



CADDO PARISH COMMISSION
ADOPTS 2018 BUDGET

The Caddo Parish Commission officially adopted the Parish of Caddo's 2018 Annual Operating and Capital Improvement Budget at the Commission's 2018 budget meeting on December 5.

The \$76,520,621 operating budget addresses the Parish's most urgent operational needs, capital improvement initiatives, support of Parish agencies, economic development and social programs.

(Please See BUDGET, Pg. 4)

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Central Colored High Alumni to Celebrate 100th Year Anniversary

Professor Robert Elmer Brown opened the doors to Central Colored High School in 1917. At the time, it was the first and only high school for African American children living in Shreveport and surrounding cities and towns.

Alumni, family members, and friends will gather in the Central Colored High School Archive (the library of Old Central Elementary School) on Saturday, December 16 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to celebrate the 100th Year history of the school.

At the time the school was named, there was the Shreveport Central High School, which was white, and thus the designation of Central "Colored" High School.

Tributes will be paid to Professors Robert Elmer Brown, first principal, and Raleigh Brown, the last principal, and to Clifton



Davis, who gave administrative leadership to tenth grade students at what was Milam Street Trade School.

All classes will be honored during the celebration

with special honors going to the Central High School of 1943 for holding reunions that brought members of all classes together, leading to the formation of the Na-

tional Centralites. Dr. Richard Gant Stewart of Shreveport is the last living founder of the organization.

Due to efforts of the National Centralites, Central

Colored High School is included in the National Registry of Historical Places. This inclusion in the registry is why the buildings at

Central are still a part of the educational program of Caddo Parish Schools.

The National Centralites held its last reunion in 2013 and has transitioned from holding reunions to development of the National Central Colored High School Archives. The vision for the archives is for young people, and the community-at-large, to visit and capture the history of local education in the African American community.

Always advocating for education, the National Centralites, which began a scholarship fund in the early 1970s, has awarded approximately \$400,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors of Booker T. Washington High School.

The Central Colored High School Graduating Class of 1947 will be honored as the last class to receive 11 years of schooling. This class

(Please See CENTRAL, Pg. 4)

Teaches proactive measures to combat crime and violence De-escalation Workshop Targets Local Youth

Story and Photo by **Ronald Collins Jr.**

Based upon years of accredited research, The National Juvenile Justice Network has developed advocacy groups around the country touting the fact that brain development takes place in stages and is not fully complete in adolescence. They have concluded that the frontal lobe, the part of the brain that regulates decision making, planning, judgment, expression of emotions and impulse control, may not be fully mature until an individual reaches their mid twenties. These findings have aided in the network's attempts to explain why so many teens across the country are making poor decisions in relation to criminal activity.

As concerned parents and other community members attempt to draw a correlation between poor impulse control and rising levels of criminal activity exhibited by facets of the youth population in the Northwest Louisiana region, a local organization is attempting a different approach.

The Urban Support Agency, a non-profit after school tutoring program that focuses on test preparation and cultural enrichment activities, recently held a workshop focused on presenting practical de-escalation techniques to area youth.

The Shreveport Sun was able to casually observe the



recent de-escalation workshop held at Union Mission Baptist Church. Approximately 65 youth participants participated in the five-hour event. Urban Support Agency organizers made a special effort to involve both young men and women from various parts of the city. Presenters utilized discussion groups and hands on exercises to explore a number of complex issues. The youth participants appeared to feel comfortable opening up to the Urban Support Agency staff. Both individual social interactions and components of operating in a group dynamic were explored.

"Often times in terms of conflict it's not about who is right but rather what is right," said Urban Support Agency Executive Director Billy Wayne. "We are trying to show young people that in a given situation it may not be best to concentrate on you being right. Rather we want them to concentrate on what is right. As they do, we want them to use some of the techniques



Urban Support Agency staff conduct outdoor exercises with youth participants.

and solutions that are currently being presented to help them understand the distinction and help remedy a lot of situations. We want them to understand that violent tendencies are not going to serve them in the long run. Violence is a real concern in our communities now, and we feel that being proactive can benefit the community overall. We have seen what happens time and time again when the community simply reacts to a bad situation after

it has already occurred."

"Because of the popularity of social media our kids today experience a wide range of choices, and often times they do not put a lot of thought into the consequences of those choices," Mr. Wayne continued. "So we are also attempting to make them more conscious about the consequences so that hopefully they can settle their issues peacefully. We want them to be fully aware that with violent thinking you can become

(Please See YOUTH, Pg. 4)

Trump Attends Opening of Civil Rights Museum Despite His Own Racial Insensitivities



Assassinated civil rights icon Medgar Evers, a field secretary with the NAACP, was a large focus of President Trump's speech as his brother Charles Evers and widow Myrlie Evers sat in the audience at the opening of the museum.

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - President Donald Trump was the lead person spreading the lie that President Barack Obama, America's first Black president, was not born in the U. S.

President Trump also equated Ku Klux Klan members and Neo-Nazis to people protesting the evils of racism during the deadly White supremacist marches in Charlottesville, Va. last August.

Repeatedly, in front of the nation, he has flagrantly displayed racial insensitivities; even with his most recent support of Senate Candidate Roy Moore in Alabama, not only an accused pedophile, but a man who has said America was last great during slavery.

Since his inauguration, Trump and his appointee Attorney General Jeff Sessions have carefully demolished important policies put in place during the Obama administration for the pur-

pose of preventing police brutality and other issues of racial inequality in the criminal justice system.

In addition, President Trump has claimed massive voter fraud in America, a claim that experts say is patently false.

These are just a handful of the reasons that civil rights leaders opposed the president's attendance at the December 10 opening of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. They argue that the museum is like hallowed ground that celebrates those who risked their lives to fight against everything that Trump appears to embrace -- despite his words to the contrary.

"President Trump's presence at the opening of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum is not a show of respect. It's merely a photo op," says Derrick Johnson, president/CEO of the NAACP. "I live in Mississippi and its civil rights

(Please See MUSEUM, Pg. 4)

Price: 75¢
The Shreveport Sun

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There should never be another noose laid on a Black employee's desk or displayed in a workplace. There should never be another intimidating Confederate flag flying in a Black person's face. There should never be another opportunity for an employee (or fellow student, or faculty member) to talk about picking cotton. There should never be another blackface performance, anywhere. And there should never be another person who talks about zero tolerance around workplace sexism to accept any whisper of workplace racism.