



Hawks



Cry II

September
2017

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HawksCryII@gmail.com

 [Tuskegee Airmen Hawk's Cry II](#)



*Oldest Living Tuskegee Airman
Signs Off*

Official Newsletter of the
DETROIT CHAPTER of **TUSKEGEE AIRMEN INCORPORATED**



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E-MAIL

miguelthornton@gmail.com
zetaphil@hotmail.com
condor1L@yahoo.com
gwhitin1@yahoo.com
bettytedwhitely@att.net
majorbobtillman@gmail.com
sgtsgt209@yahoo.com
welborne313@gmail.com
HawksCryII@gmail.com
nighthawk172@yahoo.com
condor1L@yahoo.com
DetroitChapterTAInc@gmail.com

nighthawk172@yahoo.com
bsmith1995@aol.com
alexjeff01@juno.com
bettytedwhitely@att.net

PHONE

(313) 625-0457

Additional Board Members

Hugh Barrington Jr.

HFBarringtonJr@aol.com

William Thompson Jr.

Wilthom273@yahoo.com

Alternate Information Contact Information

Washington Ross
 Shirley Rankin
 William Henderson
 Donald Carter
 Brian Smith
 Detroit Chapter
 Hawk's Cry II
 Red Tail

washington@aol.com
s-rankin22@hotmail.com
wfastfac@aol.com
mccar10@att.net
bsmith1995@aol.com
DetroitChapterTAInc@gmail.com
HawksCryII@gmail.com
DetroitRedTail@gmail.com

CENTRAL REGION

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WEBSITES OF INTEREST

[Detroit Chapter website](#)
[TA National Museum website](#)
[National Organization](#)
[TA National Historic Site](#)

ON THE COVER: The oldest living Tuskegee Airman on record, Detroit Chapter's Sgt. Preston Jowers, signs the hood of "Red Tail", the 2011 Ford Mustang owned by Hawk's Cry II Editor/Publisher and used for vehicular out reach.



THE PRESIDENTS' PAGE



THE NEXT TWO CHAPTER MEETINGS

Thursday, 14 September 2017 and 12 October 2017 @ 1845 hours (6:45 p.m.)

*Please Arrive between 6:20& 6:40pm. **Doors WILL BE Locked at 6:45pm***

At 613 Abbott in Downtown Detroit (3rd and Abbott)

**REMEMBER: CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS THE 2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS**

Please Wear Tuskegee Airmen Marked Clothing to Meetings to Show Uniformity

TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN, MUCH IS REQUIRED !!!

What are we going to give to our brothers and sisters in Texas and Florida? Come to our meeting prepared to make a decision that we can implement on Friday. God bless your hearts.

YOUNG EAGLES

Every 2nd Sunday until October

(Weather Permitting)

Coleman A. Young International Airport Main Terminal

REGISTRATION

Starts at 9:30 am and cuts off at 12:00 pm

Flights Start at 10:00am

Thank you God bless you all,

Miguel Thornton

President

Detroit Chapter

Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.



The Hawk's Cry II



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Save The Date

Saturday, October 14, 2017

Trailblazers of Today
Salute Aviation Legends

"It is because of people like the Tuskegee Airmen that I am where I am. It is my responsibility and pleasure to share what I can with the next generation."

— Capt. Stephanie Johnson
Delta Airlines



Press to
Purchase
Tickets

The TUSKEGEE AIRMEN NATIONAL HISTORICAL MUSEUM

requests the pleasure of your company at our

29th Annual Salute Reception and Dinner

Saturday, October 14, 2017

6:00 pm Cocktail Reception • 7:00 pm Salute and Dinner
8:00 pm Dancing & Entertainment

Cobo Center - One Washington Blvd., Detroit, Michigan 48226



Keynote Address by:

Captain Stephanie Johnson and First Officer Dawn Cook

*The first African-American women in history
to make up the cockpit crew on a Delta Airlines mainline flight*

Tickets: \$100.00 per person

\$150.00 VIP ticket (includes private reception with original Tuskegee Airmen)

For more information call Dr. Brian Smith (313) 843-8849

Purchase tickets at tuskegeemuseum.org

Black Tie – Military Dress Uniform

SAVE THE DATE



MEN WHO DARE, INC.

A non-profit scholarship and mentoring organization

58th Annual Scholarship BLACK & WHITE BALL

Saturday, November 11, 2017

6:00 pm to 11:00 pm Dinner Served Promptly at 7:00pm

2017 Keynote Speaker



Eric W. Ayers, MD
Associate Professor Section Chief
Program Director
Internal Medicine/Pediatrics
Wayne State School of Med

Donations:

\$85*

Attire:

Formal

Sounds By:

DJ Miguel M

&

Ron Moore



MotorCity Casino Hotel

2301 Grand River Ave., Detroit, MI

Contact Information: The Men Who Dare, Inc.

618 Abbott Street • Detroit, MI. 48226 • (313) 967-5562 • Fax (313) 967-7510

Email: menwhodareinc@abcglobal.net • Website: www.menwhodare.org

**Tickets Purchased After October 31st, 2017- \$100.00*

Your Help Would Be Very Much Appreciated:

Burton Lowe

1685 Sheffield Dr.

Ypsilanti, Mich. 48198

(734) 483-3343(H) or (734) 476-1301(C)

E-mail: burtlowe@aol.com

Check out the web site: www.menwhodare.org





MILITARY HIRING FAIR

CAREER EVENT

Personal Branding • Hiring Fair • Career Planning

Date and Time

Thursday, October 12, 2017

10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location:

Oakland University

Recreation and Athletics Center
569 Pioneer Drive
Rochester, MI 48309-4482

Join local and national employers on October 12 for a hiring fair for veterans, military service members, guard, reserve, and military spouses. Jobs will be available for all ranks and levels of experience.

At 8:30 a.m., a free employment workshop for job seekers featuring resume building, networking, and interview tips. At 8:30 a.m., a free "Best Practices" workshop for employers will feature how to find the right Veteran talent and how to brand your company.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's "Hiring Our Heroes" event, sponsored by GM, is partnered locally by the Detroit Area Chamber of Commerce, Detroit VA Healthcare System, the Michigan Committee of Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve (ESGR), Michigan Veterans Service Division, Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Oakland County Veterans' Services, Vets Returning Home, Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit, the U. S. Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training Service (DOL VETS), U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs, The American Legion, NBC News and other local partners

Questions? Contact kpoynton@uschamber.com

**Employers and Military Job Seekers
register at**

HiringOurHeroes.org

Our Sponsors



Our Partners



Selfridge air show stars pay tribute to hometown hero Smith

By Gina Joseph, The Macomb Daily
POSTED: 08/18/17, 6:42 AM EDT | UPDATED: 3 WEEKS, 2 DAYS AGO

Brian Smith was chosen by Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township as the recipient of the **Thunderbird's Hometown Hero Flight**. When he was notified by the base he was surprised, feeling there were others perhaps more deserving. But his pilot agreed with the choice. "It's really cool because he is a pilot and he's done so much for the community and the youth pilot program," said Lt. Col. Kevin Walsh, who arrived at Selfridge Air National Guard Base along with five other Thunderbird pilots Thursday afternoon and would soon be meeting the hometown hero, Smith. As the pilot of the Thunderbird's No. 7 jet and an operations officer Walsh has had the opportunity to fly a number of VIP flights. The actor Gerard Butler and the astronaut Buzz Aldrin are among the celebrities he has flown over the years. Flying with a NASA legend like Aldrin was fantastic said Walsh. "In that case the roles were reversed," he said, as he was the one thrilled to death to be escorting the likes of Buzz through a cloud formation. Even Butler and several celebrity football stars including Eric Dickerson were interesting for the pilot charged with demonstrating the capabilities of the United States Air Force to the world. But none of it compares to the hometown hero program. "These are special for me because I know it's a once in a lifetime experience and to be able to share that with them is really special," Walsh said, adding it's also an honor to be able to give something back to other heroes like Smith or as one of the other Thunderbirds recalled – a firefighter in New York who was among the heroes of 911 on the scene at the World Trade Center. Smith is recently retired from General Dynamics Land Systems where he was instrumental in quantifying the injury tolerance limits induced by battlefield threats such as mine blasts and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Smith's cutting edge research in his field has influenced the design of combat vehicles for the benefit of General Dynamics and the men and women of the military. Smith is also the first black man to earn a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering at Wayne State University and for more than 30 years has been a diligent advocate and supporter of the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum where he currently serves as president and treasurer. He's also among the pilots who show up every year for the Young Eagles Rally at Detroit City Airport, which gives children in southeastern Michigan an opportunity to experience flying for free. The event, sponsored by the museum and the Detroit Tuskegee Airmen EAA Chapter 1351 along with the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum (tuskegeemuseum.org) has been going on since 1992. Over the years, more than two million young Michiganders have taken to the skies courtesy of the free flights offered by volunteer pilots like Smith. Who knows one might become a member of the Thunderbirds — who landed in the rain at Selfridge on Thursday and are expected to dazzle the crowds at the Selfridge Open House and Air Show Saturday and Sunday. It's one of the things the pilots do in addition to combat missions. Thunderbird pilot Major Whit Collins, whose father was in the Air Force and has known since he was a boy that he wanted to fly jets, was very excited as he talked about a recent mission in Afghanistan where he was able to provide the fire needed for members of an Army Special Forces group to escape a scary situation. But then he was quick to say it wasn't just him but a squadron of pilots and a big team of people on the ground that make a thundering force. Whit and Walsh along with three other Thunderbirds arrived shortly after 2 p.m. By then Smith was dressed in his flight suit, which had been decorated with several prestigious patches including one for the Air Combat Command, 57th Wing and Thunderbirds. At 4:15 p.m. he was scheduled to meet Walsh and then up and away they would go at a speed of 720 miles an hour. Smith was a little nervous but as he tells his young aviators. "If you feel like you're going to throw up, untuck your shirt, pull out your collar and release," he said, demonstrating the maneuver to the Thunderbird's public relations team.



A member of the Thunderbirds applies the prestigious patches worn by the Thunderbirds to the flight suit of Dr. Brian Smith of Detroit, who was chosen for the Hometown Hero Flight. GINA JOSEPH - THE MACOMB DAILY





SELFREDGE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Mich.-- Detroit Chapter member **Maj. Donald Davenport**, a pilot with the 171st Air Refueling Squadron, conducts a pre-flight check on a KC-135 Stratotanker, Sept. 11, prior to departing with six other crew members all based here. The two-day mission, unless re-tasked, will require the service members to transport 45 personnel from the Nebraska Army National Guard to Jacksonville to help with humanitarian efforts and clean-up after Hurricane Irma left the region devastated. (U.S. Air National Guard Photo by Master Sgt. David Kujawa)

From the 127th Wing Facebook page

Focusing on the experience

By Bill Shepard

As generations evolve, so do their wants and needs. Today, younger folks are shifting their priorities to focus on experiences that enrich their lives, rather than accumulating possessions. It's a new culture of collecting moments, not things.

A lot of time and effort goes into planning and executing events, hoping to spark something within the young people we encounter. I am proud of the work we do to mentor them and kindle their curiosity. This dedication supports the perfect venue for creating the kind of experiences that people crave. Experiences that not only educate, but inspire all ages with the life lessons of the Tuskegee Airmen.



Technology may offer a flood of information at the fingertip, but nothing can compare to awakening the senses with things that can be seen and heard first hand. When someone can have personal engagement, it creates a richer experience and makes our message that more impactful.

In my experiences with TAI and the CAF Red Tail Squadron, I've spoken to thousands of people around the country eager to learn more about the Tuskegee Airmen. And the most impactful events where people have the most memorable experiences are when community partners like museums, flying groups, schools, re-enactors, local businesses and neighboring CAF and TAI units have been invited to participate.

These groups are being challenged to not just show up or provide sponsorship, but to go to the next level and participate in a way that boosts overall crowd engagement, like hosting a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activity for kids. Simple enhancements like this can tangibly draw visitors in to the story, and gives them another reason to take a moment to stop and learn.

By striving to increase our engagement with our visitors, we will create moments they will remember and make greater strides towards honoring the Airmen and helping other take those life lessons and find their own path to achieving their dreams. Collaboration is a valuable tool to get us there!



100th Composite Squadron Home Dedication



**MORE
PICTURES
OF THE
DAY**

The 100th Composite Squadron is the latest Civil Air Patrol squadron to be activated to service Detroit. Leaders have close relationships with the Detroit Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen

Roseville 10 Mile Reunion

Detroit Chapter's Red Tail Mustang made an outreach to the Roseville (MI) 10 Mile Reunion in support of organizer, Daryl Shirley, member of the Cincinnati Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen. Roughly 50 people got a history lesson on the Tuskegee Airmen



**MORE
PICTURES
OF THE
DAY**

**P-51
RED TAIL
Out Reach**

The Hawk's Cry II



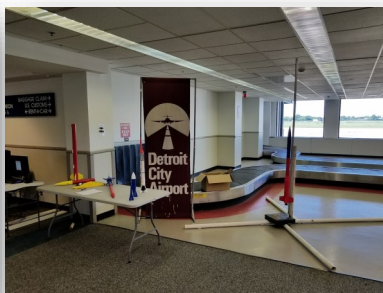
Lions v Patriots with TAI Detroit

Members of the Detroit Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen were invited to take in a Detroit Lions preseason football game against the New England Patriots. Unfortunately, the Lions lost, but the members had a great time. Later in the season, the Lions have intentions on honoring Detroit Chapter's DOTAs.



[MORE
PICTURES
OF THE
DAY](#)

August Young Eagles



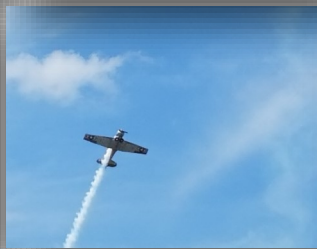
[MORE
PICTURES
OF THE
DAY](#)



**P-51
RETAIL
Out Reach**

Pontiac Air Show 2017

The Detroit Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen and the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum were in attendance at the 2017 Pontiac Air Show. Detroit Chapter's Red Tail Mustang made it's first air show appearance of the year.



**P-51
REDFAIL
Out Reach**



**MORE
PICTURES
OF THE
DAY**

New Direction Missionary Baptist



Detroit Chapter's Red Tail Mustang made an outreach to the church picnic of New Direction Missionary Baptist church. Roughly 45 people were on hand to get a history lesson on the Tuskegee Airmen



**P-51
REDFAIL
Out Reach**

**MORE
PICTURES
OF THE
DAY**

The Hawk's Cry II



Selfridge Open House Family and Friends Day 2017

The Hawk's Cry II



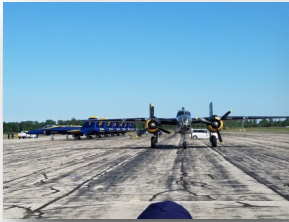
SELFTRIDGE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE in MICHIGAN CELEBRATED 100 YEARS OF MILITARY AVIATION with an open house that started with a Family and Friends day on Friday, 18 September and culminated with air shows on Saturday and Sunday, the 19th and 20th. Members of the Detroit Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen shared space and good times with the Red Tail Squadron. DOTAs Harry T. Stewart, Jr., Alexander Jefferson and Frederick Henry were onsite for the excited fans that wanted to hear stories from original Tuskegee Airmen.

MORE PICTURES OF THE DAY

**P-51
REDTAIL
Out Reach**



2017 Thunder Over Michigan



The Yankee Air Museum held their annual Thunder Over Michigan Air Show over the Labor Day Weekend. Again, members of the Detroit Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen shared space and good times with the Red Tail Squadron. DOTAs Harry T. Stewart, Jr., Alexander Jefferson, Frederick Henry and Preston Jowers were onsite for the excited fans that wanted to hear stories from original Tuskegee Airmen.

P-51
RED TAIL
Out Reach

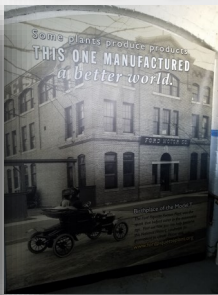
MORE
PICTURES OF THE
DAY WEEKEND 1

MORE
PICTURES OF THE
DAY WEEKEND 2

The Hawk's Cry II



Cruisin' The D & Back to the Bricks Cruise



**MORE
PICTURES OF THE
WEEKEND**



The weekend of the 19th & 20th of August was a dynamic weekend for Detroit Chapter's 2011 P-51 Red Tail Mustang. Friday started the weekend off with the Selfridge Open House Family and Friends day and Red Tail caught the clearing out of Flint's Back to the Bricks cruise Friday night. Saturday morning Red Tail participated in the Cruisin' The D cruise that started at the old Ford Piquette Plant in mid-town Detroit, cruising downtown to Grand Circus park and then back up Woodward avenue to Palmer Park. Because of it's participation in the cruise and display at Palmer Park, Red Tail won an award that allowed it to be parked on the circle at the main entrance to the Charles H Wright Museum of African American History during the weekend's African World Festival. The number of people that were reached Saturday and Sunday exceeded 100, with direct verbal contact at about 50.

**P-51
RED TAIL
Out Reach**

Albert T. Hudson dies; civic leader, Tuskegee Airmen and L.A. Police Commission's first black president was 96

Frank Shyong



When the headquarters of the Broadway Federal Bank in South Los Angeles burned down during the 1992 L.A. riots, **Elbert T. Hudson** knew exactly what to do: rebuild. He and his son Paul C. Hudson reestablished the bank, founded by Hudson's father, in a trailer across the street from the ruins of the old building. "We weren't going to let a building get in the way of the bank's mission," Paul said. Hudson, 96, died Aug. 8 at his Los Angeles home. An outspoken advocate for black issues, Hudson strove to be an agent of change for his community, his daughter Karen said. During his tenure as president and CEO of one of the first black-owned banks in Los Angeles, he extended loans and job offers to black, Asian and Latino people who were discriminated against by other banks. He mentored dozens of black youth and served as the head of the Los Angeles chapter of the NAACP. "He was firmly steeped in not only civil rights and community service, but the idea that for all your blessings you have to give something back," his daughter said. Hudson was born in 1921 in Shreveport, La., the fourth of six children. He moved to Los Angeles when he was 3 because his father, head of the local NAACP chapter, was getting death threats. He attended the 28th Street Grammar School, John Adams Junior High and Polytechnic High. His childhood was steeped in the traditions of the civil rights movement. On Sundays, after church, he helped his father sell NAACP memberships, Karen said. "He felt like he had a lot to live up to," Karen said. During World War II, Hudson flew a P-51 Mustang as member of the Tuskegee Airmen, escorting bombers on 23 combat missions in the Mediterranean theater of operations. After the war, he obtained an undergraduate degree at UCLA and earned a law degree at Loyola University. In 1963, Hudson was named to the Los Angeles Police Commission, where he became an outspoken advocate for the black community. When he was named the first black president of the panel in 1966, shortly after the Watts Riots, he did not hide his reservations about the position. "In view of the present tensions and conflicts that exist in our city today, I am not really sure whether I should thank you for electing me to the presidency," Hudson said in his acceptance remarks. Back then, the names ringing out at Police Commission meetings were not Ezell Ford and Brendon Glenn but Leonard Deadwyler and Jerry Lee Arnie, both shot and killed by LAPD officers during Hudson's tenure. Hudson urged the LAPD to learn more about minority communities, and also counseled his own community against blaming police for things they had no control over. He criticized officers for not understanding "the day-to-day oppression under which black and brown people live." He resigned his post as vice president of the commission in 1971 to take a position as head of the L.A. chapter of the NAACP. During a news conference announcing his resignation, he expressed reservations about the direction the department was taking. "I could not serve the best interests of the Police Department while serving the best interests of my organization and my community," Hudson said. His father, H. Claude Hudson, founded one of the first black-owned banks in L.A. in 1946, and Hudson took over the bank in 1972. As president and CEO, Hudson focused less on profits and more on growing minority neighborhoods, his daughter said. Loans from Broadway Federal Bank helped establish Ward African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Second Baptist Church and the Lewis Metropolitan Christian Methodist Episcopal Church and several black neighborhoods in South Los Angeles. His friends and family remember a man of humility and quiet strength who strove to be a role model for those around him. He was a highly disciplined man who woke up for a 5 a.m. walk around the neighborhood every day, maintaining the regimen well into his 80s. He took his family to the beach every Sunday, Karen said, and made pancakes for her sleepovers. Hudson was a consummate gentleman, but never stood on ceremony, "as happy with a hot dog as a steak," Karen said. He chose his words carefully, but he was not afraid to raise his voice. He eschewed a political career and instead spent much of his time mentoring dozens of men and women and supporting the children in his neighborhood. "He was so much to so many," Paul said. "From war hero to civil rights activist, from legal advisor to community banker, from friend to mentor. But to me, he was everything." Memorial services have not yet been announced. Donations in lieu of flowers should be sent to the Marilyn Project at the Ebony Repertory Theatre at 4718 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90016.

Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors

2009 Edition

Phone Numbers

Bereavement Counseling.....	1-202-461-6530
Education.....	1-888-442-4551
Headstones and Markers.....	1-800-697-6947
Health Care.....	1-877-222-8387
Homeless veterans.....	1-877-222-8387
Home Loans.....	1-877-827-3702
Life Insurance.....	1-800-669-8477
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.....	1-800-273-8255
Pension Management Center.....	1-877-294-6380
Special Health Issues.....	1-800-749-8387

**Telecommunication Device
for the Deaf (TDD) 1-800-829-4833
VA Benefits 1-800-827-1000**

Web Sites

VA Home Page.....	www.va.gov
Education Benefits.....	www.gibill.va.gov
Health Care Eligibility.....	www.va.gov/healtheligibility
Burial and Memorial Benefits.....	www.cem.va.gov
Returning Service Members.....	www.oefoif.va.gov
Home Loan Guaranty	www.homeloans.va.gov
Records	www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel
VA Benefit Payment Rates.....	www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/rates
VA Forms.....	www.va.gov/vaforms
Mental Health.....	www.mentalhealth.va.gov
Federal Jobs.....	www.usajobs.opm.gov
Veterans Preference.....	www.opm.gov/veterans/index.asp
Employment Assistance.....	www.vetsuccess.gov
Veterans Employment and Training.....	www.dol.gov/vets

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program

Life Insurance.....	www.insurance.va.gov
Department of Defense.....	www.defenselink.mil

EDITOR'S CORNER

Original Tuskegee Airmen Signed Certificates of Appreciation

Refreshed with new background and now with the
signatures of 12 Detroit Chapter DOTA's.

The certificates come in six (6) different ribbon color
combinations;

- Yellow text on Black background
- Black on Yellow
- Yellow on Red
- Red on Yellow
- Yellow on Blue
- Blue on Yellow
- Green on White and
- White on Green

Inquire with HawksCryII@gmail.com to get your
electronic version.



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Eric Palmer

TAI-Detroit Chapter Newsletter Publisher/Editor

HawksCryII@Gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Bill Welborne

welborne313@gmail.com

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**Tuskegee Army Airmen, Inc.
Detroit Chapter
P.O. Box 44825 Detroit, MI 48244**



ATTENTION ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS: To ensure we have adequate coverage of local activities, please get your local and recent Tuskegee Airmen related news stories to the editor ASAP. Contact info inside

