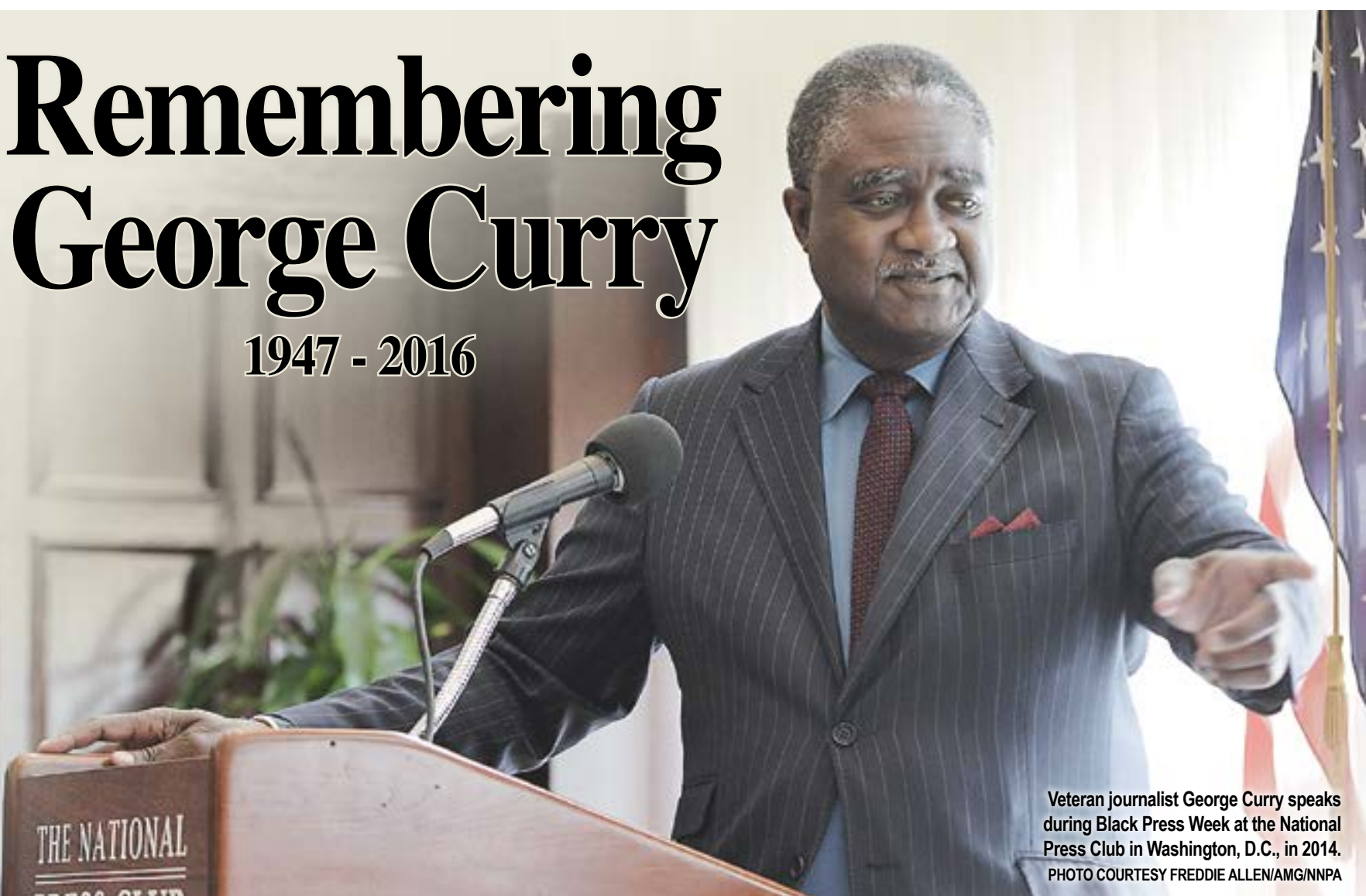




Remembering George Curry

1947 - 2016



Veteran journalist George Curry speaks during Black Press Week at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., in 2014. PHOTO COURTESY FREDDIE ALLEN/AMGNPA

Gibbs, Green face runoff for District 72

By Stephanie R. Jones
Contributing Writer

Candidates Debra Gibbs and Synarus Green were the top vote getters in the State House of Representatives District 72 special election Aug. 23, and will meet in a runoff Sept. 13.

Gibbs led the race with 701 votes, just five votes more than Green, who had 696. The numbers were even closer in Hinds County voting, where Gibbs was in front of Green by one vote.

Two other candidates in the race received far fewer votes. Theresa G. Kennedy received 200 and A. Shae Buchanan-Williams got 158. There was one write-in vote cast.

The district covers parts of Hinds and Madison counties but most of the ballots were cast in Hinds.

The special election was held to fill the seat vacated by Kimberly Campbell, who was re-elected in November but recently left the Legislature for a position as state director of AARP.

Green, legislative/congressional liaison for the city of Jackson, touted his 20 years of experience working with government. He issued an open thank you note to



Green



Gibbs

Black Press journalist was champion of civil rights

By Hazel Trice Edney
Trice Edney Newswire

Renowned civil rights and black political journalist George E. Curry, the dean of Black Press columnists because of his riveting weekly commentary in black newspapers across the country, is being remembered this week as a legend.

Curry died suddenly of heart failure Aug. 20. He was 69.

"He stood tall. He helped pave the way for other journalists of color to do their jobs without

CURRY'S COLUMNS

In memory of George Curry, two of his most recent columns are republished in today's paper on page 16.

the questions and doubts," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. with whom Curry traveled extensively, including to the funeral of President Nelson Mandela.

"He was a proud and tireless advocate of the Black Press, serving two tours as editor-in-chief

of the National Newspaper Publishers Association's news service."

Curry's fiancée Ann Ragland confirmed the funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 27, at the Weeping Mary Baptist Church, 2701 20th St. in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Rev. Al Sharpton will give the eulogy. A viewing is set for 8:30-11 a.m. before the funeral.

Ragland said a viewing will be held at Elizabeth Baptist Church, 2650 Elizabeth St. also in Tuscaloosa Aug. 26 from

noon until 7 p.m. where the Rev. Jessie Jackson is expected to speak.

Having grown up in Tuscaloosa, Ala., during the height of racial segregation, Curry often said he "fled Alabama" and vowed never to return when he went away to college. However, Ragland said he always told her to return him home to Tuscaloosa upon his death.

Shocking rumors of his death circulated heavily in journalistic circles until it was confirmed by

Bernard Lafayette, Martin Luther King confidant and chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, shortly before midnight Aug. 20.

"This is a tragic loss to the movement because George Curry was a journalist who paid special attention to civil rights because he lived it and loved it," Lafayette told the Trice Edney News Wire through his spokesman Maynard Eaton,

Curry

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Fitzgerald receives Winter-Reed Award from MAPE

By Shanderia K. Posey
Editor

Oleta Garrett Fitzgerald, director of the Children's Defense Fund's Southern Regional Office, received the 2016 Winter-Reed Partnership Award during a tribute luncheon Aug. 23, at the Clyde Muse Center in Pearl.

Fitzgerald was honored with the award for her career-long public advocacy work empha-

sizing the role of education in strengthening Mississippi's communities. She also leads efforts to expand access to early childhood education for the region's most vulnerable populations.

Fitzgerald is the second woman to receive the Winter-Reed award. About 200 people attended the luncheon to witness tribute.

The Mississippi Association of

Partners in Education launched the Winter-Reed Partnership Award in 2007 to honor former Gov. William Winter and late Tupelo businessman Jack Reed Sr. for their lifelong contributions to public education and to provide ongoing recognition for Mississippi's outstanding education leaders.

The luncheon included a welcome from Suzanne Bean, Ph.D.,

past president of MAPE; remarks from Clyde Muse, Ph.D., president of Hinds Community College; invocation by Ben Burnett, Ph.D., dean at William Cary University School of Education; remarks from Cathy Grace, Ph.D., co-director of the Graduate Center for the Study of Early Learning at the University of

Fitzgerald

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Pictured are former Gov. William Winter (from left), Oleta Fitzgerald, Marty Wiseman, Rhea Williams-Bishop and Cathy Grace, recipient of the 2016 Winter-Reed Award. PHOTO BY SHANDERIA K. POSEY

Bobby Rush signs to Rounder Records

New album slated for Sept. 16 release

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Naming one's album after a song titled "Porcupine Meat" may seem a little unusual — unless, of course, you're Bobby Rush, who earned his first gold record in 1971 with a hit titled "Chicken Heads."

He elaborates on his recent composition by saying, "If a lady won't treat me right, but she doesn't want anyone else to have me, that is hard to digest." Hence the lyric, "too fat to eat, too lean to throw away."

Porcupine Meat is Rush's debut release for Rounder Records, and one of the best recordings of his 60-plus year career. The album is due out Sept. 16.

Rush estimates that he has cut more than 300 songs since he first began making mu-

sic. He has been honored with three Grammy nominations, as well as 10 Blues Music Awards and 41 nominations. He was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 2006.

Make no mistake, Rush is not your typical octogenarian. At age 82, he exudes the energy of a 20-year-old, on the road for more than 200 dates a year. His hectic tour schedule has earned him the affectionate title King of the Chitlin' Circuit. Rush has traveled the globe including Japan and Beirut. In 2007, he earned the distinction of being the first blues artist to play at the Great Wall of China.

His renowned stage act features his famed

Rush

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Bobby Rush, 82, may win over new fans with the release of his new album. PHOTO BY RICK OLIVER

New airline comes to Jackson airport

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Beginning Sept. 26, Southern Airways Express will offer flights Sunday through Friday from the Jackson Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport to Memphis International Airport and to Nashville International Airport.

Direct flights to Destin, Fla., will be offered daily.

Passengers can fly from Jackson to Memphis, Tenn. in an hour or all the way to Nashville, Tenn., in just over two hours. They can reach the beach in Destin, Fla., in an hour and a

half on a nine-passenger Cessna Caravan 208, featuring a roomy interior with leather seats, large windows and wide aisles, out of JAN's private aircraft terminal, operated by Atlantic Aviation.

Southern Airways customers will enjoy designated parking, 24-hour security, a luxury customer lounge with wi-fi throughout and the convenience of the corporate aviation lifestyle. Customers can begin to reserve flights now with Southern Airways at www.iFlySouthern.com

Airport

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Annual Scholarship Awards, Gospel Music Celebration set for Aug. 28

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Hinds CC Utica campus awarded nearly \$400,000

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Suicide Squad falls short as comic book flick

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