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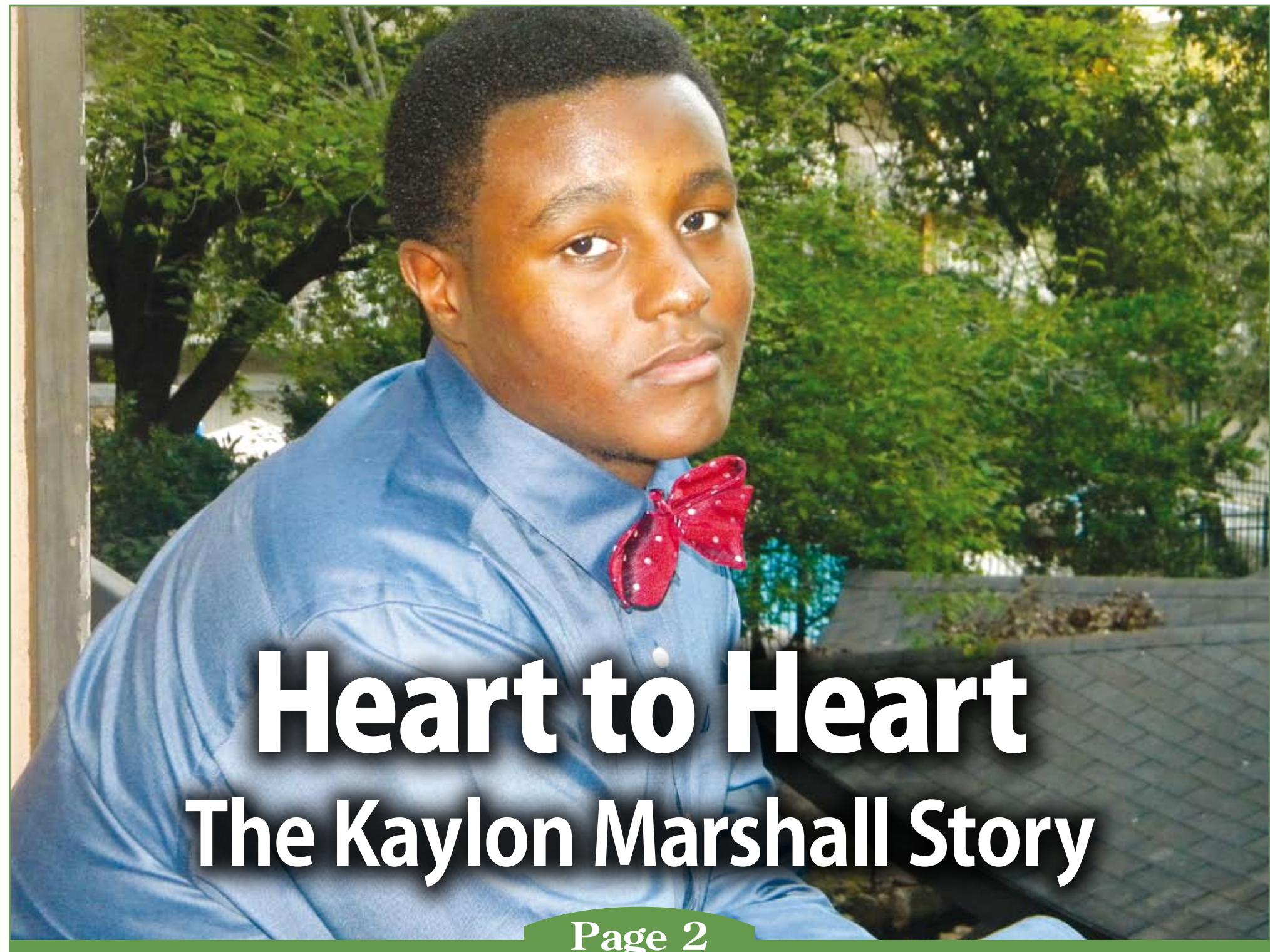
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Heart to Heart

The Kaylon Marshall Story

Young Man Inspires a Community and March Centered On Organ Donation



The Marshall family, Pamela, Kaylon and Karmen

By Edwin Buggage
Photos by Karmen Marshall

Organ Donation: Dispelling Myths

As this country grapples with issues surrounding healthcare, there is a pressing problem that plagues our community that is preventable. Every year people are dying in this country awaiting organ transplants, a selfless act that can save many lives. According to Mayo Clinic over 100,000 people in the United States are awaiting an organ donation. This is a staggering number when you think that this amount of people can easily fill the Superdome, or is the population of a small city.

And in a healthcare environment that is fraught with problems, this is one that is solvable where we could experience fewer deaths every year if more people were to become organ donors. But many do not because of fear and myths surrounding organ donation. "It is important that people get past the myths and understand that this is something that can save lives and it is very easy to register as a donor," says Dr. Eric Griggs, a Physician and radio talk show host on WBOK-1230AM New Orleans.

The Marshall Family: A Picture of Strength and Love

There are many stories of people who need organs, but there is a young man who has come to inspire a City to galvanize around this important issue. His name is Kaylon Marshall;

he is seventeen year old and is from Shreveport, Louisiana. On the outside he looks like a normal teen, but he has an enlarged heart and has been on the transplant list at Oschner Hospital for three months. He is an affable, likable young man and to look at him he is the picture of health. For someone so young he is wise beyond his years and has a peace about himself that is admirable, "I just have to get through it, I don't really think of it in a negative way, I feel as long as I can get my body back together I know I will be ok; I have faith that everything will be just fine, says Kaylon.

During this trying time, he is surrounded by a loving and caring family. His mother Pamela Marshall and his younger sister Karmen have come down to New Orleans with Kaylon while he gets treatment and is awaiting a donor. Pamela is a woman filled with an amazing spirit and undeniable love for her son. Recalling what happened to Kaylon she says, "He received a concussion during a football game and was rushed to the emergency room where we were told he had an enlarged heart, at that time they weren't really that concerned about it. I didn't really think much of it at first because he was a big strong healthy young man." Continuing she says, "Then at the end of October he got pneumonia and he could never shake it. He then experienced problems breathing and throughout his life he suffered Asthma and since that was the case I'm thinking that the treatment they gave him would solve his problem. Then over the Christmas Holidays my mother was staying with him and he was on his knees in a praying position

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Cover Story, Continued from previous page.

and I went off to work, then an hour after got there my mother called me and said he was pale and told me he's not breathing well. And as he got to the doctor they immediately rushed him to the back, and then we were told that his heart was the problem. Then they told me his heart was functioning at less than 20%. They didn't think he was going to make it; he stayed in the hospital for two weeks. Then the cardiologist said he could return to school. Then about two weeks later he passed out at school, and they said there was nothing else they could do in the hospital in Shreveport, so they set him up at Oschner for a transplant at this point his heart was functioning at 13%."

Since coming to New Orleans to receive treatment the Marshall family, who is a close knit group have leaned on each other for support, "My family is extremely important because sometimes I have my days when I don't feel ok, but they keep my spirits up," says Kaylon." As I talk to the family I see the concern and love only a mother can have for her child when speaking of Kaylon. Speaking with pride of her son and his resilience and fortitude she says, "As a mother I feel scared and nervous, but I am so proud of the way he is handling it, and there are people who ask how you could be proud of him in a situation like this?" Continuing she says, "He is taking it as it comes, and that is the kind of son I prayed for, someone that would grow into a strong young man; he tells me mom don't worry I am fine, he won't let me do things for him and he says if I need your help I will let you know; I have to learn how to do things for myself. I admire that he is trying to be independent."

A Walk for Kaylon

As people who go to any new City especially African-Americans the first places we want to know where to go is to the barbershop, beauty salon and churches. As all these places are historically where people gathered to discuss an array of issues in an open forum, Wilbert "Chill" Wilson has taken this to new heights with several community initiatives emanating from his barbershop located on South Carrollton Ave. Since Hurricane Katrina when he came to the public's attention as the guy with the gen-

erator and tent he has become an inspiration for a City. Since transforming his life he has been dedicated to giving back. "Serving our community is something we can all do, and that's what I have dedicated myself to and that is to show that the greatest change is when ordinary people get together to do extraordinary things," says Wilson.

It was by chance that the Marshall family went into his shop with the sole purpose of Kaylon finding a place to get a haircut in his new City. And upon their conversation, Wilson was moved by their amazing story. "There are some things you cannot walk away from and I felt I wanted to do something for this family and to create awareness around the issue of organ donation," says Wilson of how meeting the Marshall family which made him want to enlist people into collective action. So on June 24, 2012 from 11 A.M. until 12:30P.M. at his shop on 2736 S. Carrollton he will be holding his Walk-A-Mile for a Child and dedicating it to Kaylon Marshall and to encourage more people to become organ donors. "With this march it is simply us taking small steps to combat a big problem and I feel together we can be successful," says Wilson.

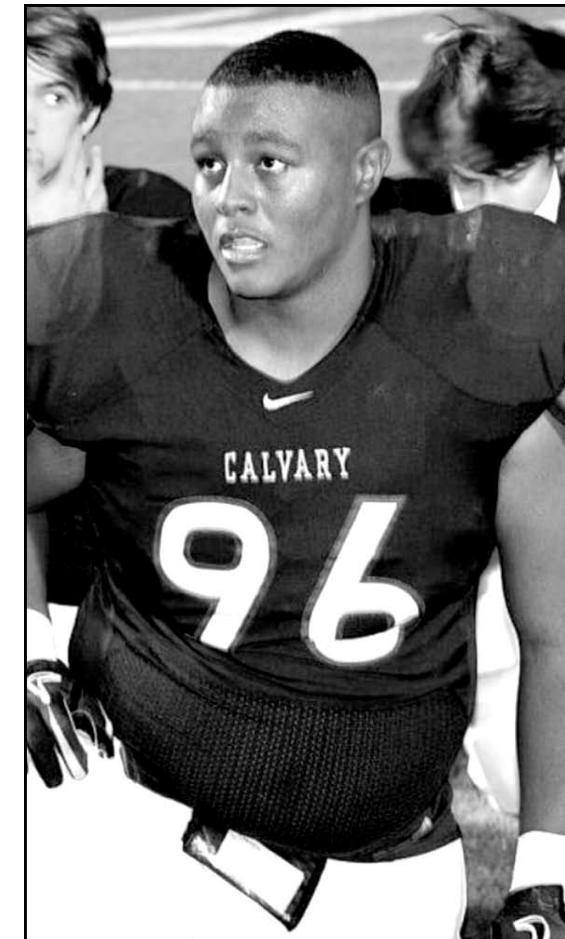
Donating Organs Saves Lives

Once finding out her son had an enlarged heart and was in need of a transplant, Pamela Marshall began educating herself on how organs used from donors can save lives, "One donor can save up to nine lives; it can enhance the lives of 50 or more people," remarks Marshall. Continuing she says, "If you were the type of person who wants to leave a legacy this is the way you can do it and when you think about with your one body how many people you can help. When this happened with Kaylon I was thinking somebody going to save my child's life, and now I can do the same for somebody else's child. And it has opened my eyes to a lot; so now I have signed up and become an organ donor," says Marshall of how this experience has transformed her life and changed her perspective on organ donation.

Phillip Williams is a young man who also gets haircuts at Mr. Chill's shop and accompanied Kaylon and his family to



Kaylon Marshall and Phillip Williams, a young man who recently registered as an organ donor.



Kaylon is an excellent student and athlete, pictured in his football uniform.

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St. Augustine High School Announces New President

St. Augustine High School has announced that Dr. Karen S. Collins will be the school's fourth President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Dr. Collins has spent many successful years in the educational arena. She has worked as a school administrator in New Orleans, Mississippi and recently in St Louis, Missouri.

"It is an honor to be selected as the fourth President in the history of St Augustine High School," Dr. Collins said. "My pledge is to uphold tradition and forge forward with raising the



Dr. Karen S. Collins

bar of academic excellence."

St. Aug's Board of Directors appointed Dr. Collins after a nationwide search with the assistance of a presidential selection committee and the approval of the Josephite Board of Trustees.

"It was her overall vision for the future of the school that impressed us the most," remarked Troy Henry, Chairman of the Board of Directors. "By the end of the interview process, there was no doubt that Dr. Collins was the best person for the position."

Dr. Collins will not only be the

first layperson to serve as President of St. Aug, but also the first female administrator in the history of the school's existence.

"I am grateful that the St. Augustine Board of Directors considered gender to be but one factor in their assessment of the best qualified person," she said.

Her career spans educational leadership as the Director of Teaching and Learning in the Wellston School District in Missouri, as well as Principal of McClure South Berkeley High School in the Ferguson-Florissant School District while also serving as Adjunct Instructor in the Special Education Department at the University of Missouri, and Assistant Professor at Harris-Stowe State University.

She was the principal in New

Orleans at Frances Gaudet Elementary prior to Hurricane Katrina and principal of Sarah T. Reed Senior High School post-Katrina.

Dr. Collins is also CEO of Smith-Collins, LLC, a development and services company for the elderly and individuals with disabilities and has taught adjunct at the University of Southern Mississippi, as well as worked as an educational consultant in Louisiana and Mississippi.

She has a Doctorate Degree in Special Education and Educational Leadership, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, a Master's Degree in Special Education and a B.A. in Elementary Education and Special Education.

She is married with a daughter.

NABJ/NOABJ Public Forum: "Reforming Education in Post-Katrina Louisiana"

Dr. Lance Hill, Kenneth L. Campbell, Karran Harper Royal, Kira Orange Jones, Norman Robinson

Tuesday, June 19, 2012, 6:00 pm-8:00pm
Dillard University
Professional Schools Building,
Georges Auditorium
2601 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans,
LA 70122

One of the more pronounced legacies of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans is undoubtedly the nearly total transformation of the city's beleaguered public education system. The decimation of the traditional school system after the storm provided an almost clean slate for school reform advocates, allowing the city to become a kind of petri dish for numerous groups to implement their particular mix of educational strategies.

Many in the country now look to the city as a hallmark of school choice best exemplified by the wide variety of operators

and operating approaches within the charter schools umbrella. Voucher programs are the newest development to expand, with the most recent school reform legislation enabling more students across Louisiana to attend private schools at taxpayer expense.

Proponents of these newer methods tout higher test scores, more access to specialty curricula and the arts, plus greater parental involvement in making sure that their children have access to the best quality schools.

Opponents point to an absence of widespread access to special needs education, less accountability for individual institutions and a greater likelihood that children of less involved parents may fall through the cracks.

NABJ and its New Orleans Association of Black Journalists (NOABJ) local chapter bring together local educational advocates on both sides of the debate to share their thoughts in a public forum examining the pros and cons of this still-evolving school system.

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A Monumental Achiever



Danielle King was born and raised in New Orleans. She attended Benjamin Franklin High School and graduated in 2008. Because of the excellent education she received in a public school she had no problems being accepted in Spelman College. On May 20, 2012 she graduated Summa Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.82 from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. While at Spelman she served as an activist, student leader, and scholar. During her sophomore year she was Chief Justice of the Student Government Association, Co-Social Chair of the community service group A.C.T.S., and Physical and Mental Health Chair of Delta

Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated's Eta Kappa chapter. As a junior at Spelman she excelled in the MBRS-RISE Research Developmental Program, as well as the Golden Key and Ethel Waddell Honors Programs. During her senior year she dedicated a great deal of her time to the establishment of a Habitat for Humanity Chapter at Spelman College and served as the President of this organization. She was also inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a 3.82 GPA. We are pleased to share that she has been accepted into the Fall 2012 incoming class at Michigan State University's Ph. D. Program in

Industrial Psychology. Her interest in this field was discovered during her work experiences in the Human Resources office at Spelman College, Coca-Cola Enterprises, and as a Research Assistant at the Georgia Institute of Technology. The Michigan State University graduate school has been ranked #1 in the United States in Organizational psychology for the past 15 years and she feels honored to be one of the 7 scholars accepted. She often states she is happy that she had the opportunity to venture out of New Orleans because she gained some new experiences and opportunities, however, there is no place like home!

Resurrection After Exoneration Juneteenth Fundraiser

Join Resurrection After Exoneration for their annual Juneteenth Fundraiser on Tuesday, June 19, 5:00pm - 7:30pm at the Angela King Gallery, 241 Royal St. . The event will feature Lolis Elie, Jordan Flaherty, live musicians, wonderful appetizers and drinks from local restaurants and a silent auction. Tickets are \$25 available at the door or in advance. To purchase a ticket, please contact Marya at 302.1940 or maryaearl@r-a-e.org.

Mother's Helpers to Host First Annual Tennis Tournament



Mother's Helpers, a service agency that provides services to at-risk youth 9-17 years of age, will host its First Annual Tennis Tournament, as a fundraiser for the organization at Pontchartrain Park Tennis Courts, located at 6400 Press Drive, on Friday, June 15 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, June 16, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mother's Helpers has been serving the community for years now and we are excited to announce that a few months ago, they moved into their new space located at 7301 Downman Road. The tournament will allow the organization to highlight tennis

as a great sport while promoting health, fitness and fun.

The tournament is open to youth and adults, male and female. Celebrity judges for the event are: Assessor Erroll Williams, Ann E. Macdonald, Parks & Parkways and Willie Williams, of WWL Channel 4. The competition will range from beginner to advance players, and in addition vendors will be available with food and crafts.

For more information or to register contact Nakeitha Walton at 504-246-5045 or email mhelpers@yahoo.com or visit the website at www.motherhelpers.net to register online.



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**LEON R. FULTON
CEO**

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Master Gardener's Corner

The Sunflower



By MG Calla Victoria

As I was named after the Calla Lily, of course the Calla Lily was my favorite flower for many years, but that was so until I began planting sunflowers. Named sunflower because it looks like the picture of the sun when we draw the sun, its face is huge and round. But it is also called the sunflower because it follows the path of the sun throughout the day. In the morning sunflowers face east to greet the rising sun, and as the day wears on the flower's head turns to follow the sun, and finally in the evening sunflowers are facing west as the sun is setting. This phenomenon is known as heliotropism. I planted a bank of sunflowers in my back yard, and every morning when I stepped into my garden the sunflowers were cheerily facing me, as my home faces the east. When I visited my garden in the evening the sunflowers were facing west as the sun was setting, that is so amazing to me.

Commonly known as sunflowers, the scientific name is *Helianthus Annuus*. Sunflowers are native to America, and nearly 3,000 years ago Native Americans domesticated them for food production. Lewis and Clark made mention in their journals of its usage by the plains Indians. The common Sunflower is a typical member of the Asteraceae, one of the largest and most successful families of plants.

After planting the bank of sunflowers I enjoyed watching their growing stages. Once the stalk was good and tall, there is a bowl that appears on the very top of the stalk, and the bowl would be facing the sky. Then in the next couple of days the stalk will have bent and now the bowl is facing forward and not straight up to the sky. The bowl now looks like a bright yellow disk, as all of the petals of the sunflower are folded in over the bowl.

In the next few days a few of the petals have opened away from the bowl and now

you can see part of the center of the sunflower. Once all of the petals are open and the center of the sunflower is fully exposed, you can see the tiny seeds but the whole disk is concaved and curving inward. Over a period of time the center of the sunflower is no longer concaved, but has become convex and looking like a dome and the sunflower. Within the structure we think of as the "flower," it actually has two different types of flowers - ray and disk flowers. The heads consist of many individual flowers which mature into seeds, often in the hundreds on a receptacle base. It usually takes about 30 days from the time the last flower is pollinated to seed maturity.

Although there are many varieties of sunflowers I love to grow the "mammoth" sunflowers which grow about 8 feet tall and the disk center is as large as a charger plate. After they have finished blooming, I let the seed heads dry on the stalk. You can get some

300 - 500 seeds from a single sunflower. I use the seeds as feed for my parakeet Pepa, and I leave some on the stalk for the wild birds. I love to plant fast growing flowering vines along with the sunflowers, as the storks make a perfect trellis for the vines. It is the same premise as the "Three Sisters," which is a planting method perfected by the Native Americans years ago. They would plant corn, beans, and squash together. As the corn grows it becomes a trellis for the beans, and the squash which grows close to the ground forms a mulch for the corn and beans.

Aside from the ornamental uses of sunflowers as cut flowers, and the tasty sunflower seeds we snack on sunflowers have whole-seed confectionary uses, such as candy, snack food, and baked goods. Vegetable oil is the main use for sunflowers in the United States and worldwide. Sunflower oil is considered premium oil due to its light color, mild flavor, low

level of saturated fats, and ability to withstand high cooking temperatures. The ray petals that circle the sunflower can be used in salads, the leaves of the sunflower is used as cattle feed, while the stems contain a fiber which is used in paper production. Sunflower peanut butter and sunflower butter are recent additions to the American diet.

I wanted a sunflower block so I started sunflowers from seeds and gave them to my neighbors to plant at their curbs, and now we have a block of sunflowers!

Gardening questions

Tip of the week

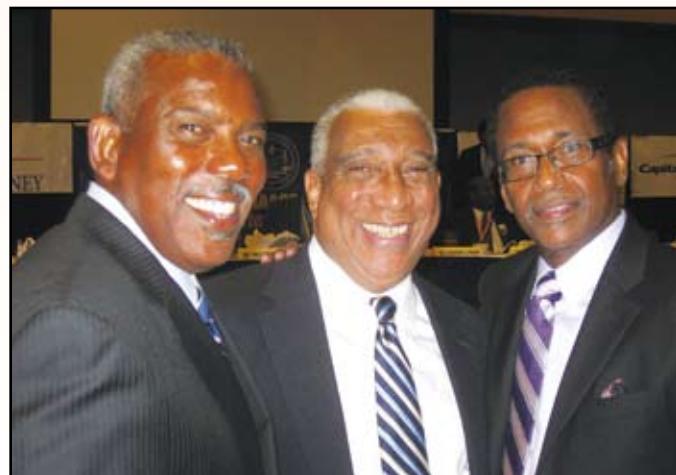
Garden of the week

Remember, never be too busy to stop and enjoy the beautiful flowers.

Shoot Ya Best Shot!

NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet

The New Orleans chapter of the NAACP recently held its Freedom Fund Banquet. Local leaders and community supporters were on hand for this event held by the over a century old Civil Rights organization dedicated to social change.



Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

Economic and Property Damages Settlement

Providing Money to Individuals and Businesses

If you have economic loss or property damage because of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, you could get money from a class action settlement with BP Exploration & Production Inc. and BP America Production Company (“BP”). Go to DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com for more information, including information on how to file a claim.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE ECONOMIC & PROPERTY DAMAGES SETTLEMENT?

The Economic and Property Damages (“E&PD”) Settlement Class includes people, businesses, and other entities in the states of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, and certain counties in Texas and Florida, that were harmed by the oil spill. The website DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com has detailed descriptions and maps to help you determine whether a geographic location may be included in the E&PD Settlement. Additionally, you can call 1-866-992-6174 or e-mail questions@DeepwaterHorizonEconomicSettlement.com to find out if a geographic location is included.

WHAT DOES THE ECONOMIC & PROPERTY DAMAGES SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The E&PD Settlement makes payments for the following types of claims: (1) Seafood Compensation, (2) Economic Damage, (3) Loss of Subsistence, (4) Vessel Physical Damage, (5) Vessels of Opportunity Charter Payment, (6) Coastal Real Property Damage, (7) Wetlands Real Property Damage, and (8) Real Property Sales Damage. There is no limit on the total dollar amount of the E&PD Settlement; all qualified claims will be paid.

HOW TO GET BENEFITS FROM THE ECONOMIC & PROPERTY DAMAGES SETTLEMENT

You need to submit a Claim Form to request a payment. You can get a copy of the various Claim Forms by visiting the website or by calling 1-866-992-6174. Claims can be submitted online or by mail. If you have questions

about how to file your claim, you should call the toll-free number for assistance.

The deadline to submit most E&PD claims will be April 22, 2014 or six months after the E&PD Settlement becomes effective (that is, after the Court grants “final approval” and any appeals are resolved), whichever is later. There will be an earlier deadline to submit E&PD Seafood Compensation claims. The earlier deadline to submit Seafood Compensation claims will be 30 days after final approval of the Settlement by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana (regardless of appeals). Actual claim filing deadlines will be posted on the website as they become available. Valid claims will be paid as they are approved, beginning shortly after the Court-Supervised Settlement Program commences. It is highly recommended that E&PD Settlement Class Members complete and submit their claim forms promptly. Please read the Medical Benefits Settlement notice because you may also be eligible for benefits from that settlement.

YOUR OTHER OPTIONS

If you do not want to be legally bound by the E&PD Settlement, you must Opt Out or exclude yourself by **October 1, 2012** or you won’t be able to sue BP over certain economic and property damage claims. If you stay in the E&PD Settlement, you may object to it by **August 31, 2012**. The Detailed Notice explains how to exclude yourself or object.

The Court will hold a hearing on **November 8, 2012** to consider whether to approve the E&PD Settlement. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. The Court will also consider Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses including an interim payment of \$75 million and additional awards equal to 6% of class claims and benefits paid. Class Counsel fees, costs and expenses under the Economic and Property Damages Settlement Agreement and the Medical Benefits Settlement Agreement jointly cannot exceed \$600 million. Class members’ payments will not be reduced if the Court approves the payment of Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses because BP will separately pay these attorney fees, costs, and expenses.

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

Medical Benefits Settlement

Providing Benefits to Clean-Up Workers and Certain Gulf Coast Residents

If you have a medical claim related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, you could get benefits from a class action settlement with BP Exploration & Production Inc. and BP America Production Company (“BP”). Go to DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com for more information, including information on how to file a claim.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE MEDICAL BENEFITS SETTLEMENT?

The Medical Class includes (1) clean-up workers and (2) certain people who resided in specific geographic areas in coastal and wetlands areas along the Gulf Coast during specific periods in 2010. The website DeepwaterHorizonSettlements.com has detailed descriptions and maps to help you determine whether a geographic location may be included in one of these zones. Additionally, you can call 1-866-992-6174 or e-mail info@DeepwaterHorizonMedicalSettlement.com to find out if a geographic location is included.

WHAT DOES THE MEDICAL BENEFITS SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The benefits of the Medical Benefits Settlement include: (1) payments to qualifying people for certain acute (short-term) and chronic (ongoing) medical conditions occurring after exposure to oil or chemical dispersants; (2) provision of periodic medical examinations to qualifying people; and (3) creation of a Gulf Region Health Outreach Program, consisting of projects to strengthen the healthcare system. Benefits (1) and (2) will be provided only after the Court grants final approval and any appeals are resolved.

HOW TO GET BENEFITS FROM THE MEDICAL BENEFITS SETTLEMENT

You need to submit a Claim Form to request benefits. You can get a copy of the Claim Form by visiting the website or by calling 1-866-992-6174. Claims can

be submitted by mail. If you have questions about how to file your claim, you should call the toll-free number for assistance.

The deadline for filing a Claim Form is one year after the Medical Benefits Settlement becomes effective (that is, after the Court grants “final approval” and any appeals are resolved). The exact date of the claim filing deadline will be posted on the website. It is highly recommended that Medical Class Members complete and submit their claim forms promptly. Please read the Economic and Property Damages Settlement notice because you may also be eligible for a payment from that settlement.

YOUR OTHER OPTIONS

If you do not want to be legally bound by the Medical Benefits Settlement, you must Opt Out or exclude yourself by **October 1, 2012** or you won’t be able to sue BP over certain medical claims. If you stay in the Medical Benefits Settlement, you may object to it by **August 31, 2012**. The Detailed Notice explains how to exclude yourself or object.

The Court will hold a hearing on **November 8, 2012** to consider whether to approve the Medical Benefits Settlement. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. Class Counsel will ask the Court to consider an award of fees, costs, and expenses of 6% of the value of the benefits actually provided under the Medical Benefits Settlement Agreement. Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses under the Medical Benefits Settlement Agreement and the Economic and Property Damages Settlement Agreement jointly cannot exceed \$600 million. Class members’ payments will not be reduced if the Court approves the payment of Class Counsel fees, costs, and expenses because BP will separately pay these attorney fees, costs, and expenses.

In Recognition and Celebration of Juneteenth



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A Father's Journal



Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief

In our community it seems that Father's Day is one we normally don't pay much attention to. Often in media African-American fathers are thought of to be absent while women are portrayed as super humans who hold down our community. And while taking nothing away from mothers and their undeniable commitment to their children there are men who I have been known throughout my life who have been father's to their own children as well as other men's children; and they are men I will always admire.

When I think of my father he is not a perfect man, but he was one who has a work ethic and taught me the value of hard work and that it would pay off. It was through his example I look at when I've had to find the will to go on even when things were not their best. As a young man you sometimes do not understand

the seeds that are being planted for tomorrow's life lessons. It was not only until later in life I really began to appreciate what his love and sacrifices meant in making me the man I am today.

There are men like my old basketball coach Barry Tyler, who while childless raised an entire community of young men guiding their lives. I think of men like him, who are selfless in giving back, and he was one of the first people outside of my family who took an interest in exposing me to things outside of my neighborhood and believing dreams can come true. And his influence is something that has led me to want to give back to the young people of my City and serve humanity.

When I think of all the negative stats about Black fathers I think of them as myths. I can say that I don't know many Black men who have children and do not want to be involved in their lives. What often is the problem are much deeper issues like there are communication issues between him and the mother, or in some instances it is because of financial issues some men feel they cannot be good fathers so they opt not to see their children because of the shame of not being able to provide financially. But this could not be further from the truth.

When I think of what it is that

a child needs it has very little to do with money or material things. What they need is love, affection, encouragement and support. These are things you can give that cost nothing but time and effort, for this bank is never bankrupt. I think of my own children Eric, who is now 14 and my daughter Elise who will soon be 4. And I admit that sometimes it has been a struggle being involved in my children's life because they live in other cities and also navigating workable relationships with their mother's at times have been a challenge. But what I came to realize it is not about the quantity of the time but the quality of the time. It is about putting something in their memory bank that will last and pay dividends later.

And as a father there is a joy you get when being with your children while guiding them you also get a chance to relive your own childhood. I think of recently spending time with my daughter in an amusement park in Florida, riding the rides with her and taking pictures with Sesame Street characters. Seeing her smiling and happy brought me a joy that I cannot describe. Or when I think of sitting in church with her being inspired by a powerful sermon in a North Carolina church on Easter; seeing my beautiful daughter and being there hearing a power-

ful message moved me to tears thinking how much I love her and will always be there for her.

Also I think of being a father to my son, who is now in his teenage years. He reminds me so much of myself at that age, not simply just his looks but the things he is into. A talented visual artist, and multi-instrumentalist, he is athletic and intelligent. It is funny seeing him grow and now he is in his adolescence and talking about girls and many of the other things teenage boys go through.

When I think of him I think of us going to Jazzfest together; him and I just being there father and son enjoying the music, food and festivities. It was a great time just sharing with him. While there I thought back to the many times I'd performed on the exact stage during Jazzfest and the applause I received were no match for the smile on my son's face on that day. In this time in my life it is them that I live for, it is thoughts of them that brighten my day, and my love for them is unconditional and everlasting. So on this day we celebrate; remember that every day is our day, to guide, love and care for our children.

Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

WBOK radio where the Marshall family appeared on Dr. Griggs show to talk about organ donation. Recently, receiving his driver's license and signing up to become an organ donor saying of why he feels it is important, "It is the right thing to do, I feel having a part in saving a life is the greatest thing someone can do." Wilbert "Chill" Wilson, also recently signed up to become an organ donor, "I was inspired and I signed up and now I am trying to spread the word with this march to get more people signed up because that is more lives we can save."

Inside the Heart of Kaylon

Kaylon Marshall is a young man whose heart is big in more ways than one. He is a giving and loving young man who is selfless



Kaylon Marshall pictured with Wilbert "Chill" Wilson, who is dedicating his "Walk A Mile for A Child" march in honor of Kaylon and to encourage people to become organ donors.

and dreams of one day studying Kinesiology and also becoming a coach. In his most recent grade report he received three A's and

one B. Heaping praise on her son and his spirit of giving she cites an example, "He has a humongous heart, there is another child who needs a heart named Seth, he is 10 years old, he wanted the newer version of the PlayStation and when Kaylon's dad bought him a new one and he gave his old one to Seth. He is someone who is always doing something to make somebody smile. Whatever he has to do to make it easy for anybody he will do it. When we went home and he walked through the hall at his school it shut down and people just wanted to see him, because he is such a lovable guy."

Kaylon has an inner glow, one that Dr. Griggs immediately noticed during his broadcast where he noted that Kaylon had smil-

ing eyes. He is a young man of unsurpassed courage and is an inspiration. When asked about what would he tell people who are facing adversity and are losing hope he says, "Don't give up, whatever you are going through its going to be alright, ride everything out to the end and never lose faith."

Kaylon is a young man who embodies a spirit to be emulated. He is positive in his outlook and optimistic about his future always saying he is not sick he just needs a heart. And this courageous young man is leading a City to march and begin to have a heart-to-heart talk about something we all can do not simply to better but to save lives.

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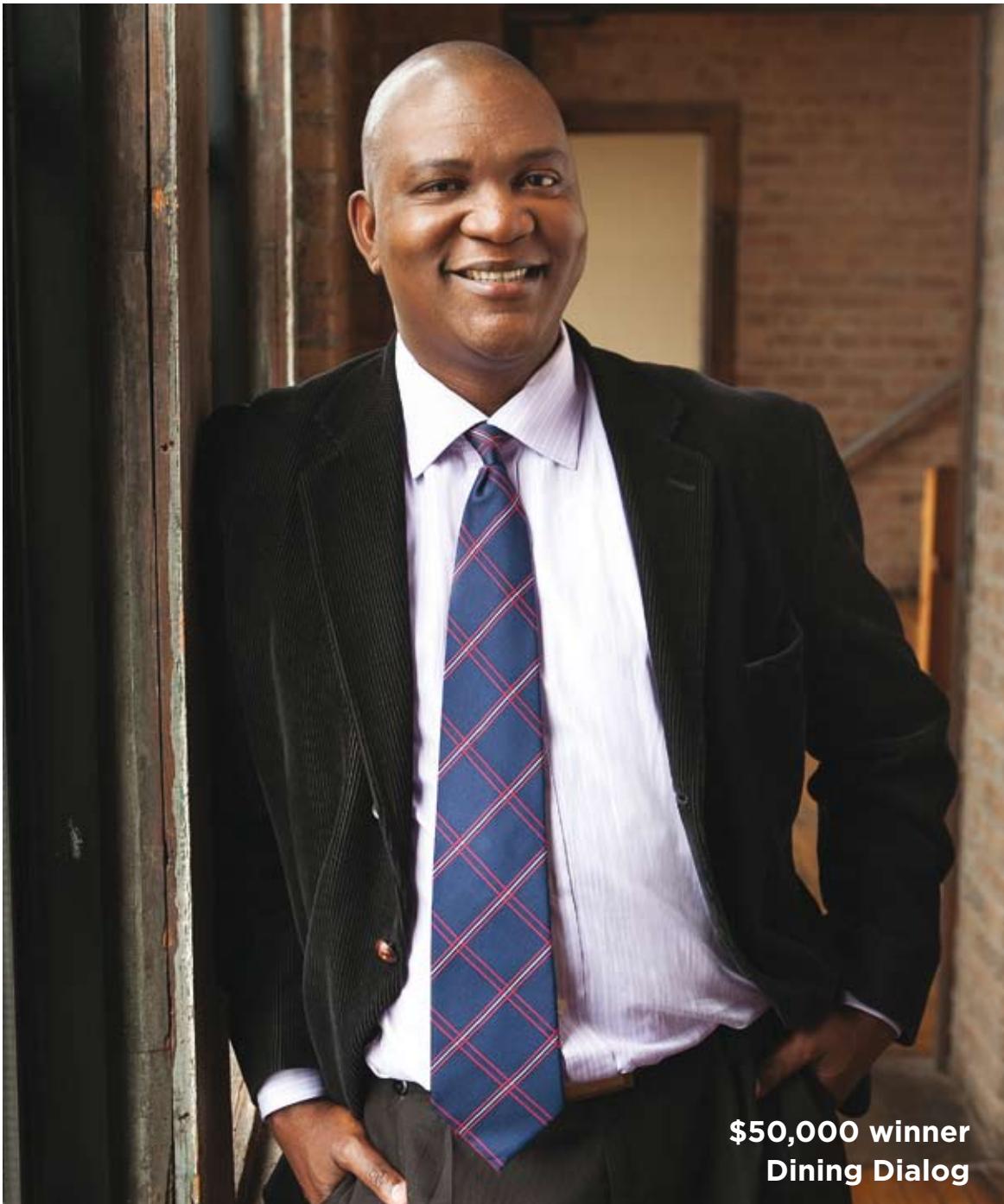
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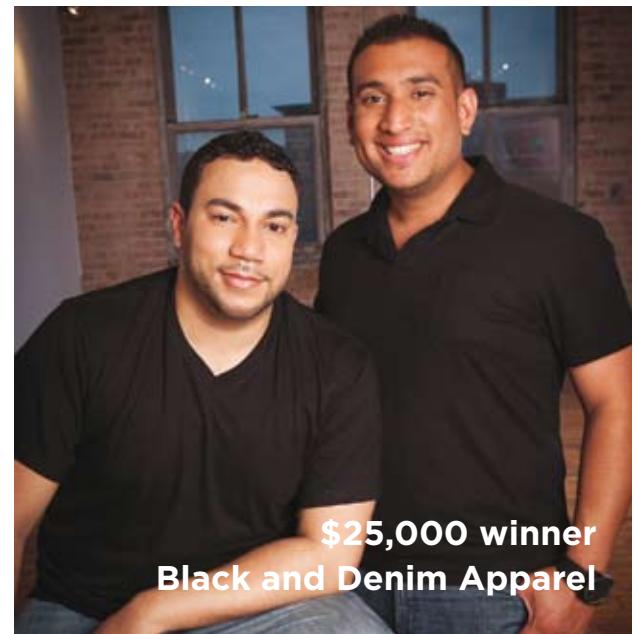
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