



Lumumba to run for mayor again

Attorney Chokwe A. Lumumba will announce his candidacy for mayor of Jackson during a press conference at 3 p.m. May 19, at Jackson's City Hall. Lumumba first ran for mayor of Mississippi's capital city in 2014 following the Feb. 25, 2014, death of his father, Chokwe Lumumba, who was Jackson's mayor at the time.



Tougaloo plans symposium, gala

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Recently, Tougaloo College reaffirmed its historic commitment to the quest for justice and equality.

In two upcoming events, the college intends to bring attention to the positives that have come out of historic ruins and to reaffirm the need to break down



barriers and help build a better Mississippi, nation and world. The two events are a symposium from 1-3 p.m. May 20, at the Old Capitol Museum, 100 S. State St., in Jackson, and the annual Two Rivers Gala at 7 p.m. May 21, at the Jackson

Convention Complex. The symposium titled "Where Do We Go from Here?" will serve as a precursor to the opening of the new Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. Former Gov. William F. Winter will serve as moderator and will lead a panel

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Surviving sickle cell

Parents explain pain, hope of children living with disease



Latasha and Chris Stamps are shown with their sons Cameron, 3, and Christopher, 6. Christopher received a bone marrow transplant from his brother, which cured him of sickle cell anemia.



Keishawna and Sheldon Smith are shown with their children Trinitee, 9, and DeShawn, 6, who both have sickle cell anemia. PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE R. JONES

By Stephanie R. Jones
Contributing Writer

Many parents of children who have sickle cell anemia have watched as their children suffered unrelenting episodes of pain in their bodies, constant hospitalizations and routine blood transfusions.

The Mississippi Sickle Cell Foundation Parent and Patient

Support Group held its annual Parents' Luncheon at the Jackson Medical Mall May 14, to bring together caregivers of sickle cell patients who told stories of their struggles with understanding the disease and caring for their children.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute reports that 40 years ago nearly 15

percent of children with sickle cell disease died before age 2, while many others died in their teenage years. New treatments have led to increased life expectancy.

For many, the lack of understanding the disease, which mainly affects African Americans, and dealing with doctors in Mississippi who have not had

experience or an understanding of the blood abnormality, has added to the challenge.

Nancy Julius of Pickens said she took her daughter to local doctors who were perplexed for years about her condition. Finally, when her daughter was 10 years old, doctors sent her to Jackson where she was finally diagnosed with sickle cell.

"When she was born, we didn't know anything about sickle cell. She was diagnosed at 10 at UMC," said Julius. "Basically, doctors said they didn't know what was wrong. She had had crises for years. Doctors thought it was ar-

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Up to 4 in 10 gay men in Jackson have HIV

By Mike Stobbe
AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK – Three out of every 10 gay or bisexual men in several cities in the U.S. South have been diagnosed with the AIDS virus, three times the national rate, according to a study about how common HIV infections are in metro areas.

The study echoes other research that reported higher rates of HIV diagnoses in the South, in urban areas, and in gay and bisexual men, but it is the first to look at how common HIV diagnoses are in these men by city.

"For the first time, we can see not only the numbers, but the proportions," said Dr. Jonathan Mermin of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The report found 21 of the 25 metro areas with the highest levels of HIV diagnosis in gay and bisexual men were in the South. HIV was diagnosed in about 3 in 10 gay and bisexual men in El Paso, Texas; Augusta, Ga.; and Baton Rouge, La. In Jackson, Miss., the rate was 4 in 10, the highest in the nation.

According to the report, about 11 percent of gay and bisexual men had been diagnosed living with an HIV infection nationwide during the time covered by the study.

Emory University researchers produced the new numbers using national counts of HIV

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Cleveland schools ordered by court to desegregate

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On May 13, following a five-decade-long legal battle to desegregate schools in Cleveland, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi ordered the Cleveland School District to consolidate its secondary schools.

The court rejected as unconstitutional two alternatives proposed by the school district, agreeing with the Justice Department that the only way to achieve desegregation is by consolidating Cleveland's high schools and middle schools.



Johnson

"Six decades after the Supreme Court in Brown v. Board of Education declared that 'separate but equal has no place' in public schools, this decision serves as a reminder to districts that delaying desegregation obligations is both unacceptable and unconstitutional," said Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Vanita Gupta, head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. "This victory creates new

opportunities for the children of Cleveland to learn, play and thrive together. The court's ruling will result in the immediate and effective desegregation of the district's middle school and high school program for the first time in the district's more than century-long history."

In response to the ruling, Mississippi State Conference NAACP President Derrick Johnson said, "The right to a quality public education for African-

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Nigerian girl kidnapped 2 years ago found alive

By Michelle Faul and Haruna Umar
Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria – One of the teenagers kidnapped by Boko Haram extremists over two years ago from a boarding school in northeastern Nigeria has been found with a baby and was reunited with her mother, a doctor said Wednesday – the first of the Chibok girls to be recovered since the mass abduction.

The 19-year-old woman, described by an uncle as traumatized by her experience, was found wandering with her baby on Tuesday on the fringes of the remote Sambisa Forest, which is located near Nigeria's border with Cameroon.



First Lady Michelle Obama is seen holding a sign calling for the safe return of 276 girls kidnapped by Boko Haram in Nigeria in 2014.

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