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Jackson man captured

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Lee announces candidacy for mayor from late grandmother's home

'Good is not good enough for Jackson'



Lee

By Gail M. Brown
Editor

Longtime Jackson businessman Jonathan Lee kicked off his candidacy for Mayor of the City of Jackson Tuesday, July 31, in front of his late grandmother's home: 1320 Perkins St. in the Georgetown neighborhood, a place where he spent his formative years.

"Whenever I am here I can't help but remember my childhood," said Lee, who is president of Mississippi Products, Inc., which was founded by his late father. Lee spent his after-school days with "Big Mama and Granddaddy."

Lee's campaign slogan is "Our Time for Greatness." He told the crowd: "Our city's leadership says that Jackson is good...I'm running for Mayor because if this is good; it's not good enough." His supporters applauded. "Not good enough for Georgetown or Shady Oaks. Not good enough for Alta Woods or Garden Park. It's not good enough for Belhaven or the North End. Let's be great!"

With the sun beaming down on him as his supporters stood on the porch of the home waving his campaign signs, Lee, who is 34, refuted those who might say that he is too young for the city's top job. He said, "at age 30, Ida B. Wells was changing the conscience of the country. At age 34, Dr. [Martin Luther] King was organizing the march on Washington. At age 35, John F. Kennedy was in the U.S. Senate. At age 37, Medgar Evers had lived, served and died for the Movement. Now, I'm not likening myself to these people, but responsibility has no age."

Longtime Jackson entrepreneur and a Lee supporter William "Bill" Cooley told *The Mississippi Link* that he thinks people often put "too much stock on a person's age." "I think Jonathan has the skill-set needed to bring this city together in a number of ways," Cooley said. "I am supporting him because I believe he will advance the city of Jackson to a greater degree than any other candidate I know." Cooley, who has known Lee for 10 years, describes him as a person of "high energy and mission driven."

Lee described his mayoral campaign as being one in which he will share "A tale of two cities" - "the tale of the Jackson we know today versus the Jackson we can build tomorrow."

Lee explained that today's Jackson has lost businesses and tax base to surrounding communities. "Since 1998, we've lost over \$300 Million dollars

Lee for Mayor
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Lewis: 'The situation was contained early as we prepared to take over'

Johnson

Riot at Detention Center leaves one area destroyed

By Othor Cain
Managing Editor

In the early morning hours of Monday, July 30, during a routine security check, officials at the Hinds County Detention Center in Raymond, Miss., found one individual to be uncooperative.

Hinds County Sheriff Tyrone Lewis said that inmate was placed in isolation but somehow managed to escape and created a disturbance for the other 183 inmates locked in POD C. This inmate also released other inmates to help with the riot.

Kendall Johnson, 25, who has been locked up for nearly a year on possession of marijuana

charges and contempt of court charges according to Lewis was at the heart of the disturbance. "After Johnson began his tirade, other inmates acted and were able to hold detention officers at bay with a fire hose," Lewis said. "The incident ended without injuries."

Ending without injuries was a welcomed sign for officials considering they found broken sinks, a \$400,000 control panel shattered, and weapons, like shanks and other items. The inmates used metal objects pulled from the ceiling and doors in an attempt to escape.

The situation lasted nearly

Detention Center
Continued on page 6

Hinds County Sheriff's Department unveils new fleet of cars

Great aunt, others thrilled

By Gail M. Brown
Editor

On Friday July 27, the Hinds County Sheriff's Department introduced three of the 10 new "state of the art" patrol cars being put on the road this year.

While replenishing the fleet was highly needed, the thrill and excitement seemed to have centered around Sheriff Tyrone Lewis' name being on the cars. The Sheriff told *The Mississippi Link* that he had originally planned not to worry about putting his name on the cars. "I just want to be a servant of the people," he said. He explained that his name on the cars really was not a big issue for him.

Shakespeare once asked the question in his famous "Romeo and Juliet," "What's in a name?" Well for Lewis' great aunt Sally England and a number of other

Sheriff Tyrone Lewis shows his great aunt Sally England and her pastor Rev. Spencer Houseworth one of cars bearing his name. PHOTO BY GAIL M. BROWN

New fleet

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Inside

MS-NAACP wins big at national conference

Jackson native provides entertainment

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Curry on Chick-fil-A

What's the big deal?

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“There are days when I get up and I cry ... thinking of her.”

- Gospel Music Star Marvin Sapp

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THE MISSISSIPPI LINK WEEK IN REVIEW

2012

Compiled by Othor Cain
Managing Editor

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1

8 badminton players expelled from Olympic doubles

Indonesia's Olympic team leader said eight female badminton doubles players have been disqualified from the London Games after trying to lose matches to receive a more favorable place in the field.

Erick Thohir told The Associated Press Wednesday, Aug. 1, that the Indonesian team would appeal.

The Badminton World Federation investigated two teams from South Korea and one each from China and Indonesia. It accused them of "not using one's best efforts to win a match" and "conducting oneself in a manner that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the sport" in matches Tuesday night (July 31).

2

Marshals capture man wanted in Jackson slaying

Larry Lewis accused in Rayco Davenport's death

The U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force has captured a man wanted in connection with a Jackson slaying, officials said.

Larry Lewis was arrested Tuesday, July 31, in the 200 block of Eastview Street, Jackson police said. A Crime Stoppers tip helped U.S. marshals find Lewis, police said.

Lewis is accused in the June 10 shooting that killed Rayco Davenport, 32. Davenport was shot multiple times on Daniel Street, police said. He died a few days later at a local hospital.

Investigators believe the shooting was the result of a previous argument.

3

Legal fight over between school districts

Rankin County approves Pearl settlement

A legal fight between two local school districts is over.

Rankin County School District leaders approved the Pearl attendance zone during a special meeting held Tuesday night.

The Pearl Public School District sued to have residents who are now in the Pearl city limits be in the school district. The settlement would allow residents in the areas in question to choose the school district they would attend, but after one year, those who move into the Pearl city limits, or who did not pick a district, would automatically attend Pearl schools.

"Yes, we get the choice and I'm appreciative of that, but the home value issue is still an issue," said parent Jia Scott. "That's my concern, and also one of my biggest investments - my children and then my home."

Rankin County will still keep the ad-valorem tax base, but will pay a per-student amount to the Pearl School District for students who decide to go to Pearl.

The proposal now heads to the U.S. Department of Justice for approval.

4

Miss. high court denies Miss. Power petition

The state Supreme Court said Mississippi Power Co. can't raise its rates while appealing the denial of the price increase by the Public Service Commission.

The court ruled 8-0 against Mississippi Power Tuesday, July 31. Chief Justice Bill Waller Jr. did not participate.

Mississippi Power is seeking a total rate increase of more than \$55 million. It would cost the average residential customer about \$20 a month more.

The higher rates would repay money that the unit of Atlanta-based Southern Co. has borrowed to build a \$2.8 billion coal-fired power plant in Kemper County.

The PSC voted 3-0 to deny the rate increase, saying it didn't want customers' bills to rise while the Sierra Club is still challenging Mississippi Power's authority to build power plant. Mississippi Power's main appeal is still pending.

Read more: <http://www.wapt.com/news/money/Miss-high-court-denies-Miss-Power-petition/-/9156750/15886798/-/y3o7n5z/-/index.html#ixzz22JBoOsz8>



5

NAACP: Racial motivation behind Miss. hit-and-run?

Johnny Lee Butts killed in Panola County

The Mississippi NAACP is calling on state and federal authorities to investigate whether the hit-and-run killing of a black man was racially motivated.

Authorities said a white 17-year-old male has been charged with murder in the July 22 death of Johnny Lee Butts. The 61-year-old was struck by a vehicle and killed while he was taking a morning walk on a rural road near his home in north Mississippi's Panola County.

District Attorney John Champion told The Associated Press that the case is being presented to a grand jury Wednesday, Aug. 1. The teenager was arrested July 22 and remains in the Panola County Jail under a \$300,000 bond. At least one passenger was in the teen's vehicle.

Conviction on a murder charge can carry a sentence of life in prison. A person convicted under Mississippi's hate-crimes law could receive enhanced penalties.

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City awards Walker as July's 'Jackson's Best'

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mayor Harvey Johnson Jr. recognized City employee Rudolph Walker as July's "Jackson's Best" at a recent city council meeting. This program recognizes City of Jackson employees who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Walker is the Grounds Maintenance Field Supervisor in the Park Maintenance Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

He has served the City of Jackson since 1980 with "unfaltering commitment" and a "winning attitude" according to his supervisors and co-workers.

Employees are nominated for the "Jackson's Best" Award based upon the following criteria:

- Provided significant cost savings of at least 5 percent in this or her respective department
- Promoting safety in the work place and reducing loss of work time
- Job productivity and performance
- Innovativeness and creativity



Mayor Harvey Johnson Jr., left, makes presentation to employee Rudolph Walker. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

- Outstanding customer service skills
- Establishment of new partnerships with other organizations
- Walker received a commemorative watch and monetary bonus for his outstanding performance.

Awards are presented at the second night Council meeting of each month.

Entergy Mississippi helps low-income customers 'Beat the Heat'

Fans, air conditioners and 'smart strips' given to elderly, disabled customers

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Some 75 Hinds County residents left Shady Grove Recreation Center feeling a little better and a tad smarter about the heat recently. They received a new fan or air conditioner in hand, and a 'smart strip' power outlet, courtesy of Entergy Mississippi, Inc.'s Beat the Heat fan give-away program.

This marks the 14th year of the program, which has provided more than 7,300 fans and more than 600 air conditioners to thousands of low-income, elderly and disabled customers in the state.

This year, Entergy Mississippi employees are distributing 200 oscillating fans and 36 window-unit air conditioners to pre-qualified Mississippi residents. Sixty-two of those fans and 13 air conditioners went to the Hinds County residents. For the first time,

Entergy Mississippi is also giving away some 200 "smart strips" with every fan and air conditioner. These multi-plug power strips are more energy-efficient than standard power strips. 'Smart strips' monitor power consumption and can sense whether computers and other devices are on or off. When a device is off, it shuts off the power, eliminating the idle current drawn from them.

"Our elderly customers are the most vulnerable when it comes to high heat," said Louis Wright, customer service manager for Entergy Mississippi, Inc. in Jackson. "So, we are thrilled to be able to give them these fans and air conditioners, and to help them offset any additional electrical use by providing the new power strips."

Entergy Mississippi partners with county action agencies and the Mississippi Department of Human Services to bring the Beat the Heat program to customers.

Entergy Mississippi, Inc. provides electricity to more than 437,000 customers in 45 counties. It is a subsidiary of Entergy Corporation. Entergy Corporation is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity, including more than 10,000 megawatts of nuclear power, making it one of the nation's leading nuclear generators. Entergy delivers electricity to 2.8 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Entergy has annual revenues of more than \$11 billion and approximately 15,000 employees.

PSA



Dr. Cedrick Gray, superintendent of Jackson Public Schools will unveil plans for "Building Stronger Schools Together" during a public reception at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2 at the Mississippi e-Center @ Jackson State University. That is the theme of Dr. Gray's call for the entire community and City of Jackson to rally together and build a better future for our children. This event is free and open to the public, but an RSVP is requested. To RSVP please send an email to events@redmondsgroup.com. For more information call (601) 965-0368.



PSA

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Mississippi shines in the Lone Star State at the NAACP Conference

The Mississippi Link Newswire

More than 100 Mississippians traveled seven hours to the fourth largest city to attend the 103rd NAACP Annual Convention in Houston, Texas during July 7-12.

This year's conference was enlightening as participants were visited by some of the nation's most prominent leaders to discuss issues critical to the African-American community. Because this is a federal election year, visits from presidential candidates and their representatives were high priority.

Attorney General Eric Holder and Vice President Joe Biden delivered remarks from the current administration that solidified the Obama administration's support to NAACP positions on key issues such as education, voting rights and health care. NAACP delegates voted unanimously on a resolution supporting Holder and denouncing the recent tactics to undermine his authority in the Department of Justice. Republican nominee Mitt Romney also shared.

Workshops were held throughout the conference that unveiled the NAACP's 2012 "Game Changer" platform. The 2012 Game Changers (or long term goals) are: Economic Sustainability, Education, Health and Public Safety/Criminal Justice. Voting rights and fair representation continue to be core NAACP issues.

The Freedom Fund Banquet featured Academy Award winning actress Viola Davis, known for her role in the 2011 blockbuster

film, "The Help." Davis talked about her struggles as an African-American actress in Hollywood and her reliance on her strong heritage to help her through tough times.

The Mississippi State Conference (MS-NAACP) hosted a stellar Catfish and Blues Reception with the Texas State Conference at the house of Deréon Media Center was an overflow crowd for this year's reception. Mississippi blues artist Zac Harmon provided entertainment, while attendees enjoyed catfish and BBQ.

MS-NAACP also won the Thalheimer Award for its 2011 programs. The Thalheimer Award is the NAACP's top award given to branches and units for outstanding achievements. Some most notable programs that stemmed out of the MS-NAACP office were the Diabetes Awareness Project with NBA all-star Dominique Wilkins, Food Focus Groups in Holmes County, work against Ballot Initiatives 26 & 27, and the education and drawing of alternative plans on redistricting.

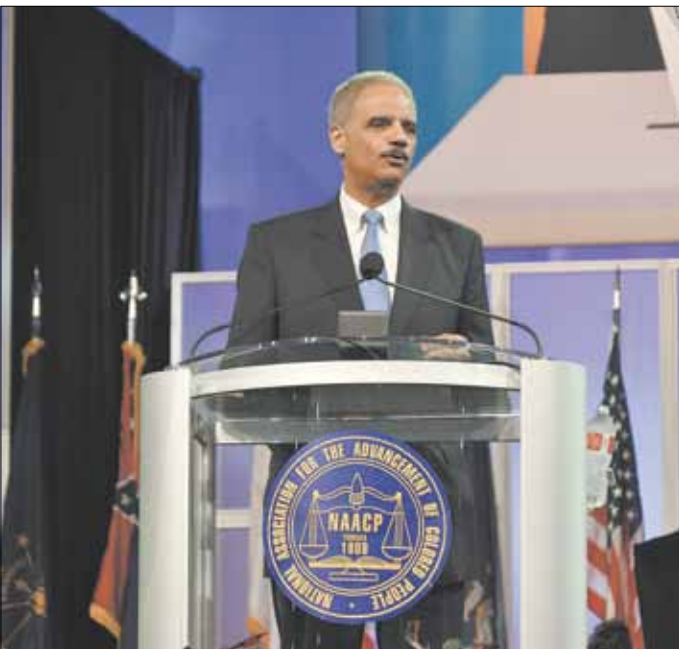
MS-NAACP will host its State Convention & Policy Institute Nov. 15-17, 2012 in Olive Branch, Miss.

Sponsorship levels, souvenir booklet advertising, vendor space, and Freedom Fund Banquet reservations are available for purchase.

Please contact the MS-NAACP office at 601.353.8452 or email Events Consultant Zakiya Summers at zsummers@uniteonevoice.org for more information.



MS-NAACP President Derrick Johnson addresses the Mississippi delegation to remind them of some important notes for the Annual Convention.



MS-NAACP staff were the first to arrive at the General Session of the 103rd NAACP Annual Convention so that delegates could sit front and center to listen to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.



MS-NAACP won the organization's top honor for its 2011 programs. State President Derrick Johnson's daughter, Nia, accepted the award on his behalf.



MS-NAACP hosted the "Mississippi Bound" 2012 Catfish & Blues Reception at the House of Deréon. More than 600 people attended the event that featured Mississippi native and blues artist Zac Harmon.



Dallas resident Zac Harmon, a Jackson, Miss. native, performs during the Mississippi Bound" 2012 Catfish & Blues Reception PHOTOS COURTESY OF MS-NAACP

News Briefs

From Across The State

by Monica Land,
Contributing Writer



Dever

Coast DJ fired following charge of sexually exploiting children

GULFPORT - Coast Radio Group terminated Robert Dever, 50, of Gulfport on Saturday, according to Coast Radio Group Operation's Manager Bryan Rhodes. On Saturday (July 28), Dever was arrested and charged with misdemeanor malicious mischief and felony sexual exploitation of children.

According to the Coast Radio Group's website, Dever was the midday announcer on Kicker 108 as Bob Dever. He was also an announcer on Z-95 FM as 'Jay Roberts.'

Dever's arrest was the result of a joint investigation conducted by members of the ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) Task Force, the Biloxi Police Department and the Gulfport Police Department.

Dever was arrested in the 1200 block of Mill Road in Gulfport.

During the investigation, it was discovered that Dever had posted a note on the wall of the bathroom at a park in Biloxi asking that individuals who had an interest in sharing children for sex contact him.

That posting lead to the misdemeanor malicious mischief charge and also lead to an undercover internet investigation which identified Dever as being the person making the posting.

The investigation also lead to the execution of a search warrant at Dever's residence where investigators recovered numerous images of children engaging in sexually explicit activities.

Those discoveries lead to the felony sexual exploitation of children charge.

After his arrest, Dever was incarcerated in the Harrison County Adult Detention Center pending a Biloxi Municipal Court bond of \$300 for malicious mischief and a Harrison County bond of \$50,000 for the sexual exploitation of children.

Harrison County Justice Court Judge Bruce Strong set the bond on the felony.



Lambert

Former Miss. lawmaker Rick Lambert dies at 60

GULFPORT - (AP) Paul Richard "Rick" Lambert, who represented the Hattiesburg area in the Mississippi Senate from January 1980 to January 1992, died Monday, July 23, in Gulfport, where he had lived the past several years. He was 60.

Lambert was an attorney. He served in the Senate as a Democrat from District 45, in Forrest County. He chaired the Finance, Judiciary and Municipalities committees. He also served all 12 years on the Senate Public Utilities Committee and was vice chairman for four years.

Republican Billy Hewes III of Gulfport represented Senate District 49 for 20 years starting in January 1992 and was a longtime friend of Lambert. He recalled Tuesday that Lambert was a smart legislator who enjoyed a good laugh.

"When you were with him, you always felt like you were in on some mischief," Hewes said.

Lambert was Hattiesburg city attorney for seven years.

He maintained his law practice in Hattiesburg even after moving to Gulfport. He was general counsel for Atmos Energy Corp. and the Mississippi Rural Independent Telephone Companies and legal counsel to the president of the University of Southern Mississippi.

Funeral services were Thursday, July 26, at Trinity United Methodist Church of Gulfport with burial in Floral Hills Memorial Gardens, according to Riemann Family Funeral Homes in Gulfport.

Survivors include his wife, Candice Symmes Lambert; daughters, Elizabeth Lambert Garner, Emily Lambert Harden and Erin Lambert Doman; stepchildren, Brandy McCabe Hyde and Tim McCabe; mother, Virgia Colville Lambert; two brothers; one sister and five grandchildren.

New business agreement to create 60 jobs in Natchez

NATCHEZ - Governor Phil Bryant and officials from The Blain Companies and Fores Canada Inc. announced a business agreement that will create approximately 60 new jobs for Natchez-area residents.

Blain, which currently maintains quarry operations in Natchez, is expanding its presence in the area with the launch of a new business division, Magnolia Frac Sand LLC, and will supply sand to Fores Canada Inc. Fores Canada Inc.'s new divisions, Fores Frac Sand LLC and Fores Resin Coat LLC, will produce frac sand and resin-coated frac sand to be used by the oil and gas industry for hydraulic fracturing operations. Hydraulic fracturing of conventional and unconventional reservoirs, such as shale wells, is conducted by the oil and gas industry to enhance oil and natural gas recovery.

As a result of this partnership, Blain is investing \$7 million in Magnolia Frac Sand and will create approximately 30 new jobs. Fores is investing \$27 million in its new Mississippi location and also will create approximately 30 new jobs. The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) worked closely with company and local officials to help facilitate the projects and provided funding for infrastructure needs.

Adams County provided funding to assist with the projects, as well.

Holmes County recognized with Mississippi Blues Trail Marker

Special to The Mississippi Link

LEXINGTON - On Tuesday, July 17, Holmes County was the latest recipient of a marker on the Mississippi Blues Trail. The marker was unveiled at 115 Yazoo Street in Lexington.

Officials with the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) said Holmes County has been a significant contributor to the legacy of African American blues and gospel music in Mississippi.

Heralded blues artists born or raised in the Lexington area include Elmore James (a native of Richland, about 11 miles south of town), Lee "Shot" Williams, Otis "Big Smokey" Smothers and Lonnie Pitchford.

Lexington and the surrounding rural areas claim a rich musical heritage as the onetime home of Blues Hall of Famers B. B. King and Elmore James along with an array of accomplished blues, soul, jazz and gospel performers.

formers.

Riley B. King, born in 1925, was a budding guitarist and gospel singer when he moved to Lexington to live with his father Albert for two years in 1940. He later earned the nickname "Blues Boy," or "B. B.", in Memphis on his way to becoming the world's most famous blues singer.

James (1918-1963), a key figure in Mississippi and Chicago blues history, lived on farms around Lexington, Durant, Goodman and Pickens in his early years. His headstone in Ebenezer bears the inscription "King of the Slide Guitar."

Several local families were responsible for much of Lexington's blues legacy. Soul and blues singer Lee "Shot" Williams (1938-2011), whose recording career lasted almost fifty years, was a cousin of brothers Otis "Big Smokey" (1929-1993) and Albert (aka Abe) "Little Smokey" Smothers

(1939-2010) and of Lester Davenport (1932-2009), all of whom were longtime figures on the Chicago blues scene. Williams and Otis Smothers were from Lexington; Albert Smothers, Davenport, and Chicago vocalist Arelean Brown (1924-1981), who claimed Williams as a brother, were born in or near Tchula.

Williams, who teamed with Albert Smothers at times in the Chicago clubs, enjoyed some renewed popularity on the Southern soul circuit in his later years with a series of risque CDs. Otis Smothers performed in a more down home vein and recorded some historic blues of his own in addition to doing sessions with Howlin' Wolf and writing songs for Muddy Waters.

Guitarists Willie Douglas "W. D." Pitchford and his wife Rosie spawned a prolific musical family just outside Lexington. Their sons Willie Douglas, Jr., Charles

Edward, Lonnie Lee, Andrew James ("A. J.") and Rosby Pitchford all played blues and gospel guitar. Lonnie (1995-1998), a critically acclaimed performer who toured several countries, carried on the traditions of Elmore James and Robert Johnson and also brought the homemade one-string "diddley bow" to prominence.

Lexington's Roseby brothers Ras ("Butch") (1904-1970) and Edgar (a banjoist, 1921-1993) and their cousin, saxophonist John "Brick" Roseby (1910-1987), performed in various jazz and dance bands prior to World War II. Ras (Rasberry), a trombonist, later played drums for Elmore James and recorded as a sideman for Sonny Boy Williamson No. 2 and Jerry McCain on Trumpet Records in Jackson. The most prolific blues studio musician from Lexington was guitarist Lee Cooper (1925-1966), who recorded with Howlin' Wolf,



Public officials and others following the unveiling of the blues marker

Memphis Slim, Eddie Boyd, and many others in Chicago. Another Chicago bluesman with Lexington roots, James Scott, Jr. (c. 1913-1983), recorded in Memphis for Sun Records in 1952 and led the Scott Jr. Band in Mississippi and Chicago.

Geneva Morganfield (1915-

1973), the wife of McKinley Morganfield - better known as Muddy Waters - immortalized in Waters' 1949 recording "Little Geneva," was a native of Lexington, as was noted jazz bassist Malachi Favors (1927-2004), a member of the Art Ensemble of Chicago.

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— Warren Buffett



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Detention Center

Continued from page 1

12-hours, but Lewis maintains it was under control before 10 a.m. “We had a plan in place all along, we just wanted to make sure we could implement it. One of our major concerns was the safety of all of the other inmates, especially those with medical conditions,” Lewis said. “We were fortunate to have the assistance of so many other agencies.”

Some of the other agencies that responded were made up of law enforcement officers from local, county and state departments from around the metro area.

Lewis said that was the spirit of teamwork. “I’m grateful for their assistance, this is like one big family, when one member is in trouble you can count on the other members to step in and help, and that is exactly what happened today,” he said.

Officials turned off the water and air in POD C to bring the situation under control. POD C

was totally destroyed.

“If you can envision what Katrina looked like, then that is what Pod C looks like”, Lewis said.

Hinds County supervisors met to discuss the riot, relocating the inmates, and repairs to Pod C. They were led on a tour of the destroyed unit along with members of the media Monday afternoon.

“The brighter side is we get an opportunity to rebuild. To rebuild it correctly and to make sure that when its done right, it’s done to the highest standards of security,” said Hinds County Supervisor, Robert Graham.

The family of the inmate who Lewis called the aggressor said they don’t believe Johnson is responsible for the riot.

“He’s been locked up in this jail so many times he’s never did anything like this. That’s why I don’t understand,” said Johnson’s mother, Delores Walker.

“He was beating on the solitary door, but I guess he was making too much noise so they came and handcuffed him and he said they jumped on him. He says he has bruises on him”, Keyonna Johnson, the inmate’s sister said.

“He was the aggressor with the guards. During a security check he breached that security check,” Lewis said.

There has been debate, and concern about problems at the Hinds County Detention Center for years. Some of that debate has been centered around problems with the design, cell doors that won’t lock, and manpower. County officials said they are just glad this riot was brought under control without serious injuries or loss of life.

Jackson Mayor Harvey Johnson issued a statement saying he had been in contact with Hinds County officials and steps are being taken to handle city inmates housed at the Raymond facility.

Lee for Mayor

Continued from page 1

in sales in the area around the Metro Center alone. Jobs have become increasingly harder to come by, and we have over 52,000 residents living in poverty,” he said.

Lee continued: “In the city of tomorrow, we will focus on a deliberate plan of action to maintain and attract businesses; not throwing ill-conceived ideas against the wall to see what sticks.”

During a series of questions from the media, Lee was asked his platform on crime and safety. He said there should be changes made to the “culture of our Police and Fire de-

partments by stabilizing work schedules and creating clear pathways for career advancement.”

In one aspect, he mentioned the city needs to have a chief that is more visible. He also talked about officer morale. “We’ve got a huge morale problem amongst our police officers,” Lee said. “I think a lot of their complaints are founded. If we expect people to come to work and give Jackson its best, we’re going to have to give those employees our best. That means addressing those overtime issues and those progression issues for job advancement.”

Lee would also like to see more police officers on bikes in the neighborhoods. He said this will help save the city on fuel and maintenance of the vehicle.

He told the citizens that the city of Jackson is at a crossroad and that he is ready to fight for Jackson, a fight that he admits will not be easy.

“Jackson is worth the fight, and I’m ready to fight for Perkins Street. I’m ready to fight for Georgetown, West Jackson, South Jackson, North Jackson. I am ready to fight for all of Jackson. This is our time for greatness!” he concluded.

New fleet

Continued from page 1

citizens, a name means a great deal. When they realized that they had not seen his name on any of the cars since he became Sheriff, they began to inquire about it.

Lewis said when his great aunt made the statement: “Are you going to let me leave this world without getting a chance to see your name on the cars as sheriff?” That is when he decided to do it, but not just for her but for “the will of the people.”

“Praise the Lord!” England said as she raised her arm in the air at the sight of her great nephew’s name on the patrol cars. “I am so thankful that I got to

see this. We’re making history.”

Hinds County Supervisor Robert Graham, who attended the event said it was time for some new patrol cars for the department. The old fleet has between 100,000 and 500,000 miles on them. Lewis told reporters that he was coming from Utica one evening and saw one of his deputies on the side of the road having car trouble. He knew then something had to be done.

Graham said, “We have been spending more money on repairs and maintenance of the old fleet than we should.”

The new cars cost about \$24,000

each as part of a package deal with a local dealer.

The Dodge Chargers have V6 engines, which will be more efficient on gas mileage than the old V8 Crown Victorias. Directional lights are affixed on top so traffic can be directed during emergency road situations. Push bumpers are also on them to help with getting inoperable vehicles off the road.

Three deputies were introduced who would be assigned to the first three cars. They were chosen for their good track record as drivers and for seniority.

(See page 17 for highlights.)

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Here's what's happening IN JACKSON THIS WEEK

August 2

Fondren After 5

Fondren Central Business District

August 3-5

Mississippi Wildlife Extravaganza

Mississippi Trademart

August 4

Mississippi Chorus presents

Summer Showcase 2012

Union Station Ballroom

August 4

Magnolia Roller Vixens

Roller Derby

Jackson Convention Complex

August 7

Dinosaurs of the South and

Other Prehistoric Giants

MS Museum of Natural Science

For a complete listing of all Jackson events, hit visitjackson.com



Arctic Drilling: Risk vs. Reward

The Golden SECTION

By Alim Gaynor
Columnist



Risk vs. reward is the ratio of the expected return on an investment to the amount of risk undertaken to capture those returns. In business investing, the consequence of the risk outweighing the reward is financial loss. In Arctic drilling, the consequence could very well be the end of life on Earth as we know it.

Next month, the Obama administration is set to decide whether to grant the final drilling permits to oil giant Royal Dutch Shell for its oil drilling venture in the Arctic. This is despite the increasing protests that have been directed at Royal Dutch Shell after one of its ships, "Noble Discoverer," almost ran aground. Shell has said it's invested more than \$4 billion in this undertaking. I guess that means they have the right to put the whole Arctic ecosystem at risk.

Shell already has a terrible record when it comes to its impact on the environment. In Nigeria (the Niger Delta) for example, Shell and other oil companies have systematically destroyed 1,000 square kilometers along with the livelihoods of the Ogoni people there. According to the United Nations Environmental Programme, it will take at least

30 years to repair Niger Delta. In the Sakhalin Islands in Siberia, Shell, despite protests from the indigenous people, dumped more than a million tons of dredging waste into the Aniva Bay, destroying the fisheries and indigenous communities. They also built an oil platform, despite tremendous protest, where the last few critically endangered Pacific gray whales feed.

None of us can forget the catastrophic BP disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. Despite denials by BP and government officials, the Gulf has been severely damaged. Sea turtles and dolphins are still washing up dead on the Gulf shores. I, for one, am very reluctant to eat shrimp or anything else that comes out of the Gulf.

With regard to Arctic drilling, the Obama administration has not done an environmental impact statement. Instead, they issued what is called a "finding of no significant impact," meaning there will be almost no oil spill, which is exactly what BP said about their spill - exploration plan in the Gulf of Mexico.

Shell said, in their Arctic spill response plan, they'll be able to clean up 95 percent of the spilled oil. In the Exxon Valdez spill we had about 8 percent recovered, and in the Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Horizon, we had less than 10 percent recovered. Yet Shell would have us believe they could clean up 95 percent of the oil in the incredibly harsh environment of the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas.

We're talking about 35 to 40 below zero temperatures and 65

to 85 miles per hour winds. By mid-September, there's already sea ice and by the first week in October, the Arctic Ocean is mostly frozen. If a spill or blow-out were to take place, Shell has acknowledged that they would have to leave the oil in place until the next summer (nine months away).

The possible reward for this enormous risk is, according to government estimates, about 25 billion barrels of oil that sits in this part of the Arctic. The risk is destroying an already fragile Arctic environment with possibly devastating worldwide impact. If recent history has taught us nothing else, it's that these multinational corporations along with the politicians they control will always place profits ahead of everything else. It doesn't matter that the ecological environment and humanity as a whole suffers the consequences for their decisions. It's always the bottom line that comes first.

Let's we forget, the earth is a ball. It's a finite environment. There are consequences for every act. What happens on earth stays on earth. The latest "caretakers" of the planet have all but destroyed in the last couple of hundred years what the indigenous populations have protected for thousands of years.

It makes you wonder whether civilization is advancing or declining.

Alim Gaynor is founder and President of Seedpod Empowerment Institute. For more information, call 769-798-5247 or E-Mail us: alimgaynor@gmail.com

Crucifying Chick-fil-A owner for his beliefs

By George E. Curry
NNPA Columnist



In an attempt to drum up more business, Chick-fil-A has ads and billboards featuring black and white spotted cows - acting in what the company calls their "enlightened self-interest" - urging people to "Eat Mor Chikin."

But that's not what gay rights advocates want in the aftermath of the president of Chick-fil-A expressing his opposition to same-sex marriage. They don't want the public to eat less chicken at Chick-fil-A - they don't want consumers to eat any chicken served by the Atlanta-based chain.

In a June 12 radio interview on "The Ken Coleman Show," Chick-fil-A President and CEO Dan Cathy said: "As it relates to society in general, I think we are inviting God's judgment on our nation when we shake our fists at Him and say, 'We know better than You as to what constitutes a marriage.' I pray God's mercy on our generation that has such prideful, arrogant attitude to think that we have the audacity to try to redefine what marriage is all about."

When asked about his support of traditional marriage by the Biblical Recorder, Cathy responded, "Well, guilty as charged."

It is surprising that anyone would be surprised by the position taken by the Chick-fil-A officials.

Its restaurants are closed on Sunday. In fact, there is a sign in front of one of its Fayetteville, Ga. restaurants proclaiming they're open "24/6." It's no secret that on the seventh day, employees rest and/or go to church.

The company says on its Web site, "From the day Truett Cathy started the company, he began applying biblically-based principles to managing his business. For example, we believe that closing on Sundays, operating debt-free and devoting a percentage of our profits back to our communities are what

make us a stronger company and Chick-fil-A family."

Fifteen years ago, the company became the chief sponsor of the Peach Bowl and renamed it the Chick-fil-A Bowl.

"We are the only bowl that has an invocation," Cathy said in the Biblical Recorder interview. "It is our agreement that if Chick-fil-A is associated in this, there's going to be an invocation. Also, we don't have our bowl on Sunday, either."

Both Dan Cathy and his father are devout Christians. And given their religious beliefs and their attitude about working or playing football on Sunday, it should come as no surprise that they believe homosexuality is a sin. As U.S. citizens, they were exercising their First Amendment rights to free speech and religion.

And many people, including me, find that honorable.

The problem with many gay rights advocates is that they try to bully people into subscribing to their point of view. If you don't believe in same-sex marriages or object to their trying to re-frame their position as an issue of "marriage equity," they are quick to dismiss your genuinely-held opinion as homophobia. No, many opponents of gay marriages are not homophobic - they simply believe it is a sin. Most major religions - including Christianity, Catholicism, Islam, Mormonism and Orthodox Judaism - reject homosexuality. Of course, the problem with some opponents of same-sex marriage is that want to invoke the Bible selectively instead of following all its teachings.

In arguing that gay rights activists shouldn't boycott Chick-fil-A, some liberals are also wrong. Whether you agree with them or not, gay rights activists and their supporters have the right to spend their money with whom they please.

And by urging a boycott of Chick-fil-A, which is a \$4 billion a year business, activists are borrowing a page from what leaders of the civil rights movement did in the 1950s and 1960s to break down the

walls of segregation.

Politicians on the left and on the right have injected themselves into the controversy.

Former Arkansas governor and Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee picked Aug. 1 as the day for people to eat at Chick-fil-A to show their support for the company. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLADD) is promoting a National Same-Sex Kiss Day to be held Aug. 3 at Chick-fil-A restaurants across the country.

The most disturbing part of this controversy is that elected officials are threatening to block Chick-fil-A from building restaurants in their communities. Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino have said they might seek to block Chick-fil-A from expanding in their communities. That would amount to government censorship; no one should be punished by elected officials for exercising their right to free speech.

As the *Boston Herald* observed, "Which part of the First Amendment does [Mayor] Menino not understand?" The editorial continued, "If the mayor of a conservative town tried to keep out gay-friendly Starbucks or Apple, it would be an outrage."

It's outrageous that the president of Chick-fil-A, exercising his constitutional rights, is being persecuted for expressing support for the Bible. It's outrageous to try to prevent gay and lesbian advocates from directing dollars away from a business that they deem unsupportive. And it's outrageous for anyone on the left or right to think that they should dictate the personal views and opinions of others.

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine, is editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA) and editorial director of Heart & Soul magazine. He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge.

Where's the outrage over kids dying in Chicago?

By Raynard Jackson
NNPA Columnist



From July 20-July 24, I refused to watch TV or listen to the radio. The 20th was the day the media frenzy began in the aftermath of the shootings in Aurora, Colo. Though my heart goes out to any family that lost a loved one, it's very difficult to justify the around-the-clock media saturation that followed those horrendous shootings. We should value all life, not just when mass murder occurs in the suburbs or some white blond female turns up missing on a sunny island.

Black children have died in massive numbers in Chicago for years, few people seem to notice or fewer seem to even care. No, I am not trying to turn the Colorado shooting into a racial issue. But I am saying the race of the victims does matter, at least when it comes to national media attention.

During the first half of this year in Chicago, 201 of 259 homicide victims were black (44 were Hispanic, and 11 were white). There have been more homicides in Chicago this year than the number of our soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

If the media really wanted a story, they wouldn't ignore those figures. Blacks account for 33 percent of the city's population, but accounted for 78 percent of the homicides during this time period. According to spokesman for the Chicago police department, "most of the violent crime happened in poor, mostly black neighborhoods on the South and West sides [mind you that President Obama lives on the South side]...and a majority of both homicide victims and offenders are young black men with criminal records...With one exception, blacks have made up more than 70 percent of homicide victims in Chicago every year for the last

two decades."

President Obama and Romney, the Republican who wants to replace him, both suspended political ads in Colorado, they both made statements the same day of the shootings and suspended their campaigns for the day. The president even made a special trip to Colorado to pay his condolences.

But he hasn't made a regular or special trip to Chicago, his adopted hometown, to deplore the killings there. And nor has Romney. Maybe they feel there is no political gain in [caring] about the Southside's losses.

As professor Cornel West [said] in the title of one of his books, "Race Matters." And so does class. In Colorado, the victims were middle to upward middle class suburbanites. In Chicago, the victims were poor and black.

In today's politically correct society, no one wants to speak the truth. The problem of crime has everything to do with poverty - not economic poverty; but rather a poverty of values. There are no absolute principles in society anymore. Marriage is no longer defined by the union of one male and one female. Children are no longer born male or female. Lying is no longer wrong.

Marriage is now defined as between two people who love each other (regardless of gender); children now say they were born in the wrong body and want to have surgery to change their sexual organs. Lying is now contingent upon the reason for the lie.

This breakdown in values - where there are no absolutes, is at the root of the crime problem in Chicago and throughout the country. There are absolutes. There is right and wrong. Marriage is between one man and one woman. Your sexuality is what you are at birth. Lying is wrong, period.

Obama has not said a word

about what's going on in Chicago, though he is from there. Romney doesn't have the guts or the compassion to go there to meet with the community and share his vision for dealing with this issue.

The real crime is not the excessive media coverage of Aurora and the lack thereof for Chicago. Rather, it's the acceptance by all that this is normal in the black community. George W. Bush called it, "the soft bigotry of low expectations."

Look at what the director of the University of Chicago's Crime Lab, Jens Ludwig had to say about blacks and crime, "This program, however, suggests that violence is more responsive to targeted social programs than I had thought. There was an amazingly huge reduction in violence. It was a surprise to me. We really can prevent crime." (<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2012/07/13/a-new-way-to-fight-juvenile-crime-in-chicago.print.html>). Are you kidding me? He was surprised that crime can be prevented?

This type of thinking from someone who is supposed to be educated and from one of the best rated schools in the country is stunning.

But most importantly, where is the moral outrage and righteous indignation from within the black community over what is happening in Chicago. Where are the voices of President Obama, Jennifer Hudson, Michael Jordan, R. Kelly, Common - all of whom have Chicago ties? But let a supporter of Romney make a stupid comment about blacks or Obama and these same people will be all over twitter. The silence is deafening.

Raynard Jackson is president & CEO of Raynard Jackson & Associates, LLC., a D.C.-public relations/government affairs firm. His website is: www.raynardjackson.com.

Valuing some lives over others

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist



The national support for the victims of the recent Colorado shootings is great. However, if we believe in the equivalency of life, what about the lives of young men in Chicago, where there have been more deaths than in Afghanistan so far this year. While the hospitals in Aurora say they will cover hospital bills for those without insurance (one in three in Colorado), who will cover bills for those who are hospitalized after a drive-by? We mourn some deaths and ignore others, which suggests that some life is valued and some life is cheap.

Does it have anything to do with media attention? In Tuscaloosa, Ala., a crazed man walked into a bar looking for "a black man." He shot a man who did not know him, and with whom he had no beef. He also wounded 17 other people. Why has this story received only limited national attention?

If we spend a minute watching any news, we have heard about Veronica Moser, the 6-year-old who was massacred in Aurora. We've seen pictures of her smiling face and of her playing. Certainly we can all mourn the tragedy of her young life being snuffed out by a madman. Still, some young lives are valued, while others are not. One of the young deaths that rocked my soul was the 2004 murder of Chelsea Cromartie, who sat in her grandmother's window

playing with her dolls when she was killed by a stray bullet. She wrote, in a classroom exercise, that she was an "amazing girl". We don't have to go back to 2004 to find a child's death. Two weeks ago, Heaven Sutter, who had just had her hair styled for a trip to Disney World, was shot. Again the culprit was a stray bullet.

Details of the lives of those who are killed humanizes them and tugs at our heartstrings. In Aurora, we have learned about a man whose wife just gave birth, about another who died saving his girlfriend, of a young woman who missed a Toronto mass murder by a few seconds, aspired to be a sports journalist, and was killed in Aurora. Rarely do we hear about the lives of those who are killed in the inner city, about the lives of Chelsea Cromartie and Heaven Sutter.

The disproportionality of death commentary hits home when one remembers the stories in the New York Times after Sept. 11, 2001. For months, postage stamp sized photos accompanied short but revealing blurbs about those who lost their lives. On one hand, the blurbs were humanizing. For me, though, they were a reminder of the equivalency of life and the lives we choose to ignore.

There were 12,000 gun-related deaths in the United States in 2008. Eighty percent of the gun deaths in the world's 23 richest countries happened in the United States, as did 87 percent of the deaths of children. We have more than 270 million privately-owned guns in this country. When we add the number of military (police,

sheriffs) guns, there is at least one gun for every man, woman and child in this country. Some hark back to their Second Amendment rights in their gun ownership, but the Second Amendment was passed before assault weapons and Glocks. If people have the right to bear arms, do they have the right to have 6,000 rounds of ammunition, obtained on the Internet? If we can't limit guns, can we at least regulate the distribution of ammunition?

In the same year that there were 12,000 gun deaths in the United States, there were a scant 11 gun-related deaths in Japan. Indeed, while the United States has 90 privately held guns per 100 people, the next largest per capita rate of privately held guns is in Yemen. In contrast, China has three guns per 100 people.

The National Rifle Association loves to say, "guns don't kill, people do." As usual, they display limited thinking. People with guns are the ones who kill! Why won't we address that by dealing with issues of gun and ammunition control?

The 12 people who lost their lives represent a fraction of 1 percent of those who die from gun violence annually. As we mourn these lives, let us mourn the lives of the thousands who were also killed because it is easier to buy a weapon than it is to buy marijuana in most parts of our nation.

Julianne Malveaux is a Washington, D.C.-based economist and writer. She is President Emerita of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, N.C.

JPS Parent of the Year recognized as finalist for State Parent of the Year

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Tonya Murphy, a Rowan Middle School parent and the 2012 JPS Parent of the Year, was recognized as a State Parent of the Year finalist by the Mississippi State Board of Education during the Board's regular meeting July 20. JPS Superintendent Dr. Cedrick Gray congratulated Murphy for the honor. Murphy's other supporters included the Rowan librarian, and her friends from Operation Shoestring.

Murphy was named the Jackson Public Schools Parent of the Year in April 2012 and became the district's representative for the State award. Her sons Gregory and Jordan were students at Rowan Middle School when she was named.



Superintendent Gray and Mississippi's POY Tonya Murphy

PSA

JPS Middle and High School Parents!

In an effort to ensure a smooth transition to the 2012-2013 school year, Jackson Public Schools is asking all new and returning students to please register at the schools within their assigned zone. This will help ensure that the students and school staff can plan an appropriate class schedule prior to the first day of school and everyone can focus on attending classes on the first day.

Please also be reminded that all middle school students are required to wear uniforms when the first school day bells ring August 10. For a more information on the JPS uniform requirements and the mandatory dress code policy, please visit www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

Parents can register their children from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, at their child's school until Friday, August 3. For more information, please contact your child's school.

JROTC Instructor named Murrah High School Teacher of the Year

The Mississippi Link Newswire

JROTC instructor Lieutenant Colonel Veronica L. Baker was named the Murrah High School 2011-12 Teacher of the Year during a program held at the school May 31. LTC Baker is believed to be the first JROTC instructor ever to be named a school's Teacher of the Year in Jackson Public Schools. She was the overwhelming choice of her colleagues at Murrah.

"Colonel Baker is an awesome teacher, mentor, and leader," said Murrah Principal Dr. Freddrick Murray. "She works diligently each day to assure that her cadets are first class students. Her attention to detail and willingness to go beyond the call of duty make her a perfect candidate for the recognition."

LTC Baker holds a bachelor's degree from Morgan State University, located in her native state of Maryland. She earned a master's degree in administration from Central Michigan University. Her duties as a United States Army officer transported her across the globe with overseas assignments in Frankfurt, Germany, Seoul, Korea, and Panama City, Panama. She served as a NATO officer in Izmir, Turkey and was deployed to Sarajevo, Bosnia.

With each move, LTC Baker has moved up the ranks, starting as a Platoon Leader and advancing to Chief of Combined Interoperability Branch during an assignment in Hawaii.

Before retiring from the Army in 2006, she made history at Virginia State University



Bakers

(Petersburg) as the first female to hold the position of Professor of Military Science there. She is currently Senior Army Instructor at Murrah High School where it is believed she has made history once again.



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Registration Underway in Jackson Public Schools for 2012-2013 School Year

Parents, avoid the long lines later and register your kids now! Registration is underway for the Jackson Public Schools. Parents of students Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade can register their children from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, at their child's school until Friday, August 3, 2012.

All students must be registered at the school for which they are zoned for the 2012-2013 school year. Students accepted into a magnet school must be registered at their program school. No special transfers will be approved by school level administration. Such transfers may only be approved by the Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and Curriculum. Students must meet all Mississippi Department of Health requirements, including the new Tdap vaccination requirement for all seventh graders beginning this school year.

For a list of registration requirements and to view a map of JPS School zones, log onto www.jackson.k12.ms.us. For more information, please call the Office of Pupil Placement at 601-960-8852.



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JSU president honors high grant producers

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University President Carolyn W. Meyers honored 17 JSU researchers at a July 26 appreciation dinner at her home for achieving the top-funded projects during FY2011-2012.

Together, the researchers generated more than \$24 million of the university's \$49 million in sponsored research for the fiscal year.

"Research and innovation drive higher education and serve as an economic engine for our state and nation," Meyers said. "These scholars and leaders have all distinguished themselves this year by advancing work in their respective fields. They are all a valuable asset to Jackson State University and to the communities we serve."

- Honorees and areas of expertise:
- Dr. Herman Taylor, Jackson Heart Study
 - Dr. Ally Mack, international education and culture
 - Dr. Patricia Jernigan, cultural exchange
 - Dr. Paul Tchounwou, environmental health
 - Dr. Ashton Hamme, organic chemistry
 - Dr. Marinelle Payton, health disparities
 - Dr. Raphael Isokpehi, bioinformatics
 - Dr. Johnnie Mills-Jones, continuing education
 - Dr. William McHenry, chemistry teacher training
 - Dr. Jerzy Leszczynski, computational chemistry



President Carolyn Meyers (left) and Dr. Felix Okojie (right) congratulate Dr. Herman Taylor (center). PHOTO COURTESY OF JSU

tional chemistry

- Velesha Williams, community outreach
- Dr. Felix Okojie, research and federal relations
- Dr. Loretta Moore, advancing women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics
- Dr. CoSandra McNeal, sociology
- Dr. Paresh Ray, materials science
- Dr. Hari Cohly, microbiology/inventor

This past fiscal year Jackson State University received \$49 million from federal and state agencies and private foundations to fund 180 projects that continue to expand the work of the university. The National Science Foun-

dation Research and Development expenditures report of U.S. institutions of higher learning ranked JSU No. 2 in research and development expenditures among all Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Hinds CC graduates more than 300 in summer exercises



Dr. Richard Gavant, center, chairman of the dental assisting program at Hinds Community College's Jackson Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center, poses with some of his students at the July 27 graduation ceremony. They are, front left, Hannah Walters of Richland, Mary Malone of Jackson, right; back, Hannah Osborn of Clinton, Roshanda Kitchens of Jackson and Amanda Alexander of Richland.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

RAYMOND - Hinds Community College graduated 337 students, including 277 who chose to compete in one of two summer ceremonies on July 27.

Among those was Timothy McArthur, 19, of Edwards, who also has two years of classes under his belt at the University of Mississippi toward his major in mechanical engineering and will be headed back there.

McArthur was a homeschooled high school student who enrolled in a number of courses at Hinds, such as chemistry. With those courses and some he took over the summer, he realized he had enough hours to get an associate degree in general studies at Hinds.

"I thought, 'Why not do it?'" he said of his decision.

Zina Price, 56, of Ridgeland received a degree in office system technology. "It took me 36 years to get back to school," she said. "With all the kids grown, it's mama time."

She planned to transfer to Jackson State University.

Jordan Nelson, 22, of Brandon, on the other hand, was ready to start to work after receiving an associate degree in land surveying. "I didn't have anything I wanted to do out of high school," he said. "This seemed like something I would like."

Hinds President Dr. Clyde Muse

told graduates he appreciated their choosing Hinds. "We are very proud and greatly honored you entrusted our institution with the responsibility of helping you achieve your next step in life's journey," he said. "Today's high school graduate can expect to qualify for about 15 percent of the jobs that are out there. The rest require an education beyond high school. Community college or four-year college is the pathway."

Rep. John Moore of Brandon spoke to graduates at the 10 a.m. ceremony.

"It's amazing the impact that Hinds Community has had on the people of Mississippi and the futures of our taxpayers and our citizens," he said. "You have proven yourselves worthy to be graduates of this extraordinary institution. You're now academically and technically qualified to meet the next challenges of your life, whether that be starting a new career, whether it be going on to a university to further your education, whether you're starting over or just entering the job force for the first time."



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Obama administration announces ground-breaking public-private partnership to prevent health care fraud

The Mississippi Link Newswire

WASHINGTON - Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Attorney General Eric Holder announced [Thursday, July 26] the launch of a ground-breaking partnership among the federal government, state officials, several leading private health insurance organizations, and other health care anti-fraud groups to prevent health care fraud. This voluntary, collaborative arrangement uniting public and private organizations is the next step in the Obama administration's efforts to combat health care fraud and safeguard health care dollars to better protect taxpayers and consumers.

The new partnership is designed to share information and best practices in order to improve detection and prevent payment of fraudulent health care billings. Its goal is to reveal and halt scams that cut across a number of public and private payers. The partnership will enable those on the front lines of industry anti-fraud efforts to share their insights more easily with investigators, prosecutors, policymakers and other stakeholders.

holders. It will help law enforcement officials to more effectively identify and prevent suspicious activities, better protect patients' confidential information and use the full range of tools and authorities provided by the Affordable Care Act and other essential statutes to combat and prosecute illegal actions.

"This partnership puts criminals on notice that we will find them and stop them before they steal health care dollars," Secretary Sebelius said. "Thanks to this initiative today and the anti-fraud tools that were made available by the health care law, we are working to stamp out these crimes and abuse in our health care system."

One innovative objective of the partnership is to share information on specific schemes, utilized billing codes and geographical fraud hot-spots so that action can be taken to prevent losses to both government and private health plans before they occur. Another potential goal of the partnership is the ability to spot and stop payments billed to different insurers for care delivered to the same patient on the same day in two different cities.

A potential long-range goal of the partnership is to use sophisticated technology and analytics on industry-wide healthcare data to predict and detect health care fraud schemes.

"This partnership is a critical step forward in strengthening our nation's fight against health care fraud," said Attorney General Holder. "This Administration has established a record of success in combating devastating fraud crimes, but there is more we can and must do to protect patients, consumers, essential health care programs, and precious taxpayer dollars. Bringing additional health care industry leaders and experts into this work will allow us to act more quickly and effectively in identifying and stopping fraud schemes, seeking justice for victims, and safeguarding our health care system."

The Executive Board, the Data Analysis and Review Committee, and the Information Sharing Committee will hold their first meeting in September. Until then, several public-private working groups will continue to meet to finalize the operational structure of the partnership

and develop its draft initial work plan.

The following organizations and government agencies are among the first to join this partnership:

- America's Health Insurance Plans
- Amerigroup Corporation
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- Coalition Against Insurance Fraud
- Federal Bureau of Investigations
- Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General
- Humana Inc.
- Independence Blue Cross
- National Association of Insurance Commissioners
- National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units
- National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association
- National Insurance Crime Bureau
- New York Office of Medicaid Inspector General

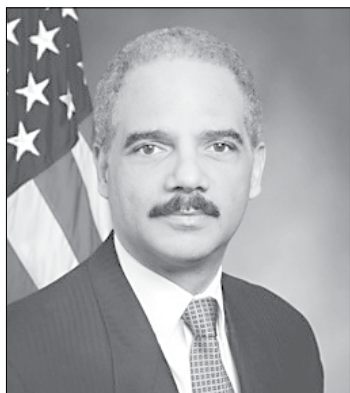


Sebelius

- Travelers
- Tufts Health Plan
- UnitedHealth Group
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Justice
- WellPoint, Inc.

The partnership builds on existing tools provided by the Affordable Care Act, resulting in:

- Tougher sentences for people convicted of health care fraud. Criminals will receive 20 to 50 percent longer sentences for crimes that involve more than \$1 million in losses;
- Enhanced screenings of Medicare and Medicaid providers and



Holder

suppliers to keep fraudsters out of the program.

- Suspended payments to providers and suppliers engaged in suspected fraudulent activity.

The administration's efforts to date have already resulted in a record-breaking \$10.7 billion in recoveries of health care fraud over the last three years.

For more information on this partnership and the Obama administration's work to combat health care fraud, please visit: <http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/2011/03/fraud03152011a.htm> or www.stopmedicarefraud.gov

Jay A. Young, MD joins Central MS ENT

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jay A. Young, MD has joined the practice of Central Mississippi ENT. He has joined the active medical staff of both Central Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson and Madison River Oaks Medical Center off Nissan Parkway in Canton.

Dr. Young was born and raised

in Jackson, Miss. and has returned home to help serve the community where he grew up. He comes from Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he completed both his residency in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery and his internship in general surgery.

He received his medical degree from the University of Mississippi

Medical Center, and he also holds a degree in biomedical engineering from Tulane University.

Maintaining scholarly activity, Young has a multitude of basic science publications, clinical reviews, and oral presentations at national meetings. Additionally, he currently has a patent in development for a Novel Device for Intraoperative

Ultrasound and Surgical Drilling.

His professional society memberships include the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Mississippi Society of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy, and the American Medical Association. Young specializes in ear disease, chronic ear disease and ear disorders, nasal airway obstruction,

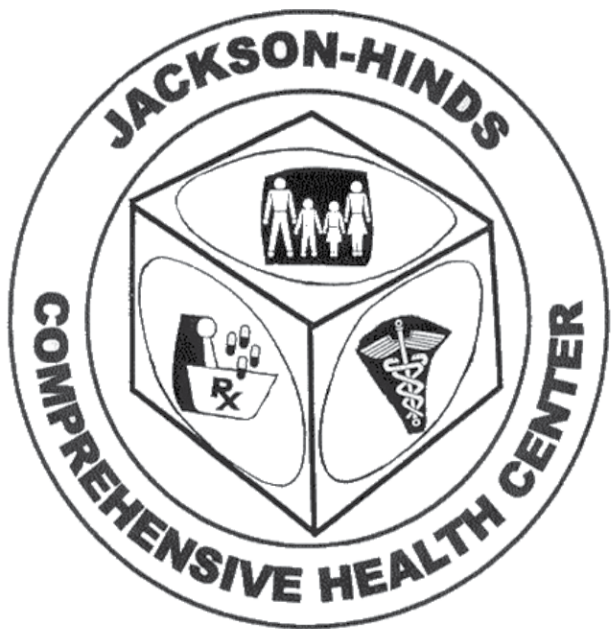
voice and swallowing disorders, minimally invasive sinus surgery, thyroid and parathyroid surgery, head and neck surgery, sleep apnea surgery, balance disorders and more.

He is accepting patients of all ages at two convenient locations - 1860 Chadwick Drive, Suite 101 in Jackson and 160 River Oaks Drive, Suite A in Canton.

For more information or to make an appointment with Dr. Young, call (601) 376-2971.



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by Burnett Hanson, M.D.
Medical Director
Department of Radiation Oncology

PREScription FOR SUN-DAMAGED SKIN

The tough, dry, scaly patches of skin know as "actinic keratoses" that form on the outer layer of skin are the result of years of exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays. These lesions rank as one of the top reasons for visits to dermatologists. Actinic keratoses represent the earliest stage in the development of skin cancer and can progress to potentially fatal squamous cell carcinoma and form most commonly on the faces, ears, lips, scalps, necks, forearms, and backs of the hands of older and fair-skinned individuals. While prevention is the primary goal,

frequent self-exams and screening by the dermatologist can lead to early detection and effective treatment. Applying a prescription cream called imiquimod for two weeks has been found to be one of a number of effective treatments, which include cryotherapy (freezing), excision (surgical removal), and curettage/electro-desiccation.

Whether you enjoy walking or playing sports, you are exposing your skin to harmful UV rays. AT THE MISSISSIPPI CANCER INSTITUTE, we remind readers that anyone who spends a lot of time in

the sun is at risk for developing skin cancer. Protect yourself by wearing sunscreen and checking your skin. If you or a loved one is diagnosed with skin cancer and told to have radiation therapy, please call us at 601-249-5510. We perform state of the art radiation therapies that deliver a strong dose of radiation to tumors, while sparing healthy surrounding tissue. Therapies include IMRT (intensity modulated radiation therapy) and IGRT (image-guided radiation therapy). We are located close to home at 1501 Aston Avenue in McComb.

THE MISSISSIPPI CANCER INSTITUTE
1501 Aston Avenue, McComb
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Back to Basics creates new music for choirs

By Daphne M. Higgins
Religion Editor

Singers and musicians from across the metropolitan area are invited to join the College Hill Missionary Baptist Church Music Ministry in their first Back-to-Basics Workshop which began Wednesday, Aug. 1 and will continue through Sunday, Aug. 5. The workshop's focus is on praise, worship and lifestyle.

Leading the music workshop is Elder Kelvin Manson, the minister of music at the Salem Bible Church in Atlanta, Ga. Manson has spent the last 23 years of his life, ministering to the body of Christ through music. The anointed, talented and gifted director began directing at the age of 12.

Manson's credentials include: First Place in his division for NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing), Georgia Music Educa-

tors Association All-College Choir, as well as an Associate of Science Degree (Music) from Georgia Perimeter College.

He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix in 2011, and is now in pursuit of his MBA degree from University of Phoenix. He is expected to graduate in December 2013.

Along with serving as the Minister of Music, Worship and Arts under the leadership of his spiritual father, the Pastor Jasper Williams Jr., Manson also serves as general manager for the church's record label, Church Door Records. Under the church's record label, Manson produced and directed the Stellar nominated and Gospel Choice award winning CD/DVD of Jasper Williams Jr. and the Salem Bible Church Mass Choir titled, "Landmark".

Manson has been a part of the Atlanta Chapter of Gospel Music Workshop of America since 1994, under the leadership of Evelyn White, where he serves as one of the directors in the Music Department. Manson was asked by Rev. Melvin V. Wade to serve as a teacher for the class, "Bridging the Gap between Pastors and Ministers of Music," in the GMWA. Manson serves as one of the faculty members for the GMWA as well as the Assistant National Worship Leader for the organization. Manson also authored a music ministry manual titled, "Tips for an Effective Music Ministry." The manual is a guide to assist Ministers of Music in having and maintaining an excellent and effective music ministry.

The Back-to-Basic workshops begin at 6 p.m. A 1 p.m. forum



Manson

will be held Saturday and a concert Sunday, at 5 p.m. Registration for this event - which will be held at the church - located at 1600 Florence Ave., Jackson; is \$20.

For more information, contact the Minister of Music at College Hill M. B. Church, Brandon Mitchell, at 601-392-0583 or call the church at 601-355-2670.

Message from the Religion Editor

By Daphne Higgins
Religion Editor



It's seldom that I chime in on the latest headlines and that is intentional. I leave the heavy stuff for the editors who enjoy the investigative aspect of being a journalist. Me, I love features but occasionally, I do get caught up in sharing my opinions about the affairs of the world.

One of the hottest topics in the metropolitan area this week is the denial of a black couple to hold their wedding at First Baptist Church of Crystal Springs, Miss.

I've read numerous comments that have been posted on area media websites and "wow" is all that I have to say! Some of those who are sharing their comments are trying to be sensible, some apologetic and some are just downright nasty. Regardless of the interpreted tone, it is obvious that a lot of people are sincerely expressing their opinions about this issue of race relations in Mississippi and Christianity.

Of course, you know me, I'm not shy about telling you that I often go to the Word to see what the Lord shares with us and there it was, as plain as day, several verses that are so often shared, but so often deleted from instant memory because it doesn't fit the thought process of the day. I'd like to share many of them with you.

Genesis 1:27 - "So God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them male and female."

John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave His Only Begotten Son so that whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."

Malachi 2:10 - "Don't all of us have the same father? Hasn't the same God created us? Why are we unfaithful to each other? And why do we dishonor the promise given to our ancestors?"

Ephesians 4:4-6 - "There is one body and one Spirit - just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call 5) one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6) one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

Matthew 22:37-39 - Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like unto it: love your neighbor as yourself."

I'll end the summary of verses with the one that I best think fits this discussion:

Galatians 3:26-28 - "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

sus."

Yes, we are a Nation known for the injustice of people. This country began with the invasion of the home of Native Americans and later the transplanting of Africans to a land and life that was unknown. Wars have been fought across this land for centuries using freedom as the basis for its origin. We are also a country that boasts: "one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Again, I'm sharing words with you that you have heard all of your life but I chose to remind you of them now because so few of them are being shared in the comment section of any of the websites that I have read lately. Race is an issue that not many people want to discuss publicly but it is a subject that, with proper discussion, can change a country.

I truly believe that because of the sharing of the Wilson's, the couple who was denied the use of the church (that they regularly attended) for their wedding, and words shared by the church's pastor regarding his action to ask the Wilson's to move to a new location, a message has been nestled between the lines for a long time - "tell others what God said."

Many may not see the good in this story that could have occurred anywhere in the United States of America, but it happened right here in our wonderful state of Mississippi and reignited a discussion that publicly comes and goes. As a nation, we are often too silent with sharing God's news. Now, as a Mississippi community, our voices can be heard around the world and His blessings will be our reward.

Because of God's goodness, countless blessings are bestowed upon each and every one of us. Because of God's goodness, we serve as vessels moving through life, taking us where God leads us to share His message of love and salvation.

As always, we ask that you let us help you to communicate the good news of our Lord. Isaiah 52:7a reads, "What a beautiful sight it is to see messengers coming with good news!"

The King James Version of Isaiah 52:7b reads, "Your God reigns." His presence is everywhere and so should the news of His love for all of His children.

The Mississippi Link, a messenger for news in and around the state of Mississippi, would like to not only share your news but all who would like to tell others about the Lord's goodness and about their places of worship and even those religious institutions that are visited.

Daphne M. Higgins at religion@mississippilink.com. You may fax to 601-896-0091 or mail your information to The Mississippi Link at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213.

Music lasts forever with Mississippi awards

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Gospel Music Awards hosted its 34th annual celebration at the Marriott Hotel in Jackson Sunday, July 29. During the awards program, 29 different categories were presented. One category included the Community Choir of the Year, which was sponsored by The Mississippi Link newspaper. The newspaper's publisher, Jackie Hampton, presented this honor to the choir - Youth With a Vision.

A special presentation included a \$1,000 check from the parent organization, Jackson Music Awards Association, to the Mississippi Special Olympics.

Other Mississippi Gospel Music Awards winners/honorees included:

- Female Lead Singer of a Local Church Choir: Tina McLin
- Best Engineered Recording: Jason Rome for Living on the Lord's
- National Female Soloist of the Year: Genita Pugh
- Local Female Vocalist of the Year: Janis Johnson-Durr
- Local Group of the Year: The Kaiser Singers
- Song of the Year by a National Single Artist: I Can't Live by Genita Pugh
- Jackson Gospel Radio Announcer of the Year: Nikke Dulanney
- National Male Lead Singer of a Group: Melvin Williams
- Local Musician of the Year: Sherry Milton
- Local Male Lead Singer of the Year: Lavell Harper
- Dance Ministry of the Year: Lynch Street CME Praise Team
- Mississippi Gospel Radio Announcer of the Year: Mary Griffin, WTYJ, Natchez
- National Musician of the Year: Billy Voss
- Songwriter of the Year: Stan Jones for He Laid His Hands on Me
- National Male Soloist of the Year: Troy Sneed
- Male Chorus of the Year: New Hope Male Chorus
- The Harvey Watkins Sr. Memorial Award: Pastor Dr. M.J. Williams
- Local Church Choir Director of the Year: Lisa Williams
- National Producer of the Year: Stan Jones
- Album of the Year Recorded by an Upcoming Artist: Fix Me, Pastor Douglas Noel & Friendz
- Best Song Recorded by a National Group: You, Thank You by The Williams Brothers
- Album of the Year Recorded by a National Group: Live at the Hard Rock by The Williams Brothers
- The Roy Wooten Award: Tommy Couch Sr., Steward Madison and Wolf Stephenson of Malaco Records
- National Group of the Year: The Canton Spirituals
- Local Church Choir of the Year: Rehoboth International Ministries
- The Linzy "Don" Dixon Memorial Award: Curtis Taylor

- Side by Lee Williams and the Spiritual QC's
- The Frank Williams Memorial Award: Mama Curtis
- Spoken Word: Minister Jasper Orr, Bad Boys; Rev Charles Polk, Help Is on the Way; Pastor Falonda Washington, Rejoice



A praise performance by Lynch St. CME Praise Ministry, winners of the Dance Ministry of the Year PHOTOS BY GAIL M. BROWN



Jackson Music Awards president, Jesse Thompson, presents \$1,000 check to Mississippi's Special Olympics representative.



Special guest hosts Evelyn Turrentine-Agee and returning Harvey Watkins Jr. of the Canton Spirituals



Local Group of the Year - The Kaiser Singers



Pearl Street AME Church Pastor Samuel Boyd is among the pastor honorees.



Stan Jones, one of three special hosts



Female Vocalist of the Year - Janis Johnson-Durr

VaShawn Mitchell Releases a New Album

eurweb.com

Gospel award winning recording artist, VaShawn Mitchell will release his new project, “Created 4 This,” Aug. 28.

The album will also be released as a Deluxe Edition CD and DVD, which features 13 songs, three live performance videos, and exclusive behind-the-scene footage. Additionally, fans can pre-order the new album at iTunes beginning Aug. 7.

The first single, “Turning Around For Me” enters at No. 13 on Billboard’s Top Christian/Gospel Digital Songs chart. Mitchell also appeared at this year’s *ESSENCE* Music Festival in New Orleans

Mitchell is also scheduled to appear on WBLS-FM’s Central Park Summer Stage concert event on Aug. 5 in New York City. Mitchell will also co-host Verizon’s How Sweet The Sound event in Detroit (Sept. 15) and Los Angeles (Sept. 21).

The acclaimed songwriter is best known for his mega hit



Mitchell

song “Nobody Greater” from the “Triumphant” album. In 2011, Mitchell received 11 Stellar Award nominations, the most nominations received by an artist that year. Billboard magazine declared “Nobody Greater” the No.1


Most Played Gospel Song of 2011. Mitchell was named Billboard’s No.1 Gospel Radio Artist of 2011 and Triumphant was among the Top 5 Gospel Albums of 2011. The single held the No.1 position for nine consecutive weeks

on Billboard’s Hot Gospel Songs chart and crossed-over to the Urban Contemporary Adult charts. Mitchell also received two Grammy and two GMA Dove Award nominations for both the album and single.

The Top 10 Gospel Songs from the Billboard Gospel Charts for the week of August 2

SONGS	ARTISTS	ALBUM
1. Awesome	Pastor Charles Jenkins & Fellowship Chicago	
2. Shifting The Atmosphere	Jason Nelson	Shifting The Atmosphere
3. Take Me To The King	Tamela Mann featuring Kirk Franklin	
4. Let The Church Say Amen	Andrae Crouch featuring Marvin Winans	
5. Go Get It	Mary Mary	Go Get It
6. My Testimony	Marvin Sapp	
7. After This	Youthful Praise Featuring JJ Hairston	
8. I Feel Good	Fred Hammond	God, Love and Romance
9. I Won't Go Back	William McDowell	
10. Keep Me	Patrick Dopson	Open the Heavens

To listen to snippets of these songs, please visit billboard.com/charts/gospel-song



50 Shades of Faith

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



It is “the” book of the year. The book of course is the romantic, suspense-filled erotic novel

50 “Shades of Grey” by E.L. James. This bestselling book has sold 31 million copies worldwide and has even replaced the Bible in some hotels. There is even a movie in the works.

It took me a minute to go beyond the hype of what some are calling “mommy porn” and get the heart of what I believe the whole “50 Shades” phenomenon is about. It’s true that the book has some very explicitly detailed sexual scenes. It’s also true that some have credited the book with adding some much needed passion back into their relationships.

I think that one of the truths of the book is also about taking a challenging risk to explore and pursue something that you may have always wanted in your life...but didn’t believe was possible. Whether you choose to do that in your personal life with a sexual partner is really no one’s business but your own.

As a writer, I admire what the author has done, not necessarily in what she wrote about but in how she did it. She was an unknown but determined writer who took a risk. 50 Shades of Grey is her first novel that was originally produced as an eBook. Once it became an underground eBook hit, she then was offered mainstream publishing contracts. She wrote it years after she’d

put her dreams of writing love stories aside to pursue a career in broadcasting and raise her family.

Whether she knows it, she took what we Christians know as the walk of faith. She took risks to try something new and never let go of her desire to be a romance author. How many of us can say that we’ve done the same? I’m not saying that God is telling anybody to write erotic fiction, however, I know that God has given each of us a dream and a purpose that we may have forgotten about. Often, I’ve read old journals and was reminded of things I said I wanted to do or believed God wanted me to do.

Luke 19:26, says, “He said, ‘That’s what I mean: Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of.’” Hearing God telling you to do something is only the first step. The next step is having the courage to hold onto what God is showing you and taking the risks to make it happen.

Are you a writer or have you had dreams of being a published writer? Learn about 50 Shades of Writing and learn how to take risks with your writing at this year’s Do the Write Thing Writing Workshop Aug. 17 and 18 in Hurst, Texas. This year’s speakers include author Ann Weisgarber and Spoken Word Poet Michael Guinn. Visit www.thewritethingworkshop.com for more details.

Shewanda Riley is the author of the *Essence* best-seller “Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose after a Relationship Ends.” She can be reached at lovehangover@juno.com or by visiting www.shewandariley.com.

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AT JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 009-12; AIP PROJECT NO. 3-28-0037-042-2009)
JULY 25, 2012**

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") will receive sealed bids at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport ("JAN"), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 10:00 a.m. on August 23, 2012 (the "Bid Deadline"), for construction and related services in connection with the East Parallel Runway 16L-34R Pavement Rehabilitation, Phase II (the "Work").

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 10:05 a.m. on August 23, 2012 (the "Bid Opening") in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the bidder's Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number (or a statement that the bid does not exceed \$50,000) and with the wording: "Bid for Runway Pavement Rehabilitation, Phase II – JMAA Project No. 009-12." Bid proposals, amendments to bids or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever. Bidders and their authorized representatives are invited to be present at the Bid Opening.

JMAA will award the Work to the lowest and best bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Bid Documents. The Bid Documents contain, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders, the Form of Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and best bidder and Plans and Specifications for the Work.

The Bid Documents are on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the following address:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
Suite 300, Main Terminal Building
Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
100 International Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 664-3536
Facsimile: (601) 664-3537
Attention: Mr. Woodrow Wilson, Jr.
Senior Director of Capital Programming

A copy of the Bid Documents (including Plans and Specifications for the Work) may be obtained from Construction Image Printing, LLC upon payment of a \$100.00 refundable fee per set. Orders for the Bid Documents should be sent by facsimile or email as follows:

Construction Image Printing, LLC
5435 Executive Place, Suite B
Jackson, MS 39206
Telephone: (601) 366-5858
Facsimile: (601) 366-5838
Email: files@cipllc.net
Attention: Betty Alexis

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 10, 2012 in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is mandatory for all those submitting bids for the Work.

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued to each person requesting a copy of the Bid Documents; to reject any and all bids for any reason at any time prior to execution of the Agreement; to waive any and all informalities in the bidding process; and to hold all bids for examination for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: July 19, 2012 /s/ Dirk B. Vanderleest
Dirk B. Vanderleest, Chief Executive Officer

7/26/12, 8/2/12

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 3818

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Kevin T Wright has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a rezoning from C-3 (General Commercial District) to CMU-1 (Commercial Mixed-Use District, Pedestrian-Oriented) to allow for an independent/assisted living facility for property located at 5411 I-55 North-Frontage Rd., in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A 2.37 acre, more or less, parcel of land being situated in the Northwest quarter (NW¼) of the Southeast quarter (SE¼) of Section 12, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi and being more particularly described as follows:

The point of beginning being at an iron pin marking the intersection of the Westerly Right-Of-Way of Interstate Highway No. 55 North with the Northerly Right-Of-Way line of Culley Drive, as both are now (November, 1992) laid out and established, said point being 2,013.9 feet North of and 2,062.9 feet West of the Southeast corner of Section 12, Township 6 North, Range 1 East; Run thence South 88 degrees 23 minutes 00 seconds West and along said Northerly Right-Of-Way line of Culley Drive for a distance of 303.87 feet to the point of curvature of a curve to the right with a central angle of 51 degrees 14 minutes and 10 seconds, a radius 395.00 feet, and an arc distance of 393.23 feet; continue thence and along said curve to the right for an arc distance of 152.08 feet (Chord bearing and distance of North 80 degrees 35 minutes 13 seconds West 151.14 feet) leaving said Northerly Right-of-way line of Culley Drive; Run thence North 00 degrees 11 minutes 37 seconds West for a distance of 187.94 feet to a point; Run thence North 89 degrees 35 minutes 45 seconds East for a distance of 514.90 feet to an iron pin on said Westerly Right-Of-Way line of Interstate Highway No. 55; Run thence South 07 degrees 21 minutes 58 seconds West along said Westerly Right-Of-Way line of Interstate Highway No. 55 for a distance of 137.32 feet to a concrete Right-Of-Way monument; Run thence South 35 degrees 07 minutes 00 seconds West along said Westerly Right-Of-Way line for a distance of 73.51 feet to a concrete Right-Of-Way monument; Run thence South 07 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds West along said Westerly Right-Of-Way line for a distance of 11.50 feet to the point of beginning.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, August 22, 2012, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 25th day of July 2012.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth
Zoning Administrator
City of Jackson, Mississippi

8/2/12, 8/16/12

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO THE PUBLIC, OWNERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AND OF THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

You are hereby notified that the ad valorem tax assessment schedule of motor vehicles in the City of Jackson and in the Jackson Municipal Separate School District containing assessed valuation of all motor vehicles in said City and School District which the City shall use in the collection of ad valorem taxes thereon for the taxable year beginning August 1, 2012, has been prepared, filed, equalized and approved by the Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, pursuant to Chapter 588, Laws of 1958, as amended, subject to the right of motor vehicle owners and taxpayers to object to any of said valuations appearing on said assessment schedule; that said schedule for special equipment, trailers, motorcycles, ambulances and hearses is now ready for inspection and examination by the public, at City Hall located at 219 S. President Street in the City of Jackson and said schedule for passenger vehicles and light trucks is located in the computer system of the Hinds County Tax Collector and is now ready for inspection and examination by the public at the Hinds County Chancery Court Building, and that any objection to valuation of motor vehicles set forth and contained in said schedule shall be made in writing, setting forth in detail the grounds for such objection and claim for adjustments, with a full and complete identifiable description of the motor vehicle involved, and filed in duplicate with the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, at City Hall located at 219 S. President Street, in Jackson, Mississippi, on or before 10:00 a.m. on August 7, 2012 as provided by law, and particularly Section 27-51-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended.

The Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, will meet in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 219 S. President Street in said City on said date and will then commence hearing any objection to any valuation of motor vehicles set forth and contained in said assessment schedule which has been made in writing and filed with the City Clerk, as hereinabove provided, and will remain in session from day to day thereafter, considering such objection and claim for adjustment until all parties in interest have been heard and such objection for claim for adjustment is disposed of as provided by law.

8/2/12

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS City of Jackson Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, August 28, 2012, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

20057-082812 – Twenty Four – Month Supply of Men's short & Long Sleeve Shirts

75075-082812 – Twelve – Month Supply of Ready-Mixed Concrete

89029-082812 – Twenty Four – Month Supply of Curb Inlet Frames & Covers,

Box Grates and Manhole Riser Rings

The above must comply with the City's specifications. Copies of proposal forms can be obtained from the Purchasing Division, 200 South President Street, Room 604, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Copies of bid specifications are filed with the City Clerk for public record in accordance with House Bill No 999, 1986 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in Public Purchasing. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunities for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with each bid submission, in accordance with the provisions set forth by authority of the City of Jackson's EBO Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offer, from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City's EBO Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at (601)960-1638. Copies of the EBO Ordinance, EBO Plan Application and a copy of the EBO Program are available with the Office of Economic Development at 218 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The City also reserves the right to waive any and all informalities in respect to any bid submitted. Bid awards will be made to the lowest and best bidder quoting the lowest net price in accordance with specifications. The award could be according to the lowest cost per item; or to the lowest total cost for all items; or to accept all or part of any proposal. Delivery time may be considered when evaluating the bid proposal. In those cases where it is known prior to advertising that the City's intention is to award according to the lowest total cost for all items, or in some variation thereof, statements to this affect will be included on the proposal form. Absence of such statement means the City will make that determination during the bid review.

Janet D. Allison, CPPB, Supervisor
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1025 or 960-1022

8/2/12, 8/9/12

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Bid – 2241 Site Care for Jackson Public Schools

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. Local Prevailing Time) August 14, 2012, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing acrossley@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address.

7/26/12, 8/2/12

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Legal Notice

Request for Proposals To Lease and Occupy Facility

The City of Jackson, Mississippi, is interested in receiving proposals from non-profit organizations which currently provide services to residents of the Midtown Community to lease and occupy the City's Midtown Community Center located at 1030 Mill Street. An original and ___ copies of the organization's proposal must be delivered to the City Clerk's Office no later than 3:30 p.m. local time on Tuesday, August 28, 2012.

Interested organizations are invited to inspect and tour the facility on August 14, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Organizations planning to tour and inspect the facility are requested to call Gloria Fields-Anderson at (601) 960-0335 and provide the names of representatives anticipated to attend the inspection and tour.

Michael Raff
Director of the Department of
Human and Cultural Services
City of Jackson, MS

Sean Perkins
Chief of Staff
Office of the Mayor
City of Jackson, MS

8/2/12, 8/9/12

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401B, Woolfolk Building, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Thursday, 08/23/2012, for:

RE: GS# 108-271 Campus Lighting - PH II
University of Southern Mississippi

at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contract documents may be obtained from:

Professional: Neel-Schaffer, Inc. - Hattiesburg
(Jackson, Mississippi, through the Office listed herein)
Address: Post Office Box 1487
704 Hardy Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39403
Phone: 601-545-1565

A deposit of \$100.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

Glenn R. Kombrek, Bureau
Director

7/26/12, 8/2/12

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

TANK REPAIRS LIVINGSTON PARK ELEVATED TANK CITY OF JACKSON PROJECT NO. 12B0101901

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 219 South President Street, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 P.M. Local Time, Tuesday, September 11, 2012, for supplying all labor and materials (as specified) necessary for construction of TANK REPAIRS, Livingston Park Elevated Tank, CITY PROJECT NO. 12B0101901.

Contract time shall be 90 consecutive calendar days from the effective date shown in the Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed for each consecutive calendar day the Work has not achieved Final Completion. The amount of liquidated damages per day will be \$500.00 plus any additional actual costs above \$500.00 incurred by the Owner. These actual costs include, but are not limited to, engineering, inspection, and other construction related costs resulting from the Contractor's failure to complete the work on schedule.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 601-960-1638. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Room 223, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and/or conduct business in the City to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

Bidder must be qualified under Mississippi Law and show current Certificate of Responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Public Contractors establishing his classification as to the value and type of construction on which he is authorized to bid.

Bids shall be made out on the bid proposal form to be provided, sealed in an envelope and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid for TANK REPAIRS, LIVINGSTON PARK ELEVATED TANK, CITY PROJECT NO. 12B0101901". Each bidder shall write his Certificate of Responsibility Number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing his proposal.

Bids and EBO Plans shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City Clerk, City Hall, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date hereinbefore designated. No bidder may withdraw his bid within 90 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Each Bidder must deposit with his bid a Bid Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to five percent of his bid, payable to the City of Jackson as bid security. Bidders shall also submit a current financial statement, if requested by the City of Jackson. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Payment Bond and Performance Bond each in the amount of 100% of the contract amount.

Each Bidder must submit with his bid a separate attachment stating his qualifications to perform the work. The Statement of Qualifications shall list past projects of similar size and nature, a list of references with name and telephone number, a list of key personnel who will perform the work, and other information supporting the bidder's qualifications.

Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, and other Contract Documents are on file and open to public inspection in the office of the Water/Sewer Utilities, Department of Public Works, Warren Hood Building, Room 405, 200 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Copies of the Contract Documents, Contract Drawings and Contract Specifications may be procured at the office of the Engineer, Southern Consultants, Inc., 5740 County Cork Road, Jackson, Mississippi 39206, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Local Time, Monday through Friday, upon payment of \$100.00 for each set, which will not be refunded. Checks are to be made payable to the Engineer.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

Dan Gaillet, P. E. Sean Perkins
Director of Public Works Chief of Staff

8/2/12, 8/9/12

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED – PROFESSIONAL

Project Technician Senior –Mississippi Public Broadcasting is seeking a TV and FM transmitter technician to manage its McHenry transmitter site. Duties include monitoring and maintenance of digital microwave and transmitter equipment. Some duties must be performed within a high voltage and power environment. Maintain logs and records according to FCC Rules and regulations. Ensure proper tower, building and grounds maintenance. The annual entry salary is \$34,274.51. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: An Associate Degree from an accredited two-year college in Electronics or a directly related field; (AND) six (6) years of experience in work directly related to the above described duties; (OR) graduation from a standard four-year high school or equivalent (GED), directly related education and directly related experience may be substituted on an equal basis. Must be able to work varying shifts, all hours of the day and night. May be called to work for extended periods during emergencies or special needs. This position is classified as State Service, Exempt. See Web Site for complete description (www.mpbonline.org). SUBMIT: State of Mississippi application (obtained via State Personnel Board and Mississippi Employment Service) to Personnel, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211. Open until Filled. Resumes not accepted in lieu of applications. EOE M-F

Cindy Neal
Human Resources Director

8/2/12

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2012, AT 12:00 P.M. IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

A. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. CASE NO. 2012-22, REQUEST BY: WALT WOFFORD (OWNER: LISA GARVIN) TO BUILD A 6 FOOT GOOD NEIGHBOR STYLE FENCE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE PROPERTY TO PREVENT SAFETY HAZARD FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1745 PIEDMONT ST. IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

2. CASE NO. 2012-23, REQUEST BY WALT WOFFORD (OWNER: GREAT ALLIANCE TRUST) TO BUILD A 30 FOOT LONG, 4 FOOT TALL PICKET FENCE AND BUILD A 4'X10' PORCH FOR THE ENTRANCE TO THE BASEMENT APARTMENT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1104 JEFFERSON ST. IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

3. CASE NO. 2012-24, REQUEST BY SIDNEY MACK TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ROLLED ROOFING MATERIAL WITH THREE TAB ASPHALT SHINGLES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 909 N. JEFFERSON ST. IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

4. CASE NO. 2012-25, REQUEST BY JAMES TENG TO REPLACE SIDING, CORNER TRIMS AND WINDOW TRIMS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1811 PEACHTREE ST. IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

B. CURRENT BUSINESS

1. CASE NO. 2012-27, REQUEST BY JASON SPELLINGS TO REMOVE EXISTING VINYL SIDING FROM THREE SIDES OF THE BUILDING AND REPLACE WITH HARDI PLANK SMOOTH SIDING, 7" REVEAL AND TO REPAIR/REPLACE ROTTEN WINDOWSILLS/WINDOWS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1316 ST. MARY ST. IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

II. OTHER ITEMS

III. ADJOURN

7/19/12, 8/2/12

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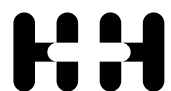
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Adult Kickball League goes from hope to reality

By Tim Ward
Sports Writer

Mark Zuckerberg did it again. Only this time he doesn't know it. What started out as a facebook status has now turned into a kickball league.

Sonja Stamps mentioned wanting to play kickball on her facebook page. She has a friend who is a part of a kickball league in Los Angeles and thought it would be fun to play after all these years. Her status sparked more interest than she probably thought it would.

Several people thought it was a good idea. The dialogue began amongst her facebook friends, testing how serious people were about playing. Once everyone realized it was for real, the excitement went up another notch. Created from a facebook status were, the DivaDolls & DemDudes, the Fantastic 11, the Tiger Tailgaters, and Straight Ballin'. These four teams are the kickball pioneers for Jackson. Games are played every Sunday at 6 p.m. at the softball fields behind the police academy off Jayne Avenue.

The games are an excellent way for adults to get into shape, while having fun. Few activities combine those two things. Kickball has also brought back a sense of nostalgia. Childhood memories of kickball games [began] playing in the minds of the adults. The laughter generated from kickball is infectious.

Stamps recalled those moments. She thought, "What better way to stay active with having fun, laughter and friends than playing a child's sport."

Quentin "Datdude" Watkins thought it was a great idea also. "Kickball was a favorite childhood game of mine and it's a great way to get some much needed exercise." Tracie James-Wade said she is having a blast playing. She initially wasn't sure if they were serious, but as the conversation grew, she knew it would happen.

Stephanie Hatcher loved the idea. She stated, "I wanted to play, because I needed the exercise. I'm not the one to go to the gym or even walk the tracks, but I need the exercise, and I thought this was the perfect opportunity."

Thus far the age range is from 21 to early 50's. Stamps loves that, stating that it proves you're only as old as you "think."



Pregame prayer



Pregame prayer for DivaDolls & DemDudes



Pregame prayer for Fantastic 11



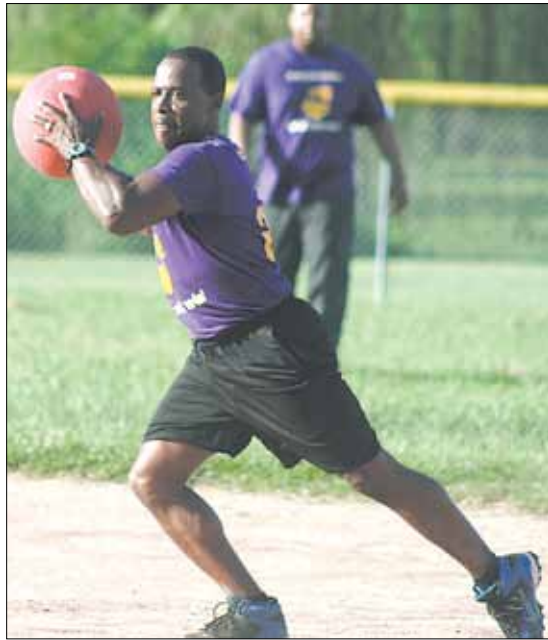
Pregame prayer for Tiger Tailgaters



Sonja Stamps started it all with a simple facebook status.



Tracie James Wade kicks the ball.



Nate Cornish lines up an opponent.



Tiger Tailgaters pitcher gets ready to roll.

The competitive nature of the games has risen each week. While it's main purpose is exercise and fun, it does make the joints feel better when your team gets a win.

"The competition level grows with intensity every game!" stated Watkins. The emergence of the league is evident by the number of player

inquiries, team inquiries, and fans. Each week the crowd has gotten bigger and louder.

Everyone expects it to be bigger next year. "We have had so much support and so many people inquiring about being apart of the league, said Tamara Jones. "I think that this is just the beginning of Jacksons first Kickball League. And I

am so grateful to be apart of it, as a coach."

Jones stepped in for her friend Hatcher. Hatcher injured herself at practice before the season started. Players say that some people didn't realize that they were really playing games, but once the pictures

made it onto facebook, the interest skyrocketed.

"Once the pictures made it online, people started calling me wanting to play," explained James-Wade. Facebook comments on the pictures have been hilarious and supportive.

Response has been so high,

Stamps sees a fall league forming to meet the demand. "Every week people are almost begging to join a team!" The teams will continue to battle until Aug. 19, in hopes of securing the first ever Jackson adult kickball league championship.



Geilia Taylor gets intense once the game starts.



Athletic ability is still on display.

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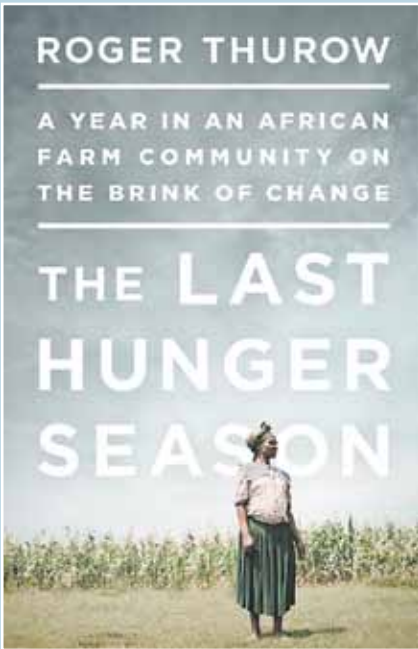
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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Book Reviewer

You probably shouldn't have ordered the super-size fries.

That's what you were thinking after you finished the last of your double cheeseburger-add-bacon.

When you ordered, fries sounded good - although maybe not so many. And your soda, well, the word "small" needs redefining.

Nothing worse than cold fries, so you wadded them up with your sandwich wrapper, slurked the rest of your drink, and threw everything away.

You'll think twice about that next time, once you've read "The Last Hunger Season" by Roger Thurow.

Andrew Youn is a man with seemingly unlimited energy.

Journalist Roger Thurow met the "skinny, bespectacled... geek from Minnesota" during a snowstorm in Chicago, where Youn told Thurow about the farmers he'd met in Kenya in the early 2000s. Youn explained that Kenya's use of ancient farming traditions led to wanjala (hunger time) and starvation because of lack of access to modern methods of planting.

Youn, an MBA student, had been pondering this, and he had an idea. Thus as born, One Acre, a non-profit program that helps sub-Saharan farmers reap higher yields from their shambas through education, seeds, and fertilizer.

Thurow, who'd also seen poverty and starvation in Africa, was intrigued. He asked Youn if he might follow four farmers for a year, through wanjala and beyond.

As a village elder, Leonida Wanyama needed to set a good example for others, which is why she joined One Acre. She was amazed the first year at the bounty she reaped, but it wasn't enough. Her husband, Peter, was ill and their son, Gabriel was away at school. School was very expensive: \$255 a year.

Rasoa Wasike was so pleased with One Acre that she inspired several others to join. But that wasn't Rosoa's only endeavor; she was lucky to find other employment so her wanjala wasn't quite so severe.

Zipporah Bikiti had jeered at neighbors who used the One Acre methods, until she saw their lush, bountiful maize fields. She was determined that this wanjala - a particularly long, terrible one - would be her family's last.

Francis Mamati and his wife had a vision. They had three acres and their son, who owned a nearby café, had a small plot, too. A shamba like that, properly farmed, could create dreams.

So why, you're asking, should you read a book about a bunch of miniature farms half a world away? Maybe you won't want to... but I was blown away by it.

"The Last Hunger Season" is, indeed, about four Kenyan farmers and the last time each had little more than tea to feed their families from January through June. But in telling their stories, the politics behind fixing what's wrong, and the triumph of success, author Roger Thurow also gives his readers a huge lesson in gratitude: chances are you have food, and this book never lets you forget that.

I think you're going to like "The Last Hunger Season," just don't be surprised if it makes you a little uncomfortable. Still, if you want something that's sobering, glorious, and thought-provoking, this book is super-sized.

BOOK REVIEW: "THE LAST HUNGER SEASON"

BY ROGER THUROW
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Marvin Sapp & family set to star in reality show

By Brittney M. Walker
eurweb.com

What's it like to be a single father? Marvin Sapp knows now.

The Gospel singer just landed a reality show that documents his life as the only parent for his three teenage children.

Two years ago, his wife Ma-Linda died after losing a battle against colon cancer. The pair ran Lighthouse Full Life Cen-

ter Church in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Since her passing, the singer and now full time dad says life is an adventure.

"There are days when I get up and I cry, thinking of her," he said. "There are days thinking of her and I smile. There are days when I'm angry. Days that I'm not... we miss her."

The show, produced by Open River Pictures, actually began

filming earlier this year, but hasn't been assigned to a network yet.

Tammy Williams, CEO of the company, said this is a new phase in the family's journey, serving as a beacon of hope, family and love.

"Marvin entrusted my company to document the second chapter of his and his kids," said Williams. "I think it is timely that the country sees a

man, especially an African-American man, who is serious about family values and raising his children."

Despite the emotional struggles, Marvin has been open about his dealings, sharing with his listeners, fans and churchgoers his daily strife.

He recently told EURweb that singing and sharing his story has been therapy, a form of healing.



Marvin Sapp and her children

Ne-Yo says MLK isn't worth the weight gain

eurweb.com

Ne-Yo was offered the role of the late great Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., but turned it down because he [would have had] to gain 30 pounds.

"I definitely want to do more acting, but it's got to make sense with the music," he told Britain's *Sunday Mirror*. "They wanted to start shooting [the Martin Luther King Jr. movie] at the same time my album R.E.D. comes out (Sept. 18) and wanted me to gain 30 pounds, so I couldn't do it. I'm kicking myself but

acting can't take the place of my music.

Plus, I've been killing myself in the gym for months preparing for this album because I wanted a complete makeover."

Ne-Yo most recently played the role of Andrew 'Smokey' Salem in "Red Tails."



Ne-Yo

Essence fires white editor two years after her controversial hiring

Black America Web

Essence' fashion director Elliana Placas has been let go from her post after more than two years, according to the *NY Post's Page Six*.

If you recall, Placas' hiring at Essence was very controversial. Placas, who is white, in 2010 upset the mostly African-American readers/subscribers of the publication. Some felt *Essence* should have sought out a black editor.

Sources told the *Post* that her departure had less to do with race and more to do with her butting heads with editor-in-chief Constance White.

"They had different visions for fashion coverage," said someone



Placas

close to the situation, who did not want to be identified.

An *Essence* spokesperson con-

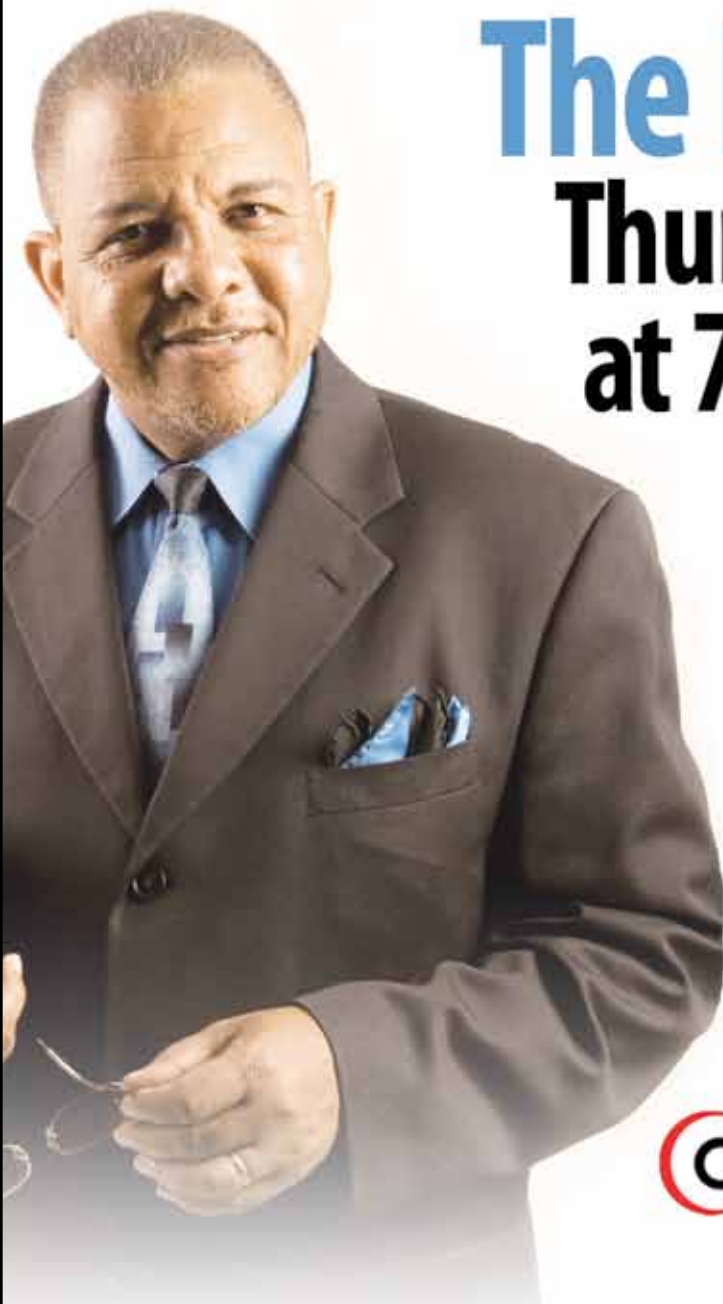
firmed to *Page Six* that Placas has left the company. A search for her replacement is ongoing.

THE ISSUES

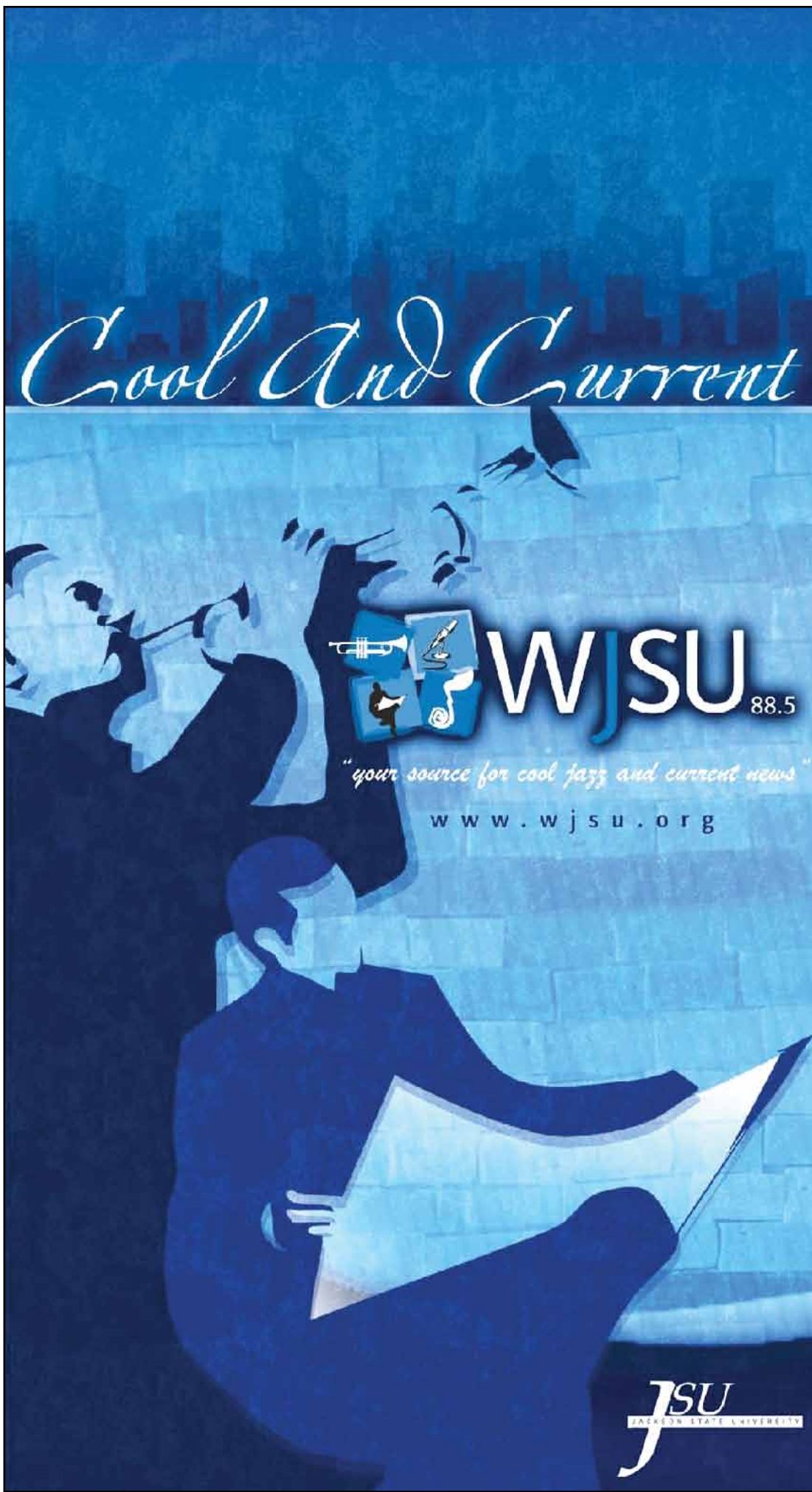
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