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# Chattanooga • News Chronicle

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Complimentary

## Remembering “Lu ‘The REAL DEAL’ Peterson” In Our Hearts & Memories!



Lu “Spooky” Peterson performs at The Mayor’s Mansion



The Fatalians: L-R: Joseph “Lucky” Scott, Spooky Peterson, Paul McKibbins, and Thomas “Dopey” Griffith

By Ron Griffin -  
**MEMORIAL TRIBUTE** - Luther “Spooky” Peterson was a well-known local musician and entertainer. He retired as a driver from Alexian Brothers. He was a member of The Masonic Order. He performed with local music groups such as Peterson, Harden & Mack, Broad St. Exit, Love, Peace & Happiness, Strictly Rhythm, The Sensations, and many others. He was a 1968 graduate of Riverside

High School and was also known for his delicious BBQ. It was on the Chicago music scene where Spooky focused on the Congo Drums, the flute and also mastered the Kalimba (African thumb piano made famous by Maurice White of Earth, Wind and Fire). In 1983, Spooky was hired as the percussionist/ background vocalist for the late great Curtis Mayfield. Spooky toured

extensively with Curtis until Mayfield had to suspend for health reasons. Mr. Peterson garnered the Johari Lounge “Entertainer of the Year” in 1988 and in 2016 Luther Peterson was awarded The Lifetime Achievement Award by the Mary Walker Foundation. This award was

given to Luther Peterson in appreciation for his talented and unselfish contribution to Chattanooga music. After touring with Curtis Mayfield, Luther Peterson chose marriage, kids and

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**17TH ANNUAL TRI-OCTAVES CONCERT**

**BENEFIT CONCERT FOR BETHLEHEM CENTER**

SONGS INSPIRED BY CLASSIC MOVIES

**DEC. 2 AT 7 PM & DEC. 3 AT 6 PM**

8645 E. BRAINERD RD., CHATTANOOGA, TN

Chattanooga, TN, December 2 & 3, 2022 - The 17th annual Tri-Octaves Concert, benefiting The Bethlehem Center, will be sure to get you in the Christmas spirit! There are two identical shows to choose from: Friday, December 2 at 7:00 pm and Saturday, December 3 at 6:00 pm. Both of these free concerts will be held at Christ United Methodist Church on East Brainerd Road (across from Publix). Willie Kitchens, Michael Rodgers, and Doug Richeson come together each December to perform as The Tri-Octaves. This unique Christmas concert features the trio and backing band that bring range in both vocals and style. This year the Tri-Octaves will be performing Christmas songs to the tune of classic movie themes. The Tri-Octaves put the FUN in fundraising; with proceeds from both concerts benefiting The Bethlehem Center. The Bethlehem Center has served the City of South Chattanooga for 102 years. Inspired by the gospel, The Beth builds lasting relationships with Chattanooga’s youth and families by encouraging spiritual growth, education, and leadership development. The Bethlehem Center has deep roots in the community, and has acted as a leader in strategic planning, after school literacy, education, economic development, and poverty awareness. The

Bethlehem Center’s primary educational program, the Read to Lead Academy, is focused on literacy, math, science, technology, arts, culture, and more. The program provides students a safe place during out-of-school time where they can grow academically, socially, and spiritually, with a more recent emphasis on Social-Emotional Learning. For more information, please visit our website at [www.thebeth.org](http://www.thebeth.org) or call (423) 266-1384. **Willie Kitchens**, formerly of the Impressions, is a Chattanooga music legend. He began singing as a young child with his family in church and continued his passion of music throughout adulthood. Over the years, he taught himself to play the harmonica, piano, and electric keyboards. Kitchens has performed and ministered everywhere from colleges, to prisons, to touring with Eric Clapton during his time with the Impressions. Kitchens also performed for luminaries including South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu. And most recently he was inducted into the Tri-State Gospel Music Hall of Fame. **Doug Richeson** was “discovered” by his aunt that lived across the street when she heard the 12-year old singing “Love Lifted Me” while mowing

the lawn. He has been blessed to have performed on the same stage as Bill and Gloria Gaither, Howard and Vestal Goodman, Greg and Janna Long, Andre Crouch, and Jerry Reed as well as work with Dove award winner arranger and writer Lari Goss. He was also honored to receive an invitation to audition with the Gaither Vocal Band and was humbled when he was awarded the grand prize in the vocal competition at the 23rd annual Christian Artists Seminar in Estes Park, CO. In total Richeson’s music ministry has spanned over 40 years and includes the release of 5 separate recordings. **Michael Rodgers** has been a member of the Knoxville Opera Company for over 30 years and currently serves on their Board of Directors. Rodgers is a regional and local soloist for the United Methodist Church and a soloist with the Knoxville MLK Commission Choir. He was recently awarded the 2020 MLK-Arts Award. Rodgers has performed with several regional and local opera companies, Knoxville Opera, Symphony of the Mountains, Chattanooga Symphony and Opera, and the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra.

## Commissioner Clarence Carter announces \$500 Christmas bonus for Tennessee’s Families First participants



Tennessee Department of Human Services Commissioner Clarence H. Carter on Monday announced that his office is providing extra support this Christmas to thousands of families who receive monthly cash assistance through the state’s Families First Program.

By Camm Ashford - Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) Commissioner Clarence H. Carter on Monday announced a \$500 Christmas bonus for families who receive monthly cash assistance through the state’s Families

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## ‘Y’all,’ that most Southern of Southernisms, is going mainstream – and it’s about time



The use of ‘y’all’ has often been seen as vulgar, low-class and uncultured. That’s starting to change. Southern Living magazine once described “y’all” as “the quintessential Southern pronoun.” It’s as iconically Southern as sweet tea and grits. While “y’all” is considered slang, it’s a useful word nonetheless. The English language doesn’t have a good second person plural pronoun; “you” can be both singular and plu-

ral, but it’s sometimes awkward to use as a plural. It’s almost like there’s a pronoun missing. “Y’all” fills that second person plural slot – as does “you guys,” “youse,” “you-uns” and a few others. I’m interested in “y’all” because I was born in North Carolina and grew up saying it. I still do, probably a couple dozen times a day, usually without intention or even awareness. As a historian who has researched the

early history of the word, I’m also interested in how the word’s use has changed over the years. Like something a ‘hillbilly redneck’ would say “Y’all” might serve an important function, but it has acquired negative connotations. Back in 1886, The New York Times ran a piece titled “Odd Southernisms” that described “y’all” as

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### Attention Readers

Print Schedule: Dec. 1, 15, 29

Weekly content will still be available on our website and social media

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