



The 2016-2017 Mr. and Miss Jim Hill High School are Kam'Ron Bracey and Ma'Kayla Mitchell. PHOTO BY T. NIMOX/TEMAK SOUTHWESTERN

Jim Hill High holds Royal Coronation

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

The coronation of Mr. and Miss Jim Hill is an annual tradition at Jackson's Jim Hill High School and on Oct. 4, the Royal Coronation of Kam'Ron Bracey, Mr. Jim Hill; and Ma' Kayla Mitchell, Miss Jim Hill, was held at 6 p.m. in the school's auditorium located at 2185 Fred Harris St.

The event was described as "An evening of Enchantment, Fascination and Beauty."

The auditorium was full with students, special guests, school staff and family members of the royal court. Thunderous applause was heard throughout the room as Isaiah Rush and Jazstiny Jackson, 2015-2016 Mr. and Miss Jim Hill took their final walk.

The applause continued as each member of "The High

Court, The Higher Court and The Royal Majesties' entered the auditorium dressed elegantly from head to toe. The ladies wore lovely gowns, and the gentlemen wore tuxedos on the occasion of their evening of enchantment.

The High Court consisted of Jerry Mitchell III, brother of Miss Jim Hill, and Brailyn Luckett, Mr. and Miss Freshman; Joshua Burns and Chamara Fray, Mr. and Miss Sophomore; Keedrick Palmer and Madisyn Evans, Mr. and Miss Junior; and Cameron Smith and Kamryn Dismuke, Senior Escort and Miss Senior.

The Higher Court consisted of Prince Justin Robinson and Princess Terranee Brent, runner ups to Mr. and Miss Jim Hill.

Upon the entrance of Mr. Jim Hill from the left side of

Jim Hill
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Flowers-Billups, Hinds County attorney, dies

Hinds County Attorney Sherri Flowers-Billups died Oct. 4, following a battle with cancer.

She was the first woman to become the attorney for Hinds County. She was chosen in 2009 by the Hinds County Board of Supervisors to complete the term left vacant by Malcolm Harrison. Her obituary follows.

The evening of Oct. 4, 2016, Sherri Muriel Flowers-Billups passed away peacefully in her home, comforted by the love of her family. She was born February 26, 1968, the first of two children born to Henry and Limmie (McQuirter) Flowers. She lived in Clinton, Miss.



Flowers-Billups

Flowers-Billups is a 1986 graduate of St. Joseph High School. Post-high school, she continued her education at Hampton University where she received a bache-

Attorney
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COFO marker unveiled



Pictured are Leslie Burl-McLemore (from left) of Mississippi Freedom Trail Task Force, Evelyn J. Leggette, provost and senior vice president for Academic and Student Affairs at Jackson State University; Jackson Mayor Tony Yarber, Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant, Robert (Bob) Moses, founding director of Mississippi Council of Federated Organizations; Thomas Calhoun, assistant provost at JSU; City Councilman Charles Tillman, Rico E. Chatman, JSU assistant professor and director of the Fannie Lou Hamer Institute at COFO; Sen. Sollie B. Norwood and Rickey Thigpen, executive vice president of Visit Jackson. PHOTO BY STEPHANIE R. JONES

From Staff Reports

The Fannie Lou Hamer Institute at COFO, located at 1017 John R. Lynch St. in Jackson, unveiled the COFO Freedom Trail Marker Oct. 5, on the campus of Jackson State University.

The Council of Federated Organizations was awarded this historic designation on the Mississippi Freedom Trail. The Mis-

issippi Freedom Trails program is a program of Visit Mississippi (Mississippi Development Authority/Division of Tourism) that celebrates and honors sites in the state of Mississippi that hold historical significance. This is a special honor for Jackson State University because it is now one of a few institutions serving as the home to two markers.

The building on the historic Lynch Street Civil Rights Corridor served as COFO headquarters and was considered the "nerve center" of Mississippi freedom struggle.

COFO established a coalition of organizations such as the Congress of Racial Equality, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Southern

Christian Leadership Conference and Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

COFO was the brainchild of SNCC Field Secretary Bob Moses and an idea championed by Aaron Henry and Medgar Evers.

Moses was among those present for the marker's unveiling.

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Organization combats voter suppression

By Shanderia K. Posey
Editor

Besides a woman being a true contender for president on Election Day next month, Nov. 8 will also mark the first time in 50 years federal observers will be noticeably absent from polling places.

The absence of federal observers is just one reason why Election Protection – the nation's largest nonpartisan voter protection coalition – is increasing its efforts to safeguard voting rights throughout America and in Mississippi.

Led by the Lawyers' Commit-

tee for Civil Rights Under Law, Election Protection offers several hotline numbers for people to call with questions about voter protection, voter intimidation, voter challenges, deceptive practices and provisional balloting.

The main number for English-language speakers is 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683). The hotline is staffed weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST and will expand hours and days as Election Day nears. Callers will get questions answered by or report complaints to one of 5,000 lawyers and/or le-

gal volunteers.

The toll-free Spanish-language hotline is the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials' 888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682). It is available year-round.

The toll-free Asian-language hotline is 888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683). Provided by Asian Americans Advancing Justice and Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote, voters needing assistance during election season in various Asian languages can call and leave a message and a volun-

teer will return their call.

During a conference call Oct. 3, leaders from the four national nonpartisan members of Election Protection discussed predicted challenges of Election Day.

Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, noted that calls have been made by one candidate to have untrained individuals monitoring the polls on Election Day. She also noted this election will be the first

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Latinfest coming to Canton Oct. 15

By Shanderia K. Posey
Editor

This year's Latinfest – considered the largest Latino festival in Mississippi – has a new location – Canton.

The fifth annual festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 15, at the Multi Purpose Complex.

The Latin American Business Association is hosting the event and for the third year in a row, Nissan is the presenting sponsor.

Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Kids 12 and younger enter for free.

The festival is a celebration of Latin American food, drink,



and music. It will include a showcase of Latino talent, culture and professionalism in Mississippi and will provide a venue for positive cultural exchange.

For the first time in the history of Latinfest a Hispanic country – Cuba – will be highlighted.

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