

The MICHIGAN BULLETIN

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The 411

Keeping The Dream Alive

Feb. 8 - Daddy/Daughter & Mother/Son Masquerade Ball at the Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI (ages 5 and up). Enjoy a magical night of music, dancing and mystery. Bring your own mask or make one on site. Register early. Costs includes: dance, masks, refreshments. Photo sold separately. (activity #233810) \$8.00 per person. 6:30 - 8 p.m. Call: 483-4277

Feb. 16 - Public Defense Reform Coffee Hour with the Campaign for Justice at the Foster Community Center, Rm 213, 200 N. Foster St., Lansing, MI 48912. 6pm - 7:30 pm RSVP to 517.372.3050 or kbirrell@mijjustice.org

Feb. 18 - Honoring Community Activist the late Erstine McMullen at BCFI (Gym) 6 pm until 8 pm

Feb. 27 - Pastor's Salute Luncheon at the MSU Kellogg Center, 55 S. Harrison Ave., E. Lansing, MI 48824 at noon. Tickets: \$30. Pastor nomination requires a 60 - 100 word why pastor should be saluted essay. email: pastorsalute@aol.com or call (517) 402-6990.

March 6 - "Chow Time, Come and Get It" Breakfast Fundraiser by the West Junior High School Reunion Committee at the Riverfront Highraise Community Room. Vittles served: 9:00 am - Noon Cost: \$6.00 per person \$4.00 Riverfront seniors.

March 12 - Lansing Black Lawyers Assoc. 13th Annual Otis M. Smith Scholarship Dinner at the Lansing Country Club, 2200 Moores River Dr., 48911 - Call: 517.230.3767 or e-mail: mosss@michigan.gov

March 23 - Enchanted April - A fundraiser for the Black Child & Family Inst. and the National Federaton of the Blind at the River Walk Theater. 6 pm Reception & Silent Auction, 7 pm Performance. Tickets: \$20. Call: 517.487.3775.

VITA - FREE - Tax Preparation services at BCFI by appointment only Call 211 to register. E filing and paper filing are both available.

July 30 - An Evening of Smooth Jazz returns to the Lansing area

The Lansing Assoc. of Women's Clubs meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 1 pm at 301 N. Butler St. For more information call: 484-915

The Lansing Branch of the NAACP has a new address at 530 S. Pine Street, Lansing, MI. 48933. The general membership meets the first Sunday of the month - Call: (517) 484-9171.

Toussaint L'Ouverture & The Haitian Revolution

By Gregory P. Kelley

Toussaint L'Ouverture - a name in history that was both feared and loved. Feared by slave owners and supporters of slavery. Loved by rebellious slaves and supporters of freedom and liberty. Francois Deminique Toussaint L'Ouverture: leader of a slave rebellion that sparked a revolution that broke the back of slavery and

led to the establishment of the Black independent island nation of Haiti in 1804. In the New World, the Haitian fight against impossible odds for freedom was only second to the American Revolution of 1775 and the establishment of the United States of America. In 1791, at the beginning of the Haitian Revolution, Toussaint was nearly 50-years-old. He was a carriage driver on the Breda plantation, located in the

northern province of the French controlled island.

The European powers envisioned Haiti as a strategic jump-off point to the Americas. With that thought in mind England and Spain declared war on France and demanded the Caribbean island be turned over. Toussaint weighted the situation and allied his former slave army with Spain against his former French slave masters. Later, when it was to his advantage he became an ally of France against the England and Spain.

Toussaint's maneuvering was designed to drive a wedge between the contending forces and to gain a permanent freedom for the former slaves.

Using guerrilla tactics, Toussaint forced the withdrawal of the English and Spanish slave owners. Its estimated the English lost 40,000 troops in its effort to subdue the Blacks and wrestle the island away from Toussaint and his army of liberated slaves.

By 1801, the Black general was at the zenith of his power after the Europeans withdrew.

During this lull in the fighting, Toussaint established his bold administration. He built roads and bridges, spurred agricultural, made every citizen a soldier, brought arms, built fortifications and continued to train his crack army. The Black general turned elder statesman even integrated Whites into his administration.

Although Toussaint ruled in the name of France, he was by all accounts the military and political dictator of Haiti, something the other French general could not stand.

First Consul Napoleon Bonaparte had dreams of developing an empire in western North America, but he needed slave labor to carry out his plan. But, Toussaint and the Haitian Revolution stood squarely in the way. Therefore, Toussaint had to be destroyed and the island's former slaves crushed and



Toussaint L'Ouverture leader of the Haitian revolution

returned to bondage. To carry out the suppression, Victor Emanuel Leclerc and 25,000 troops were dispatched by Napoleon. With his brother-in-law in charge of the Haitian campaign, Napoleon made his move.

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Black male parenting author book signing set

By Dianne Hicks-Flourry

MARIETTA WEARY SCOTT, author, has written, "I Brought You Into This World, 37 Parenting Skills for Raising African American Sons." She will be coming to Trinity AME Church, 3500 S. Holmes Rd., Lansing, MI 48911 on Friday, February 19, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for a book signing.

Scott decided to write a book for African American parents because too many of our young males and females are falling through the cracks. She dedicates it (to quote a few phrases) mothers who: "Make daily sacrifices to help their children, be successful", "Cry silently in the night when their children are mistreated", "Have only one decent dress because they spend their last dollar to buy clothes for their children, so they would not be teased at school and church", "Pray nightly that their children come home safely, hurt when their children blame their poor choices on them..." She



Mareitta Weary Scott

has many dedications, but these are some of the ones in the book. Although she speaks of sons, she does so because she raised boys. However, she discusses good skills for parents in general.

Scott was raised in Louisiana and was the salutatorian of her high school class. Her education includes B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. studies and she was a National Humanities Scholar. She was also selected as one of the 100 most influential people in Sacramental. Scott was a professor at several universities.

MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine presents-Slavery to Freedom - An American Odyssey

The Tenth Annual Visiting Faculty Lecture Series at the Michigan State University Kellogg Center.

The speakers are:

February 4, - 5:00 pm Big Ten A Room-The Rev. Dr. Charles G. Adams, Pastor, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church Detroit
February 18, - 5:00 pm Auditorium- Dr. Clayborne Carson Author, scholar & historian
February 25, - 5:00 pm Big Ten A Room-The Rev. Dr. Calvin). Butts III, Pastor, Abyssinian Baptist Church, New York

A day on not a day off, celebrating Martin L. King Day

LANSING, MI --The Promoting Academic Success (PAS) program, a boys of color mentoring group celebrated the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday by learning First Responder Medical Care at the Black Child and Family Inst. on Jan. 18, 2010.

PAS was one of several groups, that included members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, working at BCFI on clean-up projects: straightening and arranging the library books, cleaning the computer room, and tidying classrooms.



Pictured are members of PAS (back l-r) Jamal Harden, Donte Dupard, Jorge Angeles, Rodrick Walton, Dominique Phifer, Jose Angeles, Nah?kiem Cotton, Brion Miller, Letavis Adams, Quentin Ganious Jr., Joshua Hettich, , Chris Ethridge, Jovan Jorgenson.. (Front row l-r) Chris Waston, Romney Lewis, D'Angelo Farmer, Jessie Wallace III, Karlin Tichenor photo by Gregory P. Kelley

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