Super Bowl great Lloyd Mumphord to perform in TSU’s “Johnnie B. Goode” play Feb. 27, 28

Texas Southern University and National Football League football legend Lloyd Mumphord will return to his alma mater February 26-27, to lend his harmonica playing skills to the production of Johnnie B. Goode. Mumphord, a veteran harmonica player who performs regularly both solo and with blues bands in his hometown of Opelousas, Louisiana, has been cast as Blind Harmonica Joe. Blind Harmonica Joe underscores intense scenes throughout the play and is featured in several Blues pieces. See Blues on page 2

JHJ Alumni Chapter celebrates achievements of 40 young alums & awards scholarships


In addition, current TSU business students Nattiya Turner, Bresha Nicholson, Quanessa Anderson, and Kayla Groden were awarded the 2016 John Odom Scholarship.

Guests enjoyed live music, dancing, great cuisine, cash bar, casino, and live auction.

TSU Foundation adds new members, raises $105,000 at first meeting

Foundation Board members who attended the January Retreat are front row, from left, Joseph Proler, Judy Dyer, Regina Rogers, Gerald Smith, Dr. Judith Craven, and Willie Alexander; back row, from left, Ernest Ecung, Dr. John Rudley, James Donatto, Charles Foy, Frazier Wilson, Eva Pickens, Dr. Melanie Johnson, Kamoru Lawal, Matthew Rogers, and Marchris Robinson.

The Texas Southern University Foundation has bolstered its strength by adding 12 new business and community leaders who have agreed to support Texas Southern University. These new members are: Mr. Henry Brown, past-Community Affairs President, Anheuser Bush; Dr. Judith Craven, Houston Businesswoman; Mr. James Donatto, President/CEO Academy Awards and President – Across the Track Pac; Mr. Charles Foy, President, Foy Insurance Agency; Ms. Marian Harper, Community Outreach & Foundation, Houston Astros Organization; Mr. Alan Helfman, President/Owner, Helfman Ford, Jeep, Chrysler, Dr. Melanie Johnson, President/CEO – The Houston Health Museum; Mr. Marchris Robinson, Houston Attorney – Robinson Law Group, PLLC; Ms. Judy Dyer, Olympic Athlete, President – Managed Medical Association; Mrs. Kim Gagne, Executive Producer, Steve Harvey Show, Rev. Manson Johnson, Pastor – Holman Street Baptist Church; and Mr. Ernest Ecung, Investment Officer – Ecung Investments.

“There are public or private college or university is only as strong as the caliber of students who attend and the financial support it receives, “said Gerald Smith, Foundation Chair.” “Adding these 12 business and civic leaders to our Foundation will only help to increase Texas Southern University’s ability to provide our students with the opportunities they need to compete at a high academic and athletic level.”

“We worked very hard to come up with a strategic list of names of people who are passionate about education, care about Texas Southern University and are capable of providing our young adults with the resources they need to compete in a global market.” Said Eva Pickens, VP, Office of Advancement.

Because of the diverse addition of new members, the
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Johnnie B. Goode is the penultimate event for Texas Southern University’s celebration of Black History Month.

Directed by Thomas Meloncon, TSU’s Theatre Coordinator, Johnnie B. Goode intertwines both facts and fiction from the evolution of the Blues which has influenced everything from Rock and Roll to Rhythm and Blues to Jazz. Set in 1950’s Port Arthur, TX, Johnnie B. Goode tackles the musical generational gap as the old single guitar and foot stomping Blues give way to Rhythm and Blues with the addition of drums, horns, pianos and guitars.

Texas Southern University will pay tribute to the Blues with two performances February 26-27, 2016 in Sawyer Auditorium at 8:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m., respectively. Tickets are $15 and can be purchased online at www.tsu.edu or by calling Kendrick Callis at 713-313-7933. Group discounts are available for children under 12 years old.

US Senator John Cornyn visits TSU

US Senator John Cornyn and his wife Sandy visited campus February 5 to tour three of Texas Southern University’s most popular programs. The Cornyn’s were greeted outside the Spearman Technology Building by TSU Board Chairman Derrick Mitchell and his wife Roslyn. They were then shown the Aviation Science and Technology’s flight simulation and air traffic control laboratories by COSET Dean Lei Yu, Captain Roscoe Edwards, TSU director of flight operations and Vernon Baker, Aviation Science and Technology program coordinator. The Senator was then escorted down the Tiger Walk to the newly renovated Nabrit Science Building where they were met by Aisha Moultry-Morris, COPHS interim Dean of Student Services and COPHS Dean Edward Stemley and shown around the new Health Professions Practice and Simulation Complex. The tour ended with a visit to the Law School where Cornyn met with a class of law students where he spoke to them about his journey from St. Mary’s University School of Law to his current position. Following a short question and answer session Cornyn posed for pictures with students and answered a few additional questions.

“This is my first time here, but it is long overdue,” Cornyn said of his visit.

Earlie Hudnall recognized for his continued service to the University

University photographer Earlie Hudnall was presented an Outstanding Service Award by Dr. Rasoul Sancifard and the Faculty Senate February 4, for appreciation of his many years of dedication and providing outstanding photographic service to Texas Southern University faculty, staff and students.

On accepting his award Hudnall stated that “I’m always appreciative of the compliments that recognizes the work I do at TSU.”

US Coast Guard and Connect The Dots, Inc. offers scholarship, partners with TSU to promote diversity and leadership

Connect The Dots, Inc. and the US Coast Guard has announced a partnership with Texas Southern University to promote a scholarship effort that is available to students at minority serving institutions. The scholarship is a part of the College Student Pre-Commissioning Scholarship Initiative program (CSPI).

The CSPI program is a full two-year scholarship that provides participants with a generous salary and a guaranteed commission after graduation. The scholarship is an effort by the US Coast Guard to increase diversity within its officer corps.

As part of this initiative, the Coast Guard is partnering with the Texas Southern University Office of Career Services and Aviation Sciences Department for a February 16-17 Black History Month program entitled Minorities in Flight, promoting opportunities in our nation’s aviation industry. This two-day event will expose TSU students to various career opportunities and the history of minorities in aviation. This event will include a campus-wide panel discussion as well as classroom presentations throughout the campus.

Additionally, Connect The Dots, Inc. is making a $4,000 contribution to the Texas Southern University Office of Career Services and Aviation Sciences Department to enhance the University’s efforts to promote employment opportunities to students.

Scheduled panelists will be US Coast Guard Commander Te’-Ali Garrett Coley; Lieutenant Patrick Bennett; retired Lt. Col. John Yourse, US Air Force; and Mr. Vernon Baker, TSU Aviation Sciences department personnel.

The panel will be moderated by Dr. Antoinette Roberson, TSU Director, Office of Career Services; Commander Coley, Head of Air Operations and Chief Pilot for Coast Guard Sector, Corpus Christi and Air Station Corpus Christi, TX.

This effort is a part of the Coast Guard’s ongoing campaign to promote the CSPI program and encourage leadership development and service at minority serving institutions. For more information on the Coast Guard’s CSPI efforts, visit www.gocoastguard.com/cspi.

Foundation … continued from page 1

Foundation will now be able to appoint members to various committees. Those committees include, but are not limited to: Audit Committee, which along with the Executive Committee, will review the year-end financial statements with the internal and external auditors; Investment Committee comprised of Trustees, to the extent possible, who have some background and experience in investment, finance, real estate and mineral-related activities; Development and Scholarship Committee made up, to the extent possible, of Trustees who have a background and experience in student scholarship programs and the accepted policies for administering student scholarships; and Nominating and Membership Committee which will conduct a periodic review of membership guidelines and make recommendations as required to the Board.

The 12 new Board members will be inducted at the annual Foundation Board Retreat held in January, 2016. Their first task will be to host a major fundraising event to increase the amount of operating funds for the Foundation.

Current Foundation leaders are: Gerald B. Smith, Chair; Willie Alexander, Vice Chair; Joseph “Jody” Proler, Treasurer; Lamont Waddell, Secretary, Thomas Jones, Jr. Board Advisor; and Eva Pickens, Interim Executive Director.

Current Foundation members are: Jodie Jiles, Kamoru A. Lawal, Ramon Manning, Matthew “Matt” Rogers, Jr., Regina Rogers, Larry Veselka, Esq., Frazier Wilson, Ed.D, and Cary Yates.

The ultimate objective of the Foundation is to raise funds for projects and programs that ensure future excellence in all areas of the university including teaching, research, service and athletics.
The deadline to submit news or information for TSU E-News is Thursday’s at noon for the following week’s edition. Submissions may be sent to callisk@tsu.edu or pickensek@tsu.edu.

For any questions or comments, call Eva Pickens at 713-313-4205.

TSU News Now

The weekly electronic news and information source for Texas Southern University. Submit news or information for the following week’s edition by Thursday at noon.

February 8-14, 2016

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