

## Memorial University... Continued from page 12

meeting will feature guest speaker and plastic surgeon, Frederick Weniger, M.D. For more information, call 350-3438 or visit bariatrics.memorialhealth.com.

### Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma Support Group

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday, August 14, Summit Cancer Care Office, Anderson Cancer Institute, Memorial University Medical Center

This educational and support group is for individuals with blood related cancers and their loved ones. Each month the group focuses on a specific topic related to these types of illnesses and improving quality of life. To reserve your space, call Jennifer Curran at 350-7845.

Baseball and Books for Backus

6:30 p.m., Thursday, August 14, Grayson Stadium

Spend an evening at the ballpark as the Savannah Adult Baseball League (SABL) presents "Baseball and Books for Backus." The game will feature SABL teams the Dawgs vs. the Blue Sox. Admission is free for the entire family with the donation of a children's book for the George and Marie Backus Children's Hospital at Memorial University Medical Center.

### Blood Drive

7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, August 20, Memorial University Medical Center

10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, August 21, Memorial University Medical Center

The leadership team at Memorial University Medical Center is hosting a blood drive with the Savannah Community Blood Bank in the main entrance circle on the Memorial campus. The goal is to collect 150 pints of blood by having at least 180 people donate. Prize drawings will be held for a dinner for two at the

Chatham Club and a back-to-school shopping spree. Anyone over the age of 17 and 110 pounds is encouraged to donate and help save a life. To schedule an appointment, call 350-6730.

### Bariatric Surgery Pre- and Post-Operative Support Group

7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday, August 20, Medical Education Auditorium, Memorial University Medical Center

The bariatrics program at Memorial University Medical Center sponsors this support group for people who have had or are considering having gastric bypass or adjustable gastric band surgery. People considering the procedure who have attended a bariatric information session and are joining the Memorial Health Bariatrics program must attend two support group sessions prior to surgery. This month we will discuss portion control and bariatric eating. For more information call, 350-3438 or visit bariatrics.memorialhealth.com.

### Grey Matters Brain Injury Support Group

5 p.m., Thursday, August 21, day rehabilitation gym, The Rehabilitation Institute at Memorial University Medical Center

This support group is for traumatic brain injury survivors and their caregivers. For more information, call 350-7274 or e-mail jolleje1@memorialhealth.com.

### Every Step Counts Survivors Walk

9 a.m., Saturday, August 23

Every Step Counts enthusiastically invites all cancer patients, survivors, and caregivers to join us for our monthly walk. The walk is free and open to all cancer survivors and their loved ones. For more information about this month's walk and to register, please call DeDe Cargill at 398-6554.

### Team Hope Pancreatic Cancer Support Meeting

6 p.m., Tuesday, August 26, Panera Bread Company, White Bluff and Abercorn

Team Hope is an affiliate of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. This is a group of individuals with a strong desire to help raise awareness about pancreatic cancer and support families going through this illness. For more information, please call Jennifer Currin at 350-7845.

## SCLC President says Dr. King Left a Business Plan for Success



By. George E Curry

Special to the NNPA from the Afro-American Newspapers

NEW ORLEANS - Charles Steele Jr., president of Dr. Martin Luther King's old organization, said the slain civil rights leader left behind a "business plan" for Black economic success.

Opening the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) 50th convention here, Steele said: "If you listen closely to his last speech at Mason Temple [in Memphis], Dr. King was giving us a business plan. Dr. King was taking care of business. If you have taken the most elementary business course -- and even if you haven't -- you know that the first thing you need when you go into business is a business plan."

The SCLC president mentioned the early struggles of the founder of Radio One and TV One media companies.

"Cathy Hughes talks about starting out in business and being asked, 'What is your business plan?' Her reply: 'I plan to stay in business.' SCLC plans the stay in business.

"Our business plan is straight out of Dr. King's 'I Have a Dream' speech. No, it's not about a dream, it's about economics. The part of the speech that you don't hear repeated every year around his birthday is the section related to economics. He declared, 'America has given the Negro people a bad check; a check which has come back marked 'insufficient funds.'"

Steele said, "We're back here, where SCLC was founded, to say that we came back to get the check. Dr. King said 45 years ago, that America did not have enough funds in its bank account. They gave us a bad check. And today, we're back for a good one. If you can't give us a check, we'll take cash. But with your record, we need cash -- and two forms of ID. We probably should ask for a DNA test as well."

Speaking at the Pilgrim Baptist Church in suburban

Kenner, La., Steele said: "Nearly five years after announcing we got stuck with a bad check, Dr. King went to Memphis to outline a business plan, not just a plan to stay in business.

"Dr. King explained: 'We don't have to argue with anybody. We don't have to curse and go around acting bad with our words. We don't need any bricks and bottles, we don't need any Molotov cocktails. We just need to go around to these stores, and to these massive industries in our country, and say, 'God sent us by here, to say to you that you're not treating his children right. And we've come by here to ask you to make the first item on your agenda--fair treatment, where God's children are concerned. Now, if you are not prepared to do that, we do have an agenda that we must follow. And our agenda calls for withdrawing economic support from you.'

Steele urged, "Note the emphasis on 'withdrawing economic support.' Now, for those who still did not get it, he was blunt: '...We've got to strengthen our Black institutions,' he said. 'I call upon you to take your money out of the [White] banks downtown and deposit your money in Tri-State Bank. We want a bank-in movement in Memphis... We have six or seven Black insurance companies in Memphis. Take out your insurance there. We want to have an 'insurance-in.'

"Dr. King was clear: 'We begin the process of building a greater economic base. And at the same time, we are putting pressure where it really hurts.' If you still didn't get it, Dr. King explained it this way: 'Always anchor our external direct action with the power of economic withdrawal.'"

Steele noted that Dr. King, winner of the Nobel Peace prize, was an international figure when he was assassinated 40 years ago. Continuing in King's footsteps, Steele said SCLC will continue establishing conflict resolution centers around the world in hopes of bringing about peace.

"These are exciting times. I wish Dr. King was alive to see the response to Barack Obama in Europe," Steele said. "People want change and that was evident in Europe as 200,000 people shouted, 'Yes, we can' in Germany.

"And when Obama got to Paris and London, he was being treated like a rock star. The clos-

est McCain got to Germany was eating in a small German restaurant."

Steele said it would be a mistake to think Obama's popularity is limited to the fact that he is an African-American.

"The world is embracing more than just Barack Obama; it's embracing a new kind of openness. Thousands applaud because Obama says he wants the U.S. to be a partner and not just try to dictate to other countries. It is a relationship of equals that they embrace."

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## Kerry Ingredients & Flavours Holds Ribbon Cutting

Kerry Ingredients & Flavours hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony today to officially open its new facility at 11 Artley Road, Savannah. The ceremony was attended by Savannah City Council representatives Larry Stuber and Mary Ellen Sprague, Rick Winger, President of the Savannah Economic Development Authority, and numerous representatives from the community.

"This event is a celebration of the efforts and contributions of each of our 36 employees over the past eight months. We are currently running two production lines and already looking to hire more employees and add more production lines in order to meet growing customer needs." Colin McDermid stated.

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