

LOCAL / REGIONAL

# Patricia Carter Coppin to hold book signing on Feb. 25

By Camm Ashford

Howard High School graduate Patricia Carter Coppin will hold a book signing for "Heart Notes Devotional" on Feb. 25.

The event will be held at The Besie Smith Cultural Center, 200 East Martin Luther King Blvd., beginning at 4 p.m.

"Heart Notes Devotional" was inspired by a beloved cousin who was battling cancer, Coppin said.

"It began when a cousin of mine became ill, and I started sending her just something to lift her up every day, just a word or two," she recalled.

Coppin's cousin eventually passed away, but she kept sending out daily devotionals to friends and family.

"And people started liking them," she noted.

Eventually, Coppin decided to compile her inspirational messages into "Heart Notes Devotional," which she describes as "a 90-day journey utilizing God-given words to express the endless love of God."

Coppin said "Heart Notes Devotional" is particularly relevant now as the nation continues to battle the covid pandemic, rising inflation, racial tensions, and other pressing issues.

"I wanted the book to be an inspi-

ration during the times that we're going through," she said. "And to remind people of God's grace and His intent for us to be loving and kind towards each other."

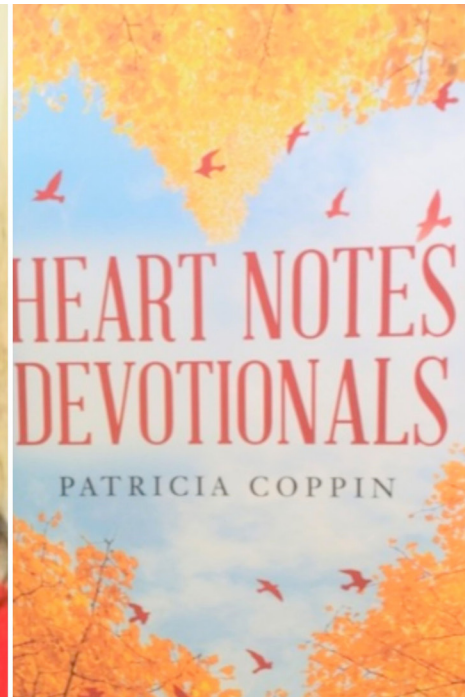
On a personal note, Coppin said her passion centers around history and heritage. And she enjoys "using past historical facts as primary tools to teach us to thrive and prosper in the future."

Coppin, who currently lives in Decatur, Georgia, is a native of Chattanooga. She spent her formative years in the Alton Park community and attended Frank H. Trotter Elementary School and the historic Howard High School.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree from Knoxville College, Coppin went on to earn her Master of Arts degree in Gerontology Administration from Fisk University.

In 1994, she founded Community Alert Inc., a non-profit geriatric and family resource center, where she continues to serve as program director.

Coppin is an active member of numerous religious, civic and social organizations, including the Super Saints senior ministry at Spirit & Truth Sanctuary in Decatur, Georgia; Leading Age Georgia, where she serves on the Georgia Institute on Aging Board of Directors; and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, among others.



Patricia Carter Coppin describes her book "Heart Notes Devotional" as "a 90 day journey utilizing God-given words to express the endless love of God."

Both the mayor of Atlanta and the Fulton Board of Commissioners have proclaimed a day in Coppin's honor. She has also received the Mayor's Point of Light Award and the Stone Mountain-Lithonia Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women,

Inc.'s Bold and Fearless Advocacy Award for community contribution for Nutritional Education and Obesity Prevention.

Coppin is also the author of "Past People Present Poems."

## Mayor Kelly cont.

shepherd along these important initiatives to overhaul our land use, zoning and enforcement rules."

Anderson served on the Chattanooga City Council from 2013 to 2017, while also serving as chair of the council's Economic and Community Development Committee. During his term, Anderson was elected by his national peers to serve on the board of directors of the National League of Cities, also serving on the board of directors of the Tennessee Municipal League. He is a

lifelong Chattanooga who lives in Jefferson Heights with his dogs Madison and Jefferson.

Subject to confirmation by City Council, Kelly tapped Tim Moreland to fill Anderson's former role as administrator of the Department of Innovation Delivery and Performance.

Moreland is the deputy administrator of the Department of Innovation Delivery and Performance where he helps direct the city's innovation and performance efforts. Prior to that he was the founding director of the Office of Performance Management and Open Data at the City of Chattanooga. There he and his small team work to make the city more citizen focused and data driven in their delivery of services. He has over 5 years of experience leading the City of Chattanooga's data driven efforts.

If confirmed by the City Council, Moreland would continue to work to ensure that departments are effectively leveraging data to deliver the more efficient and effective service to city residents. The administrator of Innovation Delivery and Performance also oversees OPMOD and 311.

The mayor also appointed Dylan Rivera to join his staff as the director of policy planning and implementation, filling the role vacated by Brooke Satterfield when she was promoted to deputy chief of staff.

Rivera will help guide strategic initiatives, working with departments across the city to help implement the mayor's One Chattanooga strategy.

Rivera formerly served as the director of innovation special projects in the Department of Innovation Delivery and Performance, and worked as assis-

tant political director for Kelly's mayoral campaign. In other roles, Rivera served as project manager for the Southeast Tennessee Development District and as lead researcher for the prescription drug monitoring program, EirSystems. He attended the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where he studied public policy and criminal justice reform.

Kelly also appointed Kimberly Strong, who has worked in various roles within the city since 1993, to fill the important role of constituent services coordinator. As constituent services coordinator, Strong will support both the Mayor Kelly and members of City Council by responding to resident inquiries, calls and complaints, ensuring that constituents receive the best possible service.

Strong previously served as a public information specialist for the City of Chattanooga Water Quality Program, where she served as a liaison between the department and the public. Prior to that role, she served as the recycling coordinator for the city, where she oversaw a \$750,000 budget and ensured compliance with local, state and federal guidelines.

Strong has been honored multiple times as a Chamber of Commerce Volunteer of the Year, has received multiple recognitions from Girls Inc. of Chattanooga in the Unbought and Unbossed awards. She has also been honored as Public Works' Employee of the Year, and has served as chair of the diversity, equity and inclusion committee for the American Public Works Association.

The appointments of Mosley Jones and Moreland are subject to City Council confirmation, and will not become effective until they have been confirmed.

## Fisk University cont.

explosive or suspicious device. Students were asked to shelter in place and employees were told to report to the Library to shelter.

As of 11 a.m., Carnegie Hall and Cravath hall were cleared. Students, faculty and staff who do not live on campus are urged to leave. Residential students have been asked to remain in their residence halls. Campus security has increased the number of uniformed officers on campus for Monday.

The report comes as after a string of bomb threats have been made to HBCUs across the country. At least a half-dozen historically Black universities in five states and the District of Columbia reported responding to bomb threats in recent weeks, with many of them locking down their campuses for a time.

On February 2, Fisk President Dr. Vann Newkirk Sr. released a memo related to campus bomb threats at HBCUs and stated that the University has increased safety measures. Also on Wednesday, February 2, the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Forces released a statement confirming that the agency will lead an investigation into a nationwide series of bomb threats to HBCUs and houses of worship. The threats will be investigated as hate crimes.

"This investigation is of the highest priority for the Bureau and involves more than 20 FBI field offices across the country," the statement read. "These threats are being investigated as racially or ethnically motivated violent extremism and hate crimes."

This is a developing story.

## Chatt Police Dept. PUBLIC SAFETY Warning

CPD Narcotics Investigators are issuing a public safety warning after a recent uptick of overdose deaths that they suspect are related to fentanyl. Since Feb 1, Chattanooga has seen 10 overdose deaths in what is a part of the nationwide opioid crisis. If you are struggling with a substance abuse problem, please reach out to the Hamilton County Coalition / M. L. King Weed & Seed. They have resources ready and available to anyone who may need them. If you have a friend or loved one who is struggling with this please be mindful of the current environment for opioid users. It appears to be particularly dangerous for them right now

## Orchard Knob Missionary Baptist Church

P R E S E N T S

# Brotherhood Week

## Theme: "The Cross of Christian Discipleship"

Mathew: 16:24

### FEBRUARY 15 -20, 2021

#### Tuesday: Virtual Workshop

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Rev. Lurone (Coach) Jennings, Hope City Church, Chattanooga

#### Wednesday: Prayer Service and Bible Study

6:00pm - 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom

6:30pm - 7:30pm Adult Bible Study - Min. William Clemons, OKMBC

6:30pm - 7:30pm Youth Bible Study - Trevor Hunt, Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church - Nashville, TN

#### Thursday: Virtual Work Workshop

6:30pm - 7:30pm Adults - Rev. Ronald Cook, Rock Island Missionary Baptist Church, Chattanooga

#### Friday: Virtual Youth Activities

6:30pm - 7:30pm Bro. Maquis Creech, OKMBC

#### Saturday: Community Food Give-Away

12:00 noon - Until - OKMBC Parking Lot

#### Sunday: Worship Service - 9:30am

Rev. Dr. Christopher Davis Sr., Senior Pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church, Memphis, TN.



Rev. Dr. Chistopher Davis Sr., Senior Pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church and President of the Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Education Convocation

Brotherhood Adult Zoom Meeting ID: 817 4474 0710 Passcode: 384942

Brotherhood Youth Zoom Meeting ID: 339 119 9093 Passcode: BW2021