

## REGIONAL / NATIONAL

**Tennessee Tribune's Second Store Opens at Nashville Airport**

By Tribune Staff

NASHVILLE, TN — Nashville International Airport (BNA – which stands for Berry Field Nashville in honor of Colonel Harry S. Berry, the airport's first administrator.) and Skyport Hospitality announced the opening of the 2nd Tennessee Tribune Store which changed the landscape of airport retail properties in Tennessee on Friday, October 28, 2022, with 40 diverse vendors. The arduous process began three years ago with 432 applications desiring to join Fraport- USA's efforts to convert BNA into the crown jewel of airports. Miller-Perry a proud US Navy veteran said that Douglas E. Kreulen, A.A.E. President and CEO Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority, made sure that women and minorities had access to all opportunities for the first time in the history of the airport (established in 1937). Kreulen had a stellar career prior to coming to Nashville including serving in the United States Air Force for 27 years, earning the rank of Colonel. Kreulen is also a decorated war veteran, earning the Bronze Star (Kosovo), Legion of Merit, Defense Superior Service Medal, Air Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal.

For over 30 years, Rosetta Miller-Per-

ry known for promoting equal opportunities and growth in the evolution of minority-and women-owned businesses and suppliers, as well as fostering the advancement of civil rights and equal opportunities in the Atlanta region as inaugural director to the Nashville Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Wanda Miller-Benson, associate publisher at the Tribune, stated that "Nashville's culture resonates for tourists and BNA is the destination location for all international travelers, since Music City is a popular entertainment paradise in the United States."

The second Tennessee Tribune News Store is pre-security with similar items as Tn Tribune Store #1. So customers can buy from a vendor when bringing someone for departure without going through security or just come out to BNA to purchase items from all Black Nashville vendors, from popcorn, liquor, tea and coffee to \$135 sorority purses.

The Tennessee Tribune store is among many Nashville favorites including: 360 Degrees, Vino Fiesta, Party Fowl, Acme Feed and Seed, The Southern, Swett's and a host of other popular concepts fill the 133,000 square feet through the year 2029.



Shown l-r at the Tribune Store opening at BNA are Teresa Hurd, Matt Jennings, Teresa Danko, Chase Anderson, Tennessee Tribune Publisher Rosetta Miller-Perry, and Doug Kreulen

## COMMENTARY

**Is the State Trying to Take Over TSU?**

By William T. Robinson Jr.

You would think that everyone associated with Tennessee State University would be ecstatic at the unprecedented enrollment of students this year but that

doesn't seem to be the case. It appears as if some Tennessee lawmakers in our legislature are questioning the influx of proud and anxious students excited about at-

tending TSU which is considered a premier starship HBCU in our nation. Maybe unbeknownst to some of TSU critics that TSU is a well respected starship university recognized and respected throughout the country for its prolific and stellar alumni making significant gains in all areas of achievement throughout the country and the world. TSU is unapologetically a force to be reckoned with despite what many feel is a movement by many of our very own Tennessee lawmakers to bring it down.

This feeling of displeasure for TSU in its endeavors is fueled by what some see as legislators persistent in denying TSU adequate funding to meet basic operational needs. Instead of working to help build TSU up there are those that seem to be adamant in trying to bring TSU down. It should be no surprise that some of these legislators, UT supporters, and alumni of UT are more that partial in making sure UT gets all the funding and amenities it need to prosper, relegating TSU to the back burner. Regardless of the lack of support from the state, TSU has continued to grow its curriculum, establishing new programs and making a significant difference in the community.

Recently, TSU has come under fire for lack of housing for its new students, but the public is unaware the TSU administration was denied funding by the state

for 12 hotels they requested. I could only imagine would funding for housing be denied to UT if requested. But of course, because of more than adequate funding, UT has been able to build the housing necessary for its students. Isn't it ironic that any improprieties happening at UT is covered up while anything questionable is made public by the media to depict TSU in a negative light?

The state may not be too happy because TSU is owed land grant funds denied to TSU by the state since the fifties. It wouldn't be surprising to conclude that the state may be trying to do everything possible to present TSU's administration as incompetent and unable to manage it own financial matters.

This causes many to question "Is the state trying to find a way not to give TSU all of the land grant monies owed? If not, why is the state trying to come in at this time, disrupting the best time TSU has had in a long time with its impressive unprecedented enrollment.

It is insulting and degrading to imply that TSU is negligent in being able to manage its money. TSU has been able rise and sustain despite efforts by the state denying them funds to succeed. Call it what you will, but some would call it blatant discriminatory practices against TSU.

**The Cost of This Year's Thanksgiving Has Run A-Fowl**

Nationwide —Thelma Jones, a 90-year-old Black woman from Southfield, Michigan, recently earned her 5th-degree black belt in Isshinryu karate and she's not planning to just stop there.

Jones has been practicing karate for 50 years and still continues taking karate lessons 3 times a week at Southfield Martial Arts despite her age.

Her instructor, Willie Adams, who is a 77-year-old grandmaster with a 10th-degree black belt, said that anyone who knows Miss Jones would say that she is "tough."

"It really does teach you to listen, behind you, in front, and be aware of all

things," Jones told Fox 2 Detroit.

In fact, there were times Jones had to use her karate skills to fight off criminals. When she was 60 years old, she was able to defend herself from robbers at a bus stop.

Just recently, she felt a suspicious man was following her. She said she was able to elude the man skillfully because of the senses she developed through karate and she didn't have to fight him off anymore.

Moreover, Jones, who maintains her shape at her age, wants to motivate others to do the same. She said, "Take care of your body, take care of your mind, and think a situation through before you react."

**Meet Kescha Wilson, the HBCU Grad Who Mentored FBI Agents, Law Enforcement Officers and High Powered Career Women**

By Arthia Nixon, The Ambassador Agency

Nationwide — Kescha Wilson, the mom who mentored both FBI agents and members of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and whose talents as a nuclear scientist helped her dismantle meth labs, is now teaching women in high-level executive careers to extinguish exhaustion and balance their personal and professional commitments.

Wilson details the strategies in her book, *The Power of Ease: A Blueprint For Women Leaders To Put Yourself*

First While Managing A Thriving Home Life And A Legacy-Driven Career. She also creates strategies for individuals wanting to reprioritize their work-life structure. The book and resources were birthed from her own experience of feeling T.I.R.E.D (like Turning In Resignations Every Day). She says some of her clients express they feel the same after

experiencing microaggressions, workplace trauma, fatigue from being resilient for too long, and even feeling like they have to sacrifice their well-being in order to have it all.

"I know firsthand what it is like to seemingly have it all but feeling like I would be buried under the weight of it sometimes," said Wilson. "It's even more challenging to have a demanding career, manage the responsibilities of home, and navigate some of life's devastating and unexpected events. It is possible to have it all. You have to define what having it all means to you. Burn-out can happen but understanding your individual recipe for it and customizing a plan to get ahead of it is vital."

Wilson's story begins in Crystal Springs, Mississippi where she was raised by parents who were education professionals. She later graduated with honors from Alcorn State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry and was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society. She is also a former member of MAMP (Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation), a program dedicated to advancing the talents of STEM students in underrepresented groups.

As a chemist in Tennessee's Nuclear Fuel Services (NFS), Wilson became the front-line supervisor whose duties involved conducting lab testing on nuclear fuel for naval submarines and aircraft carriers as well as other enriched uranium products. She later joined the

North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation as a Special Agent and Forensic Chemist. Wilson was an expert witness in drug chemistry and was certified in dismantling clandestine laboratories used to make methamphetamine. Following the September 11th, 2001 attacks, she enlisted in the FBI as a Special Agent where she conducted highly sensitive investigations assigned to multiple divisions including Louisville, New York City, and Washington, DC. She also mentored and counseled hundreds of high-performing professionals through the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

These days, Wilson has found her balance as a wife, parent, and caregiver to her aging mother while teaching women to shift through her personal development company, Design Her Queendom®. Through this company, she has led high-achieving professionals through burnout recovery and guided them to realign their lives to their value system.

"I want to help resilient women leaders reprioritize themselves while managing the demands of career and responsibilities of home," Wilson says. "While it is great to perform well, we must also learn to prioritize ourselves so that we can give our best to others."