By Gloria Zuurveen

Editor-in-Chief

Three Mississippi born young ladies who are cousins have proven that hard work pays off.

All three have passed the Bar Exam and they are on their way to fight the good fight of faith and justice in their field of law.

Dundridge and Jackson are alums of Senatobia High School where I graduated class of 76 in Senatobia, Mississippi. Richardson attended Southaven High School in Southaven, Mississippi.

Dundridge passed the Tennessee bar exam in 2016 and is currently a business attorney who practice corporate law at Butler Snow in Memphis TN. For undergrad, Dundridge attended the University of Mississippi, where she was the first black female student body president, and she attended law school at Texas Southern University- Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

In 2012, after hearing about a racial incident at Ole Miss where someone had hung a noose and a confederate flag around the James Meredith statue on campus. Meredith was the first African-American student admitted to the segregated University of Mississippi, after the intervention of the federal government, an event that was a flashpoint in the Civil Rights Movement.

Dundridge so moved to write a response that was published on the Hechinger Report and excerpts of which first appeared in The Daily Mississippian and also the Washington Post. (See page 3 for Dundridge response)

Whitney Richardson is a claims counsel at Fidelity National Title, and she attended law school at Texas Southern University- Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

Richardson recently passed the Colorado bar exam— which has one of the highest Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) scores in the country, and now her scores are portable and can be transferred to approximately 30 other states to practice law including New York.

This is a laudable accomplishment for Richardson. Whitney Jackson works in Atlanta, Georgia, and recently passed the Georgia bar exam.

Brittany attended law school at Charlotte School of Law. These three cousins are making all Mississippians proud and I am one of them.

CRADLE

U.S. Civil Rights Activist Jesse Jackson Says He Has Parkinson’s Disease

“Recognition of the effects of this disease on me has been painful, and I have been slow to grasp the gravity of it,” he said. “For me, it Parkinson’s diagnosis is not a stop sign but rather a signal that I must make lifestyle changes and dedicate myself to physical therapy in hopes of slowing the disease’s progression.”

Jackson has been a leader of the U.S. civil rights movement since the mid-1960s and was with Martin Luther King. Please see Jackson, page 4
Hello Readers,
What a shame that we have among our civil rights organization people who will to sell us out for crumbs instead of stand up against the onslaught of racism and discrimination. There have always been Judases in the midst and today it makes no difference. We have to stay focused just as Jesus was when he too was sold for 30 pieces of silver. Prayer is always appropriate for sellout because they too can repent and change from their selling out ways. It is not healthy for the sellout just like it was not healthy for Judas as we read in our Bible, Matthew 27:3 that he was so convicted that he committed an act of suicide by hanging himself. Prayer is needed for the Judases in the midst. God knows the heart.

Rancho Motors supports and shares the goals and mission of the NAACP.

We have been in discussions with the NAACP over the last several weeks about the issues we understand the protest is intended to address. Despite today’s event, we remain committed to building a long term relationship with the NAACP to further our common goals of diversity, inclusion and respect of people of all races, religions, nationalities and sexual orientations, both in our workplace and in the community at large.

In light of our ongoing dialog with the NAACP, we are disappointed the NAACP has elected to proceed with the protest, however we understand and respect their right to free speech.

Rancho is currently in litigation with two former, disgruntled employees which prevents us from discussing some of the issues of specific concern to the NAACP. However, we maintain in that the plaintiffs are meritless and look forward to the opportunity to prove our case in a court of law.

We look forward to continuing to work with the NAACP, as we believe working in partnership and cooperation with each other is the best course to achieve our common goals.

Very truly,
John Wilkins, President
Rancho Motor Company
First Black Female Ole Miss Student Body President Reacts To Newest Racial Incident at University

By Valerie Strauss

Kimberly Dandridge, the first black female student president at the University of Mississippi, had hung a noose and a confederate flag on the campus. It affected the university mentioned on front page.

The opportunity presented itself during my junior year. I received a congratulation call from the university’s first black, female student body president. We began to regularly correspond: he even came to visit several times throughout my term. His message was consistent.

“We must keep fighting to move Mississippi forward. Our schools should be number one in the country. Our churches, our communities and our people need to step up,” a call that someone had hung a noose and a confederate flag around the James Meredith statue on campus.

My heart dropped. I was still struggling to overcome the hurt, my sorority sister reminded me there was good in the world. Her love and compassion toward me, especially that night, will never be forgotten. I kept telling myself they were just words. The words hurt; they cut me deep. But I also remember returning to my room and thinking, “I’m so sorry that happened to you, but don’t worry, I’m your sister and I’ve got your back.”

When I decided to run for freshman class president, it was in Mississippi, I was going to the University of Mississippi to be one of the highlights of my freshman year, but there were ups and downs. I witnessed the Ku Klux Klan come to campus and protest after the chancellor demanded students stop chanting “The South will rise again” when the band played Dixie with Love.

I never imagined that I would see the KKK standing on the steps of our beloved university, bearing white robes and carrying Confederate flags. My eyes burned at the sight.

In sophomore year, I was invited to join Phi Mu, a traditionally white sorority. I was admitted as its first black student in 1962. I was elected as the first black, female student body president in my junior year. I was elected as the first black, female student body president in my junior year. It was a special time for me and for Ole Miss. One is elected by the student body, the other by varsity athletes.

Tradition has held that most of the student-body-elected maids are white and the maid elected by the athletes is black. When I decided to run, I met with both groups of people in my community.

The next week a blog online proclaimed: “Phi Mu Accepts Black Girl — Laughing Stock on campus.” I kept telling myself they were just words. The words hurt; they cut me deep. But I’ve learned that the amount of power we give words is solely up to us. I gave those words on that blog too much of my power and time.

I was first elected female black student body president in my junior year. It is a special time for me and I will never forget his words. But I also remember returning to my room and thinking, “I’m so sorry that happened to you, but don’t worry, I’m your sister and I’ve got your back.”

During my senior year, the university commemorated 50 years of integration since Meredith was admitted as its first black student in 1962.

Just 50 years ago, students like me were not allowed on this campus, or on the campus of any other Mississippi college that was not historically black. They were not allowed to run, as I did, for homecoming court or student body president.

When discouragement, I reflect on the Mississippi that the people in my community have worked so hard to overcome. It is a work in progress. There is much more to be done, more battles to fight, more obstacles to overcome.

As I walked off stage at my graduation, I looked out into the audience. James Meredith sat before me. After graduation he hugged me and said, “I wouldn’t have missed this day for anything in the world; I am here for you.”

That’s what I want to tell black students at Ole Miss. That is why I want to be in the story, they will know that I made it through and they can too. I hope that my story will encourage and challenge each of us, especially black students, to make tomorrow better.

James Meredith and Kimberly Dandridge (Photo By Nancy Dupont)
California politician and consultant, David Cunningham was born June 24, 1935, in Chicago, Illinois, to Eula Mae Dawson Cunningham and C.M.E. Rev. David S. Cunningham, Sr. At age eight, Cunningham accompanied his parents to Decatur, Illinois, where he attended E.A. Gastman Elementary School in St. Louis, Missouri, as a Danforth Award winner. Cunningham earned his A.A. degree in 1954 from Stowe Teachers College, while serving in the United States Naval Air Reserve.

In 1952, Cunningham graduated from Sumner High School in St. Louis, Missouri, as a Danforth Award winner. Cunningham earned his A.A. degree in 1954 from Stowe Teachers College, while serving in the United States Naval Air Reserve. Joining the United States Air Force in 1954, Cunningham served as a cartographer, interacting with the U2 until 1960. Cunningham attended the historic 1960 Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles, California, before enrolling at the University of California at Riverside. Cunningham graduated with a B.A. degree in economics and political science in 1962. In 1963, Cunningham, on a public affairs internship from the Coro Foundation, served as administrative aide to California assemblyman, Charles Warren.

In 1964, Cunningham, on a public affairs internship from the Coro Foundation, served as administrative aide to California assemblyman, Charles Warren. In 1967, Cunningham joined the Hughes Aircraft Corporation.

In 1967, Cunningham joined the Hughes Aircraft Corporation. Cunningham then went on to found Cunningham, Short, Berryman & Associates in 1968, where he provided management and consultation to government and small businesses.

In 1973, Cunningham received his M.A. degree in urban studies from Occidental College. In 1964, Cunningham, moving to Lagos, Nigeria where he became the West Africa regional manager for the DuKane Corporation. Cunningham also pioneered the use of government grants to restore public buildings; created a system of community senior citizens centers; and served as chairman of the Grants, Housing, and Community Development Committee. Cunningham served as state chairman of the California Delegation to the Democratic National Committee in 1976. In 1986, Cunningham joined Cranston/Prescott Investment Banking as senior vice president of public finance. Cunningham served as senior vice president of Community Housing Equity Corporation from 1988 to 1993, while forming Dave Cunningham and Associates, a public affairs consulting firm. Cunningham served on a number of boards and received both the Southern California Fair Housing and Alex Haley Heritage Awards in 1984.

Cunningham passed away on November 16, 2017, at age 82.

Source: The HistoryMakers

Jan Perry

By Jan Perry, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD)

As the holidays approach, the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) wants to share information about the Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise, also known as LA:RISE, an innovative five-year program designed to support job-hungry, low-skilled businesses, including the homeless, those with histories of past incarcerations and disconnected youth. The LA:RISE program, launched in 2015, integrates employment, social enterprise and specialized homeless service providers within the City’s Workforce System. Participants are placed in entry level jobs with potential for growth, such as food service, janitorial, street maintenance and office work. Participants also receive personal support services to stabilize their lives to help them maintain employment, such as financial literacy training and healthcare, along with career training services. LA:RISE is administered by the City of Los Angeles Economic & Workforce Development Department, in partnership with the Roberts Enterprise Development Fund (REDF), a venture philanthropy that supports employment social enterprise and the County of Los Angeles Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) Department. For more information about LA:RISE, contact Donna Brooks at Donna.brooks@lacity.org or (213) 744-7300.

EWDD provides a broad range of programs designed to grow and improve Los Angeles’ economy while building a well-trained and job-ready workforce. EWDD oversees 16 citywide youth development centers that offer educational and career readiness services for disconnected youth ages 16 to 24 who are neither in school nor working, 17 WorkSource Centers that offer a wide range of quality employment related assistance to job seekers and employers, and nine BusinessSource Centers that provide services including access to capital, business plan development, tax incentives/credits, business courses and training, employee hiring and workforce development to business owners or startups. For more information, visit ewddlacity.com.

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Innovative LA: Rise Program Model Expands Countyswide, Provides Increase Job Opportunities for Homeless, Formerly Incarcerated and Disconnected Youth

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Zimbabwe Coup Plotters Reportedly Asked For China’s Permission Before Deposing Mugabe

By Geoffrey Smith
From Fortune.com

The men who plotted the overthrow of Zimbabwe’s long-serving President Robert Mugabe asked China for permission before depposing the 93-year-old president under house arrest Tuesday, while allowing Mugabe’s wife Grace, who had been jockeying to take over from her husband, free passage out of the country. Reuters reported that Mugabe is still resisting pressure to resign.

Chinese loans to Zimbabwe have helped stabilize the country in recent years after Mugabe’s disastrous economic policies led to a devastating bout of hyperinflation. The African country now uses the dollar as its currency, but the dollars effectively come from China’s $3 trillion stack of foreign reserves.

Mugabe pledged $4 billion in investment, aid, and loans last year alone, and Reuters quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang as saying Thursday that “China’s friendly policy towards Zimbabwe won’t change.”

Zimbabwe’s gross domestic product shrank for 10 years in a row until Chinese money helped a rebound that started in 2009. But growth has slowed again in recent years, from over 13% in 2013 to only 0.7% last year and 2.8% this year according to IMF estimates.

The Times reported that Beijing had been willing to approve the coup because it had “grown worried about the levels of corruption inside the ruling party.”

However, it noted that it wasn’t just Beijing that the coup leaders had lobbied. The newspaper said they had also sounded out neighboring South Africa, the African Union, and the European Union.

Doing Nothing, Trump May Witness US Goal In Mugabe’s Ouster

By Matthew Lee
From The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With little in the way of a policy toward the administration, the United States has long hoped for. The U.S. then began restricting aid, eventually cutting off virtually all nonhumanitarian assistance to the country. In 2003, then-President George W. Bush declared a national state of emergency with respect to Zimbabwe and signed the first of three executive orders he would issue while in office, authorizing sanctions that excoriated the U.N. Human Rights Council for failing to address the country at all in 2017.

For a lunch at African leaders on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in September, Trump mentioned by name Senegal, Guinea, Libya, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan and Uganda. He didn’t mention Zimbabwe.

In fact, until Thursday, the only times the words “Zimbabwe” or “Mugabe” appear to have been used by senior Trump administration officials were in April and June.

The first time was when the State Department released a three-sentence written statement from Secretary of State Rex Tillerson congratulating the Zimbabwean people on the country’s April 18 independence day. The second was when U.N. envoy Nikki Haley mentioned Zimbabwe and Mugabe in a speech that excoriated the U.N. Human Rights Council for failing to address despotic regimes.

The White House doesn’t seem to have mentioned the country at all in 2017.

The only White House mention of Zimbabwe in 2017 was in the waning days of Obama’s presidency, when he extended the Bush-era state of emergency and sanctions for another year. That decision enabled the U.S. to impose further penalties on Zimbabwe’s leadership. The only action by Trump’s Treasury Department, however, has been to remove two retired officials from the sanctions list.
ORDINANCE NO. 17-17 OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD AMENDING SECTION 12-16.4 OF THE INGLEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE, APRON CENTER DISTRICT, NO. 17 AN OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL INGLEWOOD CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2017

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