

Six-part Interactive Voter Education Series launched at Tougaloo

~See Inside Page 5

HAVE YOU REGISTERED TO
VOTE?
DEADLINE TO REGISTER
OCTOBER 8TH



THE TOUGALOO HARAMBEE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE
The Student Newspaper of Tougaloo College

The Tougaloo Harambee

Monday, September 26, 2016

Tougaloo Eaglets Soar to New Heights

Remembering Eaglet Jana Clanton



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Melanie Dotson 2015 grad gone too soon



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2016 HBCU ALL STARS



By Shaniqua Adams

The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) reported that 73 understudies from a crosswise over 63 HBCUs have been named as the 2016 HBCU All-Stars. The All-Stars involve undergrad,

graduate and expert understudies, who are being perceived for their achievements in scholastics, initiative and city engagement. Tougaloo's very own Abednego Commey has been named a 2016 HBCU All-Star. He is a biology major from Ghana.

Over the span of one scholarly school year, Commey has separated himself as a model for the abilities that HBCUs develop within these honorable envoys of individuals. The Initiative is anticipating working with the All-Stars and is certain this open door will permit the Initiative to

seriously interface with HBCU understudies and propel scholastic brilliance at their schools. Throughout the following year, Commey and others will serve as ministers by giving open doors speaking engagements with different understudies about the estimation of training and the Initiative as an administration source. Utilizing online networking, group based associations, and sessions with industry experts, the understudies will share demonstrated practices that bolster the opening of more doors for all youngsters to achieve their instructive and vocational potential. They will likewise take an interest in the White House HBCU Week Conference, national and local occasions and online courses with Initiative staff and different experts on a scope of orders backing engagement and expert improvements. For more information, visit: sites.ed.gov/whhbcu/resources/hbcu-all-stars-students; email hbcuallstars@ed.gov; twitter: @WHI_HBCUs

FARISH STREET HISTORY.... and the BEGINNING OF JOHHNNY T's BISTRO and BAR



Back in the Civil Rights era, Johnny T's used to be a pool hall. Dr. King himself came down to play pool and to relax and just 'chill'. Yes, that's right, Dr. King was a chill-laid-back man. Senator Hillary Clinton worked right upstairs as a lawyer when it was the ACLU's office. There was no sleep or slumber in the Farish Street District. Truly a lot of history in the area. According to John Miller, owner of Johnny T's Bis-

tro and Blues and an HBCU graduate, he decided to bring his business to Farish Street simply because it was dying. "People forgot about it, nobody was packaging and presenting it right," said Miller. "Over the last 60, close to 70 years, a lot has happened in this building...; the soul is in the walls." He continued, "For blacks this was it, we had nowhere to go. If you wanted to go to a doctor, go to the dentist, eat, shop, it was here in the strip." What killed it? Miller said begin to explain the impact of immigration and integration. "Once people had the opportunity to shop in different areas, and they built houses in Virden Dittion, Georgetown, and these other neighborhoods, that's what did it," he said. John Miller wants to make sure citizens in Jackson know the history. He said he did not want to come with "a juke joint." He wanted a new modern feel that people could enjoy and vibe to. "People come in to dine, and they can read the menu and learn the history of Farish Street and the beginnings of Johnny T's." It is safe to say that Johnny T's is now the heart of Farish Street. "Mr. John Miller" is well respected by other businesses in the area. "Not to take away from some of the other business that have been here over 60 years, the Big Apple Inn, Collins Funeral Home and Farish Street Baptist Church which has been here for 100 years. Miller said, "I have great respect for them, and getting the okay from them gave me even more energy."

doing what he said he was going to do, because if not it can stay how it is! In the last 20 years, there has been a negative image painted because of prior businesses on the strip. But John Miller kept his word, attracting mature adults, bringing the older generation back. Miller is seen as a visionary for the Farish District. If you want more information about upcoming events, follow Johnny T's Bistro and Blues on Instagram and Facebook. Feel free to stop in at 538 North Farish Street, Jackson, MS 39202. Feel free to call at 601-954-1323. If you want to make reservations, email johnnytstbistroandblues@gmail.com. Step into a great night at Johnny T's and be sure to say hello to the owner John Tierre Miller.

By Chinyere Brown

If you grew up in the Capital City – Jackson, one can be pretty sure you have heard of the historic Farish Street District. You have heard it all, from the good and the bad. But before you start thinking of all the negatives..., let's take it all the way back. In the beginning, when Farish Street was popping, people like Sammy Davis Jr., Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Lena Horne, Red Foxx, and Cab Callaway have been through this Farish District. A movie was shot in the same building where Johnny T's stands today. The upstairs area was used as a dressing room.

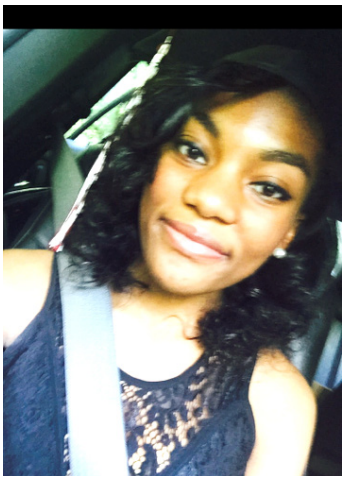
tro and Blues and an HBCU graduate, he decided to bring his business to Farish Street simply because it was dying. "People forgot about it, nobody was packaging and presenting it right," said Miller. "Over the last 60, close to 70 years, a lot has happened in this building...; the soul is in the walls." He continued, "For blacks this was it, we had nowhere to go. If you wanted to go to a doctor, go to the dentist, eat, shop, it was here in the strip." What killed it? Miller said begin to explain the impact of immigration and integration. "Once people had the opportunity to shop in different areas, and they built

He said the older well respected businesses did want to make sure that Miller wasn't bringing in an "element of ill repute," that he was



PHOTO BY CHINYERE BROWN

How Hillary Clinton has Already Won



By Shandria Sutton

America has had 44 presidents since George Washington was first elected in 1789. None of them have been women, but for the first time in our history, a woman could win the presidential race.

Whether you support her or not, Hillary Rodham Clinton is breaking more boundaries than ever for women in America. Using circumstances

to her advantage, she has become the first woman ever to come this close to becoming the president of the United States.

Hillary Clinton is most widely known for being the wife of former president Bill Clinton, but what most people do not know is that she has other experiences in politics.

In addition to becoming the first lady, Clinton was the first female senator of New York and the first lady of Arkansas. Even after her husband's presidential status, President Barack Obama named her the Secretary of State.

Now she holds the title for the first woman to have ever become the presidential nominee for a major political party. To most people, her strides as a woman are insignificant and they believe that they should not factor at all when deciding our next president.

However, this is untrue. Her successes mean that there is not only progress happening for women, but for our country as a whole.

Since World War II, 99 women have led countries around the world. Some, like Jamaica, Chile, and Norway even have women serving as the head of government right at this very moment. These women significantly changed their country, and they are Portia Simpson-Miller, Michelle Bachelot, and Erna Solberg respectively.

Under Miller's leadership, Jamaica was able to provide better government aid to citizens, and finally begin the process of becoming a republic, a truly independent nation.

In Chile, Bachelot has created many reforms to ensure equal rights to everyone, including women and minorities. She even made great



strides in terms of education, which Solberg has done for Norway as well.

So if these women can positively affect their countries so much, then surely a female leader in America could do the same.

This is not to say that Clinton should be handed the

election just because she is a woman. It is just to show that despite some of her actions throughout this presidential race, she still has the potential to change our country for the better by offering America a perspective that it has never been able to receive from a president.

'Mississippi Mayors for Hillary' outlined their reasons for supporting the democratic candidate



(Left) Edwards Mayor Marcus Wallace, Starkville Mayor Parker Wiseman, Marshand Crisler for Jackson's Mayor Tony Yarber, State Rep Edward Blackmon, Vicksburg Mayor George Flaggs and Meridian Mayor Percy Bland. PHOTO BY CHINYERE LAVINA BROWN

By Chinyere Lavina Brown

The Hillary for Mississippi supporters and volunteers joined mayors from across the state at the historic Woolworth Chapel at Tougaloo College this past spring to launch its final stretch before the primaries to "Get Out The Vote" in Mississippi.

The #HillaryforAmerica campaign stop at Tougaloo College hosted mayors from across the state who came to show publically their endorsement of the candidate. They were introduced by Gloria Williams of the Hillary Finance Team.

Williams proudly pointed to her lapel pin announcing "I am a Hill Starter," as she announced that 54 mayors across Mississippi have endorsed "Hillary for President."

Students and community residents joined the campaign workers with expectations that former President Bill Clinton would make a stop there also, but soon learned he had departed the city on his way to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

However, Williams kept the audience in high spirits as she introduced each mayor and seasoned politician State Rep. Edward Blackmon. The mayors who gave compelling reasons for their support of Hillary Clinton for President were Percy Bland (Meridian), George Flaggs (Vicksburg), Parker Wiseman (Starkville) and Marcus Wallace (Edwards). Jackson's Mayor Tony Yarber was represented by Marshand Crisler, city deputy chief administrative officer.

Vicksburg's Mayor Flaggs first emphasized that he wanted Hillary to win, "so that the Donald (Trump) does not." He is depending on the young people of this state to get out and vote. "I have confidence in you, young people," he said. Flaggs added that he had high hopes in the youth using all social media sites, emails, and word of mouth to spread the word to "vote Hillary Clinton."

Wiseman, mayor of Starkville, told the gathering that "Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is the only person who can implement the policies necessary to give all Americans the best opportunities to success and prosperity, ... keeping the same policies that President Obama has in place.

The Starkville mayor said,

"Republicans cannot deliver. We have been involved in two foreign wars and republicans have turned surpluses into deficits. And in almost eight years President Obama and his team have brought the unemployment rate under 5 percent. We now have a richer more prosperous economy."

Crisler said this is one of the strangest election cycles he has ever seen. And on behalf of Mayor Yarber, he said, "The reason why Tony Yarber and I support Sen. Clinton is because she represents the people. She doesn't care about making people feel good. She is trying to move this country forward."

He also states that America was a great country and still is a great country. The problem he said is "we have just been

divided; we have been separated and not have been working together; it is about unity. Urban cities like Jackson can greatly benefit from her projects."

Mayor of Edwards, Marcus Wallace, talked about the neglect of local cities and the neglect of people, the underserved. He said not only does his town need help with its infrastructure but also rebuilding the lives of its people who have been neglected for the past 40 years. Wallace said support for Hillary will need more than speeches; it will require monetary support. "\$10 will go a long way from each of us in a campaign. Don't forget that it takes money for Hillary to win."

Mayor Percy Bland of Meridian put his emphasis on which candidate would respect his vote, giving the rallying call: "Respect my vote!" State Rep. Blackmon, a Tougaloo graduate, has high hopes that when Sen. Clinton and Donald Trump face off, "Clinton will show her great qualifications and high honor that she has for this country."

Blackmon referred to Trump as the leader of the Republican party has become a "clown show.... I am pretty sure that we will defeat him in the end," said Blackmon. (Tougaloo Harambee faculty advisor Ayesha K. Mustafaa contributed to this article.)

Tougaloo Eaglets Soar to New Heights

Remembering Eaglet Jana Clanton

Continued from page 1

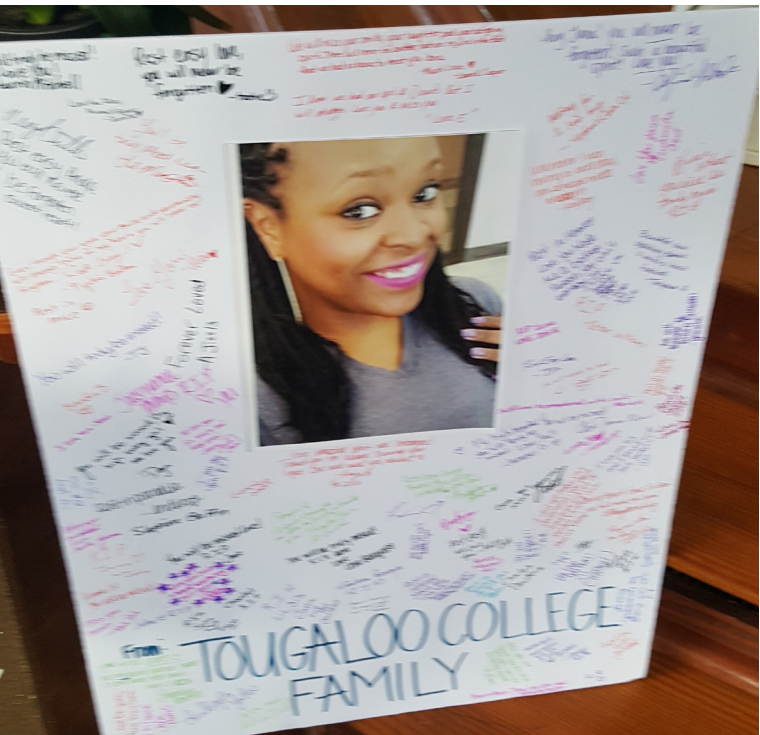
Facebook Page Tribute: “It has been said that some people are like stars. The light that is within them warms those around them and can even be a beacon of hope in the darkness.”

“Much like a star, Miss Jana Leigh Clanton is a vivacious, warm, intelligent, gracious, and ambitious spirit that touched the lives of many on the campus of Tougaloo College and beyond.

“I use the present tense because although her body will be laid to rest, the legacy she created at such a young age is still present.”

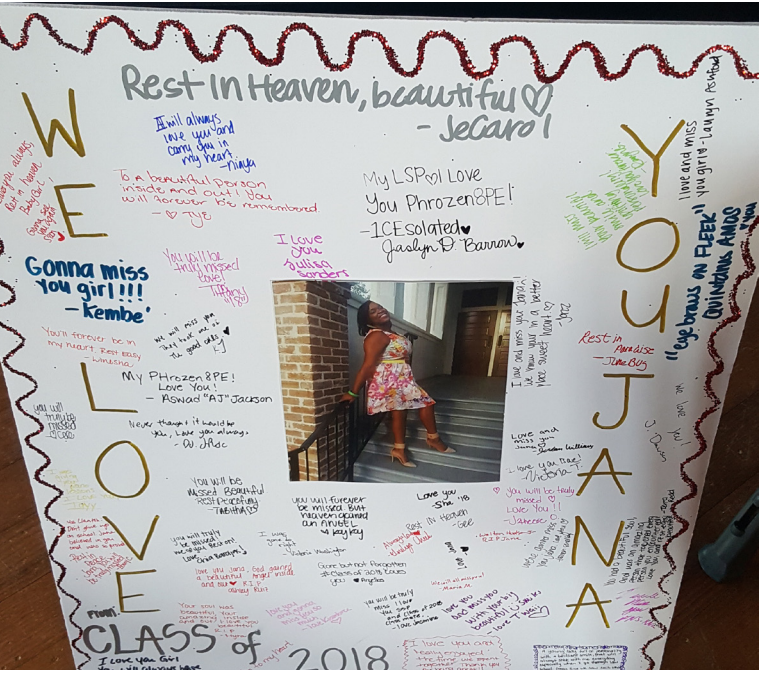
Funds contributed via the Tribute Page were to help continue this legacy at Tougaloo College with a legacy brick.

Jana was part of the Class of 2018 and a Tougaloo College Chemistry Major. She went to Madison Central High School and Canton Academy and was from Canton/Madison.



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JANA CLANTON
REMEMBERING AN ANGEL

VIGIL AND REMEMBRANCE
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016 | 6P.M.
WOODWORTH CHAPEL



Melanie Dotson 2015 grad gone too soon

Continued from page 1

By Natosha Pengarhit

We are sad to report that Tougaloo has lost an Eaglet. On Friday, September 16, 2016, at 3 p.m., Melanie Symone Dotson passed in St. Dominic’s Hospital in Jackson, Mississippi, from natural causes.

Dotson was born in the Mississippi town of Brandon on December 22, 1993. She was the only daughter to Pamela Miller and Marcos Dotson Sr. Also Melanie has a brother Marcos Dotson, 19, and younger step-sisters Alexandria Kessee, 17, Autumn Kessee, 16, and Amani Kessee, 14.

She attended Brandon High School where she graduated and became an Eaglet at Tougaloo College in 2011, graduating in 2015 with a degree in radio and television broadcast.

Melanie was an active student on the hallow grounds of Tougaloo. She was the director for the Baptist Student Union Choir and an anchor/reporter/producer for Eagle Eye News. She also contributed to The Tougaloo Harambee.

She was a proud Fall 2012 initiate of the Gamma Omicron Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

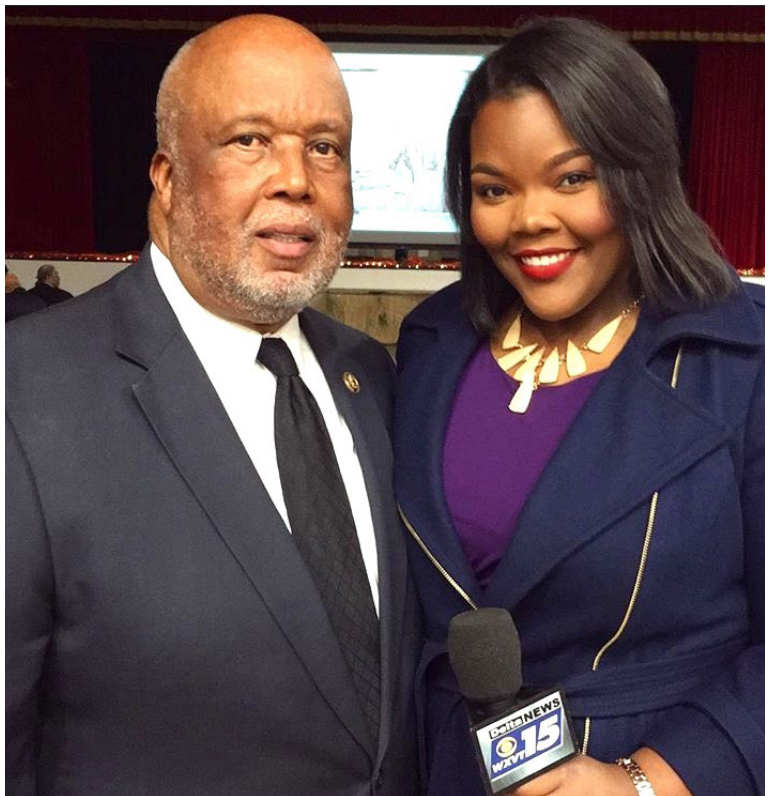
Upon graduation, Melanie began her career at WXTV, a news station in Greenville, Mississippi. In April 2016, she joined WJTV, a news station in Jackson. Within her short time at WJTV, she covered multiple stories, such as the Mississippi floods, the murder of two nuns, and the changes coming to the Warren County Jail.

“Clearly she had, in a very short career, established and distinguished herself as someone who represented the best in our industry,” WJTV’s vice president and general manager James Cromwell said.

A campus candle light vigil was held in her honor on Friday, the evening of her passing at Tougaloo College’s Woodworth Chapel. The Mass Communications Department will create a memorial garden in her honor outside its Pope Cottage.

“She’s truly the woman I want to be.... I don’t think she knew how much I really looked up to her,” said her cousin Jasmine Johnson, reported by WJTV.

The Tougaloo Harambee extends its deepest condolences to her family, extended family, sorority sisters, friends and colleagues.



Six-part interactive Voter Education Series launched at Tougaloo

By Chinyere Brown

Vote! According to planners of the Tougaloo College Pre-law Council, voting is vitally important in the black community, where many people feel as if their vote doesn't count.

The sentiment of the gathering: It is as if their voice will not be heard, their vote will not count towards a local or a presidential election.

Tougaloo College, 500 W. County Line Road, launched the six-part interactive voter education series with the first featuring Attorney Chokwe Antar Lumumba, Natalie Offiah, and Brandon King.

The series is open to the public, along with students and members of the Tougaloo community to raise the importance of voting among students and community members. The series is designed to raise awareness for the importance of voting.

Lumumba began by explaining how voting relates to the black community. "In reality, America has not gone wrong, America has never been right," he said.

"With the issues that the African American community is facing, voting rights is just one of the issues. We have to consider how to find a new approach to an old problem."

In this time, according to Lumumba, "... now more than ever, we as a blacks should come together and understand that we need to be more aware of our voting rights. We need to know who, what, when, where, why, and how as it comes to getting our voices heard."

He continued, "The work must begin before we vote. We must educate, motivate, and organize our people so that we understand what our agenda is."

He related words of wisdom from his father, the late Mayor Chowke Lumumba, asserting that his comrades drafted his father: "We have to give the people something tangible, something the people can feel from community to community."

Lumumba also stated, "If there are many left-handed people working, you need to find some left-handed jobs for those people."

Also a presenter, Brandon King, representing Cooperation Jackson, explained his organization's position that "one may 'work' the job, but they

also 'own' the job."

He expressed the importance of owning your own business, working for yourself. He described how many African Americans once owned their own co-ops.

"A lot of us may know about Fannie Lou Hamer; she also owned her own co-op." He said from her came Freedom Farms. "They collected money together, they went door to door mom-and-pop style."

King said more people know the story about how Fannie Lou Hamer went out to try to vote. That got back to her boss and she was fired from her job, put off the sharecropper's land. That created Freedom Farms, he said.

That is why blacks in the community have to stick together, because no one else was looking out for them, King said. Freedom Farms is an example of blacks working and sticking together.

Natalie Offiah addressed the audience, first asking them, "Who in this room is registered to vote? How many people in this room know someone who is old enough to vote but hasn't?"

Offiah explained the many problems residents face in Jackson, especially in the South and West Jackson area. She stated, "We have to hit them when they're young, like at the ages of 10, 11, 12."

She continued, "It's best to get young people started in early voting instead of talking to them once they turn 18." Offiah said organizations have to start speaking to youth in middle school instead of when they become high school seniors or freshmen in college.

Tougaloo College continued the voting awareness series throughout the week with other speakers and themes:

"Why Voting Matters with Dierdre Payne, poet and political commentator;

"Voting Rights and Felons" with Nsombi Lambright of One Voice and Albert Sykes of Young People's Project;

"Voting Rights and College Students" with Derrick Johnson of the NAACP and State Senator David Blount;

"Vote: Building a Unified Power Base" with Veteran of the Civil Rights Era Hollis Watkins Muhammad, Rachel Mayes, Brenda Hyde and Marilyn Young of Souther Echo.

And Oct. 6 – "Nobody is



Atty. Chokwe Antar Lumumba at first in series on voting importance at Tougaloo College, Thursday, Sept. 15.



Speaker Brandon King



Speaker Natalie Offiah



The audience at Tougaloo's voter education premier event.

Free til Everybody is Free" with Cynthia Goodloe Palmer of the Veterans of MS Civil Rights Movement.

The series culminates just before the last day when one can register to vote in this year's

presidential election, Oct. 8.

For more information, contact Attorney Timothy Howard, director of the Reuben V. Anderson Pre-Law Program at Tougaloo, 601-977-7860.

The take away from the

PHOTOS BY D'MARKUS BURRELL

first series: Please get out, get registered and vote!

(Chinyere Brown is a senior and Mass Communications major at Tougaloo College.)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
2016-2017

FALL SEMESTER 2016

August		
11-12	Thurs-Fri	Faculty/Staff Institute
13	Sat	Residence Halls Open for New/Transfer/Re-admitted Students 8:00 a.m.
15-16	Mon/Tues	Orientation/Registration for New Students 9:00 a.m.
17	Wed	Residence Halls Open for Returning Students 12:00 Noon
17-18	Wed/Thurs	Registration for All Students 9:00 a.m.
19	Fri	Classes Begin
19-26	Fri-Fri	Late Registration Period - Late Fee Assessed Drop/Add Period (Begins 8/19/16 & Ends 8/26/16)
24	Wed	President’s Convocation
26	Fri	Senior Class Meeting 10 a.m. (Required)
29	Mon	Junior Class Meeting 10 a.m. (Required) Course Withdrawal Period (Begins 8/29/16) & (Ends 10/21/16)
31	Wed	First Year Student Induction Convocation
September		
5	Mon	Labor Day (College Closed)
6	Tues	Classes Resume
6	Tues	Letter Grade Change Period (Begins 9/6/16)
9	Fri	Remove Incompletes (Begins 9/9/16)
14	Wed	Provost’s Convocation
16	Fri	Annual Graduate & Professional School Fair
October		
3	Mon	Letter Grade Change Period (Ends 10/3/16)
5-6	Wed-Thurs	Mid-Term Examinations
7	Fri	Mid-Term Grades Due by 3:00 p.m.
7	Fri	Last Day to Remove Incompletes (Ends 10/7/16)
10-16	Mon-Sun	Founders’ Week 2016 10/12 (Wed): Presidential Lecture 10/13-14 (Thurs/Fri): Board of Trustees Meeting
16	Sun	Founders’ Convocation
10-21	Mon	Credit/No-Credit Period (Begins 10/10/16) & (Ends 10/21/16)
21	Fri	Course Withdrawal Period (Ends 10/21/16)
		Credit/No-Credit Period (Ends 10/21/16)
28	Fri	Fall Graduation Application Deadline
November		
7-11	Mon-Fri	Advising and Early Registration for Spring 2016
7	Mon	Departmental Majors Meeting 10 a.m. (see Departments for locations)
9	Wed	Advising Day: No Classes Scheduled/No Convocation
18	Fri	Thanksgiving Convocation
19	Sat	Residence Halls Close at 12:00 p.m.

The College reserves the right to modify the Academic Calendar when necessary.



THE TOUGALOO HARAMBEE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE
The Student Newspaper of Tougaloo College

Welcome back Harambee!

The Harambee is the student newspaper produced by the Mass Communications Department students of Tougaloo College with the counsel of an advisor.

The newspaper’s name is derived from the Swahili language, which means “working together.” Columns, articles, opinions and blogs are the views of the writers and are not held nor considered policy held by Harambee or its staff or Tougaloo College.

Letters to the Editor should be limited to 200 words. The editor(s) reserve the right to edit, shorten or reject submissions. Send letters via email to: tougaloo Harambee@gmail.com

Student writers and photographers from other departments, college clubs and associations are welcome to submit articles/ads to tougaloo Harambee@gmail.com.

The next issue deadline is October 15, 2016.

The Harambee Staff 2016-2017

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Shaniqua Adams, Senior 2017

Photographer

Sharqueria Otto, Senior 2017

Advertising

Chinyere Brown, Senior 2017

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D’Markus Burrell, Senior 2017

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Aleesha Smith, Public Relations and Advertising
Ayesha K. Mustafaa, News Print Journalism



THE TOUGALOO HARAMBEE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE
The Student Newspaper of Tougaloo College

We are Looking for

Writers (send writing samples)

- Commentaries /News On Campus
- On-Campus Organizational Flyers
- Local Business Advertisements

All Departments and Student Organizations
Welcomed....

Serious Inquiries Only

Email:
TougalooHarambee@gmail.com

FREDERICK DOUGLASS: The Man Behind The North Star



By Chesha Lewis

Frederick Douglass was an African American abolitionist, journalist and orator. He was often referred to as the “father” of the modern civil rights movement.

Douglass was born a slave in Tuckahoe, Maryland, and spent his adolescence as a houseboy in Baltimore. He escaped to New Bedford, Massachusetts in 1836.

After Douglass escaped, in 1841 he began a career as an abolitionist after giving a rousing, impromptu speech at an antislavery convention in Nantucket, Massachusetts. He wanted to promote freedom for all slaves.

Later, he published an antislavery newspaper in Rochester, New York, called The North Star. It got its name because slaves escaping at night followed the North Star in the sky to freedom.

The motto of the newspaper was: “Right is of no sex – Truth is of no color – God is the Father of us all, and we are brethren.”

Douglass’s goals were to “abolish slavery in all its forms and aspects, promote the moral and intellectual improvement of the COLORED PEOPLE, and hasten the day of FREEDOM to the Three Millions of our enslaved fellow countrymen.”

The North Star soon developed into one of the most influential African American antislavery publications of the pre-Civil War era.

In June 1851, the paper merged with the Liberty Party Paper of Syracuse, NY and was renamed Frederick Douglass’ Paper. It circulated under this new name until 1860. Douglass devoted the next three years to publishing an abolitionist magazine called Douglass’ Monthly.

In 1870, he assumed control of the New Era, a weekly established in Washington, D.C., to serve former slaves. He renamed it The New National Era and published it until it shut down in 1874.

The Chicago Defender and The Great Migration

By Jakyrannee Phillips

The Chicago Defender is a Chicago based weekly newspaper founded in 1905 by Robert S. Abbott. Abbott was born Nov. 24, 1870 and died Feb. 29, 1940. He became one of the most notable African American newspaper publishers and editor in modern times. The Defender was considered the “most important” paper of what was then known as the Colored or Negro press. It grew to have the highest circulation of any black-owned newspaper in the country.

Abbott’s newspaper reported and campaigned against Jim Crow era violence and urged blacks in the American South to come north. During World War II, the paper took on the sins of segregation. The Chicago Defender not only encouraged people to migrate north for a better life, but to fight for their rights once they got there. The first goal of the paper was “American race prejudice must be destroyed.”

The Defender’s active promotion of northward migration of black southerners focused particularly on Chicago, its columns not only reporting on its many levels of “how too’s” but became known as The Great Migration – the greatest movement of people within the U.S. borders in peaceful times. Abbott published 300 copies of his newspaper on May 6, 1905, for his first issue. The Defender began as a four-page handbill filled with local news and reproductions of clippings from other newspapers. Abbott also sold subscriptions and ad-



vertising for the paper himself by going door-to-door throughout Chicago. The Defender saw its major growth during the Great Migration era. Abbott used black Pullman Porters and entertainers to transport his paper across the Mason-Dixon Line, the train porters leaving the newspaper at every stop going south. One Defender would be read by four to five African Americans, who passed it from person to person. They were known to read it aloud wherever blacks congregated.

The Chicago population increased by 148 percent from 1910 to 1920 with plenty of support and encouragement from the pages of the Defender. The newspaper continued to grow with the migration north, causing Abbott to become a wealthy man. By 1917, it became the first African American newspaper to reach a circulation of 100,000 copies and to achieve national circulation. The newspaper later founded the Bud Billiken Parade and Picnic in 1929, which became a celebration in Chicago of African-American life.

Why is the Pen Mightier than the Sword?



By D'Markus Burrell

Writing has been a very important part of the history of the human race. Since the creation of writing, it has been a way to keep order or advance in society.

From establishing rules, keeping track of records, and distributing knowledge, the human race would not be at the level of evolution it enjoys without these writing skills.

In today’s culture, things are not official until contracts are formed and your “John Hancock” is at the bottom of every piece of paper. Once the contract is signed, the signee is bound to what the contract tells them to do or not to do.

If it is put on paper, it is considered to be final and hold great weight. When the U.S. Constitution was drafted, the Founding Fathers understood the importance of writing and included the Freedom of The Press in the First Amendment, also known as the Bill of Rights.

With the constitutional sanction of the freedom of the press, the government cannot control what the people choose to write about. The people have a right to publish whatever they feel like as long as it does not infringe upon another person’s rights.

However, the people are protected against any libelous writings aimed at them. Libel is defined as a published false statement that is damaging to a person’s reputation. The responsibility on writers who are given this freedom to write is that they cannot print or publish any false, damaging information. z

A free press in the city, the country, or the world has become one of the most vital tools to assuring and maintaining an informed public and an intelligent civilization – a cornerstone of democracy.

Without writing, civilization would not have progressed to respect the rights of others, to enlighten the public and maintain the circle of life in an upward spiral of advancement.

Ida B. Wells, the African American Journalist Warrior

By Alexis Hunter

Ida B. Wells was known for many roles. She was a teacher, journalist, and anti-lynching activist. Wells was born in Holly Springs, Mississippi, in 1862. In 1895, she published “A Red Record : Tabulated Statistics and Alleged Causes of Lynchings in the United States.” Wells moved to Memphis and became co-owner of a newspaper there. She also was an editor of that local black newspaper.

The newspaper was called “The Free Speech and Headlight.” This gave Wells the opportunity to begin writing about race issues, civil rights and politics in the South. The paper was a success. She was fired from her teaching job and then became a full-time journalist. Ida’s newspaper was powerful. She wanted things to be better for the blacks.

Wells faced a second struggle in 1892. She became friends with three black men who were owners of a store called “People’s Grocery.” Their success had drawn customers away from white competitors. So the white competitors attacked the grocery store. The black men decided to react to what happened and set out to do the same thing. One of the white competitors decided to kill the three black store owners.

This sad tragic event was a lynching. The lynching served to inspire Wells to use the newspaper Free Speech and Headlight as a campaign against lynch-



ing. She made it a habit of visit lynching sites in the South. The white community didn’t agree with Wells’s words in her newspaper. So white residents destroyed the Free Speech office by firebombing it.

Wells didn’t give up, she took her work to Chicago, at one time working for another powerful black newspaper, the Chicago Defender. Wells continued to spread the truth about American segregation. She never gave up because she knew when one thing failed, she could always find a substitution for it. Ida B. Wells was a great leader, writer, and activist. People are inspired by her writings and continue to look up to her convictions. She lifted others to do better and to want to stand up for what is right. Ida B. Wells was known for great accomplishments.

Shaniqua Adams receives the NNPAF Mass Comm Scholarship for 2016



Shaniqua Adams, a senior mass communication major at the historic Tougaloo College, with an emphasis in Radio, Television Broadcasting and Journalism, is deserving of the National Newspaper Publishers Foundation (NNPAF) Journalism Scholarship for numerous reasons. Her academic achievements, leadership skills, determination, love for journalism, financial need and motivation for representing her college are all part of why she made a great candidate for this scholarship. Adams puts forth a great deal of effort into everything she does. She makes the best choices and sets goals for herself to have the best shot to accomplish those goals. She says, “On the off chance that I happen to miss the mark regarding my goals, then I value the realization that I gave it a valiant effort.” Adams is exceptionally persevering in her studies and goes to classes each day. She has a clear mind of what she wants to do with her life. She says this is why she chose Tougaloo College.

“I chose to attend an extraordinary school that I adore; I have great companions at school and at home and have been raised by parents whom I wish to make proud. My scholarly accomplishments of keeping up a 3.5 cumulative GPA all through my matriculation in school, earning awards, offering back to the community and holding leadership positions demonstrate my determination and inspiration to make the best of my school years.” She understands how the challenges of the world can be extreme, with an uncertain worldwide economy. So she has made it a priority to comprehend effective ways to make hard work pay off. Adams adds, “And I trust that the qualities God has blessed me with and that I have reinforced with the ability to use collaboration, determination and diligence will see that I meet my goals. Her inspiration is based on what she knows she can BECOME. “I anticipate having an effective and successful senior school year; my minimum goal is graduating Summa Cum Laude in the year 2017,” she says. In regards to being one of the NNPAF scholarship recipients, she says, “I will truly value this scholarship, so my monetary needs will be the minimum of my stresses. To the NNPAF, thank you!”

(The NNPAF – the foundation arm of the National Newspaper Publishers Association is made up of approximately 250 African American owned newspapers throughout the United States. The NNPA is 70 years old, started by the owner of the Chicago Defender, John Sengstacke.)

The Transfer Student – Alexis Hunter



By Varah Potter
Alexis Hunter is a 20-year-old Mississippi native studying Mass Communications at Tougaloo College. Hunter was born in the small town of Clarksdale, Mississippi, the middle child of two siblings and step-sister to another. She loves her family. One of her favorite activities is going to the local convention center and attending the events there. She’s played a few sports, including volleyball, tennis, and softball. Hunter said life in Clarksdale can often be routine and slow, but she has found a lot to do here in Jackson. It’s not

surprising to find out that she has an interest in the development of her community. For the past seven years, she’s been a part of a group called SRBWI that is dedicated to empowering young, black women. Hunter has been to several different cities around the country, like New York, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. When I asked her favorite place, she said immediately, “New York City. She said New York City is an ideal place to develop her skills as a journalist. A place to go just to vacation, she pointed out Miami. When I asked her what she liked most about our state of Mississippi, she said it was our rich history. Hunter also claims that Tougaloo’s own history is another reason why she was so attracted to this college. She said that as a transfer student, she feels different from a freshman. As many transfers know, two years go by very fast and the time spent having a true, campus experience is treasured, she said. Alexis Hunter hopes that these next two years at Tougaloo will go slowly, so that she will be able to savor all the moments that it will bring.

He’s a Tougaloo Stand Up: Jordan Williams

By Jakyrannee Phillips
Jordan Williams is a junior majoring in Mass Communication with an emphasis in Radio and Television. Jordan is originally from Los Angeles California. He chose Tougaloo to get away from home and set an example for his siblings. “I chose Tougaloo because I want my younger siblings to know that it’s okay to go out and experience a different school in another state other than California,” he says. “I really want to get a degree in Mass Communication and expand my network.” An interesting fact about Jordan is that he is currently also perusing a career in standup comedy. Although Jordan doesn’t play any sports, he loves to attend the games to support his classmates. He says he doesn’t have a backup plan because he is confident in what he does. “It flows naturally, and I know it’s a God given talent,” he says. After Jordan graduates, he plans to returned to California and relax for a month to catch up with family. When that month is over, he will soon start traveling to different talk shows to talk about his experiences growing up and how he got to where he is now. “I want



to let the world know it’s ok, to be the one person in your family who stands out and do what no one has ever done,” Jordan says. I asked Jordan where he would prefer to attend graduate school for theatre and audition for short films. He says for now he goes back to the reason main reason why he is here at Tougaloo College. He closed by quoting his favorite saying that he will always share with others – everywhere he would go. “Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate; our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measures.”

Kaniya Jones with an “Eye for Talent,” Hails from Chicago

By Chri’Sha Rhodes
Kaniya Jones, 22, is a junior Economics and Mass Communications major with an emphasis in Public Relations. She hails from Chicago, Illinois. Jones’ aspirations are to become an entertainment and sports publicist. She hopes to one day own her own production company. Jones chose to pursue her degrees at Tougaloo College because of family influences. Her uncle, Steven Jackson, who was also a Mass Communications major, graduated from The College.

After earning her degrees from Tougaloo College, Jones plans to permanently reside in Houston, Texas, and jumpstart her career. Jones feels that Houston is the perfect playing field in which to begin. She even has hopes to later expand into the music industry. Jones entered college as an undecided major but later made the big decision that would steer her life in the perfect direction. It was working as a manager for The Tougaloo College basketball team that helped Jones come to her conclusion.

She watched the team and became inspired by their talents and decided she wanted to focus on displaying these talents to a bigger audience. “After going to my Fundamentals of Business class, I decided promotion and scouting was also a big part of the equation,” stated Jones. After being taken under the wings of the basketball coach and volleyball coach, Jones was “definitely sure” about her new career choice. Jones then



began going to local school activities and games to test her hand at spotting out potential talent. Over this past summer, Jones had an internship as a studio manager. She was able to sit in on studio sessions and photo shoot covers. During this time, she gained great insight on what it takes to be a part of the production world. Her economics studies provided her enough trust to attend important meetings about huge financial decisions. Jones lights up when she talks about her plans for the future. Her huge smile and animation about her expectations for her future are confirmation that she has made the perfect career decision. Although she is truly enjoying her time here at Tougaloo College, at any given time she is most definitely ready to receive her degree and join the working force.

Suicide Awareness Month



By Sharqueria Otto

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Many people have suicidal thoughts everyday, whether it's from stress, relationships, or anything that causes a person to think about themselves in a detrimental way.

People have no one to talk to about suicidal thoughts because they may feel embarrassed. And others may not feel the need to express how they feel. Some people may need to see a counselor, depending on the intensity of their stress.

Thousands have committed suicide, leaving their families to deal with the heartbreaking loss of their loved one.

Suicidal thoughts should not be ignored. If anyone is constantly depressed, and it seems like they are on the edge of doing something to themselves, talk to them and see if you can help.

People have written letters before committing suicide, stating why they are probably no longer "fit for the world" or just fed up with life.

Most people who die from what

can be considered an illness (suicide) aren't always depressed; most people show no signs at all. Their happiest times are sometimes their last time.

People ages 24 and under have a large suicide death rate, because most younger people are in school and are bullied by other students. It can be a result of being abused and other personal problems too hurtful to discuss. According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control), each year more than 41,000 individuals die by suicide.

Most of these people have low self-esteem which can also result in suicide, not feeling accepted for who they are. More men commit suicide than women because they cope with stress differently.

Women tend to cry out and seek help from their family or friends, while men sometimes feel like they can deal with their problems themselves leaving them to find a solution on their own.

Firearms, strangulation, and poisoning are the most common ways suicide is committed.

Finally, to those experiencing these symptoms: if you are having suicidal thoughts or feeling depressed in anyway, there is a hotline for you to call to seek suicidal help: Hotline 1-800-273 TALK (8255).



What About Those 2016 Olympic Games



By Shandria Sutton

So far, the year 2016 has brought us many exciting moments and events. One of them being the 30th Olympic Games held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil this past August. The Olympics is such a significant event because it unites people from all over the world. Thousands of athletes from over 200 participating countries come to compete in about 300 events. These Olympics were especially remarkable for the United States who won a total of 121 medals, the most in these Olympic Games. 46 of these medals were gold, 37 were silver, and 38 were bronze. The United States' success would not have been possible without the abundance of talented, hard-working athletes. Some of the top medalists included both re-

turning athletes and newcomers. One of the crowd favorites, Michael Phelps of the United States swimming team, brought home a total of six medals in these games alone. He even beat his own record and is now the most decorated Olympian of all time with a total of 28 medals. r of the swimming team, won five medals. She is currently the world record holder for three women's events: the 400, 800, and 1,500 meter freestyle. The Olympics were not only exciting for the United States as a whole but also for its African-American community. A great number of the medals won were the result of America's black athletes, especially black women.

Simone Biles and Gabby Douglas both performed well in gymnastics. Biles won a total of five medals includ-

ing gold for the women's individual all-around and Douglas only winning one, but proving to the world that she could return and contribute to the overall team's success. Simone Manuel also represented greatly. She became the first African-American woman to win an individual medal in swimming and brought home a total of four medals. For Tori Bowie, a Mississippi native, this was her very first Olympic games. She won three medals: a gold, a silver, and a bronze. Michelle Carter, Ibtiyah Muhammed, Dalilah Muhammed, Allison Felix, Briana Rollins, Nia Ali, and Kristi Castlin are just a few more of the black women that brought home medals and helped to show the world that women of color could succeed in any area.

While the United States won many medals and had athletes that represented many cultures and communities, there was also some negative light shined on America for the behavior of one specific athlete. Ryan Lochte was caught in a lie where he claimed to be robbed at gunpoint when actually, he vandalized a gas station restroom after a night of partying. His exaggeration of the story outraged many people, especially the Brazilian authorities. Because of his actions, he lost four major sponsors including Speedo and Polo Ralph Lauren.

Needless to say, these Olympics were very eventful and featured both good moments and bad for America. Hopefully, the next Olympic Games in Tokyo will be equally exciting.

Screening Process for Refugee Entry into the United States



By Chinyere Brown
There is a serious process to gain entry into the United States, whether you are an immigrant or a refugee. It is so difficult, it almost seems as if the United States does not want anyone to come here.
Especially in this day and time with the likes of ISIS and terrorists issues, especially entry of Muslims is a targeted focus ever since 9/11.

However, every single immigrant or refugee is not a terrorist or a greater threat to this country than a U.S. citizen with criminal intent.
The first process for refugees to enter this country, according to The White House website, would be for them to collect and fill out all required documentations. All such information must contain a picture ID, name, address, birth date, and place

of birth.
Refugee applicants are subject to the highest level of search, which includes the following: National Counterterrorism Center, FBI, Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department.
There are a lot of security measures that refugee applicants must go through just to have the chance at an opportunity of getting into the coun-

try. When being screened through the process, the database looks for the information that highlights if the individual is a security risk, has any connections to known “bad actors,” and have any outstanding warrants as an immigration or criminal background.
The United States collects biometric scans to make sure these people are not a part of ISIS. This is particularly for refugees from Syria and other Middle Eastern countries where ISIS has significant presence.
These applicants have to be checked against terrorist databases. Anyone who is a part of any terrorist group would be wise to reconsider trying to come to the United States of America.
If the U.S. government runs your name against the terrorist database and an alert is set off, your application will be paused for further research and information. Advise to a terrorist: save yourself the trouble and do not condemn yourself to the mercy of the United States.
American citizens are traditionally know for wanting to welcome all refugees into the country – such is the reason for the Statue of Liberty in the New York Harbor.
However, the top priority is for American citizens to keep America safe and great.
This is not a Donald Trump for President endorsement. This is only what concerned citizens expect from their government to keep Americans safe.

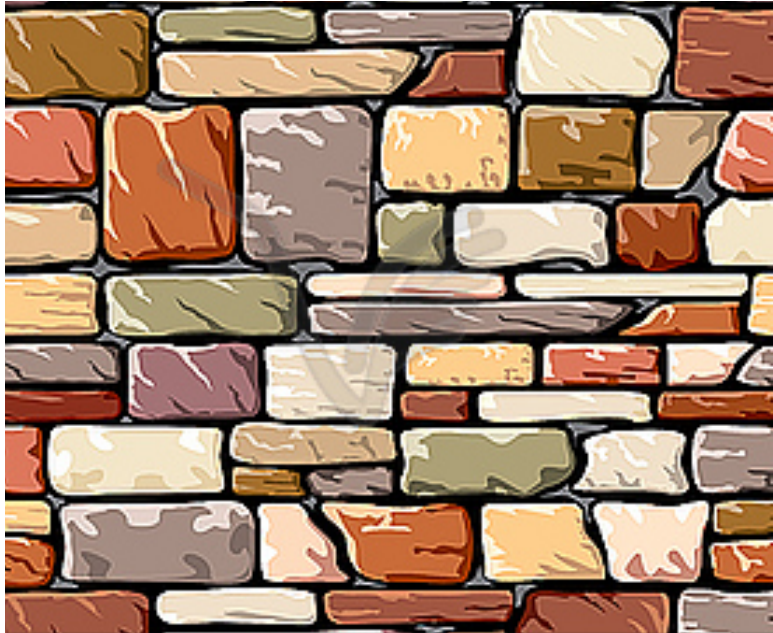
THE WALL: Who’s Committing the REAL CRIME?



By D'Markus Burrell
There has been an overwhelming amount of talk about building a wall or border fence on the U.S. border and Mexico's border. There are people on both sides willing to use their last breath arguing their point of view on the matter.
People are crossing the border, illegally for the most part, and are getting jobs with the pay per hour lower than the minimum wage. Americans are unwilling to take jobs for that little pay, so the unemployment rate goes up. The illegal immi-

gration is costing Americans jobs and, therefore, hurting the economy.
Instead of blaming the immigrants, why not take a look at the business owners? They are committing a crime by giving these workers a wage lower than the country's minimum. The immigrants come to this country to take what they can get, and most Americans cannot afford to live off \$5 an hour.
If law enforcement were to crack down on those companies that hire these immigrant workers at miniscule pay wages and give Americans the same opportunity to earn a living wage, then the unemployment rate would drop, the economy would increase, and less immigrants would be willing to come the U.S.
Somehow, the minds of those company owners have to be influenced to think America first. They all know that hiring illegal immigrants is not allowed, but their ethics need to be improved in

their thinking and business dealings.
They have to be willing to pay a little more in order to lower the number of unemployed in the country, which will ultimately bring down the number of illegal immigrants in the country – because they will not be able to find a job.
A wall will not be the solution to the problem. People will find a way under, over, or through the wall. There has to be a reason established where they would not want to come.



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