




The Mississippi Link has been following the work of the community based coalition #OURJPS and will provide complete coverage of the Accreditation Committee meeting and the State Board of Education meeting next week. Wednesday the Accreditation Committee voted to recommend a State of Emergency in the Jackson Public School District.

Trump can’t deport the American “Dreamers” without a fight

COMMENTARY

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



Our 45th president swept into office with a foundation of racist claims. First, the very basis of his political participation was his false assertion (for which he has never apologized) that President Barack Obama was not born in the United States. Using the “birther” movement as a basis, “45” signaled to every random racist out there that he was willing to ignore truth to attack Obama.

Then, he used horrible rhetoric to describe Mexican people as violent rapist, followed by his usual “and some of them are very nice.” He suggested that a federal judge could not do his job because he was of Mexican descent. And much of his campaign was focused on deporting people. The pace of deportations has increased since he took office.

Now, he has snatched stability away from a group of young people called “Dreamers.”

These young folks were brought to these United States by parents who came to this country illegally. In legal limbo and unable to apply for jobs or college admission, many of these young people lived in the shadows, working under the table or not at all, piecing together livelihoods as best they could.

Obama grappled with this issue and, through executive order (because Congress would not act), created the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Attorneys General in some states have described the program as illegal and have threatened to sue for its elimination. Attorney General J. Beauregard Sessions has said he would not defend the program, because Obama “overreached” in establishing it. So, the camera-hogging “45” actually allowed Beauregard (who he very recently dissed) to announce that DACA will end, although there is a “grace period” of six months.

I don’t think many understand how many hoops childhood arrivals must jump through to attain “dreamer” status. They have to pay almost \$500 every two years and fill out more than a dozen

Dreamers
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Rainy remnants of Irma didn’t stop nearly 300 COGIC saints from pouring into Lexington



COGIC members from around the nation braved the rain to see the jail cell at the Holmes County, Miss. Courthouse where their founder, Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, was incarcerated in 1918 for allegedly obstructing the draft during World War I. PHOTOS BY GAIL M. BROWN

Renowned Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake Sr. hails founder as a ‘Champion of Justice, of Righteousness’

By Gail M. Brown
Contributing Writer

LEXINGTON, Miss. – While remnants of Hurricane Irma showered down on Lexington, Miss., Tuesday, nearly 300 worshippers, adorning umbrellas, filed into St. Paul Church of God in Christ (COGIC), the “Mother Church” in Lexington.

The occasion: the last day of the COGIC’s “Founders Celebration” – the Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake’s pilgrimage

from Memphis to Lexington, to commemorate the life and legacy of its historic founder, the late, great Bishop Charles Harrison Mason. Mason, despite facing racial prejudice, persecution and ridicule for preaching holiness, founded the COGIC in 1897 with 48 baptized members.

He began his church in an old gin house, now marked by a white cross on the grounds where it was located. COGIC officials report that the denomination has grown to more than eight million members, with churches in each state of the United States and in more than 85 foreign countries.”

Blake addressing the crowd reminded them that the church is to continue the legacy of Mason through “Celebrating Our

COGIC
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COGIC, Inc. Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, pastor of the West Angeles COGIC in L.A. is escorted by Personal Executive Assist Elder Darin McAllister.



Scott

CBC members host forum about racial climate, Title VI on college campuses in U.S.

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Congressional Democrats, led by Rep. Bobby Scott (D-Va.), the ranking member on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), the ranking member on the House Judiciary Committee, recently hosted a forum on Capitol Hill titled “Affirma-

tive Action, Inclusion and Racial Climate on America’s Campuses.”

Conyers said that recent signals from the Justice Department hint at a change in administration policy and new attacks on affirmative action programs.

“This is not the time for the federal government to retreat from protecting equality in higher education,” said

Conyers.

Student leaders, college diversity officials and legal experts discussed the role of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in ensuring that students are welcomed to a safe, inclusive learning environment free of harassment and intimidation on the basis of race, color or national origin.

Title VI, “was enacted as part of the

landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. It prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance,” according to the Justice Department.

“Title VI remains a critical tool in eliminating discrimination in

Racism
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Inside

Jackson (MS) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. makes donations to Piney Woods



Book Review: Who are Venus and Serena Williams



Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:

Jackson (MS) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. makes donations to Piney Woods

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson (MS) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated handed out toiletry items, back-to-school supplies and made a monetary donation of \$1000 September 3, to students at Piney Woods School in Piney Woods, Miss.

The school supplies donated were book bags, notebooks, binders, pencils and calculators. The toiletry items included soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste and a plethora of items for about 25 male students.

In addition to handing out school supplies, the members of Kappa Alpha Psi shared moments of fellowship with the students, staff and administration.

Piney Woods, founded in 1909, is the largest of only four (4) historically African-American boarding schools left in the United States. The founder of Piney Woods, Dr. Laurence C. Jones was also a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated, and predicated his life towards the advancement of young African Americans in academia, citizenship and developing strong work ethics.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated has a long standing relationship with the Piney Woods School, having established Kappa Kamp there as part of our National Guide Right Program initiative. Kappa Kamp teaches youths to envision their educational opportunities as stepping stones and positive influences in their decision making for personal growth and achievement in life.

Under the leadership of Calvin Robinson, Polemarch of the Jackson (MS) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated and its members are looking forward to keeping the tradition of excellence moving forward with Piney Woods County Life School and is planning to establish many events towards helping young men advance in the 21st century.



Piney Woods President Will Crossley receives check from Jackson (MS) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Polemarch Calvin Robinson as Dean of Students Dexter, Tyrone Haley and others look on.



Others pictured include (L to R) Kappa Leaguers (in maroon shirts), Calvin Robinson, Barry Dixon, Kenya Proctor, Curtis Lockett, Damian D. Thomas, Brenden Bell, Brian Fortune, Terrance Hill and Michael Holloway.

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Dreamers

Continued from page 1

forms to qualify, including forms that detail income, expenses and assets. They must have a work permit. If they move, they have to inform the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service. And they can't leave the country without permission, which is only sparingly granted, and usually only for educational purposes. Requests to visit relatives are rarely granted and, even when permission is granted, there is no guarantee that "dreamers" will be allowed back into the country.

So, while Obama did a great thing by creating DACA, the program does not go far enough. "Dreamers" do not have the same privileges that other citizens have, and they have more responsibilities. Their status can also be revoked if they have had any interactions with law enforcement officers, and we all know how that one goes.

While it appears that "45" has given dreamers some hope by delaying enforcement of DACA elimination for six months, and by making nice with Democratic leaders, the drama of dangling possibilities in front of folks and then snatching them away is typical "45" showmanship and irrationality. The fact that Sarah Huckabee Sanders, the White House parrot, raised black unemployment in a White House press conference is further evidence of this administration's racism. Has there been any other time when these people have mentioned black unemployment?

Part of the reason "45" is revoking DACA has to do with his anti-Mexican, anti-immigrant, racist biases. But part has to do with his administration's attempt to eliminate anything 'Obama' from our government. It is pathetically appalling to watch the way that "45" and his minions are obsessed with Obama and the work he did.

As an example, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, who I call "Secretary DeVoid" (of good sense), has decided to "examine" the Obama approach to campus rape. She is more concerned, it seems, with those accused of rape or sexual assault than with the victims. FBI data shows that only 5 percent of rape accusations are false. We should be more concerned about those who won't come forward than those who are unjustly accused. But someone who works for a genital-grabber might well see things differently.

Similarly, an Obama-era regulation that would have EEOC collect data on pay differences by race and gender in companies with more than 100 employees has been suspended and so-called woman's advocate Ivanka Trump has said that collecting such data really doesn't matter. As many as 800 Obama executive orders and regulations have been reversed. We shouldn't be surprised that DACA has met the same fate.

Dreamers aren't going to simply slink back across borders to countries they have never known as adults. Moments after Sessions' announcement they took it to the streets in protest. They are letting "45" and his sidekicks know that their dream won't be deferred. We should all be inspired by their activism and stand with them for justice.

Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and founder of Economic Education. Her latest book "Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and Public Policy is available via amazon.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianne-malveaux.com.

Racism

Continued from page 1

schools," said Sherrilyn Ifill, the president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. "It was a tool that was originally shared by the Department of Justice and by private plaintiffs."

Ifill continued: "Now, we're faced with an administration that is hostile towards civil rights – hostile to the Office of Civil Rights, itself."

Ifill said that even though the Supreme Court of the United States affirmed the constitutionality of the merits of affirmative action, Attorney General Jeff Sessions is preparing a unit in the Department of Justice to challenge the law at colleges and universities across the nation.

In the wake of violent protests and the white nationalists' rally in Charlottesville, University of Virginia President Teresa Sullivan testified on what the university has done in the past and is trying to do in the future to promote diversity. Sullivan referenced past acts of naming various locations on campus after African Americans.

On August 11, hundreds of torch-bearing white supremacists marched across the campus of the University of Virginia to protests the removal of a Confederate monument from a public park.

"Let me be perfectly clear," said Sullivan. "We're not interested in having those folks back."

Sullivan, Mayor Michael Signer and the Charlottesville City Council have been criticized for not being more prepared for the "Unite the Right" rally and violence and mayhem that erupted in the small college town. The gathering was billed, weeks beforehand online, as one of the largest gatherings of white supremacists in U.S. history. One protester was killed and two Virginia

state troopers died in a helicopter crash in Charlottesville over that weekend.

Taylor Dumpson, the student government president at American University and Weston "Wes" Gobar, the president of the Black Student Alliance at the University of Virginia also delivered remarks. Both student leaders documented specific incidents of racism on their campuses.

Dumpson was the target of a series of racist acts in May, when someone hung bananas in nooses around American University's campus; some of the bananas were marked with "AKA," the letters of Dumpson's sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha. The incident occurred a day after Dumpson was elected the first African-American female student body president.

"In America we tend to think of racism and white supremacy as the most blatant and hateful individuals and forms of discrimination like the [Ku Klux Klan], Neo-Nazis and the Alt-Right, while ignoring the more subtle and systemic forms," said Gobar. "It is important to condemn the most visible elements of white supremacy, but we must further address these subtle and systemic forms."

Gobar said that he's heard racial slurs and racist comments that were yelled by white supremacists during the rally in August, repeated in hushed tones on campus; he has also seen anonymous posts written online calling black students 'monkeys' and messages written in chalk on campus suggesting that black people have lower IQs than white people.

Gobar continued: "Well, before August 11 and 12, this has been the climate for students of color at the University of Virginia and this climate has served as an unnecessary burden

towards our learning experience."

The student leader said that many incoming students of color now feel scared and unwelcomed at the University of Virginia after the events of August 12.

"To tell the truth, this is a nearly constant feeling on campus," Gobar. "There are pervasive incidents of harassment like this every year and they are by no means isolated. Systemic problems require systematic solutions."

Gobar noted that black student enrollment at the University of Virginia is only 6.4 percent and recommended more funding for existing scholarships, financial aid and fellowships that target underrepresented groups. He also advocated for increasing the funding for organizations that serve minority populations on campus. "The status quo can longer be acceptable," Gobar said.

Ifill recommended that congressional lawmakers conduct oversight hearings to ensure that the Justice Department properly enforces Title VI and that lawmakers exercise budget authority to fully fund the enforcement of civil rights laws, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Title IX and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Ifill also recommended that Congress pass legislation that will provide vigorous civil rights protection, like Equity and Inclusion and Enforcement Act, (H.R. 2486), co-sponsored by Reps. Scott, Conyers, Alma Adams (D-N.C.) and Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (D-North Mariana Islands)

"LDF's commitment to promoting equitable educational opportunities for America's students has endured for decades," said Ifill. "We have no intention of rolling back our commitment to that."

COGIC

Continued from page 1

Unchanging Faith," which was the theme of the pilgrimage and commemoration. He also mentioned more mission work in terms of the school – Saints College – and other positive things that the COGIC, Inc. will be doing to help enhance the quality of life in Lexington.

Asked given the resurfacing of racial tensions today and reflecting on the racial discrimination and ridicule Bishop Mason encountered for preaching holiness, what does today's commemoration mean in that regard, Bishop Blake gave *The Mississippi Link* the following statement:

"Bishop Mason was a champion of justice, a champion of righteousness, and he encouraged all of us to be our very best. And if everyone abided by the philosophy and teachings of Bishop Mason, our world would be a paradise. ... We are trying to follow in his footsteps, duplicate his example. And I think his lifestyle of love, righteousness, building the family, loving one's neighbor, treating everyone with justice and

righteousness is the type of thing that he taught. That's the type of thing that we all are striving to do. And if we continue that, our world would be better and different."

In addition to including a tour retracing the steps of Mason in Lexington, it also included a very informative and thought-provoking luncheon/C.H. Mason Symposium on the Life and Cultural, Social and Spiritual Impact of Mason presented by Bishop David Hall, pastor of the Temple COGIC in Memphis, Tenn. Hall shared that he models his ministry after Mason's and he is teaching his grandsons the God-given principles that Mason lived by. The luncheon/symposium was held in the Deborah Mason Patterson Building, a multi-purpose complex on Saints College Campus in Lexington.

St. Paul's Pastor, Superintendent and Elder William Dean Jr., says he is so appreciative to have Blake, COGIC leaders and congregational members to journey to the "Mother Church." "This is the first time in about 12 years that we have had a visit

from Bishop Blake," Dean said. "As pastor of the 'Mother Church,' I feel honored to be pastoring the greatest church in the world of the greatest denomination in the world."

Dean extends utmost appreciation to the people of Lexington, the mayor, the chamber of commerce, the police department, the sheriff department, other officials, local organizations, caterers, his own church members, leaders and staff for helping to make the commemoration such a "superb day."

He said he is excited about the various mission activities that will be coming forth that the national COGIC board is planning for Lexington.

"A lot of people did not know the rich history of the COGIC in Lexington," he said. "Many of the Jurisdictional Bishops who talked with me following the event indicated that they will be sharing Lexington's rich history with their youth and will be planning tours to our great city."

Photos page 4.

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Pilgrimage to Lexington and COGIC Founder's Day Celebration

St. Paul Church of God in Christ and Saint's Holy Hill • Sunday • September 12, 2017

PHOTOS BY GAIL M. BROWN

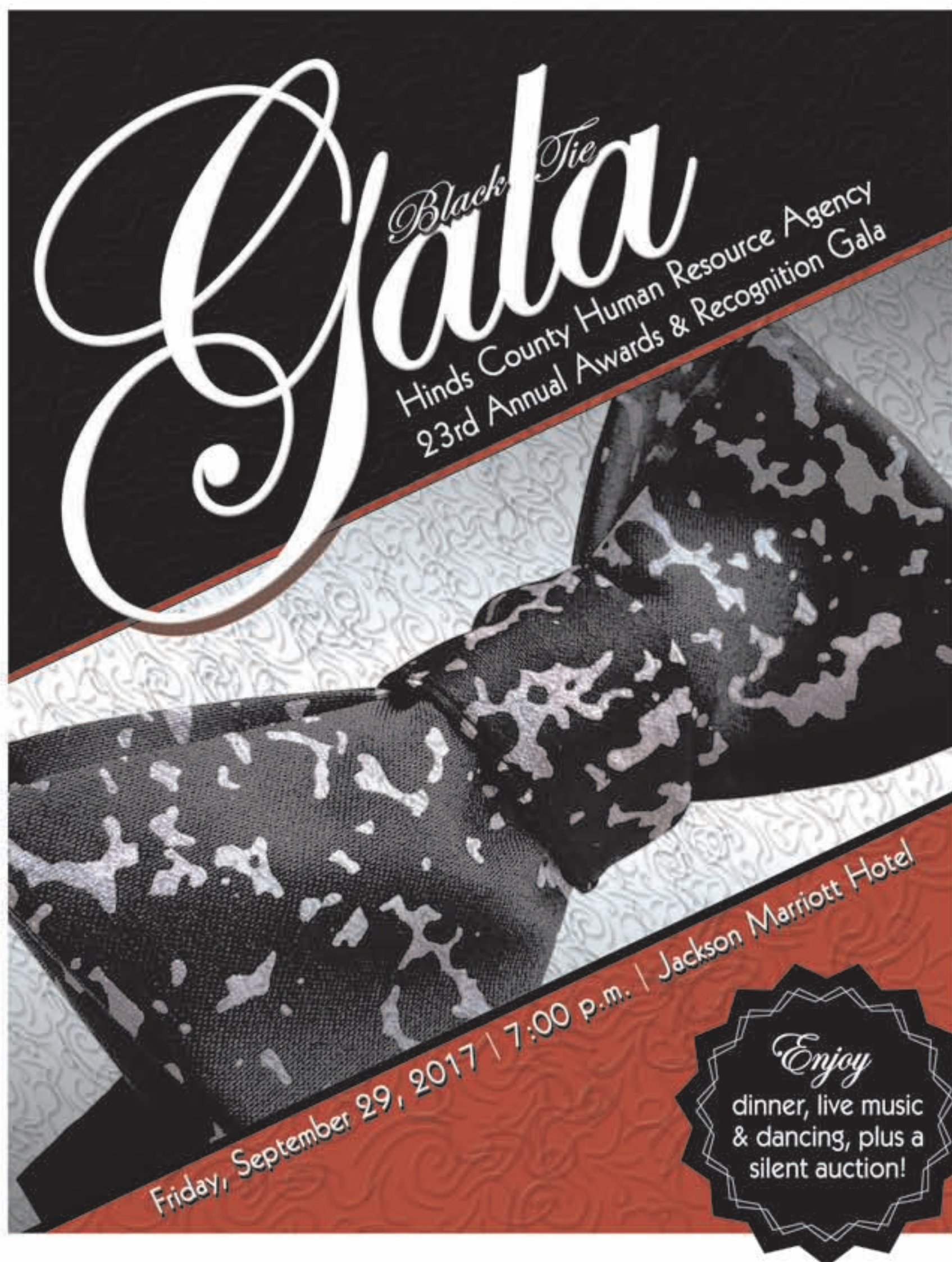


JOHN H. MASON

John H. Mason (1864-1961)
arrived in Lexington, Mississippi in 1893 in Preston,
Mississippi by the African American
community in Jackson during the
revival teachings on holiness,
his revival to Lexington
in preaching on the steps
of the County Courthouse and later
at homes and an abandoned
during his time in Lexington,
at St. Paul Church, which
is the "Mother Church" of
the Church of God in Christ denomination.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY, 2014





At Hinds County Human Resource Agency, our goal is to help families and strengthen communities.

The Annual Awards and Recognition Gala is Hinds County Human Resource Agency's annual signature development event, which helps to provide critical matching funds for several services such as home-delivered meals, congregate meal sites, and Hinds County rural public transportation.

Denise Harlow, Chief Executive Officer of the Community Action Partnership in Washington, DC, will be featured as the keynote speaker for this year's Gala. Enjoy dinner, live music and dancing, entertainment, and a fabulous silent auction. Cash and credit cards accepted. Tickets are \$75.

The Gala provides an important opportunity to create awareness about our programs and services; to celebrate our clients who have transitioned out of poverty to self-sufficiency; and to honor our volunteers and community partners who work with us throughout the year to help eradicate poverty and provide a better life for more than 65,000 low-income citizens throughout Hinds County.

Our programs and services would not be available without the invaluable support of our community and corporate partners.

To make a donation or for more information on tickets, ads, and sponsorships, call 601.923.1838.



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JPS 2017 seniors exceed goals of FAFSA Challenge

Mississippi Link Newswire

Three JPS schools were honored at a FAFSA Celebration held August 30, at Provine High School.

Callaway High School had the highest increase in FAFSA completions by the grant deadline. Murrah High School had the highest total number of completions. However, Provine High School had the highest increase in FAFSA completions for all seniors in JPS for the school year. Each of these schools received \$1,000 cash awards from the Woodward Hines Education Foundation.

“We have a lot to celebrate today,” said JPS Interim Superintendent Fredrick Murray. “Foremost is the remarkable achievement of increasing the number of JPS students who completed the FAFSA, putting them one step closer to fulfilling their college dreams. Every single person in this auditorium – all of our teachers, administrators, school board members, and partners – strongly believe that when we work together, we can achieve amazing results for our young people.”

Ebony Lumumba, first lady of the City of Jackson, offered remarks to the Provine High School seniors.

“As you prepare for graduation, I encourage you to prepare to change,” said Lumumba. “Prepare to be the change we desperately need to see in this country and in this world. Prepare to fight for what you deserve. Prepare to demand that your rights and the rights of others are respected. No matter where you go, this must be your story: that you are planning to change the world.”

Woodward Hines Education Foundation and JPS hosted the celebration to announce the seven percent increase in FAFSA completions for JPS seniors during the 2016–2017 school year. The increase in FAFSA completions was fueled by activities funded through a FAFSA Completion Challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation and the National College Access Net-



Get2College and the Woodward Hines Education Foundation present a check to Callaway, Murrah, and Provine High Schools at an event to celebrate a record FAFSA completion rate in JPS.

work (NCAN).

Kiersten Knause, assistant director and college counselor at Get2College, explained the Challenge Grant.

“The purpose of this grant wasn’t for Get2College to come and complete the number of FAFSAs,” said Knause. “This was about you, the community of Jackson and building that awareness and support for the next steps in the seniors’ quest for education.”

First U Hafta FAFSA

FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. Get2College created the First U Hafta FAFSA campaign to boost FAFSA completions among JPS seniors. With a \$50,000 grant from the Kresge Foundation and the National College Access Network, Get2College and the Woodward Hines Education Foundation were able to exceed the five percent goal for JPS seniors.

The celebration also marked the start of the 2017-2018 campaign to encourage JPS

seniors across the District to complete the FAFSA. First U Hafta FAFSA reminds parents, seniors, counselors and the community that completing the FAFSA is an important first step towards securing the financial resources needed to pursue education after high school.

About College Countdown Mississippi partnerships

College Countdown Mississippi, a collaborative effort of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Department of Education, the Community College Board, and the Mississippi Office of Financial Aid, were integral partners in the effort. Other partners included the Mississippi Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the City of Jackson, Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce Leadership Greater Jackson Program, 100 Black Men of Jackson, Alignment Jackson, Greater Bethlehem Temple and Parents for Public Schools of Jackson.

JPS notes improvements amid release of MDE audit report

By Fredrick Murray
JPS Interim Superintendent

On August 31, 2017, the Jackson Public School District received the results from a full investigative audit of 58 schools from the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). The audit took place from September 6, 2016, through July 31, 2017.

The Board of Trustees, administrative leaders and myself have carefully reviewed the nearly 700-page report. We look forward to the opportunity to address these findings on September 13 with the Accreditation Commission.

Despite our challenges, the district has made significant improvements in the areas of safety, transportation, instruction, record keeping, facilities, and teacher recruitment.

The district has made very deliberate efforts in addressing the findings outlined in the Corrective Action Plan. We contracted with a professional educational consulting group to assist in the oversight and management of our approved Corrective Action Plan. As a demonstration of our commitment to school safety, we conducted a climate survey last spring. We developed an action plan based on the results of the survey.

Although the hiring of licensed teachers remains a challenge, we have instituted creative ways to recruit highly qualified educators. We are offering financial incentives in the form of signing bonuses to new teachers in tested subject areas. We are also offering retired teachers an incentive to return to the district.

We have aggressively addressed our challenges with



Murray

transportation. All bus driver positions are filled and our arrival times have improved.

Additionally, the district has purchased 44 new school buses. We have also installed cameras on many of our buses to assist with monitoring students and ensuring the safety of drivers and passengers. Many buses in our fleet now use GPS technology to improve efficiency.

The Jackson Public School District is working with the Council of the Great City Schools in an effort to improve our processes. This council specializes in assisting urban school districts across the nation through legislation, communications, research and technical assistance to meet the highest standards in public education.

The district remains committed to making the necessary improvements in our schools in order to ensure a high-quality education for our students. I extend my appreciation to the employees and supporters of Jackson Public Schools.

Student to compete for Miss Mississippi Teen USA 2018

Mississippi Link Newswire

Tatyana Lenard, 16, of Jackson will compete for the title of MISS MISSISSIPPI TEEN USA 2018 October 26-28, 2017 at Horseshoe Casino Resort in Tunica.

Lenard is the daughter of Willie Lenard and Phlesia Ford. She attends Forest Hill High School where she is a junior.

Her activities and/or hobbies include The Pride of Forest Hill High School Patriots marching band and culinary arts.

Her sponsors for the pageant are her parents and her grandparents, Willie and Theresa Lenard.

She attends Word of Life Church in Flowood, Miss.

The MISS MISSISSIPPI TEEN USA® and MISS MISSISSIPPI USA® pageants are the official preliminaries to the MISS TEEN USA®, MISS USA® and MISS UNIVERSE® pageants and are a WME/IMG venture.

The young woman chosen as MISS MISSISSIPPI USA 2018 will go on to represent the state of Mississippi in the 2018 MISS USA® pageant as seen live on television, one of the most anticipated television events of the year.



Murray

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Deaf student starts new career thanks to Hinds CC, KLLM Driving Academy

The Mississippi Link Newswire

RICHLAND – Byron Davis decided last year it was time for a change of life and career after years spent in low-paying jobs.

What made his decision different from most was a challenge he'd been overcoming for years – but with the help of a partnership between Hinds Community College and KLLM Driving Academy, he motored right past it and plans to keep on trucking.

Davis, 38, a Southaven native, lost his hearing during childhood as a result of an illness. Since high school, he'd worked a series of jobs in shipping and receiving and in auto body work. "I wasn't happy doing it," Davis said through an interpreter. "The pay wasn't enough for me and wasn't enough of a challenge."

After a friend recommended the KLLM Driving Academy at Hinds, Davis sought and qualified for a waiver from the state allowing him to apply for a commercial driver's license. With the help of two interpreters provided by the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, he completed the program this past summer and is now employed as a lead solo driver with the Richland-based transport company.

In the program, housed at KLLM's facility in Richland, Davis learned the ins and outs of properly driving a big rig – upshifting, downshifting, proper lane changes and turning, space management and correct mirror usage. The



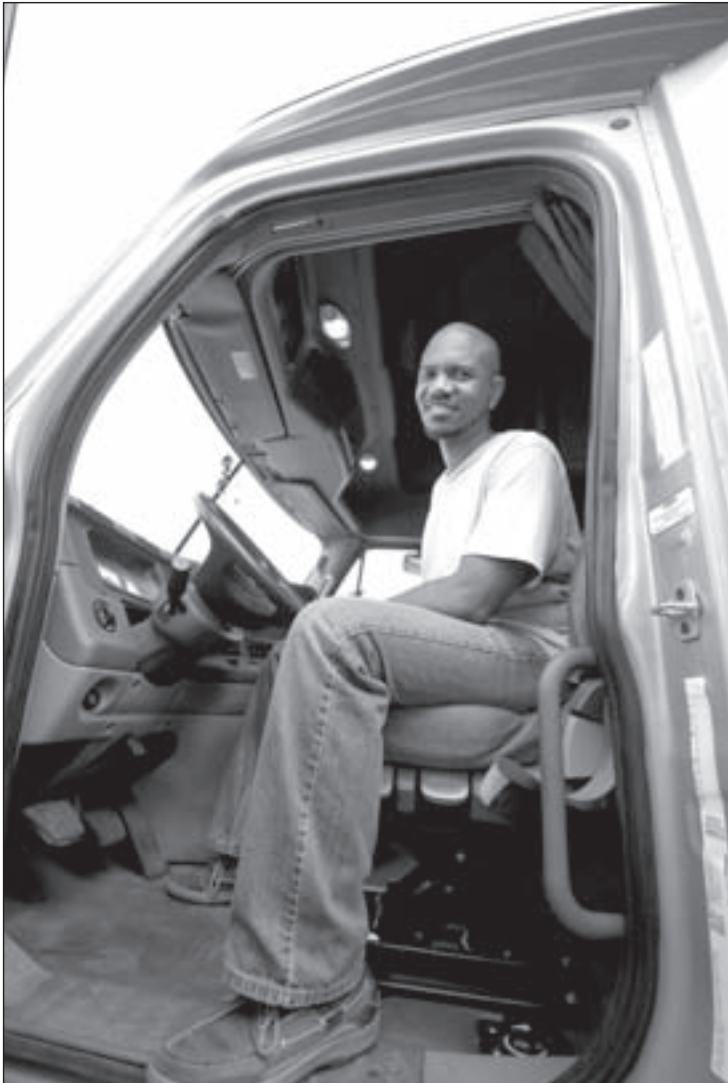
curriculum also trains people to safely transport hazardous materials. Overall, it's geared to help new drivers achieve the industry's top priority, which is safety.

"You really have to focus with it, and you can't play around," he said. "I feel good about myself for having passed the course."

Hinds' partnership with

KLLM to train truck drivers at the company's Richland headquarters and boost their ranks began in fall 2012. KLLM handles the training. Hinds handles the coursework. The facility opened in March 2014.

"Byron was determined to provide for his family and fulfill his dream of becoming a truck driver," said Josh Den-



son, manager of the KLLM Driving Academy and former disability examiner with MDRS. "He was able to accomplish all of these things through the opportunity provided by Hinds Community College and KLLM Transport Services."

Davis credited the company and the Disability Support Services department at Hinds for taking care of the little things

– such as the company paying for his bus ticket to town, helping to learn his schedule and other things to "help get settled in," he said.

"It's been quite the partnership between Hinds, the Department of Rehabilitation and KLLM," said Loretta Sutton, interpreter and coordinator in the college's program that assists people with various phys-

ical challenges achieve their educational goals. "The three of us have been working together to make sure he's very successful in this program."

That success figures to have him on a fast track to a solid new career.

"My instructors have had a positive effect on me," he said. "Some of them didn't know anything about working with deaf students, but one of my instructors rode with me and learned some basic sign language so he can communicate with me."

The next major mile marker for Davis is obvious.

"I'd like to become an independent driver and own my own truck," he said.

About Hinds

Hinds Community College, celebrating its 100th year of community inspired service in 2017, is a comprehensive institution with six convenient locations in the central Mississippi area. Hinds opened in September 1917 first as an agricultural high school and admitted college students for the first time in 1922, with the first class graduating in 1927. Today, Hinds stands as the largest community college in Mississippi and offers quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career and technical programs teaching job-ready skills.

To learn more, visit www.hindsc.edu or call 1.800.HindsCC.

Hinds CC Rankin Campus celebrates college centennial

The Mississippi Link Newswire

PEARL – The Rankin Campus will celebrate Hinds Community College's 100 years of community inspired service and nearly 35 years of Hinds being a part of the Rankin community with a meet-and-greet from 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 12 in the Muse Center. The public is invited.

The 5:30 p.m. program will feature a look back at the history of the campus, which opened in 1983 with high school career-tech classes during the day and college-level career-tech classes at night.

Growing the campus from a modest trailer and a \$50 typewriter on a small plot of land took the efforts of the Rankin County Board of Supervisors, local legislators, city officials and many civic leaders who were committed



to a quality higher education campus in Rankin County.

Today, the campus is the second largest of Hinds Community College's six

locations with eight buildings, including the Muse Center that opened in 2011. It has more than 100 acres over two locations, includ-

ing the main campus off Highway 80 and the Rankin Career-Technical Building off Community College Boulevard, both in Pearl.

Alcorn ranked among Best Colleges in the U.S.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Lorman, Miss. – Alcorn State University is being heralded as one of the top historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) in the country.

The University is ranked number 18 on CollegeRaptor.com's 2018 Top 25 Best HBCUs list. The selection recognizes Alcorn as one of the best colleges in the country, based on key factors such as graduation rates, campus diversity, student endowment and other



elements that are reported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) for the most recent enrollment year.

President Alfred Rankins Jr. is pleased with the university

being recognized as one of the best colleges in the country. He credits the Alcorn community for their commitment to greatness.

"The faculty, staff and most importantly, the students, are key players in all of the success that Alcorn achieves," said Rankins. "This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work and dedication of those who hold Alcorn close to their hearts. Our main goal is to strive for excellence."

College Raptor's rankings

began four years ago in an attempt to better represent an overall assessment of the health and quality of a college. The website's ranking comprises a number of specific factors that are then combined into a single weighted score, which determines a college's overall rank.

To view the Top 25 Best HBCUs list visit <https://www.collegeraptor.com/find-colleges/articles/2018-university-rankings/top-25-best-hbcus-2018-rankings/>.

Sumner Hill counselor wins statewide award



The Mississippi Link Newswire

CLINTON – Sumner Hill Junior High School Counselor Heather Norton is the Mississippi Counseling Association's School Counselor of the Year.

"Mrs. Norton does a fantastic job at Sumner Hill," said Principal Christie Claxton. "All the programs and activities she coordinates have students' best interest at heart. She makes a tremendous impact on every child that comes through our halls."

The award recognizes a school counselor for outstanding service and achievement in the field of school counseling. To be eligible, nominees must hold a master's degree in counseling, be a member of the Mississippi Counseling Association for a minimum of three years, possess the personal qualities thought to be desirable in a professional counselor, and be currently employed as a school

counselor.

The award is based on the extent to which the nominee may have been responsible for bringing about innovations in their school counseling program and the provision of leadership in the further development of existing counseling services or the performance of outstanding counseling services to their school.

Norton has served as Sumner Hill's school counselor for 16 years, and has been an educator for 23 years.

"I'm honored to receive such an outstanding award," she said. "I am so glad to represent Sumner Hill and the Clinton Public School District. Our counseling program strives to identify critical educational needs of our students and is always advancing to implement our district's vision, which is 'Excellence is the Only Option.'"

Hinds CC a perfect place to take next step in healthcare careers

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Thoughts of advancing an already rewarding career in healthcare has Shadonna Lewis listening and learning from the experts at the fall 2017 Nursing Allied Health Showcase held Sept. 5 at Hinds Community College Jackson Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center.

“I’m a certified nursing assistant at a hospital,” said Lewis, of Port Gibson, as she listened to students in the Respiratory Care Technology program demonstrate techniques and equipment. “But, I’m here trying to do something to help myself move up.”

Another in her position was Willie Thompson, of Jackson, also a CNA looking to add to her current credentials.

“I’ve always had a caring nature with my elderly patients,” Thompson said. “And it’s been in my family, too, as my mother was once a CNA and my sister is also in nursing.”

Lewis was among about 150 people who attended this fall’s event, which is held each semester at the Chadwick Drive complex. Prospective students and others toured the campus’ learning labs, spoke with faculty, explored the college’s 12 health-related and two short-term programs and got the latest on requirements and deadlines.

“Guests spoke with our faculty one-on-one to learn about our programs of study and the promising careers in healthcare that Hinds graduates obtain,” said Kathryn Cole, district director of Enrollment Services.

Programs showcased included associate degree nurs-



ing (RN), dental assisting technology, diagnostic medical sonography, emergency medical science, health care assistant, health information technology, medical laboratory technology, physical therapist assistant, practical nursing, radiologic technology, respiratory care technology, surgical technology, and two short-term

programs, nursing assistant and phlebotomy.

“We are excited to offer nursing and allied health programs that provide excellent employment opportunities for our students,” said Nursing and Allied Health Dean Dr. Libby Mahaffey. “Graduates of our programs are employed at rates of 90 to 100 percent within a year

of graduation and consistently meet national benchmarks for licensure/registry pass rates.”

The program’s solid reputation also brought out recent high school graduates, such as Mary Barton Rogers and Bailey Weldon, both of Brandon.

“I’m interested in finding out about the RN program for now,” said Rogers, a graduate

of Hartfield Academy.

Rayanna Harden and her mother, Angela, both of Port Gibson, visited the showcase to find out about opportunities in the sonography program.

“I enjoy working with babies when they’re born,” Rayanna said.

Technical and associate degree programs at NAHC are na-

tionally accredited by specialty accrediting organizations. The career programs meet state accreditation/approval guidelines. The Jackson Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center is at 1750 Chadwick Drive.

For more information on individual programs, call 601.376.4807 or visit <http://www.hindscc.edu>.

Minor Prize winners to appear at Sept. 15 symposium

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Five winners of the Bill Minor Prize will take part in a Sept. 15 symposium on the campus of Millsaps College in Jackson. The program is free and open to the public.

Jerry Mitchell of **The Clarion-Ledger** and Ray Mosby and Natalie Perkins of the *Deer Creek Pilot* in Rolling Fork, winners of the Bill Minor Prize for Investigative Journalism, and Tim Kalich of *The Greenwood Commonwealth* and Jamie Patterson of *The Yazoo Herald*, winners of the Bill Minor Prize for General News Reporting, will all be part of the panel discussion of their work and community news reporting.

Mitchell’s project focused on the search for and prosecution of Felix Vail, 76, who was eventually convicted in the decades-old death of his wife. Mosby and Perkins earned the investigative prize for articles dealing with desperately needed renovations to the Sharkey-Issaquena Community Hospital.

Kalich was honored for a jailhouse interview with Edgar Ray Killen, the convicted murderer of three civil rights workers in 1964. Patterson took the prize for weekly newspapers for her story on Yazoo City residents who purchased property only to be hit with unpaid assessments against previous owners that

THE BILL MINOR PRIZE

Award-winning Mississippi journalists discuss their work on some of the year’s biggest stories

Jerry Mitchell, *The Clarion-Ledger*
 Natalie Perkins & Ray Mosby, *Deer Creek Pilot*
 Jamie Patterson, *The Yazoo Herald*
 Tim Kalich, *The Greenwood Commonwealth*

MILLSAPS COLLEGE FRIDAY FORUM

Friday, Sept. 15, 1 pm
Gertrude C. Ford Academic Complex
Room 215
Free Admission

totalled thousands of dollars.

The investigative and general news prizes come with generous cash awards. Established in 2003, the Bill Minor Prizes are funded through an endowment to the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson in honor of Minor’s work as a reporter and columnist.

Minor, whose 70-year ca-

reer spanned much of Mississippi’s history in the 20th Century, died in March at 94.

The panel program is part of the Millsaps Friday Forum Series and will be held in the Gertrude C. Ford Academic Complex, Room 215, beginning at 1 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by the MPA Education Foundation.

Grand Opening of the National Sport Security Laboratory’s Research, Training and Operations Center

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On September 1, The University of Southern Mississippi’s National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security (NCS4) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Sport Security Research, Training and Operations Center at the National Sport Security Laboratory (NSSL). The new center helps bring to life NCS4’s vision of being the world’s leading academic research institution in addressing sport safety and security risks and threats.

The NSSL’s Sport Security Research, Training, and Operations Center now connects to the sport facilities on The University of Southern Mississippi’s Hattiesburg campus including M.M. Roberts Football Stadium, Reed Green Coliseum, Peter Taylor Park baseball stadium, as well as remotely connected venues. This connectivity provides researchers and solution providers the opportunity to immerse themselves in a real-life sports safety and security environment.

“This cutting-edge facility gives the university a world-class research, training and operation center,” said Gordon Cannon, The University of Southern Mississippi’s vice president for research. “A relatively new profession such as sports safety and security demands research and scholarship. Now our faculty and students have access to a world-wide



Ribbon cutting for the new Sport Security Research, Training and Operations Center at the National Sport Security Laboratory was held Sept. 1.

sandbox to study real-world, sport-security challenges and issues.”

Daniel Ward, director of the National Laboratory and Training Center, describes further capabilities of the new Sport Security Research, Training, and Operations Center. “The center incorporates cutting-edge technology which provides the university with capabilities to gather, process, analyze, display and disseminate planning and operations data for research and training.” He continues, “As a living laboratory, it also provides students, academia, industry and government a place to research and learn.”

The addition of the Sport Security Research, Training, and Operations Center gives NCS4 the ability to achieve its mission to conduct innovative research, provide training, enhance professional development, and assess security solutions. “We have an opportunity to groom our sport security thought lead-

ers of tomorrow,” said Lou Marciani, NCS4 director. “Connecting our athletic facilities as part of our laboratory provides amazing opportunities for our students. They will be able to work with professional, inter-collegiate, interscholastic and marathon sports organizations and facilities to test theories, translate lessons learned and best practices into real-world solutions, and build the sports safety and security profession for the future.”

The technology in the operation center was provided by generous support from charter donors including: Allegion, AVI-SPL, Dell EMC, Harman, Honeywell, Microsoft, NEC Display, and Red Hawk.

The ribbon cutting for the NSSL operation center took place in Scianna Hall followed by a reception and scheduled tours of the center.

For more information about the NSSL, visit www.nssl.ncs4.com

State’s leading research university sees all-time record enrollment

By Sandip Shah and Joe Black
Market Access Solutions

STARKVILLE, Miss. – Fueled by its growing prominence as a leading research university, Mississippi State again is setting records for fall student enrollment, welcoming a total of 21,884, a number that includes an unprecedented number of transfers.

The total represents an increase of 262 students from last year’s enrollment of 21,622, with MSU exceeding 20,000 students since 2011.

Additionally, a record number of transfer students – 2,062 – have enrolled for the fall semester, an increase of 232 over last year’s total of 1,830.

MSU President Mark E. Keenum said he’s excited to accommodate this record number of high academic achievers, noting that the university’s average first-time freshman ACT score is 25.13.

“I am pleased that Mississippi State continues to be the largest four-year accredited university in the state. We’re motivated by this university’s unprecedented growth, and we’re also very prepared for these new students who’ve chosen to build their future with us,” he said.

Keenum pointed to new and upgraded facilities and programs now serving MSU’s growing student body. The recently opened Old Main Academic Center offers these students 150,000 square feet of innovative class-



Mississippi State students are pictured entering Old Main Academic Center, which features 150,000 square feet of innovative classroom and study space. The state’s leading university again is setting records for fall student enrollment, welcoming a total of 21,884, a number that includes an unprecedented number of transfers. PHOTO BY MEGAN BEAN

room and study space, while the Center for Student Success is helping improve academic outcomes by better connecting students with university resources.

“We believe there’s a direct correlation between sharing our success stories with broader audiences and steadily climbing enrollment. More and more peo-

ple want to be part of the MSU experience because they know it involves exciting opportunities to learn, lead and grow,” Keenum said.

MSU remains the No. 1 choice for high school graduates in Mississippi, with 65.4 percent of the student body comprised of in-state residents. However, non-resident students also are finding MSU to be a destination for exceptional education, with the university recording 34.6 percent enrollment from out-of-state, a one-point increase over last fall.

Nearly 30 percent of MSU’s fall enrollment is composed of minority students, and 19 percent are African-American. A total of 50.4 percent of students are male, with 49.6 percent female.

Also, Keenum highlighted enrollment growth in the College of Architecture, Art and Design (up 7.9 percent); College of Veterinary Medicine (up 5.9 percent); and Bagley College of Engineering (up 4 percent). Totals for the eight colleges are:

- 2,408 in Agriculture and Life Sciences
- 774 in Architecture, Art and Design
- 5,279 in Arts and Sciences
- 2,852 in Business
- 3,502 in Education
- 4,638 in Engineering
- 584 in Forest Resources
- 574 in Veterinary Medicine.

MSU is Mississippi’s leading university, available online at www.msstate.edu.

JSU’s 2017 fall enrollment dips after changes in reporting policy, scholarships, waivers

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University’s preliminary enrollment for fall 2017 shows a 12 percent decline after implementing new student financial account management policies and reducing the number of scholarships and waivers offered.

This year’s preliminary enrollment of 8,583 is a reduction of 1,228 students from last fall’s preliminary number of 9,811.

In previous years, students were given a wider grace period for reconciling their accounts and were removed from enrollment rosters after the reporting period. The number of students who completed the fall 2016 semester was 8,529.

“Jackson State University has and is aligning its current policies with best practices,” said William B. Bynum Jr., president of JSU. “The university is requiring payment earlier in the semester, which allows us to manage our resources more effectively. Also, JSU reduced institutionally funded scholarship offerings in order to stabilize these expenditures.”

The newly implemented financial aid policy reduced scholarship assistance and eliminated some waivers for out-of-state fees.

Bynum said that these next two to three years will be very difficult. He is confident that, with its outstanding reputation, the university will be able to rebound and increase enrollment in the future.

Record freshman class helps boost enrollment at Alcorn



The Mississippi Link Newswire

Lorman, Miss. – For the second straight year, enrollment at Alcorn State University’s main campus has surged with the help of a record freshman class. Fall 2017 enrollment is 3,592 students, or a five percent increase above last year’s enrollment.

Alcorn State University’s class of 2021, is the largest first-time freshman class in school history at 740 and represents a 38 percent increase over last year’s class. It is also the school’s sesquicentennial class scheduled to graduate when the university celebrates its 150th anniversary.

President Alfred Rankins Jr. is thrilled by the enrollment increase, and he encourages this year’s freshmen and all students to have a productive college career.

“Because of the number of tools and opportunities made available to our students, high school students everywhere are beginning to recognize the value and quality education available at Alcorn State University,” said Rankins. “It’s good to see so many fresh faces on campus, and we hope that they matriculate at Alcorn within four years.”

Along with the increase in enrollment, the academic profile of the new class made record gains. This year’s freshman class has an average composite ACT of 19.6. Additionally, there was a 56 percent increase in students with an ACT score of 24 and above and a three-fold increase in students with an ACT of 28. The academic profile of this year’s freshman class represents an all-time high at the university.

“As Mississippi’s only comprehensive HBCU land-grant, Alcorn offers a world-class education that contributes to a more successful, prosperous and enriched state,” Vice President for student affairs Emanuel Barnes said. “We are continuing to attract, retain and engage a rising number of students and are preparing them to make a difference in our state and the world.”

Barnes credits Rankins’ vision and leadership for the enrollment boost.

“It is refreshing to have a president that is actively engaged in recruiting students. The president’s recruitment tour was a great success for the university,” said Barnes.

The fall semester preliminary enrollments are reported annually to the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning after the fourteenth day of classes.

Alcorn State University is a leading Historically Black College and University land-grant institution that celebrates a rich heritage with a diverse student and faculty population.

USM announces record in increase in new freshmen, record enrollment at the Gulf Park campus

Mississippi Link Newswire

The University of Southern Mississippi is celebrating a record percentage increase in new freshmen and has surpassed all previous record enrollment numbers at its Gulf Park campus in Long Beach.

Those are just two of the positives from Fall 2017 enrollment figures that have set the University on a course for future unmatched success.

In Fall 2017, 22.6 percent more first-time, full-time freshmen are attending the university than in 2016. A total of 1,910 new freshmen are currently enrolled, an increase of 352 more than the 1,558 freshmen who enrolled for the first time in Fall 2016.

The 1,910 total marks only the second time in the institution’s history more than 1,800 new freshmen have enrolled in any given year. This is also the second straight annual increase in the number of new freshmen.

“I am grateful for the dedication of our admissions and enrollment management team, as well as our faculty and staff, whose hard work resulted in this record increase of first-time, full-time freshmen,” said University President Rodney D. Bennett. “These successes demonstrate that The University of Southern Mississippi continues to provide high-quality education and research opportunities that position us as the institution of choice for so many students and their families.”

Quality of the student body remains strong, as new freshmen ACT (22.77) and GPA (3.29) averages are both the second-highest in the university’s recorded history. In addition, the number of students receiving academic merit scholarships increased more than 40 percent.



A total of 1,910 new freshmen are currently enrolled at The University of Southern Mississippi, an increase of 352 more than the 1,558 freshmen who enrolled for the first time in Fall 2016.

“The size and the quality of this class confirm that newly implemented recruitment strategies are working and that USM is an appealing institution to students from within Mississippi, across the country and around the world,” said University Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Steven R. Moser. “This freshman class positions the university not only for future growth but also unprecedented academic achievement.”

In all, 14,479 students are enrolled at USM this fall, compared to 14,552 last fall. Large graduating classes in 2015-16 (3,334 students) and 2016-17 (3,321 students), a decrease in part-time students, as well as national trends of fewer international and graduate students enrolled in higher education institutions are contributing to the slight difference.

Fall 2017 enrollment at the Gulf Park campus in Long Beach is up

9.2 percent from 2016. An all-time record of 3,454 students are enrolled in classes taught by faculty based at the University’s Gulf Park Campus, topping last year’s record enrollment of 3,163, which was a 9.1 percent increase over 2015. Enrollment in USM courses at the John C. Stennis Space Center in Hancock County and the University’s Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs remains steady.

“At USM, we believe in a holistic approach to student success. Over the past several years, we have provided Gulf Park students with increased student support services to complement quality instruction from our faculty, in turn creating a robust environment for learning,” said Casey Maugh Fundenburk, vice provost for the Gulf Park campus. “This expanded approach is one of the many reasons that more students than ever are choosing to study at the univer-

sity’s Gulf Park campus.”

The total number of undergraduate students, the number of students enrolled in fully online programs, the number of new freshman in-state and out-of-state, and the number of full-time students all increased.

Enrollment in the university’s Honors College remains strong with 124 new students from 10 states and multiple countries. New Honors College students boast an average ACT of 29.32 and GPA of 3.65.

“Maintaining strong quality while increasing the number of freshmen students choosing Southern Miss is something we are exceptionally proud to report this year and is evidence that students recognize the outstanding opportunities we have to offer,” said Kate Howard, assistant vice president and dean of Admissions. “It is a true testament to the caliber of the institution.”



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DOANNA YOWELL - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Everyone is talking about how to increase local job opportunities, protect property values, decrease crime, increase sales tax revenue. It starts at a local level. Communities statewide have the challenge of attracting business, citizens, and jobs.

Learn about natural capital to enhance your community. It is an important piece of the puzzle. It makes a difference for you and your citizen's future. This is the only conference that covers that subject in detail and it is offered only one time per year. You will not want to miss this opportunity.

Natural Capital Conference:
Sustainable Communities, Homes, and Businesses
October 4 & 5, 2017
MS Agriculture Museum, Jackson, MS

For Sustainable Communities, Homes and Businesses

30th Urban Forestry and Green Infrastructure Educational Summit
October 4 & 5, 2017
Pre-conference "Forest in the City Tree Tour" on October 3, 2017
MS Agriculture Museum, Jackson, MS



AGENDA
Pre-conference Activity - Tuesday, October 3, 2017 - 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Tree Tour by Dr. Stephen Dicke, MS State Extension Service.

MS Agriculture Museum Tree Tour and Tree Dedication - The tree tour will include a walking tour of the museum campus with specialists to identify tree species, native plants, birds, agriculture activities in the city and storm water management. Join us for an educational tour of a "Forest in the City" and experience the benefits of green infrastructure.

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

9 a.m. Welcome - Jim Ewing, President, MS Urban Forest Council
9:15 - 9:45 a.m. City of Jackson Sustainable Vision and Plans: Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba
9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Sustaining Natures Green System (Part One) - Dr. Malcolm Guidry, Urban Forester, City of Mandeville
10:45 - 11:30 a.m. Arboreta and Urban Forestry Programs: Donna Yowell, MS Urban Forest
11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Lunch and Learn - (Cook-Out)
12:30 - 1:15 p.m. Greener Cities - Challenges and Solutions: Mayor Gene McGee, Ridgeland and Chip Johnson, Former Mayor of Hernando
1:15 - 2:00 p.m. Low Maintenance Plant Material for Your Community and Gardens: Gary Bachman, MS State Extension Service, Author Southern Gardening
2:00 - 2:45 p.m. Sustaining Natures Green System (Part Two) - Dr. Malcolm Guidry, Urban forester for City of Mandeville
2:45 - 3:15 p.m. Vegetative Debris Management: Jennifer Milner, MDEQ
3:45 - 4:30 p.m. **Networking Break - Display Introductions**
Urban Prepare for the Next Storm: Charlie Marcus, Legacy Arborist Services of Tallahassee, formerly Forestry Coordinator for Florida Forestry Commission
4:30 - 5:00 p.m. Correct Planting and Maintenance of Trees: Martha Hill, Hinds CC Landscape

Environmental Justice, Social Equity and Greenspace: Cassandra Johnson, US Forest Service
Demonstrations of how to make a terrarium by The Fern Man, Bob Stribling

Celebration of Trees Sustainable Awards Event
October 4, 2017 - \$30 Dinner Event
6:30 p.m. until
Dragos on County Line Road, Jackson
Green Mayors, Green Cities, Civic Awards,
Green Developer, and other doing green work in their communities.
You can submit a nomination today!

Thursday, October 5, 2017

9:00 - 9:45 a.m. Community and City Green Designs: Robert Poore, Native Habitats
9:45 - 10:30 a.m. Cut Flowers and Color for Your Community, Home or Business Landscape: Nettie Neal, Garden Mama
10:30 - 10:45 a.m. Break
10:45 - 11:30 a.m. Urban Farms and Agri-tourism: Shelly Johnstone, Johnstone and Associates, AICP
11:30 - 12:15 a.m. Bird-Friendly Spaces and Working with Schools: Ken Hackman, Madison Central High
12:15 p.m. Lunch and Learn (cook out) - Fruit Orchards for Community, Home or Business: Taylor Yowell, Garden Farmacy and Larry Stephenson, Southern Fruit Fellowship
The Smart Landscapes and Water Conservation: Bob Brzuszek, MS State Landscape School
1:30 - 2:30 a.m. Trees for Bees and Other Pollinators: Ellis Carson, Memphis Botanic Garden
2:30 - 3:15 p.m. Break
3:15 - 3:30 p.m. Safety in the Landscape- OSHA, US Department of Labor
3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Mississippi Forestry Commission: Todd Matthews: MS Forestry Commission
4:00 - 4:30 p.m. Mississippi's Community Fishing Program: Dennis Riecke: MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.

5:00 P.M. Mississippi Urban Forest Council will hold its annual business meeting after the program which is open to the public and guests are welcome. New board members will be selected. Join us to continue to make a 'green difference' in places we live, work and play.

Continuing Education Hours Available:
CMO's for elected officials, planners, parks & recreation, engineers, Master Gardeners, landscape architects, planners, city employees, public works, Food Farmers, Urban Forest Masters and others. You must apply for credits through your professional association. 16 hours for ISA and 16 hours for American Foresters.

Host Hotel:
Hilton County Line Road, Jackson, MS - \$104 rate if booked by September 19, 2017
Ask for MS Urban Forest Council room block. Hilton reservations number: 1-800-774-1500

Reserve Your Seat Today!

Mail this form with a check or email P.O. number to: Mississippi Urban Forest Council, 164 Trace Cove Drive, Madison, Mississippi 39110. You may also request billing, use credit card or pay at the door. Call, text (601-672-0755) or email (dyowell@aol.com) to reserve your seat. Register by September 30, 2017

Registration Form
Name _____

Affiliation/Organization _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____
You may register for one day or for both days. The Tree Tour is a special fund raiser for Keep Mississippi Beautiful. The 30th Green awards will be held the evening of October 4, 2017 at the Hilton on County Line Road. Nomination for awards are open to anyone wanting to nominate a recipient.

Please check appropriate event option(s):
Conference registration by each day and/or event:

October 3, 2017: Tree Tour	\$25.00 _____
October 4, 2017: Summit and Lunch	\$65.00 _____
October 5, 2017: Summit and Lunch	\$50.00 _____
October 4, 2017: Awards Dinner	\$30.00 _____
Total	_____

Exhibitors
(Two full days, includes one registration) \$200.00 _____ plus a door prize

Sponsors for the event are invited. We will include your logo on the outreach material, registration and time to present your product or services. Beginning at \$500 and up. \$ _____

Scholarships: A conference registration scholarship is available for 10 city officials and 10 college students. First come basis, request now. Scholarship does not include the \$30 awards dinner. Please contact us for approval.

You may register four ways:

1. Mail this form with a check or email purchase order number to: Mississippi Urban Forest Council, 164 Trace Cove Drive, Madison, Mississippi 39110 or dyowell@aol.com.
2. You may also request billing, use credit card or pay at the door.
3. You may register by texting or calling (601) 672-0755
4. You may also register on our FB page: Mississippi Urban Forest Council.

Register by September 30, 2017
Early Bird before August 31, 2017 only \$99.00

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson's D-MS 2nd District Announcements



Car seat safety event

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (MS-02) will serve as honorary co-host during the Safe Kids Mississippi Car Seat Safety event in Greenwood, Miss.

Who: Congressman Bennie G. Thompson

What: Safe Kids Mississippi Car Seat Safety Event

When: 10 a.m.-12 noon, Saturday, September 16, 2017

Where: Thompson-Clemons American Legion Post 200, 1103 Jordan Street, Greenwood, MS.

Annual college and career fair

Thompson announces his 11th Annual College and Career Fair for the Second Congressional District of Mississippi.

The fair will be Friday, October 6, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Washington County Convention Center, 1040 S. Raceway Road, Greenville, MS 38703.

The fair is free and open to the public.

There will be many colleges, universities, apprenticeships and trade programs on hand, as well as employers. Also students will be able to participate in the Reality Fair like they did last year.

For any other questions you may have please contact Timla G. Washington at 662-335-9003. See you at the fair!

\$235,239 grant to Grenada Fire Department

Thompson (MS-02) announces the Department of Homeland Security's FY 2016 Assistance to Firefighters grant in the amount of \$235,239 to be awarded to the city of Grenada Fire Department.

"The thousands of Grenada residents depend on their fire department to assist them in the event of an emergency," Thompson said.

"With this grant, the Grenada Fire Department will be able to purchase the necessary equipment to prevent any future fire disasters in the city that will ultimately save lives."

For more information please contact Grenada City Manager Trey Baker at trey.baker@cityofgrenada.ms.

Celebration of Trees Green Awards October 4, 2017 - 6:30 p.m. Hilton County Line Road-Penthouse, Jackson, MS

Key Note Speaker to Be Announced



Invitation to Nominate for Award :

Each year the Mississippi Urban Forest Council recognizes and honors cities, businesses, civic groups, schools and others that have demonstrated success with community forestry and green infrastructure. We invite you to submit a nomination for the upcoming 2015 awards ceremony. This is a great way to promote locally driven work in your community and people making a difference. **Nomination deadline is September 20, 2017** and should be submitted via email to the Mississippi Urban Forest Council at dyowell@aol.com.

Award Categories:		
Local Government:	A. < 20,000 pop.	B. > 20,000 pop.
Tree City, USA	Individual	Urban Forest Master
Youth Group	Reforestation Award	Scenic Community of MS
Civic Organization	Certified Urban Forests	"Green" Mayor Award
Dedicated Communication	Partnership Award	Professional Urban Forester
Life Time Achievement	Commercial Development	Seedling Youth Award
City Farmer		

How to Nominate:
Submit a one page summary with local press and photos supporting the work involved. Include all contact information. Submit to Donna Yowell at dyowell@aol.com or mail to 164 Trace Cove Drive, Madison, MS 39110. For more information contact Donna at (601)672-0755.

A N Y T I M E O N L I N E

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Truth will bring unity!

By Pastor Simeon R. Green III
Special to The Mississippi Link



First John 1:7 says, “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another.” Truth will destroy division and will bring God’s people together. Children of God, if we live as God wants us to live, we will automatically have fellowship with one another. Human efforts to try to get brethren together will not work; the only thing that will work is obeying truth.

Many people are confused regarding fellowship. Jesus said in John 17:17-21, “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy Word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that

they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in Me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us.”

Too many people do not know the true teachings of Christ; that is one reason some people follow teachings contrary to the teachings of Christ. Jesus said the Holy Spirit will lead and guide us into all truth. The only way we can know the truth is to pray and stay in the Word of God; that is our deliverance.

When we read our Bible, the Holy Spirit will lead us to a Scripture that will reveal the condition we are in and help us.

Jesus said that we are the light of the world. Matthew 5:16, Jesus said, “Let your

light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

We read in John 18:37 these words, “Every one that is of the truth heareth My voice.” Why is there so much division today? Some are not hearing the truth. Many people heard Jesus’ voice at one time, but they did not continue to hear Him.

God is yet revealing Himself to man. That is the reason Jesus let us know we must keep walking in the truth. When people quit walking in truth, they cannot go any further with God.

Many people have stopped hearing the truth, yet they say, “I am still saved.” However, when we stop walking in truth, we have ceased to belong to God. The truth, believed and obeyed, is the only thing that can bring unity

among God’s people.

God’s truth must be obeyed for one to have life. When God made Adam, He put two trees in the midst of the garden, the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. One tree was for life and the other was to test man’s obedience.

The truth will bring us life, and it will also test our obedience. If we disobey it, we will lose our life. We cannot do certain things and still remain a Child of God. If we go ahead and do those things, then God will see that we are not in obedience, and He will cut us off.

When the trials and tests come, we will do as Samson and say, “I will arise and do as I have always done,” but we will not realize that the Spirit has left us. It is the Spirit that gives us the power to go through trials and test with victory.

P R E S E R V E D

Loving the most

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“The one who loves least controls the relationship.” I can’t remember who said this; I think it was a former pastor. However, this saying has always resonated as one of the most truthful statements I’ve heard about relationship dynamics. It’s a challenging thing to recognize because sometimes we spend so much time trying to convince the other person how much we love them that we don’t realize they stopped loving us a long time ago. More importantly, we justify doing some inappropriate things because of “love” without realizing that if we really loved that person or thing, we would let them go.

For example, I was talking to a friend about the stress that one family member in particular had put on their siblings regarding the long term terminal illness of their youngest sibling. All of the other siblings were in agreement about what to do concerning the family member who was put on hospice...except this one. She insisted that the sister who was dying remain on life support with the reason that she loved her sister too much to see her die.

Despite the fact that the dying sister’s sons cried every time they visited their mother and saw her hooked up to machines, this one sibling accused the others of not loving their sister and wanting to kill her. When asked repeatedly by the other siblings why she was acting that way, the sister simply stated, “Because I must love her more than you do.”


It was clear to everyone, including doctors, the “loving” sibling who insisted on keeping the other sister alive had selfish motives that had nothing to do with loving her sister more than the others. In fact, one doctor offered that if she really loved her sister, she would not want her to suffer anymore. It took a lot of persuasion but the “loving” sibling was eventually convinced to relinquish the medical power of attorney so that the wishes of her sister’s adult children would prevail. A few short days later, the woman, who had suffered with brain cancer for five years, was able to peacefully transition.

Watching these events from the outside made me think about how often it is the one who claims boldly, “I love you,” “I love the USA,” “I love my church,” the most is often the one who really loves the least. Often what they really love is being able to cause chaos, selfishly manipulate and control others.

I Corinthians 13:4-8 speaks about all of the characteristics of love. When you study this amazing scriptural passage, you see how powerful love is not just because of how it transforms the object of love but how it transforms the one who loves.

Loving the most means that you love with the love of God seeking to show compassion and grace to all.

Shewanda Riley is a Dallas, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email her at preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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Trump, Republicans ignore lessons of Noah

By Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.
Founder and president of
Rainbow PUSH Coalition



It is too soon to know the extent of the damage done by Hurricane Harvey. Estimates are that over a million people have been displaced. As I write this, 49 are feared dead – a number that will continue to climb. Harvey broke the U.S. record for rainfall from a single storm. Houston, the fourth largest city in America, was hit with 50 inches of rain. The governor of Texas estimated that his state will need “far in excess” of \$125 billion in federal funding to help rebuild.

But Texas is not alone. Hong Kong just got hit with the third typhoon in three weeks. South Asia suffered historic rainfall and flooding in August. Twelve hundred were killed in India and Bangladesh. Mumbai, India’s financial capital, saw its streets turn into rivers. Sierra Leone saw 500 die and thousands displaced from record mudslides in Freetown. In Nigeria, floods displaced 100,000. In Pakistan, Karachi was flooded.

It will get worse. The glaciers are melting. The warmer waters are rising. Warmer waters feed stronger storms. Add to that a lack of basic infrastructure and widespread overbuilding in flood plains and the result is repeated disasters.

In Genesis, the Bible teaches that God came to Noah and warned him about the coming floods. He told Noah to build an ark – sophisticated infrastructure – to ensure that man and selected animals and birds could survive. There was no nonsense about each being on his or her own. Strong swimmers went down with the weak. Rich mansions on the hill were flooded with the poor huts in the valley. It took infrastructure, planning and preparedness to survive the flood.

Oddly, in this country, it is those on the right – often those who most loudly profess their religious beliefs – who choose to ignore this counsel. For years, Republicans have denied even the existence of catastrophic climate change. Donald Trump dismissed it as a “Chinese hoax.” As head of Exxon, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson knew better: Exxon scientists documented global warming over 40 years ago, but the company suppressed that information. Leading Republican billionaires the Koch bothers – whose fortune is tied to fossil fuels – enforce the Republican ignorance about global warming.

More recently, some Republicans have admitted that the world is warming, but they deny that humans have anything to do with it. Having accepted that it is happening, they argue that it is too expensive to try to stop by turning to renewable energy. They also resist investing in the infrastructure or doing the planning needed to strengthen protections against the effects of global warming. And, of course, Texas legislators led by Sen. Ted Cruz opposed federal aid to recover from massive disaster – when Sandy hit New Jersey. Now that Harvey has hit Texas, they suddenly realize the importance of federal assistance.

Across the country, people of conscience are rushing to aid the victims of Harvey. A flotilla of volunteer boats helped rescue people. Churches and humanitarians have offered aid, clothes, baby food, medicines. Doctors have rushed to provide care. Americans are at their best in responding generously in times of crisis.

Yet, while Trump has offered to contribute a million dollars for humanitarian relief after Harvey, it is probably too much to expect that the Trump administration will learn anything from this disaster. Trump won’t reverse course and push to strengthen, not gut, the Paris global warming agreement. Former Texas Gov. Rick Perry will continue to push for more use of oil and coal. EPA administrator Scott Pruitt will continue to roll back environmental regulation and weaken efforts to stop building on flood plains. Trump’s budgets will continue to ignore the need for real investment in rebuilding our infrastructure, making our systems more resilient, strengthening ourselves against the coming storms. Instead we will end up paying far more in lives, in destruction and in money to recover after one disaster after another.

Surely, the next generation of leaders will shed the old ideological idiocies. They will learn the lesson taught by Noah. Perhaps they will demand that this country lead a global effort to address global warming and launch a national effort to rebuild our country.

What Harvey and Katrina and Sandy and floods and mudslides across the world suggest, however, is that we don’t have the time to wait for a new generation of leaders possessed of common sense. In Genesis, Noah had less than a year to build the ark – and less than seven days to gather his family and various species of animals and birds and plants into the ark before the great flood. Noah put aside his normal routine and acted immediately and with urgency. We would be well advised to heed that lesson.

A new Poor People’s Campaign and Moral Revival needed in America

By Bishop William J. Barber, II
President, Repairers of the Breach



Channeling the incisive analysis of our best historians, TaNe-hisi Coates cut through the talking points of political pundits last week to name Donald Trump America’s “First White President.” Writing for The Atlantic, the National Book Award recipient made clear how there could be no Donald Trump without President Obama. The chaos from which the whole world now suffers is a direct result of the backlash against racial progress in America.

To see this is to know that Trump is not our problem. He is only a symptom. During this time of intensifying political, economic and moral crisis, with the lives of the most vulnerable and the spirits of all under vicious attack, people in growing numbers around the country are fighting back for their lives, communities and deepest values.

As we respond to invitations from communities across America, we hear a resounding call for a Poor People’s Campaign and Moral Revival in America today.

Fifty years ago, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and others called for a “revolution of values” in America, inviting people who had been divided to stand together against the “triplets of evil” – militarism, racism and economic injustice – to insist that people need not die from poverty in the richest nation

to ever exist. He joined with people across the country like Myles Horton of the Highlander Center, Loretta Two Crow of National Welfare Rights, Cesar Chavez of United Farm Workers, Al McSurely of the Appalachian Volunteers, Philip Bernstein of the Council of Jewish Federation and Welfare, Tillie Walker of the United Indian Scholarship Fund, and John Lewis of the Southern Regional Council. Theirs was a coalition as diverse as America.

We draw on the history, vision and unfinished work of the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign as we embrace the task of reigniting that campaign to unite the poor, disenfranchised and marginalized to take action together. In the aftermath of 2016’s rejection election, we are building a movement from the states up, to unleash what Dr. King called “a new and unsettling force in our complacent national life.”

This campaign has emerged from more than a decade of work by grassroots community and religious leaders, organizations and movements fighting to end systemic racism, poverty, militarism, environmental destruction and related injustices and to build a just, sustainable and participatory society. We would need to do this work even if Trump had not been elected. But the blatant extremism of this administration only serves to amplify the need.

The twin forces of white supremacy and unchecked corporate greed continue to gain more power and influence, both in statehouses across this nation

and at the highest levels of our federal government.

Today, one in every two Americans are poor or low-income, while millions of children and adults continue to live without access to healthcare, housing, clean water, or good jobs.

At the same time, the issues of poverty and racism have been forced to the margins of our moral narrative and claims that a limited focus on personal morality should overshadow and supplant a commitment to public morality rooted in a critique of greed, racism and injustice.

Our campaign aims to build a broad and deep national moral movement – rooted in the leadership of poor people and reflecting the great moral teachings – to unite our country from the bottom up.

There was a time when our nation was fighting a war against poverty; now, it seems, we are waging a war on the poor. Our social fabric is stretched thin by widening income inequality, while politicians criminalize the poor, fan the flames of racism and xenophobia to divide the poor, and steal from the poor to give tax breaks to our richest neighbors and budget increases to a bloated military.

The Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival will strategically connect and grow different struggles and lift up and deepen the leadership of those most affected to transform the political, economic and moral structures of our society. The campaign will push forward concrete demands, build unity across lines of division, and

draw on art, music and religious traditions to challenge the dominant narrative that blames poor people for poverty.

This will necessarily be a multi-year undertaking. This fall and winter we are touring the country to publicly launch the campaign with partners who have been working across race and class lines in their own communities. Next spring, we plan to begin engaging in highly publicized civil disobedience and direct action over a six-week period in at least 25 states and the District of Columbia. Our goal is to force a serious, national examination of the enmeshed evils of systemic racism, poverty, militarism and environmental devastation during a key election year, while strengthening and connecting informed and committed grassroots leadership in every state. We are building power to continue this fight long after June 2018.

A precise diagnosis is key, but naming the problem is never enough. We need a movement rooted in the moral forces that have demonstrated a capacity to change America. At such a time as this, we need a Poor People’s Campaign and Moral Revival to help us become the nation we’ve not yet been.

Bishop William J. Barber, II, is president of Repairers of the Breach, co-chair of the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, and author of The Third Reconstruction. Follow Bishop Barber on Twitter @RevDrBarber. Follow Repairers of the Breach on Twitter @BRepairers.

Tribute to Harriet Tubman on currency is threatened

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



“I have been particularly struck by the many comments and reactions from children for whom Harriet Tubman is not just a historical figure, but a role model for leadership and participation in our democracy.

“You shared your thoughts about her life and her works and how they changed our nation and represented our most cherished values. ...Her incredible story of courage and commitment to equality embodies the ideals of democracy that our nation celebrates, and we will continue to value her legacy by honoring her on our currency.” – Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew

As the nation has begun the process of removing public monuments to the Confederacy – traitors who waged war against the United States to preserve slavery – we have at last

begun to focus on the difference between observing history and honoring heroes.

One way nations honor national heroes is by depicting them on currency. Around the world, currency depicts writers, artists, scientists, activists and others as a means of national tribute.

Against the backdrop of the Confederate monument debate, a planned tribute to abolitionist and anti-slavery activist Harriet Tubman would be a powerful gesture of racial reconciliation.

Now, however, that gesture of reconciliation is threatened. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin – former CEO of a major bank that stands accused of racial discrimination – has backed away from plans to feature Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill.

Abandoning this long-overdue tribute would be a grave mistake. At a time when the nation desperately seeks reconciliation, this gesture sends the callous message that white supremacy takes precedence over the history of slavery and the unfath-

omable courage of those who fought to end it.

It is particularly apt that Tubman’s image was chosen to replace that of Andrew Jackson, a slaveholder whose chief achievement as president was the forced removal of 15,000 Native Americans from their ancestral homes. More than 4,000 people died during the brutal upheaval known as the Trail of Tears.

Tubman not only escaped bondage and rescued dozens of people from enslavement as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, she served the Union Army as a nurse, an armed scout and a spy. She risked her life, many times over, and gave all she had in service of others.

The debate over the \$20 bill reflects a larger struggle happening right now in the United States. The nation grows more diverse, as women and people of color are taking their rightful places of leadership. There are many who meet this change with fear and resistance.

The neo-Nazis who marched in Charlottesville earlier this

summer chanted, “You will not replace us.” – a desperate cry of fear if ever there was one.

The demographic shift in the United States represents a broadening of perspectives, not a replacement. Our history is not solely the story of wealthy white men, though our choice of public tributes might reflect that.

As my friend Mitch Landrieu, Mayor of New Orleans, said as he removed Confederate monuments from my beloved home city, “All we hold dear is created by throwing everything in the pot; creating, producing something better; everything a product of our historic diversity. We are proof that out of many we are one – and better for it!”

It’s time that our public institutions reflected that historic diversity. We are a nation of many colors, many creeds, and our history is rich with the contributions of men and women of every background and heritage. Honoring Harriet Tubman is a step forward in acknowledging our truth as a nation. Now is not the time to step backward.

The NNPA celebrates the living legacy and tenacity of Dick Gregory



Dick Gregory remembered.

Bendjamin F. Chavis Jr.
President and CEO NNPA

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) pauses to express our heartfelt condolences to the family of Dick Gregory, and to express forthrightly on the public record our profound and enduring love, respect, and salute to the living legacy of Gregory.

At no time in our 400-year travail and struggle for freedom, justice and equality have we been more blessed, as people, to have in our midst a freedom-fighting leader and visionary like our brother and comrade, Gregory.

Gregory's avant-garde leadership in civil rights, entertainment, journalism and entrepreneurial development will always be remembered and cherished by generations to come. African Americans, in fact

all people of African descent, as well as all people who have felt the cold, damp hands and wretchedness of racism and oppression will be forever inspired by the example of courage embodied by the commitment and activism of Gregory.

During the past six decades, Gregory, would periodically write columns, essays and editorials for the black-owned newspapers of NNPA members across the nation. His pen and his voice were always on the side of the oppressed, who dared to speak up and stand up for freedom. Today, in Gregory's memory, we all are obligated to do no less. Every breath that we take, we should gain more and more strength to speak truth to power and to stand against all injustice.

Gregory made us smile, while simultaneously stimulating the irre-

pressible desire to fight for freedom without compromising the values of integrity, honesty and self-determination.

In my own personal life-commitment to the freedom movement, Dick would always remind me not to permit the contradictions of society to break our spirit of unity and purpose.

Therefore, on behalf of Dorothy R. Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA, and all the 211-member publishers of the NNPA, we acknowledge that we will miss Gregory, but we will not forget him. We will not forget his tenacity. We will not relent in using the audacity and clarity of his devoted life to the uplift of all humanity. Long live the spirit of Dick Gregory.

Sincerely,
Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.
President and CEO of the NNPA

Even with advanced degrees, black women earn less than white men

By Bria Nicole Stone
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Black women have to work seven extra months to earn what white men were paid in 2016. On average, black women make 67 cents on the dollar compared to white men.

In a recent blog post to mark Black Women's Equal Pay Day, researchers at the Economic Policy Institute analyzed and debunked myths concerning the reasons why black women earn less than white men.

Some people mistakenly believe that if black women simply worked harder, they would earn higher wages.

However, according to EPI, the truth is that, "Black women work more hours than white women. They have increased work hours 18.4 percent since 1979, yet the wage gap relative to white men has grown."

The EPI blog post said that the growth in annual hours is "larger for black women than for white women and men" who work in low-paying jobs and that, "both black and white workers have increased their number of annual hours in response to slow wage growth" and "working moms are significant contributors to this trend."

Half of black women who have jobs are working moms compared to 44.5 percent of white women.

Another common myth associated with the pay gap between black women and white men is that black women would earn higher wages, if they were more educated.

"Two-thirds of black women in the workforce have some postsecondary edu-

cation, 29.4 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher," the blog post said. "Black women are paid less than white men at every level of education."

According to EPI, black women with less than a high school diploma make \$10.62 on average compared to white men who make \$15.16. Black women with advanced degrees earn \$31.57 compared to white men, who make \$48.27.

The racial wage gap persists in jobs dominated by black women and jobs dominated by white men, according to EPI, dispelling the myth that black women earn less due to their career choices.

"While white male physicians and surgeons earn, on average, \$18 per hour more than black women doing the same job, the gap for retail salespersons is also shocking, at more than \$9 an hour," according to EPI researchers.

Valerie Wilson, the director of race, ethnicity, and the economy at EPI said that career choice and education have little to do with the pay gap between black women and white men.

"Black women, whether they make the same career choice [as white men] or not, will still earn less than white men," said Wilson. "This can be in any career choice whether it is a male-dominated or a female-dominated career. We have seen that even in fields that are more common for women, men still make more than black women in that career field."

Wilson said that even though wages are growing faster for women than men, black women still don't see much benefit.

"While white women do make less than white men, they still earn quite a bit more than black women," said Wilson. "Women's Equal Pay Day was held in April while Black Women's Equal Pay Day is held in July."

While the wage gap for black women is caused by both gender and racial disparities, there are still ways to help minimize and close the pay gap between black women and their counterparts.

Wilson said that economic policy in the U.S. can play a much larger role in minimizing the pay gap.

"We have anti-discrimination laws, but we must enforce those laws and ensure they are effective. There also has to be greater pay transparency," said Wilson. "Other things that can help raise wages is collective bargaining. Also, black women are known to be in lower-paying occupations, so raising the minimum wage would be very helpful."

Wilson continued: "We need to make sure that black women are fighting and being paid what they're worth."



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POWER OF INSPIRATION

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Chasity Hale, Sanya Richards-Ross, Margaret "Marty" Gillis, Valeisha Butterfield-Jones, Tichina Arnold

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 77-3-16 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended, requesting names to be added to a list of contractors and suppliers qualified to perform contracts within the scope of proposed utility projects concerning construction, extension, and/or repair of electric public utility facilities for or on behalf of Entergy Mississippi, Inc. Names of qualified contractors or suppliers desiring to be added to such list may be submitted to supplierqualification@entergy.com.

Please include contact information, type of contractor or supplier and a description of qualifications. Questions Call 1-844-387-9675.

3/9/2017 thru 12/28/2017

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Public Notice
Request for Statement of Qualifications

The City of Jackson, Mississippi, is seeking Statements of Qualifications (SOQ's) Thursday, September 28, 2017 from consulting firms desiring to provide consultant services for the preparation of an Evaluation Plan of the City's Early Childhood System of Care Expansion Project.

Statements of Qualifications packets may be secured from the Department of Human and Cultural Services, Metrocenter Mall, 1000 Metrocenter Suite 101., Jackson, Mississippi, 39209, between 8:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday – Friday, or call Beverley Durham at (601) 960 -0335.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principal 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, every contractor, bidder or offer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application with the proposal submission; in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's EBO Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offer from being awarded an eligible contract.

For more information on the City of Jackson's EBO Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 601 960 1856. Copies of the EBO Ordinance, EBO Plan Application, EBO Program, the MBE/FBE Directory and MBE/FBE Certification Affidavit are available at 200 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

Proposals should be submitted to the City Clerk's office, no later than 3:30PM, local time on Thursday September 28, 2017.

9/14/2017, 9/21/2017

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
SIGN VARIANCE FOR ORANGE THEORY FITNESS

THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SIGN VARIANCE FOR ORANGE THEORY FITNESS TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 219 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MS, 39201. INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT THE SIGNS & LICENSE DIVISION (601) 960-1154 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

9/7/2017 9/14/2017

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Public Notice
Request for Statement of Qualifications

The City of Jackson, Mississippi, is seeking Statements of Qualifications (SOQ's) Thursday, September 28, 2017 from consulting firms desiring to provide consultant services for the preparation of a Social Marketing Plan for the City's Early Childhood System of Care Expansion Project.

Statements of Qualifications packets may be secured from the Department of Human and Cultural Services, Metrocenter Mall, 1000 Metrocenter Suite 101., Jackson, Mississippi, 39209, between 8:00AM and 5:00PM, Monday – Friday, or call Beverley Durham at (601) 960 -0335.

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9/14/2017, 9/21/2017

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Public Notice
Request for Statement of Qualifications

The City of Jackson, Mississippi, is seeking Statements of Qualifications (SOQ's) Thursday, September 28, 2017 from an Early Childhood Expert desiring to provide consultant services on funding strategies and infrastructure building for the City's Early Childhood System of Care Expansion Project.

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Adriane Dorsey-Kidd, Director
Department of Human and Cultural Services
City of Jackson, MS

9/14/2017, 9/21/2017

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR LEASE OF HANGAR SPACE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES AND/
OR HISTORICAL TERMINAL BUILDING
AT HAWKINS FIELD AIRPORT
BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 7000-009-17

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") requests Proposals from qualified respondents ("Respondent") for development and operation of Hangar Space and Associated Facilities and/or Historical Terminal Building at the Hawkins Field Airport ("HKS").

JMAA will receive Proposals to perform the Services at JMAA's administrative offices, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208, until 3:00 p.m. central time on November 3, 2017 (the "Deadline").

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Any Addenda issued clarifying and/or changing instructions in Information for Respondents; and/or answering questions in relation to the Information for Respondents shall become part of the Information for Respondents. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Ms. Robin Byrd, JMAA's Manager, Procurement, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
100 International Drive, Suite 300 (39208)
Post Office Box 98109
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Robin Byrd, Manager, Procurement
Telephone No.: (601) 360-8616
Facsimile No.: (601) 939-3713
E-Mail: rbyrd@jmaa.com

or from JMAA's website at www.jmaa.com/resources/rfprfb-center/.

A pre-proposal conference (the "Pre-Proposal Conference") will be held in the Hawkins Field Terminal Building, 558 West Ramp St., Jackson, MS 39208 at 3:00 p.m. central time on September 28, 2017. Attendance at the Pre-Proposal Conference is Strongly Encouraged for all Respondents. If a Respondent cannot attend, then a representative of Respondent should be in attendance. Respondents are encouraged to submit any questions concerning this RFP, in writing, prior to the Pre-Proposal Conference. JMAA will try to answer all written questions received in advance at the Pre-Proposal Conference. After the meeting, representatives of JMAA will be available to take attendees on a tour of the Hangar and Associated Facilities locations.

Based on the Proposals received, JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent or Respondents with the Highest and Best proposed used for the properties individually or combined

JMAA reserves the right to: (1) reject any and all Proposals, for any reason, any time before execution of an agreement with Respondents selected by JMAA.

8/31/2017 9/7/2017 9/14/2017 9/21/2017

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 AT 10:00 A.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. OLD BUSINESS
- NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. 2017-35, REQUEST BY: BYRD L. PAYNE, TO FRAME AN EXISTING DECK, ADD A ROOF AND SCREEN IN THE DECK AT 1102 LYNCREST AVE., LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

2. CASE NO. 2017-36, REQUEST BY: CURRY BALLARD (OWNER: DANIELLE BEARD) TO MAKE EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS BY SHIFTING A FRONT DOOR, REPLACING SIDE ENTRY DOORS WITH WINDOWS, REPLACING BRICK STEPS AND EXISTING BRICK SIDEWALK, REPLACING ROOF, REPLACE/REPAIR EXTERIOR WALLS WITH CEMENT STUCCO PLASTER AND OTHER ALTERATIONS AT 911 EUCLID AVE., LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

3. CASE NO. 2017-37, REQUEST BY: JOEL FYKE PROPOSE ADDITION OF LANDSCAPING, INCLUDING HARDSCAPE BRICK WALKWAY, PORCH AND FENCING AT 1335 LINDEN PLACE, LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

4. CASE NO. 2017-40, REQUEST BY: JAYE COLEMAN TO DEMOLISH HOMES LOCATED AT 1609 ST. ANN ST. AND 1925 LAUREL STREET IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT.

II. OTHER ITEMS
DISCUSSION
- NONE

III. ADJOURN

9/7/2017, 9/14/2017

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
SIGN VARIANCE FOR THE DISTRICT AT EASTOVER

THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SIGN VARIANCE FOR THE DISTRICT AT EASTOVER TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 219 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MS, 39201. INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT THE SIGNS & LICENSE DIVISION (601) 960-1154 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

9/7/2017 9/14/2017

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9/14/2017

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Cryptogram Solution

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F Z V PDLB GVQTUG ZQPFXFVE
ASIDE FROM WHAT I 'VE BEEN
VPFJD BWHZ CUVG F ID MDDE
ABLE TO PICK UP FROM OTHER
VMLD GH NFXR QN BWHZ HGUOW
PLAYERS
NLVYDWP

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Sudoku Solution

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832519764
769248153
391876542
278954631
546321978
415682397
623497815
987135426

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LEGAL

HINDS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

About the office: If you are looking for an exciting and challenging career, this is the position for you! With a diverse and talented workforce, the District Attorney's Office works to ensure the protection of all citizens of Hinds County while preserving their constitutional freedoms. You can be a part of a dedicated team helping to enforce State and criminal laws that protect life, liberty, and the property of the citizens of Hinds County.

Job Description: The Hinds County District Attorney's Office is accepting applications for an Assistant District Attorney (ADA) position in our office. The selected applicant will have responsibility for all phases of criminal prosecution including providing guidance to law enforcement officers, conducting grand jury proceedings, preliminary hearings, and trials.

Qualifications: Applicants must possess a J.D. Degree and must currently be an active member of the Mississippi Bar. Two years of qualifying legal experience is required. Qualifying legal experience may include work as an attorney, as a judicial law clerk in either federal or state court and/or litigation experience in either the public or private sector.

Preferred Qualifications: Hiring preference will be given to applicants with courtroom experience prosecuting a range of violent crimes, firearms offenses, drug-trafficking offenses; strong academics; outstanding organizational skills; superior legal writing and research ability; and demonstrated commitment to professionalism, ethics, civility, community involvement, and public service. Applicants must demonstrate a quick analytical ability and the facility to accurately articulate the critical issues involved with a case. Applicants must display strong interpersonal skills and good judgment, have excellent oral communication skills, exhibit the ability to work in a supportive and professional manner with other attorneys, support staff and families of crime victims, and must have a demonstrated capacity to function with minimal guidance in a highly demanding environment. Applicants will be expected to do their own legal research and writing and will be substantially self-sufficient in preparing day to day correspondence and pleading. Applicants must also demonstrate excellent computer literacy skills to include experience with automated research on the internet, electronic court filing, email and work processing systems.

Salary: State and County positions (depends on experience). Please forward resume, writing sample, and references to: kscampbell@co.hinds.ms.us or mail to ATTN: Kimalon S. Campbell, Hinds County District Attorney's Office, 407 E. Pascagoula St., Jackson, MS 39201

9/7/2017, 9/14/2017, 9/21/2017



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9/11 Memorial Run

More than 400 officers from around the state participated. Run started at the Capitol, meandered through downtown and back to the capitol.

September 11, 2017

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



BOOK REVIEW: “WHO ARE VENUS AND SERENA WILLIAMS?”

BY JAMES BUCKLEY JR.
C.2017, PENGUIN WORKSHOP
\$5.99 / \$7.99 CANADA • 108 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

“You kids quiet down!”

If you’re feeling wild, you’ve no doubt heard that, or pipe down, or knock it off, or something similar, for sure. You’re a kid; kids make noise, and in the new book “Who are Venus and Serena Williams?” by James Buckley Jr., you’ll read about two girls who were encouraged to make a lot of “racquet.”

Nearly 40 years ago, Richard Williams met Oracene Price, and they got married. Oracene had three daughters, Richard had six children, but there’s always room for more. In 1980, Venus Ebony Starr was born, followed by Serena Jameka a

little more than a year later. The family lived in Michigan then; they moved to California when the girls were small.

It was there, in Compton, where Richard got a great idea. He’d been watching tennis, and he knew his girls could become stars. His stepdaughters really weren’t interested, but four-year-old Venus absolutely loved smacking tennis balls over the net. Serena learned to love it a year later, and their father proceeded to teach his girls “everything he knew about tennis.”

Their lessons weren’t held in the best tennis court, though. The court surface was cracked and weeds were growing through it. The net was tattered and it was

all located in a dangerous neighborhood. Still, it was where Venus and Serena could practice all they wanted and soon, even local gang members recognized the girls’ talent.

By age eleven, Venus won sixty-three of her seventy-two matches in junior level; she went pro three years later. When Serena was eleven years old, she racked up wins in forty-six of forty-nine matches in junior level; she turned pro at age fifteen.

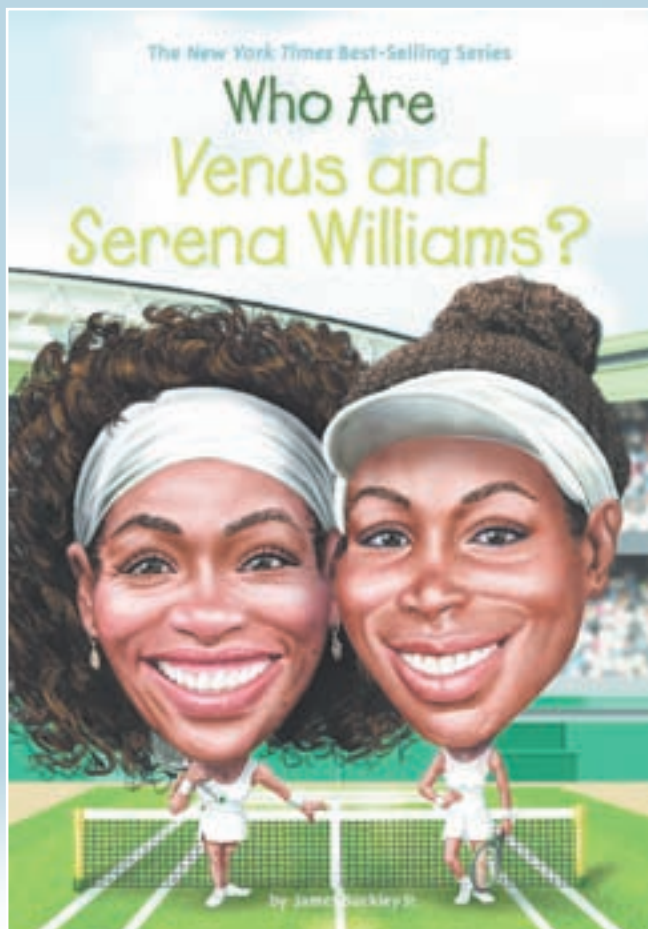
The adult tennis world took notice of the girls, and not just because they were African Americans in a mostly-white sport. Serena and Venus were mad talented, too.

Yes, it was true that the girls’

father had “pushed their careers forward.” It was he who encouraged them to practice and play, but the girls “did the difficult work on the court.” And by the time they were in their mid-teens, “The Williams sisters were ready to take the professional tennis world by storm.”

At some point in the next few months, there’s a good possibility that your child will need to read a biography. So why not make it one that inspires – like “Who Are Venus and Serena Williams?”

You might think that everybody knows all about these two talented women, but author James Buckley Jr. gives the story a more kid-friendly take here,



with anecdotes that will delight young readers. Astute kids may notice the story wanders now and then – the sport can overshadow the biography – but Buckley pulls the focus back soon enough, giving kids an all-around look at sisters who’ve ensured “The world of professional tennis will never be the same...”

Meant for 8-to-12-year-olds, this book could also work to supplement the knowledge of a slightly older student who needs it. For them, “Who are Venus and Serena Williams?” will have them making noise.

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FILM REVIEW:

“IT”

KIDS HUNT KILLER CLOWN IN CREEPY ADAPTATION OF STEPHEN KING CLASSIC

By Kam Williams
Columnist

Written by master of suspense Stephen King, *It* was the best-selling book in the U.S. during 1986. The riveting page-turner was set in deceptively-serene Derry, Maine, where a sadistic clown living underground in the sewers disrupted the peace of the picturesque city by preying primarily on children.

In 1990, King’s 1,184-page opus was turned into an Emmy-winning miniseries starring Tim

Curry in the title role of *It*, better known as Pennywise. Now, the novel has been fairly-faithfully adapted to the big screen with Bill Skarsgard playing the demonic harlequin.

As the film unfolds in the fall of 1988, we find 11 year-old Bill Denbrough (Jaeden Lieberher) busy building a small sailboat for his little brother, George (Jackson Robert Scott). One can’t help but notice a pair of observing eyes glowing ominously from a darkened corner

of the spacious basement.

Then, during a heavy down-pour, a grateful George launches his new toy in the freshet flowing along the gutter in front of his house. The “S.S. George” floats to the corner of the block where it is promptly swallowed by the sewer.

And when the unsuspecting kid peers down the storm drain to retrieve it, he is greeted by an ingratiating stranger who playfully introduces himself as Pennywise, the Dancing

Clown. After being promised a balloon, popcorn and the return of his boat, George lets his guard down long enough to be dragged into the sewer, leaving behind only a blood-stained street.

Fast-forward to the last day of the school year. Still-grieving, Bill is now the leader of the Losers Club, a motley crew of social outcasts who decide to spend their summer vacation solving George’s mysterious disappearance. Of course, they

have no idea they’re up against a formidable foe in the elusive, shape-shifting Pennywise.

Instead of apprehending the perpetrator, the body count merely continues to rise as other names are added to the Missing Persons list.

Eerie atmospherics, a talented ensemble of adolescents actors and the creepiest clown since Heath Ledger’s *Joker* combine to create a macabre masterpiece that will continue to haunt you long after you leave the theater.

I can’t pass a sewer anymore without half-expecting Pennywise’s frightening face to appear.

Excellent (4 stars)
Rated R for violence, profanity and bloody images

Running time: 135 minutes

Production Studio: New Line Cinema

Distributor: Warner Brothers Pictures

To see a trailer for *It*, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKJmEC5ieOk>



Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to ‘decode’ the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Walter Becker

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
V																				G					

F ' Z A PDLB -TA GVQTUG T ZQPFXFVE A
V P F J D B W H Z C U V G F I D M D D E
A T N F X R Q N B W H Z H G U D W
N L V Y D W P



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Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

1			6			9
		2	5	9		
7					1	
			8	7		4
2		8		4		1
5	4			1	7	
			6		3	9
	2			7	8	
	8					

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

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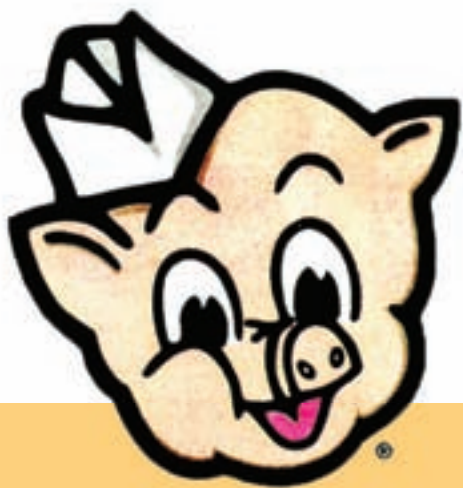
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