





Honoring Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Celebrating our 23rd Anniversary



Twenty-three years and counting

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

On the occasion of our 23rd year anniversary, *The Mississippi Link* dedicates this publication to breast cancer awareness, just as we have done for the past eight years. The American Cancer Society is actively fighting breast cancer by helping women get tested to find breast cancer earlier and helping them to understand treatment options and cope with the physical and emotional side effects. As a breast cancer survivor, I was one of the fortunate ones. I have been cancer free for over 10 years, but I wish to see the day that there is a cure.

Also, on our 23rd anniversary, we want to dedicate this issue to 'Get Out to Vote' - GOTV. *The Mississippi Link* has attended several events where we registered new voters. As we dedicate this issue to GOTV, we encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote. Many people fought and died so that all citizens could take part in the voting process, and we hope that every registered voter will take advantage of this right.

Each year on *The Mississippi Link's* anniversary, I reflect on where we are today, how far we have come and, more importantly, where we are headed. I reflect on how blessed we are to have

Anniversary
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JSU alumni group responds to President Meyers' resignation

From Staff and Wire reports

The president of Jackson State University National Alumni Association has responded to Carolyn W. Meyers turning in her letter of resignation.

In a statement, Yolanda R. Owens, said, "We are grateful to Dr. Carolyn W. Meyers for the outstanding service that she has given to Jackson State University since 2011. Under her leadership, the University has experienced tremendous growth and further established itself as a diverse, technologically-advanced four-year university steeped in history and committed to preparing its students to become global leaders."

"As we prepare to write the next chapter of Jackson State University's incredible story, let us work in unity to ensure that our dear old college home fulfills its mission and continues to build on the legacy established by our 10th president and previous leaders. This is OUR alma mater."



Meyers

Meyers
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'Don't vote, don't complain'

Panel discusses effects of Voting Rights Act of 1965



Spence Flatgard (from left), Sen. David Blount and Ole Miss Assistant Professor Marvin King, Ph.D. discussed "Beyond the Voting Rights Act" during the Mississippi Humanities Council's monthly Ideas on Tap meeting Oct. 25, at Hal and Mal's in Jackson. Also shown is Moderator Carol Andersen. PHOTO BY SHANDERIA K. POSEY

By Shandera K. Posey
Editor

In a matter of days, Mississippians will head to the polls to cast their ballot in national, state and local races. That is, if they decide to vote at all.

The contention in the 2016 presidential race between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump has caused some registered voters to consider staying

home. During the Mississippi Humanities Council's monthly Ideas on Tap meeting Oct. 25, at Hal and Mal's the topic was "Beyond the Voting Rights Act."

Three panelists answered questions from the moderator and audience. Panelists were Sen. David Blount, Marvin King, Ph.D., associate professor of political science at

the University of Mississippi; and Spence Flatgard, a Jackson attorney who specializes in campaign finance and election laws. Carol Andersen, assistant director of MHC, moderated the panel discussion. Andersen is also the communications director of the Jackson area League of Women Voters of Mississippi.

When asked what their response would be to those considering not

voting, the panelists all offered insights for not staying home on Election Day.

"Well, you've got two pretty different candidates and one of them is going to be president," Blount said. "They're going to be appointing justices to the Supreme Court

Vote
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Vandalized Emmett Till marker to be replaced

Associated Press and Trice Edney Newswire

GLENDORA - A center dedicated to the memory of slain black teen Emmett Till has raised over \$20,000 to replace a bullet-riddled sign commemorating the 1955 Mississippi killing that helped spur the civil rights movement.

The Emmett Till Interpretive Center has raised about 10 times the amount it will cost to replace the historical marker, according to a story published by *The Clarion-Ledger*.

Center director Patrick Weems said the new sign will cost between \$1,400 and \$2,000. He said the extra donations will be used to commemorate Till in other ways.

"In doing this work for 10 years and now seeing this outpouring from people who want to see Emmett Till's memory sustained, that is incredible," he



Emmett Till marker

said about the donations.

The sign commemorating Till's slaying has been a repeated target of vandals, and was recently found to be damaged with bullet holes. The gunman or gunmen fired more than 40 shots into the sign,

which is located two hours north of Jackson. No one has been arrested, but someone placed flowers in front of the site of J.W. Milam's home.

The sign was initially put up by the Emmett Till Memorial Commission in 2008. It commemorates where Till's beaten body was pulled from the Tallahatchie River in 1955 after Roy Bryant and his half brother J.W. Milam murdered the 14-year-old. His brutal murder sparked the modern day civil rights movement.

Bryant and Milam kidnapped Till from his great uncle's and aunt's home in Money, Miss., Aug. 28, 1955, for allegedly whistling at Bryant's wife, Carolyn, after shopping at the Bryant Grocery & Meat Market.

By whistling at Carolyn, Till violated one of the

Emmett Till
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Breast cancer survivors inspire, educate



Myricks PHOTO BY KEN GORDON

By Shandera K. Posey
Editor

There are numerous women and even some men in the Jackson metro area who should be honored for their courageous battle with breast cancer.

All of their different stories offer details to educate and inspire the

masses. Breast cancer doesn't discriminate and kills 44,000 women every year but there are 1.3 million breast cancer survivors. One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and one in 37 will die from it. Three area women recently

shared their stories of diagnosis and survival. Katrina B. Myricks, 53, of Madison, was sitting in the lobby of her doctor's office grading papers after having her routine mammogram in January 2013. A breast cancer diagnosis was the furthest thing from her mind.

Then the Holmes Community College professor was called back in for another test. "They told me I had breast cancer. I said, 'Say that again.' I actually went to my knees and started crying ... I was not expecting it."

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Rebecca Foust (left) and Vernessa Cheatham are breast cancer "survivor sisters" and co-workers.

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Film offers retrospective, intimate look into life of Maya Angelou

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