



**Some members of the Consortium of Doctors**

parents pooled their funds to send their children to school.

A native of Trinidad, Dr. Lyra Gillette, an obstetrician/gynecologist for forty-five years, told her story of poverty in childhood and the barriers she encountered. As a medical missionary, Gillette travels to African countries to set up clinics to improve women's health.

Dr. Vernell A. Lillie, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, shared her story about the value of mentors. Lillie is Founder of Kuntu Theatre at the University of Pittsburgh.

Another theatre scholar, Dr. Ethel Pitts Walker, Interim Chair - Dept. of Television, Radio, Film, and Theatre at San Jose State University, is the founding president of the Black Theatre Network. "My mother was a domestic, but I knew that I would go to college because my mother talked about that daily and others enabled me along the way. Education is the key," she said.

C.O.D. founder Dr. Abigail Jordan, a native of Wilcox County, Georgia and a resident of Savannah, Georgia,

told the youth about her family research to know the history of her family. A visit to South Carolina to look up a relative named Boston Jones, revealed that he was a US Senator with an appointment by President Abraham Lincoln. "My mother talked everyday about slavery and education". Jordan said. She received the Doctorate of Education degree from the University of Georgia. It was her commitment that led Jordan to campaign to erect the first statue recognizing the sacrifices of the slave ancestors: the African-American Family Monument on River Street in Savannah, Georgia.

The finale of the weekend was the Bouquet of Doctors Banquet that featured a poetry reading and book signing by State Poet and Poet Laureate Dr. Harriette Bias-Insignares, who read her historic poem "Catharsis" that captures the world's reaction to the election of President Obama.

Keynote speaker, the Reverend Dr. Ramona Tascoc, capped off the event. She spoke on the topic "African American Family Core Values with Holistic Intergenerational and Multigenerational Implications for Family Members, Neighborhoods, and Communities."

# Sports with Walter Moore

## Jackson To Stand Trial

Former Savannah State football player Javorris Jackson, 28, will stand trial for the murder of Courtney Solomon, 26. Jackson is set to go to court on September 17. Police arraigned Jackson at the hospital while he was recovering from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the chest. He has been charged with first-degree murder and felony firearm for his alleged role in the May 3 shooting.



**Walter Moore**

## Jackson Hired At MVSU

Mississippi Valley State announced the hiring of former Savannah State interim athletics director Paula Jackson last week as the Delta Devils new associate director of athletics. She most recently served as director of athletics at Lincoln University in Missouri. Prior to Lincoln, Jackson worked at SSU where she held several positions over three years including director of compliance, senior woman administrator and interim director of athletics. She has been the assistant director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Morehead (Ky.) State and

Clark Atlanta.

## Panthers to Open Season At FVSU

Fort Valley State will open the 2009 football season in the newly-constructed 10,000 seat Wildcat Stadium on August 29 by hosting Clark Atlanta. Donald Pittman will start a new era in FVSU football as head coach of the Wildcats. The series dates back to 1950 and FVSU have beaten the Panthers on the past 17 meetings including a 24-19 win in 2008. "I know that the fans have high expectations for the Wildcats this season. We'll be prepared for Clark Atlanta, which is a very good team," says Pittman. Kickoff is set for 8:00 p.m.

## Cox Leaves SSU

Stephen Cox has been hired as assistant men's basketball coach as well as the head women's cross country coach at Georgia Southwestern. Cox comes to GSW from Savannah State where he was an assistant for the SSU men's basketball team. He has also coached at Mercer and Santa Fe Community College. Cox played at Middle Georgia and Clayton State.

## Savannah Black Nurses Association to hold Annual Scholarship Banquet

The Savannah Black Nurses Association will hold its Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet on Friday, August 28, 7pm at the Carey Hilliard's Restaurant, 11111 Abercorn St. The donation is \$20.00.

The speaker for the event will be Debra A. Toney R.N. Ph. D, President of the National Black Nurses Association.



**Dr. Debra Toney**

The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) was organized in 1971 under the leadership of Dr. Lauranne Sams.

NBNA represents 150,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, nursing students and retired nurses from the USA, Eastern Caribbean and Africa, with 79 chartered chapters, in 34 states.

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