Military, Law Enforcement News, and More...

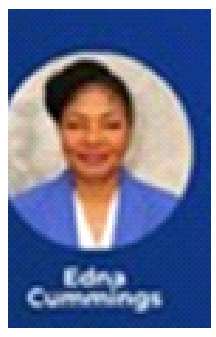
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority announces retired U.S. Army Col. Edna Cummings of historic WWII 6888th Central Postal Battalion among honorees into its Alpha Omega Chapter

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, one of the country's largest women's service organizations, is delighted to announce the induction of 12 distinguished women as Honorary Members into its Alpha Omega Chapter. These accomplished women have demonstrated outstanding commitment to civic engagement and the advancement of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.'s principles, Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, and Finer Womanhood, said a spokesman for the organization.

The 2023 Honorary Member Class reflects the diversity and brilliance of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated! As the number one service organization, we are proud to extend membership to those who work aligned with Zeta's principles."

International First Vice President for Membership, Gina Merritt-Epps, Esq., emphasized, "Today's historic induction is evidence of our commitment to the vision of our Five Founders, who were very intentional when choosing new members."

The induction ceremony took place on September 19, 2023 on the campus of Howard University, where these remarkable individuals were officially welcomed into Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. as Honorary Members.



WWII veteran Col. Edna Cummings

Dr. Stacie NC Grant, International President and CEO, enthusiastically shared, "Our 2023 Honorary Member Class reflects the diversity and brilliance of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated! As the number one service organization, we are proud to extend membership to those who work aligned with Zeta's principles."

The new Honorary Members are:

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Ms. Cummings led the charge for the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, an all African-American female battalion, to receive the Six Triple Eight Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2021 and other recognitions. Ms. Cummings has garnered numerous awards for her business and marketing acumen. She will work closely with Zeta Phi Beta's Military Appreciation Program, International Women of Color Initiative, and programs focused on women entrepreneurs.

Jericka Duncan is an award-winning national news correspondent. She currently works for CBS and on various specialty programs on Black Entertainment Network (BET). Ms. Duncan is a Zeta Phi Beta legacy, she comes from a longline of Zeta Phi Beta legacy members, specifically her grandmother, great aunts, and aunts.

Dionne James is the creator of multiple million dollar businesses such as SOULtions Hair Care System. Ms. James is one of the first African American women to own a trucking company in the United States.

Jennifer "Jennie" Joseph is a TIME Magazine Woman of the Year 2022 for her dedication to bringing awareness to the alarming rate of black maternal mortality. Ms. Jennie's organization, Commonsense Childbirth, Equitable Perinatal Care, is the first black-owned licensed midwifery school in the country.

Chrisette Michele is a Grammy Award winning R&B, soul and gospel singer and songwriter, best known for her very successful albums, "Epiphany" and her musical collaborations with a wide variety of artists, including Jay Z, TD Jakes, and John Legend.

Ann Nesby best known as the VOICE of Sounds of Blackness, this two time Grammy award winning singer, songwriter, actress, and community advocate, her talents can be found in front of and behind the camera. She appeared in the movie, Fighting Temptation, and on stage plays such as Tyler Perry's, "I Know I've Been Changed." Most recently, the legendary singer is playing the role of Gran Georgeanna in the hit musical "Tina-The Tina Turner Musical."

Tina Rodriguez is the Senior Director of Programming and Acquisition for aspireTV as well as sources content for UP Entertainments sister networks and platforms.

Melinda Santiago is the CEO of The Santiago Firm LLC, an entertainment services firm, and the CEO of Santi Media Group, LLC a multi-media company with three divisions, Santi-Books -the book publishing division, Santi Music - the record label division, and Santi Films -the film and television production division, she is a serial entrepreneur in the entertainment industry.

Rashida Tlaib is the one of two Muslims elected to the United States Congress and the first Muslim woman to serve in the Michigan Legislature.

Debra Vines is the 2022 Top 10 CNN Hero for her unwavering efforts to educate and provide services to individuals with and families caring for loved ones who have been diagnosed with autism. Through her organization, THE ANSWER, INC., she champions this cause.

Anita Wilson is a three time Grammy Award nominee, gospel recording artist, and record label owner and executive. Ms. Wilson will let her 'Zeta light' shine with the American Cancer Society, Domestic Violence Initiative Program, Mental Health Awareness, St. Jude, Zetas Have Heart, and Zeta Phi Beta youth auxiliary groups.

Roslyn Young-Daniels is the president and founder of BLACK HEALTH MATTERS, an organization that seeks to educate and elevate communities about various health topics through community summits, educational sessions and online resources.

As Honorary Members, these women will have the opportunity to work closely with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. in advancing its philanthropic initiatives and promoting social welfare.

For more information about Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated and its latest Honorary Members, please visit www.zphib1920.org

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was founded on January 16, 1920, on the campus of Howard University and has since grown to become one of the most prestigious and impactful organizations worldwide.

TEMA and the Tennessee Department of Veterans Services partner for free weather radio distribution

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) and Tennessee Department of Veterans Services (TDVS) have partnered to provide emergency supplies to Tennesseans during National Preparedness Month.

"Ensuring that you and your family have a way to receive prompt emergency notifications can make an incredible difference during a disaster," said TEMA Director Patrick Sheehan. "These weather radios will provide essential notifications in the event of an emergency. We are thrilled to partner with the Tennessee Department of Veterans Services to provide this resource to Tennesseans across the state."

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The kits include a NOAA weather radio, preparedness information, and resources for veterans.

"National Preparedness Month is a reminder of the importance of readiness for all Tennesseans. This partnership with TEMA allows us to use our reach to ensure that Veterans across the state are well-equipped to face emergencies," said TDVS Commissioner Tommy Baker. "These kits not only provide essential supplies but also exemplify the state's commitment to the safety and well-being of those in the Veteran community."

Kits will be available at each of the Tennessee Department of Veterans Services field office locations on a first come, first served basis beginning October 2. Limited quantities are available.

This event comes as National Preparedness Month efforts wrap up across the state. National Preparedness Month is observed each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

To learn more about how you and your family can be ready before disasters, visit www.tn.gov/tema/prepare.

About the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency: TEMA's mission is to coordinate preparedness, response and recovery from man-made, natural and technological hazards in a professional and efficient manner in concert with our stakeholders. Follow TEMA on Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, and at tn.gov/tema.

Tennessee Highway Patrol graduates 28 state troopers

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - On September 22, Governor Bill Lee, Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security Commissioner Jeff Long and Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) Colonel Matt Perry welcomed the newest graduating classes of Tennessee State Troopers at the Hermitage Hills Baptist Church in Nashville.

"Law enforcement is more than a career - it's a calling. The Tennessee Highway Patrol plays an important role in protecting Tennesseans, and I commend you for answering this important call to protect and serve our state," said Governor Lee. "Tennessee stands with law enforcement, and we'll continue to make strong investments to put additional officers on Tennessee roads, support our officers with high-quality training, and provide the resources needed to protect Tennessee communities."

The THP simultaneously instructed regular Trooper Cadet Class 923 and lateral Trooper Cadet Class 823. The regular cadet class graduated 13 troopers who completed 17 weeks of rigorous training to prepare them for their new law enforcement career. The lateral cadet class graduated 15 troopers who completed 11 weeks of specialized training, which was designed to build upon their previous law enforcement training and experience. Each member of lateral Class 823 is a prior Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified law enforcement officer.

"You were given the opportunity to join one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the country and through the hard work and perseverance you've shown during the months of difficult physical and academic training you've earned the right to be a Tennessee State Trooper," said Commissioner Jeff Long. "You now have the privilege and the responsibility to serve the people of our great state. Congratulations on this tremendous accomplishment."

Trooper Cadet Class 923 included five cadets with prior military service and three cadets with bachelor's degrees. Lateral Trooper Cadet Class 823 graduated 14 POST-certified law enforcement officers from Tennessee and one from the State of Virginia. Class 823 included three cadets with bachelor's degrees, three cadets with associate degrees, and seven cadets with prior military service.

"Joining any law enforcement agency makes you a part of

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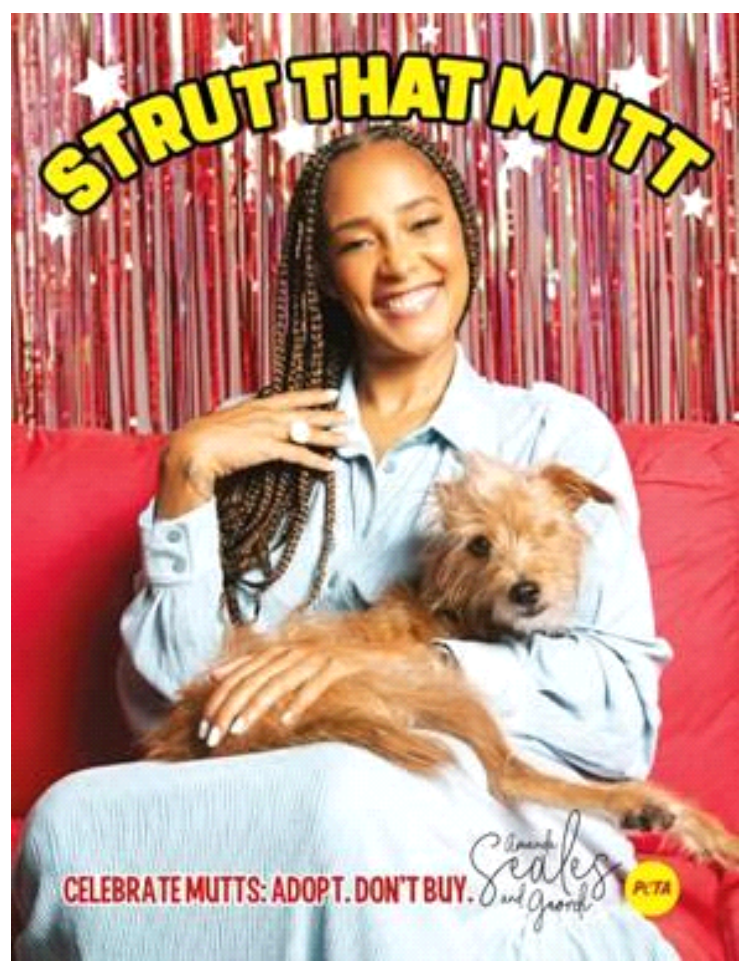
Welcome, Travelers!

***See** The Mid-South Tribune's 2022 Juneteenth Edition on Black Information Highway.com*

See The Mid-South Tribune's 28th Annual Black History Month Special Edition on the Black Information Highway.com on the Black History Lane

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's Education & Economics Special Edition.

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