterback and team captain in 1962 and 1963. Priestley received All-District honors as a junior and senior; he also played safety and returned kicks. He lettered in track (All-District), basketball, and received a football scholarship to North Texas State, majoring in Econom- ics. In 1965, he led North Texas to All-District recep- tions. Drafted to the Army in 1966 and served in Viet- namese Football League. Priestley was a member of the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster and the Air Medal. Larry Vernon Priestley worked at Huntington Bank in Houston for 20 years and 30 Perform Plastics Products where he developed new automated machine pro- cedures.

Naomi Hargis (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

Naomi Hargis was born in Yellow Pine and graduated from Liberty High School. She attended Mary Allen Junior College, receiving an emergency medical special education in two years and started teaching in the Cedarwood School District. She taught at Belo High School and Love High School in Day- ton, Texas. Naomi received her B.A. degree and per- manent teaching certifi- cate from Tillotson Col- lege in Austin in 1949. She received her master’s in Education, Special Education and a minor in Art Education from Prairie View A&M in 1963. Naomi taught in the Credmoor School District, Georgetown ISD and Wellington, an all-black teacher at Willis. From 1986 to 2001.


Night Owls have choices continued from page 1

Also offered are three E-Bus routes each follow regular service on Monday through Saturday.

Metro Rapid Route 801 – Runs between Tech Ridge and Southwest Mallou 12:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. A single ride on Metro Rapid Route 801 is $1 or $2 for a Day Pass.

City of Austin: Pets Allowed in Public Areas

City of Austin has announced that pets are allowed in public areas for the following purposes:

- Dog Walker (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

Dog Walker was named All-District in 1945. He was a starter on offense and defense and played on the 1945 state championship teams.

John Calvin Dotson (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

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- Dog Walker (PVILCA Hall of Fame Inductee)

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The Old L.C. Anderson High School Class of 1954 celebrated its 60th Class Reunion the weekend of June 27 – June 29, 2014, at the Holiday Inn on Lady Bird Lake here in Austin, Texas. The reunion theme was "Looking Back-Moving Forward".

Registration for the reunion began on Friday, the 27th, followed by a Reception that later that evening, filled with laughter, music, dancing and reminiscing of times past. On Saturday, classmates took a tour of the City of Austin, with Walter Shaw, Jr. serving as the tour guide. The tour included the University of Texas, The Governor’s mansion, the Cathedral of Austin, The Blanton Museum of Art, and many areas of East Austin. The highlight of the tour was the visit made to Mr. Richard Overton, who is 108 years old!

On Saturday night, the Reunion Banquet took place with over sixty-six people in attendance. To describe the gala affair as regal would be an understatement, as the décor reflected the Old AHS “Black & Gold” school colors, topped off with candlelight centerpieces illuminating the entire banquet ballroom.

Walter Shaw, Jr., Master of Ceremony, began the gala event by introducing Ms. Laverne Brown Cook, who sang a beautiful rendition of "The Way We Were". Afterwards, Reginald Arnold gave the invocation; followed with greetings given by Bobbie Hyder Arnold, Reunion Committee Chair and Raymond Whitley, Old Anderson Alumni Association Chair. Alia Stewart Harden, President of the local chapter of the L.C. Anderson Class of 1954, gave the occasion. A memorial to the deceased classmates were given by Ms. Robbie Dotson Overton and Ms. Gladys Horton Williams. Mayor Pro Tem Cherlie Cole read the Proclamation for Travis County in the absence of Judge Sam Biscoe. The food was blessed by Rev. J.T. Stewart, followed by moments of reflections moderated by Edna Hughes and summarized by Dorothy Franklin Anthony, featuring Betty Redd Washington, Class of 1949; Alexander W. Porter, Class of 1950; Roscoe Overton, Class of 1952; Edith Davis McKinley, Class of 1954, Constable Evans Thomas, Class of 1956; and Linda Rogers Moore, Class of 1971.

Reginald Arnold and Connie Miller were recognized for their outstanding service and support of the class of 1954.

The gala ended with closing remarks from Ada Stewart Harden and Bobbie Arnold, and closing prayer by Edith McKinney to climax the evening. Reunion classmates worshiped at Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday morning, with an inspiring message by Reverend A.W. Mays, Pastor of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church.

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