



Panelists expound on police culture at forum

By Shanderia K. Posey
Editor

Jackson Mayor Tony Yarber held a community forum titled "Us and Them: A Conversation on Race, Black Lives and the Police," at 6 p.m. July 28, in the Murrah High School auditorium.

The purpose of the event was to generate real, honest conversation regarding recent events across the nation involving

police shootings of unarmed black men as well as the shooting deaths of police officers. It also highlighted Jackson's community policing efforts and aimed to increase understanding of police culture.

About 100 people came to hear from several panelists representing local law enforcement agencies, community and national groups as well as youth.

Panelists included Maisie Brown, a student at Jim Hill High School; Minister Abram Muhammad, the State Representative of Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam; Allen White, Jackson assistant police chief; Lee Vance, Jackson police chief; Gail Lowery, special assistant to the city attorney; John Knight, director of Jackson Cares; Kim Robinson, program manager with Children's Defense Fund Southern Regional Office; Victor Mason, Hinds County sheriff; and Luke Thompson, Byram police chief.

The event was moderated by Othor Cain, local media personality. One of the first questions he presented was directed to Thompson. Cain asked that in light of events around the country merged

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School, safety back in session

The Mississippi Link Newswire

As summer vacation comes to an end, yellow school buses, new teen drivers and other young travelers will join the daily commuters in the morning traffic. Although many will be focused on getting to school or work on time, the Mississippi Department of Transportation encourages all Mississippians to make safety their top priority.

INSIDE

Check out The Mississippi Link's annual Back To School supplement inside of today's paper.



Students all over Mississippi will take to school buses, car-pool lines, bicycles and sidewalks to return to their classrooms. With schools back in session, MDOT reminds motorists to share the roads safely with proper precautions. According to the National Safe Routes to School Program, more children are hit by cars near schools than any other location. With the school year beginning, it is imperative for motorists to travel with care through areas where children are present, especially school zones.

MDOT offers many resources for driver safety education, including programs for parents, teens and educators at GOMDOT.com/safetyschool. MDOT's Survive Your Drive Y'all includes multiple safety education programs designed to encourage preventative safety measures, provide community outreach and raise awareness about the importance of seat belt usage, child passenger safety, and the dangers of impaired and distracted driving.

MDOT's SRTS Program promotes and enables children in kindergarten through eighth grade to choose walking or bicycling.

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Campbell joins JPS Board

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson Public Schools' Board of Trustees has a new board member, Kimberly Campbell, Esq.

Her appointment by Jackson Mayor Tony Yarber was approved by the City Council in July. She will take the oath of office at 11 a.m. Aug. 4, before the regular meeting of the Board.



Campbell

A reception will be held to welcome Campbell as well as to honor the service of outgoing board member, Otha Burton Jr. The meeting and reception will be held in the School Board Meeting Room located at 621 S. State St.

Campbell is the newly appointed state director for AARP in Mississippi. At AARP she is responsible for all initiatives that involve the 50-plus population and their families. She also promotes the national agenda of AARP and has a strong presence in Washington, D.C. and throughout the entire state of Mississippi. Campbell is committed to her nearly 300,000 AARP members in Mississippi.

Campbell is the former Mississippi state representative for District 72, which encompasses Hinds and Madison counties. She served in the Legislature nearly nine years. She is also a former special judge in the Hinds County Youth Court, city attorney for Belzoni and a previous adjunct professor at Belhaven University.

Campbell is a product of the

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Sigmas present Image Awards

Fraternity also gives scholarships at annual banquet



Phi Beta Sigma Mu Sigma Chapter Image Award Recipients were (from left) Johnny Maloney, Eddie Maloney, Rev. Isiac Jackson, Evelyn J. Leggett, Father Jeremy Tobin, Jackie Hampton, Jimmy Wilkins, Silvanus Johnson and Dr. James Warnock. Standing on back row are Vernon Jasper (left) and Mark Young. PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON

By Shanderia K. Posey
Editor

The Mississippi Link Publisher Jackie Hampton was one of several recipients of a Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. Mu Sigma Chapter Image Award presented during a banquet July 29, in Jackson.

More than 200 people attended the event at the Mississippi e-center at Jackson State University. Hampton was awarded in the Media category. Other recipients and their respective categories were Con-

Maloney, Eddie Maloney and Johnny Maloney, Business; Rev. Isiac Jackson, Religion; Dr. James Warnock, Medicine; Jimmy Wilkins, Law; Evelyn J. Leggett, Education; Father Jeremy Tobin, Humanitarian; and Silvanus Johnson, L.T. Smith Achievement Award.

For the past 13 years, the Mu Sigma chapter has hosted the awards banquet to recognize individuals who have made a difference in communities throughout the Jackson area as well as fund scholarships for

area students.

A short video highlighting each recipients' career accomplishments was shown before they accepted their awards. Hampton's accolades include membership of the Mississippi Press Association and board member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

In the video presentation, Socrates Garrett, *Mississippi Link* founder and local business, said, "Jackie Hampton is an outstanding individual - a young lady that has achieved

many milestones in her career from having been hired as a receptionist in a Fortune 500 company to an individual who rose the ranks of sales manager and beyond. She's earned her stripes. She knows her job. She's driven. She is a very fierce competitor and yet, she is the most compassionate person you could ever want to be.

"She has taken a newspaper in this market, which is one of the more difficult markets, and

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Leverett receives Jackson Music Award

By Stephanie R. Jones
Contributing Writer

Mississippi is the home of blues music but this past weekend several genres - gospel, R&B and jazz - were showcased during the Jackson Music Awards Association's annual recognition of local and national musicians and other industry professionals.

Honorees on the R&B side included Eddie Leverett Sr., lead singer of the legendary O'Jays, along with Johnnie



Attending the Jackson Music Awards were Judy Thompson (from left), Larita Cooper Stokes, Eddie Leverett, Kenneth Stokes and Jessie Thompson. PHOTO BY STEPHANIE R. JONES

McGee, Doug Stringfellow and Darrayl Simmons. The theme of the awards

events was "A Journey Through Soul." Leverett, who was honored

as a legend of R&B, spoke at a news conference before the Aug. 1, show at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson.

Leverett, who is still performing with the O'Jays in addition to doing solo work said laughingly, "When I heard legend, I think old."

But he added of the O'Jays, "We are still doing music. We are still the O'Jays, and we are always

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Yarber gives State of City 2016 Address



Jackson Mayor Tony Yarber gave his State of the City 2016 Address Tuesday evening at the Jackson Convention Complex. In his status report, he admitted all goals have not been met, and there has been a "fiscal storm" to deal with. However, he talked about progress the city has made in filling some 62,000 potholes, reduction of crime, the benefits of the one-percent sales tax program to improve infrastructure and the impact of the Neighbor's First Lot Program, which permits residents to purchase lots and houses in blighted areas. Watch and listen to the mayor's address online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRNLFk9Qzk>. PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON See more photos on page 3

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