

# JPS students speak OUT on possible “State Takeover”

By Othor Cain  
Editor

Nearly a dozen students gathered on the steps of City Hall in Jackson Monday to express their concerns

about a possible state takeover of the second largest school district in the state. The fate of the Jackson Public Schools (JPS) District is in the hands of Governor Phil Bryant.

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) suggested last month that an extreme emergency

*JPS*  
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Joseph Jiles, a Lanier High School junior, speaks.

# College Hill celebrates 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pastor Williams

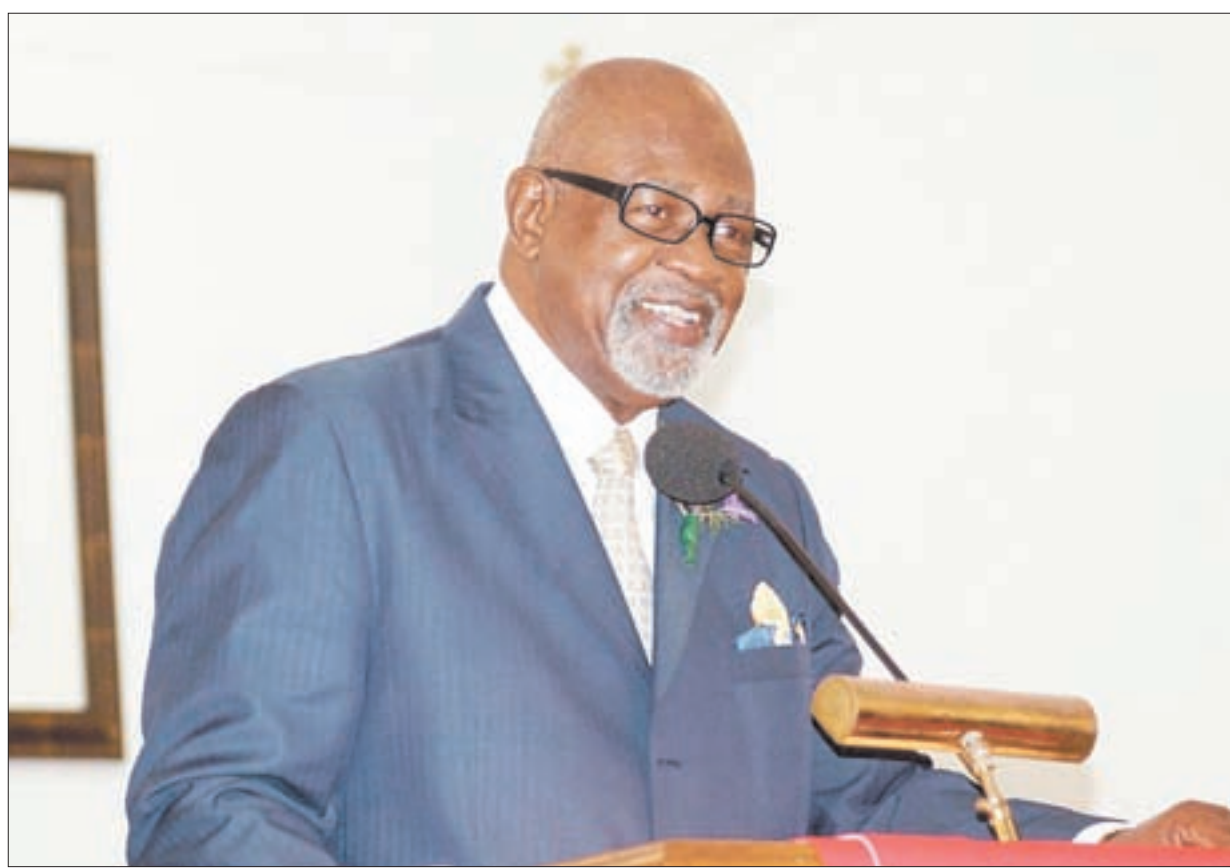
By Jackie Hampton  
Publisher

When asked to describe his seventh year celebration as pastor of College Hill Baptist Church, Pastor Michael T. Williams replied, “This is one of the few times in my life that I am without words.” He went on to say that “this year’s celebration was inspiring, amazing and filled with a tremendous spirit of authenticity.”

The celebration began Saturday, October 7 with a dinner theatre production of the gospel play, “The Devil on Trial” presented by the College Hill Church Pastoral Support Ministry. It was held in the church’s family life center located at 1600 Florence Avenue. The venue was filled to capacity and dinner was served at 5:30 p.m.

After what many described as a delicious meal, the cast took their places and the gospel play narrated by Joyce Smith and directed by Malena W. Dow began. There was much laughter when Lucifer, the devil, played by Joseph Houseworth went on trial for all of the damage he caused the people of God. Lucifer represented himself as the defendant’s attorney. ‘The Prosecutor,’ characterized as the angel, played by Leon Williams, set out to prosecute the devil for all the evil he caused the many witnesses that took the stand. In the end, Gabriel, the judge, played by Vanette Montgomery, found the devil guilty and recommended he be destroyed in the Lake of Fire and Brimstone. After the play the cast of thirty received accolades from the guests for their performance.

The celebration for Williams continued Sunday, October 8 at 10



Rev. Thomas Morris, pastor of Greater Hinds Street Baptist Church in Greenville, Mississippi served as guest evangelist.



a.m. He was escorted to the pulpit by Ja’Mirica Hicks, Miss Freshman at Jim Hill High School and Dekala Hood, Jr. Superintendent of the College Hill Sunday School. A

warm welcome was extended to the visitors by Deaconess Shellie Michael and the occasion was given by Sara Williams.

In a tribute on behalf of the Children Ministry, Jabari Harris said the children love and appreciate the pastor because they come to church each Sunday to hear the word of God from a man that God has blessed to preach the word. Harris closed with a personal prayer for Williams.

Leah Clark, speaking on behalf of the Youth Ministry said she knew that God had given the pastor a lot of wisdom. She thanked him for always praying for the youth

and supporting them in their endeavors.

Justin Coleman said on behalf of the College Ministry that “Pastor Williams is concerned with not only their spiritual foundation but their academic foundation as well.”

Speaking on behalf of the College Hill family Denise Griffin who is also the church secretary, said that the church appreciates Williams; humble spirit and his kind heart. “God gave us a pastor who gives us thought provoking and powerful messages,” Griffin said. “He is always on call for his

*Williams*  
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# Obama’s Last Year Brought Economic Success

By Julianne Malveaux  
TriceEdneyWire.com



The income, poverty and health insurance data released by the Census Bureau on September 13 confirm what many already knew. President Obama’s last year was one of economic improvement for many individuals.

The median income rose from \$57,230 in 2015 to \$59,039 in 2016, an increase of 3.2 percent. Black income rose 5.4 percent, from \$37,364 in 2015 to \$39,400 in 2016, while white income rose from \$63,745 to \$65,041, an increase of two percent.

The income gap narrowed very slightly, with African-Americans having 58 percent of white earnings in 2015 and 60 percent of white earnings in 2016. This income ratio typically hovers around 60 percent, and this situation has not improved since 1967! Despite an absolute improvement in incomes, the racial income disparity remains.

Fewer than one in ten whites earned less than \$15,000 per year, compared to 20 percent of African Americans at that low earning level. While 18 percent of whites earned less than \$25,000 a year, fully one-third of African-Americans earned so little. At the same time, while 7.4 percent of whites earned more than \$200,000 a year, only 2.8 percent of African-Americans had similarly high earnings.

At the top, there was significant improvement for African-Americans – we didn’t cross the 1 percent line on high earning until 1997, and now our percentage has more than doubled. Still, it would take hundreds of years, at the rate we are going, to close the gap with Whites.

With incomes as low as they are, it is unsurprising to find African Americans more heavily represented among the poor than Whites are, but again, President Obama’s last year in office saw a real drop in the poverty level. The poverty rate dropped from 13.5 percent in 2015 to 12.7 percent in 2016, and the Black poverty rate dropped from 24.1 percent to 22.0 percent. There were 800,000 fewer African-Americans in poverty in 2016 than in 2015. That’s good news!

Child poverty was also overwhelming. With 15.1 percent of white children living in poverty there were nearly twice as many Black children living in poverty at 29.5 percent. Among elders, 8 percent of white seniors were poor, compared to 18.5 percent of African American seniors. And when Black women headed households, 34.2 percent of those households lived in poverty.

While these numbers make a clear case that President Obama improved the situation for all Americans, it is also clear that his unwillingness or inability to target programs toward the African-American poor maintained the size of the income gap, and maintained the fact that African-Americans experience twice as much poverty as whites, earning only 60 percent of the incomes that Whites do. This gap will not be closed unless there is some intervention, some form of reparations, or some special program that will empower African-Americans. If that didn’t happen in the Obama administration, it is unlikely to happen in this one!

President Obama’s singular success, of

*Economic Success*  
Continued on page 3

# The Byram Clinton Norrell Road Corridor one step closer to becoming reality

By Othor Cain  
Editor

It has been years in the making, in fact decades, but Tuesday, Oct. 3 a giant step forward was taken when the board of supervisors in Hinds County hosted a ground breaking ceremony for the Byram Clinton Norrell Rd Corridor.

Located in the Southwest portion of Hinds County, this project was conceived through a planning initiative by the Mississippi Department of Economics and Community Development (now the Mississippi



Local and state officials participate in ground breaking ceremony. PHOTO COURTESY OF DYNAMICSTUDIOS

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# Let It Shine! A Visit with Fannie Lou Hamer

**Presented by The Mississippi Plays Series as part of The Eudora Welty New Plays Series**

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

JACKSON—New Stage Theatre's The Mississippi Plays Series presents Let It Shine! A Visit with Fannie Lou Hamer written and directed by Frank

Kuhn and starring Sharon Miles as Fannie Lou Hamer. It will be presented, free of charge, October 16, at 7:00 p.m. at New Stage Theatre.

She came into this world 100 years ago and, without a doubt, left it a better place. This new play depicts the life of civil rights activist Hamer as it recounts her path from sharecropper in Ruleville, Mississippi to

civil rights activist for an entire nation. Through moving songs and stirring conversation, Miles channels Hamer as she takes the audience through her inspiring journey.

In 1999, inspired by Herbert Randall's photographs of 1964's Freedom Summer activities in Hattiesburg, Kuhn assembled quotes, news articles, SNCC files, letters to the editor,

songs and speeches into a documentary readers' theatre piece, called Voices of Freedom Summer, celebrating the people and events of that summer. Miles was a member of that ensemble, and to her fell Hamer's incisive lines. For both Miles and Kuhn this was their first introduction to that iconic sharecropper/activist, and they were both thoroughly engaged by the woman.

Miles continued to play Hamer in Voices of Freedom Summer through revivals at University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg's Saenger Theatre, and most recently, in 2014, the Mississippi Museum of Art, produced by John Maxwell's Fish-tale Group. Miles also played Hamer in New Stage's production of All the Way, deepening her relationship with the historical figure. In 2015, missing Miles' characterization, Kuhn offered to create a solo performance piece featuring Miles as Hamer, and Miles jumped at the opportunity. That was followed by two years of intensive research, drafts and redrafts, and rehearsals in Mississippi and New York, as they searched for the woman behind the icon. This evening's reading is an important next step in development of the piece, which Miles

and Kuhn hope to tour throughout the state.

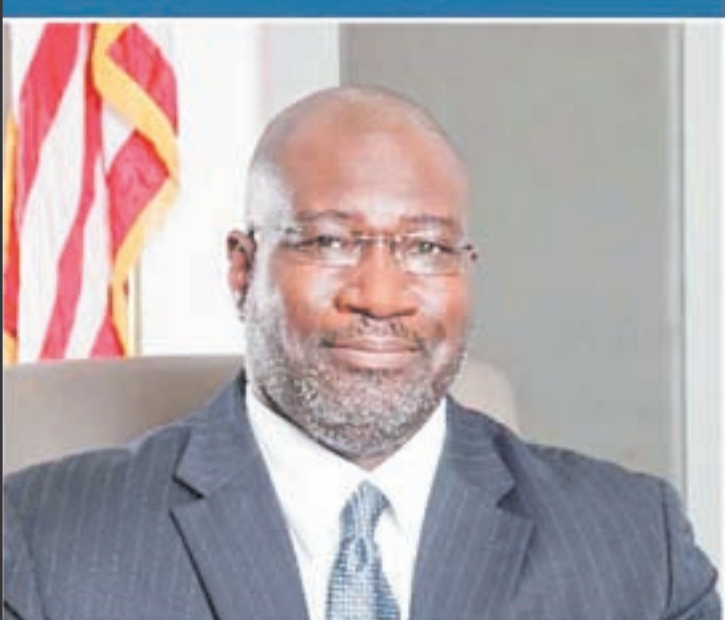
The Mississippi Plays Series is a new program being offered as part of The Eudora Welty New Plays Series. Staged readings of eight new contemporary plays about Mississippi, or written by Mississippians will be presented throughout the season.

New Stage Theatre Artistic Director Francine Reynolds, said, "I am excited about The Mississippi Plays Series. I think it is an excellent opportunity to focus on Mississippi as we celebrate the state's 200-year bicentennial and look forward to the opening of the state's new Mississippi History Museum and the Civil Rights Museum."

For more information call 601-948-3533 or visit www.newstagetheatre.com

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## Annual Trunk or Treat Harvest Carnival

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

The City of Jackson, Department of Parks and Recreation is set to host our annual Trunk or Treat Harvest Carnival. The event will take place Tuesday, October 31, 4:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. at the Jackson Police Department Training Academy (3000 St. Charles Street, Jackson, MS 39209). Admission fee is \$1.00 per person.

This is a collaborative event with the Jackson Police Department and Fire Department

in an effort to promote public safety for our patrons with exciting activities for the entire family including games and live entertainment. Patrons will have the opportunity to visit and receive treats from different decorated "Trunk or Treat" vehicles at the event. Patrons can also purchase food, arts and craft items from vendors on site.

For more information, please contact Angela White at 601-960-0471.



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## JPS

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The Ambassadors

situation exists within the district that jeopardizes the safety, security and educational interests of the students. MDE presented its findings to the governor in hopes that he would agree. “We do feel like JPS is definitely in a place where we need some help,” Latoya Washington, an alumna of Provine High School said. “But we disagree vehemently with the fact that a takeover or seizure of our district is the appropriate route to take.”

Washington moderated the press conference Monday that included students from all seven high schools in the district, that serve as JPS Ambassadors. The Ambassador program cultivates young leaders through civic engagement and leadership training for a select group of high school students across the district. Through weekly meetings, intensive workshops and field experiences such as participating in and facilitating community events, the Ambassadors learn to identify, organize and create constructive responses to obstacles in their lives, schools and communities.

Callaway High School Senior Dante Moore, an ambassador with this program and also a newly elected student representative for the JPS board of trustees put his training into action. “I feel that a state takeover is akin to a dictatorship in which the students would have no say and it could destroy the morale of students that are already struggling with school and drive some of us to give up entirely,” he said. “I don’t think that as a district we want that for any of our students. I feel that a takeover would clear out the school houses and fill up the jail houses.”

In a statement released by the Ambassadors they concur with Moore’s remarks. “The loss of our voice will result in apathetic behaviors to-

wards school. It is also necessary for students to generally voice our concerns, opinions and ideas due to the fact that it’s impacting ‘OUR’ future.”

One student expressed his concerns about extracurricular activities. “Not every child goes the academic route in school,” said Joseph Jiles, a junior at Lanier High School. “When you talk about wanting to better themselves, sports is a way for them to do that. Sports is their motivation to make good grades, for a lot of kids, it’s their motivation to come to school.”

Bryant said he would make his decision Oct. 19, when the next State Board of Education meeting takes place and school’s performance ratings released.

Zion Blount, a 17 year old senior at Murrah High School said she read the 680-page report and attended the commission meeting last month. “It didn’t really reflect what it was like going to JPS,” she said. “I feel like JPS can no longer continue going the way it is now, but I also feel like with MDE’s help, we can actually go towards having a better school tomorrow...for generations to come.”

Ultimately, the ambassadors understand that the biggest impact a takeover would have on the district are the students and that student voices should be heard. They also embrace a collaborative effort of working together, giving JPS the tools it needs to be successful.

“I want everyone to know that the students in Jackson are worth it,” said Washington emphatically.” We’re worth rethinking the system, we’re worth teaching correctly, we’re worth giving an adequate education. It seems like a lot of people are misconstrued about that. But the students here are too valuable to suffer through a system that continually isn’t stable.”

## Williams

Continued from page 1

members.”

The preached word was given by Thomas Morris, Sr., pastor of Greater Hinds Street Baptist Church. When asked about the message which Morris titled “How Shall We Preach,” Williams stated, “Dr. Morris’s message was a powerful preaching moment that encouraged me as a preacher-pastor. Williams also said, “He had me on the edge of my seat. He is by far one of God’s best preachers not only in Mississippi but throughout this country”. Morris, who was introduced by his cousin Deacon John Morris was very well received by the congregation as he spoke on how God uses faulty men to carry His message to precious cargo.

When asked about the past seven years of service Williams said, “Each year I have seen a great level of growth and yet graciousness from the members of our church.

I have seen a level of spiritual increase in the lives of God’s people each passing year and while each year has had its’ challenges, the spiritual increase is truly felt, not only in the membership but also in my heart.

Dow, chairman of the pastor’s anniversary committee presented Williams with a portrait of himself painted by local artist James Hampton.

The College Hill Mass Choir directed by Brandon Mitchell presented the music for the anniversary service. A special musical tribute “If I can Help Somebody” was song by Rosie Davis. Deacon Louis Wright, Senior served as Program Guide.

Jackie Hampton, chairman of the Pastoral Ministry said to Williams in her closing remarks, “It is because of who you are, that makes it easy for us to do what we do.”

*See photos on page 5.*

## Economic Success

Continued from page 1

course, was health care. More than 93 percent of whites, 92 percent of Asian Americans, 89.5 percent of African-Americans and 84 percent of Hispanics had health care in 2016, continuing an upward trend that began in 2011 with the introduction of Obamacare. Of course, Republicans have promised to “repeal and replace” the Affordable Care Act. They have been unsuccessful because so many use and like the program, even with it flaws. The program should be tweaked, but not replaced, but we’ll see what happens in coming months.

Despite improvements in income data, too many Americans aren’t feeling the improvements. That’s how 45 was able to manipulate people into believing that they were worse off than they had ever been, and that he was going to improve their quality of life. To be sure, while the unemployment rate is way down, there are also people sitting on the sidelines of the labor force.

Raises seem to be coming, but quite slowly, and a 3.2 percent increase in income, after several years of declining income, seems not to be enough. Additionally, there are millions of millennials who came of age during the recession, having spent years

marginally employed, and are shouldering the burden of high student loans. Small increases in income don’t make these folks feel flush. Many still feel that they are just getting by.

Knowing 45, he will crow about these numbers, though he truly cannot take any responsibility for them. This data is 2016 data, and the improvement here can be solely attributed to President Obama. The proof of 45’s pudding will come next year, when 2017 data are reported. Will we be better off with the repeal of the Affordable Care Act?

Will incomes rise or fall under 45’s leadership? What will happen with poverty in an administration that has already taken actions to keep wages low? Will the Obama momentum come to a skidding halt because of 45’s policies? We’ll have to wait and see, but it is clear that 45 has already taken too many steps in the wrong direction.

*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*

## Corridor

Continued from page 1

Development Authority) as a multi-model transportation corridor designed to enhance with economic development and energy efficiency. The design concept will consist of sidewalks, pedestrian walking and biking trails. “This corridor is going to be very vital to part of the economic development for all of our citizens and taxpayers,” said Hinds County Supervisor Peggy Calhoun. “The corridor will consist of retail, residential and business development.”

Funding for what has been identified as the largest infrastructure and economic development project in the history of Hinds County, was made possible through the collaborative efforts of local, state and federal dollars. Lt. Governor Tate Reeves was on hand to highlight the development. “When our elected leaders can put aside party differences and do what is in the best interest of the citizens of Hinds County and this state, it is a great day in Mississippi,” Tate said. “Economic development and increasing jobs in this state have always been a priority of mine and this project assures that we continue moving forward towards that goal.”

The groundbreaking ceremony was held near the Kroger, in the Byram Cross-

ing Shopping Center located near Davis and Siwell Road.

County officials said federal support enabled them to secure funding for construction of Segment 2, which includes approximately 3.24 miles of roadway beginning at the intersection of Davis Road and extending westerly to Parks Road.

The Construction Administration and Inspection Consultant selected for the project were Waggoner Engineering and IMS Engineering. The Hinds County Board of Supervisors, through a bidding process, awarded the construction contract to Eutaw Construction Company Inc.

Many entities including the Hinds County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA), worked to ensure the project happened. Leroy Walker, one of the trustees for HCEDA, celebrated the milestone achieved thus far. “Economic development is the cornerstone of Hinds County,” Walker said. “As a business person, I appreciate the supervisors for this substantial move which will reap dividends for the county.”

County officials said federal support enabled them to secure funding for construction of Segment 2, which includes approximately 3.24 miles of roadway beginning at the intersection of Davis



Darrel McQuirter



Mike Morgan




Tate Reeves

Road and extending westerly to Parks Road.

The anticipated completion date is August 2, 2019.




Jacqueline Berry, Victor Mason, Mike Morgan, Credell Calhoun, Peggy Calhoun, Carmen Davis, Kathy Sykes, Darrel McQuirter PHOTOS COURTESY OF DYNAMICSTUDIOS



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A Legacy Retrospective of Jay D. Johnson: Rays of Hope in Mississippi is a retrospective exhibit featuring the photographic images of photographer extraordinaire, Mr. Jay D. Johnson. For more than 40 years, he has photographed many people, events, and scenes in and around the state of Mississippi and many of those images are featured in this exhibit.


## Opening Ceremony

Thursday, November 16, 2017  
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A reception will follow the Opening Ceremony.

\*Funding is provided by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.  
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# *The Seventh Anniversary of Dr. Michael T. Williams*

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WORSHIP SERVICE PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON  
PLAY PHOTOS BY JOY AMERSON



# JPS District Celebrate College Spirit Day 2017

Mississippi Link Newswire

JPS celebrated College Spirit Day 2017 Friday, September 29. For many schools, it wraps up a week of events to cultivate a college-going culture among JPS students. Schools held pep rallies, step shows, school spirit contests, and other activities. Students also made crafts and wrote about their college goals as they prepared for Friday's grand finale.

This annual event has proven to be a very creative and productive experience. Government, business, and civic groups and institutions of higher learning take part in these events. Parents, supporters and other special guests also join in school celebrations.

College Spirit Day is an initiative of Ask for More Jackson also known as Parents for Public Schools of Jackson. It began in the Lanier Feeder Pattern in 2001 as a part of the school reform work of the Ask for More Collaborative. Since then, it has grown and is open to all of the district's schools.



Mayor Chokwe Lumumba and First Lady Ebony Lumumba are joined by Principal Rhoda Yoder and Casey Elementary students during the school's College Spirit Day activities.



## Walton And Brown Bottling Celebrate 30 Years Of Partnership

Mississippi Link Newswire

In celebration of Brown Bottling Group's 30-year partnership with Walton Elementary, the company donated \$1,000 to the school. The check presentation was made September 20, during a special assembly in the gym. Brown Bottling also gave each first grader a copy of the book, "Pete the Cat."

Shelly Brown Floyd is the third generation of the Brown family to represent the company. She serves as Chief Marketing Officer and took part in the presentation at Walton.

"My grandfather, Ken Brown, and my father, Bill Brown, always stressed the importance of giving back to the communities we serve," said Floyd. "Our adopt-a-school partnerships allow us to positively impact students in Jackson Public Schools. Working with these bright and engaging young minds is always the highlight of our day."

Walton Principal Mathis Sheriff accepted the donation on behalf of the school.

"Walton is extremely grateful for our partnership with

Mountain Dew/Brown Bottling," said Sheriff. "Their staff works closely with our teachers and students in developing meaningful academic activities throughout the school year."

Headquartered in Ridgeland, Mississippi, Brown Bottling Group employs more than 400 Mississippians. The company has a strong commitment to these team members and the communities it serves. Through adopt-a-school partnerships, it aims to improve the environments of children in its areas of outreach.



Shelley Brown Floyd and Marilyn Williams of Brown Bottling Group present Principal Mathis Sheriff and students at Walton Elementary with a \$1,000 donation and books to read.

## The Mississippi Link™

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# Son honors mother, a 1920 USM graduate, with donation of extensive cookbook collection

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

A remarkable donation to a culinary research project at the University of Southern Mississippi has been made in honor of a 1920 alumna of the school.

Anderson Orr, a resident of Norfolk, Va. and native of Carthage, Miss. recently gave more than 2,500 cookbooks he collected to the McCain Library and Archives at USM. The donation is a tribute to his mother, the late Lessie Katherine Amsler of Leakesville, Miss., who graduated from Southern Miss when it was known as Mississippi Normal College (MNC).

Since 2014, Jennifer Brannock, curator of Rare Books and Mississippiana for USM University Libraries Special Collections, has worked with Dr. Andrew Haley, an associate professor of history at the university, to collect and preserve cookbooks reflecting the culinary, social, and cultural history of Mississippi. Haley is director of the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project, and uses cookbooks as tools to research food, local communities and those who created the cookbooks.

“This donation from Anderson Orr expands the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project by looking at regional, national and international cookbooks that influence local cooking,” said Brannock. “We’re extremely fortunate to receive this collection, and proud to bring the cookbooks of Anderson and his mother back to Mississippi.”

Orr is retired from Virginia Wesleyan University, where he was a member of the faculty for 32 years after earning his Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Virginia. Although cooking was always a passion for Orr, it was while pursuing his doctorate that he started entertaining for friends and began collecting cookbooks.

Orr learned about Haley’s research project through a colleague and mutual friend, Dr. Kathy Merlock Jackson,



Anderson Orr, center, donated more than 2,500 cookbooks to a culinary research project at Southern Miss in honor of his mother, Lessie Amsler, a 1920 graduate of the university when it was known as Mississippi Normal College. Pictured with Orr is Dr. Andrew Haley, associate professor of history at USM and director of the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project; and Jennifer Brannock, curator of Rare Books and Mississippiana at USM. Haley and Brannock traveled to Orr’s home in Virginia to transport the books back to USM.

who arranged for the two to get in touch.

McCain Library and Archives has built the largest collection of regional cookbooks in Mississippi, largely through donations from Mississippians, and the addition of the Orr Collection will make USM the place to study food in the state, Haley said.

“There are first editions of major works (in the Orr donation) by James Beard, Julia Child, and Richard Olney, canonical works on French and American cuisine, especially Southern cooking, and a nearly complete collection of cookbooks on bread,” Haley said. “Historians of cooking will, of course, want to use this collection but so will chefs, nutritionists, and, honestly, anyone who loves to eat.”

In reflecting on early inspirations for his interest in cooking, Orr noted his mother’s subscription to House and Garden and Gourmet, and later, from reading re-

nowned food writer M.F.K. Fisher’s essays on the art of eating, and “her sense that all communal meals were sacramental; although I didn’t realize her importance to me until much later, rereading her, and there it was.”

“Growing up in a small town, you are used to learning from books how to do things, and I suppose I started buying cookbooks to help me toward becoming a good cook,” Orr said. “In the beginning the focus was French food, but toward the end, there was no focus at all, driven, I suppose, by a feeling that the next purchase would bring me mastery.”

Among the titles in the collection that stand out for Orr include “a rather battered copy of French of Mme. St. Ange” that was in the library of an American ocean liner, “found at Goodwill by a friend who gave it to me as a birthday surprise.” Others, he said, include some small French

cookbooks from a rare book dealer in France, which the English food writer Elizabeth David sent to him.

At MNC, Amsler was active in campus life, including as a member of the Honor Council, Mississippi Literary Society, and the YWCA, the latter for which she served as treasurer.

“It makes me very happy to give this collection in memory of my mother, who would be very happy for it to be going to Mississippi, for which she had a great and unwavering love,” Orr said. “Although she spent her last years in Virginia, she never thought it really measured up.”

For more information about Dr. Halley’s research and the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project, visit <http://mscommunitycookbooks.usm.edu/index.html>; or contact Brannock at [jennifer.brannock@usm.edu](mailto:jennifer.brannock@usm.edu) or Dr. Haley at [andrew.haley@usm.edu](mailto:andrew.haley@usm.edu).

# MVSU male athletes awarded for highest graduation rate in state

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

STARKVILLE--Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) male athletes have been making big wins inside of the classroom, and they have the trophy to prove it.

MVSU was the recipient of the “David Halbrook Award for Academic Achievement Among Athletes” in the Men’s Public University Division Oct. 3 during the 84th annual Halbrook Awards Luncheon.

Hosted at Mississippi State University as part of the Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities Annual Conference, the annual event is organized to recognize colleges and universities that achieve and maintain high academic standard for student athletes, which in turn encourages high graduation rates.

MVSU Acting President Jerryl Briggs said that earning the coveted award is indicative of the institution’s theme--“One Team. One Goal. One Valley. ...In Motion.”

“We’re really doing some great, positive things at MVSU and receiving this award shows that our male athletes are not only performing in the classroom, but that they are also

graduating and that’s really what we are all about as a university,” Briggs said.

Briggs said outperforming the other seven public Mississippi universities is not only a testament to the hard work and dedication of the students, but to the faculty and staff as well.

“Being recognized as the highest achiever amongst the (Mississippi Institute of Higher Learning) schools was tremendous, and I give all the thanks to the Athletic Department for really making sure that our students are in the classroom.”

While serving in the Mississippi Legislature, Representative David M. Halbrook Sr., along with his brothers John, James and J.A. Halbrook, endowed the Halbrook Awards.

Today, the awards are administered cooperatively by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, the Mississippi Community College Board and the Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

MVSU last received the award during the 1997 and 1998 school term in the Men’s Division and in 2001 for the Women’s Division.

# Southern Miss Staff Professionals win awards at regional Public Relations Competition



*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

For the second consecutive year, The University of Southern Mississippi has captured one of the top three awards at the Southern Public Relations Federation (SPRF) Lantern Awards program.

The University’s “My Southern Miss Story” campaign was selected for a “Judges Choice” award, one of eight overall awards collected by USM staff members from the Office of University Communications, the USM Foundation and the Department of Recreational Sports. The results included three Lantern Awards, representing the best work in each competition category. The “My Southern Miss Story” advertising campaign, which also won a Lantern Award in the “campaigns” category, helped raise brand awareness, support student recruitment and enhance the reputation of the university.

Judges reviewed hundreds of entries, honoring award recipients with either a Certificate of Merit, Award of Excellence or Lantern Award. The competition includes professional entries from universities, agencies, business and organizations across Alabama, the Florida panhandle, Louisiana and Mississippi. From Lantern Award winners, judges also selected a Best of Show Award and two Judges’ Choice Awards. Award winners were recognized during the 2017 SPRF regional conference held in Tupelo, Miss., in late September.

“Last year, when our marketing communications team won ‘Best of Show,’ our Assistant Director for

Marketing Communications Brittney Westbrook said that it was once in a lifetime to finish in the top three in competition with the best agencies in Mobile, New Orleans, Birmingham, Pensacola and more,” said Jim Coll, chief communication officer and director of the Office of University Communications. “Then, under her leadership, we did it again in 2017. It truly is an amazing result.

“These awards represent independent and professional validation of the quality of public relations work being done at USM—not only in the Office of University Communications, but the USM Foundation and Department of Recreational Sports as well.”

The Southern Public Relations Federation is a network of public relations professionals from Alabama, North Florida, Louisiana and Mississippi who share a common interest in the public relations profession.

Additional USM SPRF Awards include:

University Communications Lantern Award for 2017 “My Southern Miss Story” video series.

Award of Excellence for Bachelors of Science in ocean engineering and computer engineering campaign.

Award of Excellence for 2017 “My Southern Miss Story” Instagram ads USM Foundation.

Lantern Award for “Your Gifts in Action” impact report.

Award of Excellence for “Attitude of Gratitude”

Rec Sports.

Award of Excellence for House of Payne Haunted House.

# Virginia College in Jackson announces new, streamlined programs that are faster, more flexible and more affordable than before

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

JACKSON, Miss. – October 6 – Education Corporation of America (ECA), parent company of Virginia College in Jackson, is pleased to introduce new, streamlined programs that are faster, more flexible and more affordable than before. The new programs provide education options for students seeking to transform their lives by obtaining a career-focused education. Classes in the new programs began Sept. 13 at the campus located at 5841 Ridgewood Road.

Students will be able to complete career training in fields such as medical as-

sistant, medical billing and coding, business, networking and other fields in as little as nine to 12 months, and will still be prepared for the same job opportunities as programs that used to take longer. The programs also feature new modular scheduling, which allows students to take one class at a time, one month at a time. Because many programs have been shortened, students will pay less in tuition and will enter the workforce sooner.

Select allied health programs also offer a new, blended learning model which allows many students to spend alternating days

on campus and in a digital classroom giving them a flexible schedule and reducing time and money spent commuting to campus.

“We feel that these new programs will provide an improved experience and improved student outcomes at our campus,” says Campus President Milton Anderson. “Above all, our students come first.”

New or updated program offerings include:

Business Administration Associate’s Degree

Business Administration Diploma

HVAC-R Technician Diploma

Medical Assistant Associ-

ate’s Degree

Medical Assistant Diploma

Medical Billing and Coding Specialist Diploma

Medical Office Specialist Diploma

Network and System Administration Associate’s Degree

Network Support Technician Diploma

Pharmacy Technician Diploma

For more information about Virginia College in Jackson, visit <http://vc.edu/jackson> or call the campus at 601-977-0960. For information about Education Corporation of America, visit [www.ecacolleges.com](http://www.ecacolleges.com).

# College of Education gets \$1.25 million federal grant to train teachers of visually impaired

By L.A. Warren  
jsumsnews.com

The College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) at Jackson State University has been awarded a five-year \$1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to train teachers of visually impaired students in the Deep South.

U.S. data reveal there is a critical need for certified profession-ready teachers locally, statewide and nationally in this field. Over the span of the grant, the award from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has a goal to produce 30 teachers as part of the federal department’s Deep South Synergy TVI (Training Teachers of the Visually Impaired) Project.

One parent of a child with congenital blindness expresses optimism that Mississippi will be able to produce qualified instructors to assist youths such as Obruche Carson, 11, a student at Mississippi School for the Blind.

“This opportunity may spark interest in education majors in general. Mississippi lacks professionals qualified to teach the visually impaired,” said Octavia Carson, the mother of Obruche.

Octavia Carson and other family members have vision challenges, too. However, her daughter’s condition is far worse. Years ago, Octavia Carson was told Obruche would never be able to read due to a disorder known as optic nerve hypoplasia. Eventually, however, the sixth-grader defied the odds because of the family’s persistence.

Now, Obruche is helping adults become better instructors because she’s adept at using video magnifiers (closed-circuit television systems, CCTVs) and sophisticated electronic Braille readers.

Another family is equally ecstatic about the potential for improvement in education.

Kathryn Meyers’ daughter Rachel, a second-grader in the Rankin County Schools, has had no vision in the right eye since birth. The family didn’t realize the congenital problem until she enrolled in kindergarten. Even the teacher was unaware.

“I fight with the school district about everything,” said Kathryn Meyers, whose family has a his-



Octavia Carson, right, and her 11-year-old daughter, Obruche, join a demonstration with Dr. Glenda Windfield, project director of JSU’s Deep South Synergy TVI (Training Teachers of the Visually Impaired) Project. They use a portable closed-circuit video magnifier to enlarge text. Obruche is a sixth-grader at Mississippi School for the Blind. Both of the Carsons experience vision challenges. PHOTOS BY ARON SMITH/JSU



Patrick



Windfield

tory of vision problems. “I’m glad to know there is greater awareness and more teachers being trained for special-needs students. Right now, there is just one instructor in Rankin County who’s stretched pretty thin.”

Starting in January 2018, funding by OSEP will allow JSU to offer a Master of Science in Special Education with a degree concentration in Visual Impairments. A limited number of scholarships will be awarded each year to applicants to acquire a master’s degree and will cover tuition, books and stipends for licensure fees and other needs. The program is also open to individuals who desire only K-12 endorsement in visually impaired training. However, the grant does not provide financial support for endorsement only.

Dr. Glenda Windfield is proj-

ect director of JSU’s Deep South Synergy TVI Project. Before joining the university, she worked at Mississippi School for the Blind as the band instructor. She also has worked for Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind as coordinator for Supported Employment Services.

These positions proved to be pivotal in her understanding that we are all “kindred spirits.” However, before her experience at the School for the Blind and Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind she admits that she hadn’t given any deep thought about the plight of individuals with visual impairments.

Now, Windfield says, “It’s all about the children with visual impairments. ... Over time I found our commonalities. Just as one’s skin color has been the premise for some people to stereotype,

discriminate and exclude minorities, the same bias, unfortunately, has been applied to individuals with visual impairments.”

Windfield eventually would teach, meet and read about many talented individuals who were blind or visually impaired. Unfortunately, she learned they were often overlooked, perceived as being incapable of learning and relegated to menial positions in society.

Today, her desire is to provide students a quality education from skilled teachers and dispel myths about those who are visually challenged. Windfield said there should be a universal commitment to grant “every child born in our nation – with or without vision – an unobstructed right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

Other CEHD team members also helped make this grant possible. They included Dr. Melissa Ausbrooks, Dr. Tamika Bradley, Dr. Dion Porter, Dean Daniel Watkins and Dr. Gwendolyn Williams. In addition, the Division of Research and Federal Relations, the Graduate School and Office of Academic Affairs contributed.

For more information about the program, contact Windfield at 601-979-2370 or glenda.y.windfield@jsums.edu.

# Researchers secure \$350,000 NSF grant to engage in ‘high-risk,’ ambitious research

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently awarded Jackson State University researchers a \$350,000 EAGER grant to support untested, “high-risk” exploratory research that potentially may yield a “high payoff.”

One early-stage study involves exploring serious consequences that result from possible bias by police against unarmed African-Americans.

This research is led by Dr. Byron D’Andra Orey, professor in the Department of Political Science, and Dr. Yu Zhang, former assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, both in the College of Liberal Arts.

Orey and Zhang are using surveys and measures of biases and physiological responses to determine whether police officers with negative subconscious prejudice are likely to commit crucial errors resulting in shootings of unarmed African-Americans.

Findings from the study will be shared with law enforcement agencies to assist in recruitment practices and with developing community policing policies and tactics.

Another study earning grant funding examines young children’s acquisition and development of African-American English (AAE). Dr. Brandi Newkirk-Turner, associate professor in JSU’s Department of Communicative Disorders in the School of Public Health, is working collaboratively with researchers from the University of Massachusetts.

Their findings will be used to describe how normal variation associated with child AAE is systematically different from “disordered language.” Results of the study are expected to



Newkirk-Turner



Orey



Gates

help develop more accurate cultural and linguistic appropriate assessment tools and outcomes for AAE-speaking children.

Dr. Michael Gates, assistant director of JSU’s Sponsored Programs, helped faculty members secure NSF’s EAGER grant funding for their collaborative research projects.

For information about advertising in The Mississippi Link please call: 601-896-0084 or e-mail [mlinkads@bellsouth.net](mailto:mlinkads@bellsouth.net) [www.mississippilink.com](http://www.mississippilink.com)

# Undergrads in all disciplines can enroll in Data Science courses to help fill lucrative jobs

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University’s College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET) will begin offering an undergraduate track in Data Science to students in all academic disciplines to help meet U.S. market demand for workers. Course enrollment is under way for spring 2018.

As lucrative STEM jobs in the U.S. continue to boom, CSET is emphasizing Big Data science to students throughout the campus to prepare the next generation of market leaders.

An upbeat report by CrowdFlower – a data mining and crowdsourcing company – reveals that 64 percent of data scientists believe they work in the century’s “sexiest” jobs. The other 36 percent view their careers as second only to astronauts, researchers, models and many others.

Enhancing the capabilities to create knowledge is a White House Big Data Priority for government and the nation.

Dr. Richard A. Aló, dean of CSET, Aló said, “JSU’s undergraduate track in



Seeking high-paying jobs? Students in all academic disciplines may enroll now for an undergraduate track in JSU’s Computational Data-Enabled Science and Engineering (CDS&E). Studies are housed inside the College of Science, Engineering and Technology building. Registration is currently under way for spring 2018.

Computational Data-Enabled Science and Engineering (CDS&E) improves the potential for JSU graduates to land high-paying jobs in the data sciences.” Furthermore, he said, CSET’s program would provide courses that prepare students for careers in academia, business,

government and private industry as data scientists and data engineers.

The need for more Data Science workers is so dire that the U.S. Department of Education says STEM jobs in the U.S. will increase 14 percent from 2010 to 2020.

This extraordinary growth equates to millions of positions, yet similar data show that three million of these jobs may go unfulfilled by next year due to a significant lack of skilled workers.

This point is echoed by IBM, which predicts demand for data scientists will soar by 28 percent by 2020.

In addition, Aló said, “Big Data scientists and engineers are a fundamental necessity in modeling, enhancing and securing the world that we all are striving to develop and problem-solve.”

Many corporate partnerships already have been established for the Data Science program, offering students an opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience via internships. In summer 2017, JSU’s Data Science apprentices completed internships at Indra Technologies, SanJo Securities and DXC Technologies (formerly known as Hewlett Packard). Now, J.P. Morgan Chase has expressed interest in hiring program graduates, too.

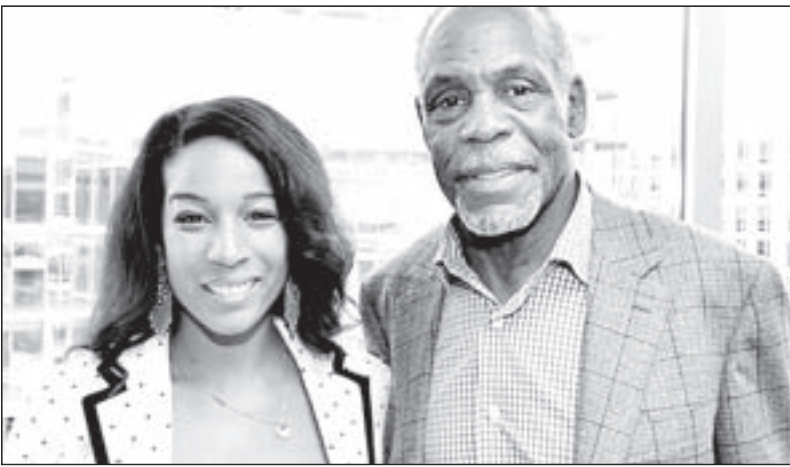
Dr. Wilbur L. Walters, associate dean

of CSET’s Undergraduate Programs, Recruitment and Retention, said, “This program offering would not only help supply the growing need of data scientists in the American job market, but it also would attract more students to pursue a degree in STEM from any discipline throughout the campus. Students can take advantage of this program by carving a new niche for themselves or to enhance their skill set to succeed in their chosen career.”

Summing up the program, Aló said the multidisciplinary approach of Big Data Science aims to give students the real world and near real-time experience necessary to excel in the workforce.

He touts JSU’s dedicated faculty, CSET’s strong emphasis on undergraduate research and its commitment to recruiting highly motivated students. Aló expects continued growth in other innovative programs as JSU helps new graduates define their futures – whether in chemistry, biology, engineering or humanities.

# Airbnb campaigns to increase diversity on its platform



Janaye Ingram, the director of national partnerships for Airbnb (left), and actor and humanitarian Danny Glover want to educate Blacks about the economic benefits of hosting on Airbnb. FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

By Freddie Allen  
Editor-In-Chief, NNPA Newswire

Airbnb, the housing marketplace that connects travelers with hosts in 65,000 cities and 191 countries worldwide, is now on a mission to increase awareness about the company’s economic benefits in communities of color.

It’s part of an ongoing effort to increase diversity and eliminate discrimination on the platform that launched during the Great Recession.

In 2015, the company came under fire when Harvard researchers reported widespread discrimination by Airbnb hosts.

“Real Airbnb users of color said they weren’t surprised,” SmarterTravel.com reported. “Black users shared stories of repeated cancellations and failed booking attempts, using #AirbnbWhileBlack on social media.”

Janaye Ingram, the director of national partnerships for Airbnb, said that since those revelations were made public, the company recruited former Attorney General Eric Holder and Laura Murphy, the director of the ACLU’s Washington Legislative Office, as consultants to examine the claims of discrimination.

The home-share rental platform implemented a “Community Commitment” pledge and an “Open Doors” policy, which allows anyone who feels like they’ve been discriminated against to issue a claim to the company.

“We will rebok guests immediately to another listing, begin investigating the claim of discrimination and remove the host from the community,” if the claim is proven to be true, said Ingram.

Ingram continued: “Racism exists in this world, but the company is striving to do everything that it can to prevent anyone from being discriminated against for their disability, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation. We’re continuing that work and it’s a lot of work, but we have a commitment to do it.”

Actor and humanitarian Danny Glover, who joined the campaign to highlight Airbnb’s success stories in communities of color, said that, “If we have an ally, if we have a company that is willing to be a part of the world that we all want to see, it’s important that we engage ourselves with that process.”

Glover continued: “[Airbnb] understands the position that they are in as a responsible company and as responsible citizens, as well. If [Airbnb] is willing to stand up and face those challenges in a way in which I think they’re capable of, then something special will happen here.”

Glover said that he’s met African American and Latinx Airbnb hosts that were able to make ends meet, help pay for college tuition and save for retirement; the hosts are also forming new bonds and communities for support.

Ingram said that the platform

allows hosts to set their own rates and keep 97 percent of what they earn from their listings.

“Our typical hosts earns about \$6,100 a year,” said Ingram. “Imagine having \$6,100 extra dollars in your bank account and what that means for your life, what that means for your family, what that means for your community.”

Airbnb hosts are starting to pop-up in communities, where there are no hotels, she added.

“Now, you’re bringing in tourists, who are frequenting these businesses and restaurants and becoming patrons of these businesses, so it’s an overall benefit for the community,” said Ingram.

This is a new brand of entrepreneurship, Ingram said.

“It’s important for people to understand that some Airbnb hosts are becoming participants in their own rescue,” said Glover, adding that their using social media and marketing tools to promote and build their businesses.

Ingram said that there are a lot of things that are happening that are positive, because of Airbnb, and the company wants to educate and engage people around those things.

Although much of the company’s growth has been organic, Ingram said that, now, Airbnb has to be more strategic and intentional about the alliances they form.

That’s why their reaching out to organizations like the NAACP and partnering with activists, like Glover, to really connect with communities of color.

“Danny is beloved in our community not just for his acting, but also for his activism and all of the great things that he has done to promote equity for the Black community,” said Ingram.

Ingram said that’s also why Airbnb connected with the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a trade group that represents more than 200 Black-owned media companies, to announce its partnership with Glover; The “Lethal Weapon” actor penned an op-ed for the Black Press.

“We just want to create the opportunity to educate people and to allow them decide for themselves,” said Ingram. “Yes, we have had instances of people dealing with racism on the platform, but we’ve also done a lot to prevent it and we want people to know that.”

Ingram said that the Black Press will be invaluable in educating the Black community about the economic opportunities available with Airbnb.

“[African Americans] rely on the Black Press, we trust our press, because it’s part of our community,” said Ingram. “So, having a relationship with the Black Press is going to be important for Airbnb in conveying this message.”

Ingram continued: “As we continue to do this work, it will be increasingly important that we work in partnership and in tandem with the Black Press.”

# Rep. Maxine Waters seeks to protect consumers with “Megabank” bill



Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) speaks from the podium about The Megabank Accountability and Consequences Act. Waters is flanked by (from left-right) Reps. Keith Ellison (D-Minn.); Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.); Al Green (D-Texas), and John Sarbanes (D-Md.). FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

By Freddie Allen  
Editor-In-Chief, NNPA Newswire

In an effort to rein in financial institutions that have track records for harming consumers, Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) recently unveiled The Megabank Accountability and Consequences Act (H.R. 3937).

The new bill would require, “prudential banking regulators, such as the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Federal Reserve Board, to fully utilize their authorities to shut down megabanks that repeatedly harm consumers.”

The original co-sponsors of the Megabank Accountability and Consequences Act are: Representatives Michael Capuano (D-Mass.), Al Green (D-Texas), Keith Ellison (D-Minn.), Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), John Sarbanes (D-Md.), Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.), and Jamie Raskin (D-Md).

During a press conference to announce the bill, Waters called a report that detailed Wells Fargo’s egregious consumer abuses, “truly eye-opening.”

The report not only described how Wells Fargo defrauded millions of consumers by opening fake credit card and

deposit accounts in their names, it also revealed illegal student loan servicing practices; unlawful mortgage lending practices, such as overcharging veterans for refinance loans; and how bank representatives sold customers auto insurance policies they didn’t need.

In prepared remarks, Waters said that Wells Fargo “made a routine practice of ripping off and preying on their customers, in a seemingly never-ending avalanche of scandals in which service members, minorities, homeowners, small business owners and many other consumers have been targeted and abused by the bank.”

The report also noted that fines imposed on the bank did little to deter the abusive practices.

Waters said that her bill would, “also enable the Consumer Bureau, states and local government authorities to petition the prudential regulators to hold a hearing on whether a megabank engaged in such consumer abuse.”

Waters continued: “The prudential regulators themselves will now be accountable to Congress and the American public, and have to regularly determine that the megabanks are doing what they are supposed to do—serving

their customers and not ripping them off.”

The bill defines a megabank as “global systemically important bank or GSIB.”

Waters said that federal regulators will have 90 days to review the “megabanks” they supervise that operate in the United States. If the financial institutions have engaged in a pattern of law violations, Waters said that the federal regulators can, within 120 days of enactment, begin to “wind down the bank” and stop the offending executives from working at other banks.

“This process is subject to judicial review, and the federal prudential regulators must testify before Congress to discuss their findings,” said Waters.

The bill also requires that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau issue regulations that more closely define the practices that violate federal consumer protection laws that should receive stricter penalties.

“It is time we truly hold megabanks that demonstrate a pattern of harming consumers accountable,” said Waters. “These institutions must no longer be allowed to abuse hardworking Americans.”

# NNPA Chairman says gun control is “Forbidden Subject” when mass shooters are white and male

The Mississippi Link Newswire

CHICAGO—The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) Chairman Dorothy R. Leavell said that the issue of gun control escapes vigorous debate when the perpetrators of mass shooters are White males. The leader of the association, comprised of more than 200 Black-owned publications, also noted that cries for reform gain the most traction when highlighting incidents of urban violence involving African American youth.

The NNPA chairman made her remarks in the wake of the horrific, mass shooting during a music festival in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 1. According to authorities, Stephen Paddock, 64, fired upon the 22,000 concertgoers from his hotel room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. Police said that Paddock was armed with 23 different firearms, including AR-15 assault rifles. The arsenal may have been amassed in Nevada, a state that has some of the most permissive gun control laws in the nation.

“I join the nation in mourning the tragic loss of life in what we now know is one of the largest mass shooting events



NNPA Chairman Dorothy Leavell says that when White males are accused of domestic terrorism, suddenly gun control is a forbidden subject. OFFICIAL PHOTO

in U.S. history,” Leavell said. “As the nation grapples with this latest act of domestic terrorism and investigators seek answers, one thing is certain: Easy access to military-grade weapons and ammunition undoubtedly makes it easier for those who would engage in these acts to carry out their crimes.

What is troubling in this latest round of national discourse is that when there

are high-profile incidents involving so-called ‘Black-on-Black’ violence, the cries for gun control ring loud and clear. Yet, when White males are accused of domestic terrorism, suddenly gun control is a forbidden subject.”

Leavell continued: “Those who demand reform are singled out by gun proponents for reportedly politicizing the issue. How many lives must be lost before our nation takes an aggressive look on why we need to sell such weapons to its citizens? I can only ask, what might have happened had not disturbed individuals been able to get their hands on the weapons used in Charleston or Sandy Hook?”

Leavell said that too many lives have been lost, because of the legal and illegal access to weapons that should be reserved for military combat.

Leavell concluded: “When people of color engage in gun violence, there is no debate about stopping the flow of guns in urban and impoverished neighborhoods, but when perpetrators are White and affluent, as it is alleged with Paddock, suddenly the conversation is about anything but gun control. This is a glaring double standard that we can’t ignore.”

# Kiplinger.com releases annual list of most and least tax-friendly states

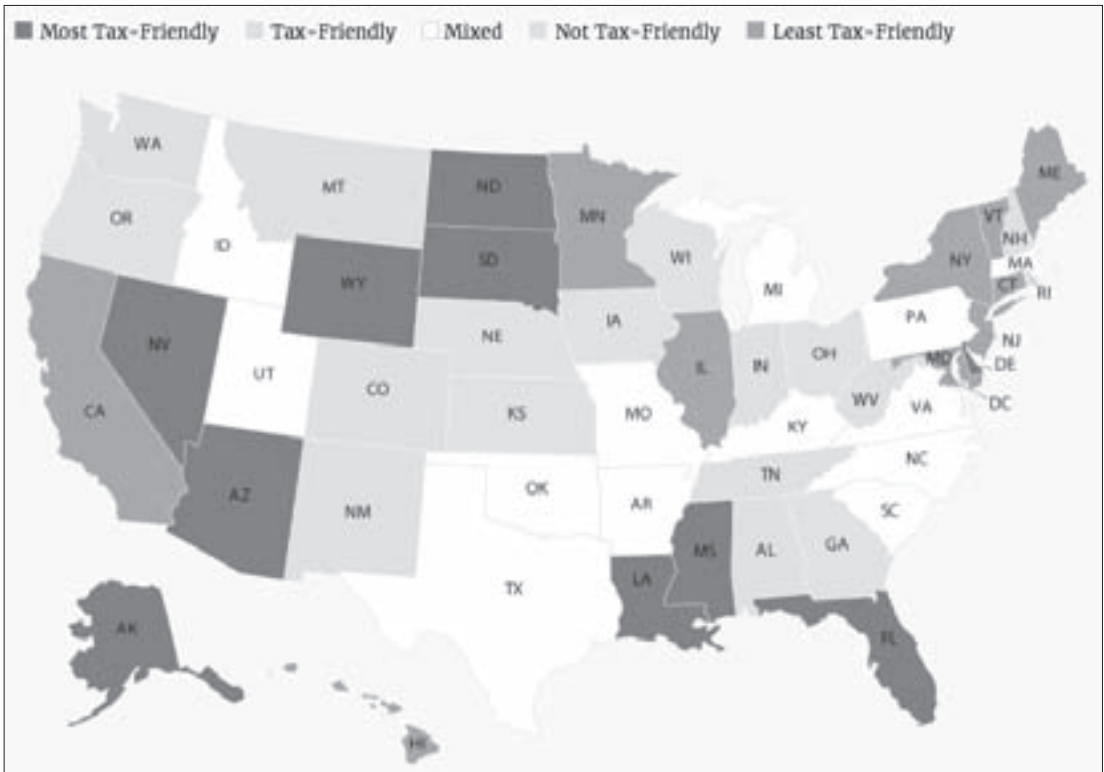
The Mississippi Link Newswire

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 5, 2017)— Kiplinger has released its highly anticipated rankings of the best and worst states for taxes. The list was unveiled as part of Kiplinger’s fifth annual Tax Map—available at [Kiplinger.com/links/taxmap](http://Kiplinger.com/links/taxmap)—which reveals income taxes, sales taxes, gas taxes, “sin” taxes (for products such as alcohol and tobacco) and other tax rules and exemptions across all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

“As Congress mulls a new federal tax plan that may cut rates and eliminate deductions, Americans should also keep an eye on state and local taxes,” said Robert Long, Managing Editor at Kiplinger.com. “Depending on where you’re living, state income taxes and property taxes cost thousands of dollars every year. Now, more than ever, Kiplinger.com’s Tax Map is an essential tool for people of all ages, backgrounds and career stages.”

The 10 Most Tax-Friendly States:

1. Wyoming
2. Alaska
3. South Dakota
4. Florida
5. Nevada
6. North Dakota



7. Delaware
8. Arizona
9. Louisiana
10. Mississippi

The 10 Least Tax-Friendly States:

1. Maryland
2. Minnesota
3. New York
4. Illinois
5. Maine
6. Vermont

7. Hawaii
8. California
9. Connecticut
10. New Jersey

The 2017 Kiplinger Tax Map features comprehensive tax profiles of each state, a list of the 10 most tax-friendly states and a list of the 10 least tax-friendly states, as well as additional roundups including states with the highest and lowest gas taxes, no income

taxes, highest sales taxes and more.

The Tax Map is a sister project to Kiplinger’s annual Retiree Tax Map—which reveals senior tax breaks across all 50 states, and compares taxes on income (including Social Security benefits, pensions and other forms of retirement income), property, everyday purchases, and, ultimately, your estate.

# State Farm® reports nearly 21,000 deer related claims in MS

## New claim count ranks state 12th in the nation

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson, MS – October 4, 2017- Good news for Mississippi drivers when it comes to your risk of hitting a deer. Mississippi drivers are less likely to collide with a deer than they were last year, according to new claims data from State Farm. Using industry claim counts, the state’s largest auto insurer ranks Mississippi at 12th in the nation with 20,951 auto claims connected to deer collisions across the state from July 2016 to June 2017. This means every 1 in 95 Mississippi drivers are likely to collide with a deer. Last year the state ranked 10th in the nation with 1 in 87 drivers likely to be involved in a deer collision. “As we approach the time of year when more deer are on the move, we hope drivers will pay attention to the numbers and stay alert,” says State Farm spokesman Roszell Gadson.

More 2017 State Farm deer collision facts:

West Virginia led the nation as the state with the highest chances of hitting a deer.

The national claim cost per claim average from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 was \$4,179—an increase from \$3,995 from 2015-16.

The months most drivers had collisions with a deer, elk, moose or caribou in the U.S. were:

- November
- October
- December

The likelihood of colliding with a large animal more than doubles during October, November and December, during deer mating season. Whether you hit a large animal or it jumps into the side of your vehicle, such collisions can cause significant injuries and property damage. No matter where you live, it’s important to remain alert and focused on the road so you can take action in the event a large animal is suddenly in your path. Some other tips to

help keep drivers safe include:

Slow down, particularly at dusk and dawn.

If you see one deer, be prepared for more deer to cross the road.

Pay attention to deer crossing signs.

Buckle up. Every trip, every time.

Use your high beams to see farther, except when there is oncoming traffic.

Brake if you can, but avoid swerving, which could result in a more severe crash.

Remain focused on the road, scanning for hazards, including animals.

Avoid distractions, like devices or eating, which might cause you to miss seeing an animal.

Do not rely on products such as deer whistles, which are not proven effective.

If riding a motorcycle, always wear protective gear and keep focus on the road ahead.

There is also an increased risk

of collision with deer around dawn and dusk. Drivers should be engaged, alert and on the lookout at all times, because you never know when you may need to react to a deer or other obstacle that may cross your travel path.

Methodology:

Using its claims data and state licensed driver counts from the Federal Highway Administration, State Farm, the nation’s leading auto insurer, calculates the chances of any single American motorist striking a deer, elk, moose or caribou during July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The data has been projected for the insurance industry as a whole, based on State Farm personal vehicle market penetration within each state. The State Farm data are based on comprehensive and collision claims only. Claims involving policyholders with liability insurance coverage only are not included.

# Mississippi Jazz Foundation

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Jazz Foundation presents the 14th annual “Night of Musical Artistry” featuring national recording artist Avery Sunshine and Mississippi’s own Mike Burton Friday, December 1, at Duling Hall Auditorium at 7:00pm. The event emcee is Jackson comedienne extraordinaire and on-air radio personality Cherita Brent-Handy a.k.a. “Rita B.”

Avery Sunshine is without a doubt one of the most dynamic voices on the creative music scene, known for her invigorating and combustible live performances, compelling and revealingly honest song writing and impeccable instrument. The earthy and charming singer who has lent her vocals to the silver screen and collaborated with the likes of Roy Ayers, Will Downing, and Music Soulchild, has also lent her choral directing and choirs to a few of the live performances from Michael Buble, David Foster, Anthony Hamilton, and Jennifer Holiday. A native of Chester, PA and a graduate of Spelman College, she quickly made a name for herself working on Atlanta’s independent music scene. In 2005 she lent her voice to the soundtrack for Paramount Pictures’ The Fighting Temptations, and in 2005 she was also hired as lead keyboardist for Tyler Perry’s stage play Meet the Browns. May 27, 2014, Shanachie Entertainment released Avery Sunshine’s label debut, The Sun-Room. As the title suggests, the album is a collection of original material featuring uplifting sun-kissed tracks, blazing retro-soul numbers and scorching R&B ballads that transport you both musically and emotionally. From organic soulful in-the-pocket grooves, sublime ballads and exuberant up-tempo numbers, the vocals shine throughout, the production is tight and the songwriting is authentic and thought provoking.

Jackson, Mississippi native Burton, currently on tour with Jill Scott (a member of her band for over the past five years), joins the Jazz Urbane artists roster of distinctive young artists who bring contemporary urbane Jazz, R&B and multi-styled musical elegance the label has received praise for. Burton’s “Say What?” follows a long

line of artists such as Grover Washington Jr., Najee, and recent Soul Live, Robert Glasper, Esperanza Spalding, who creatively redefined the false borders of Jazz, R&B and progressive urban contemporary radio music.

Noted for his “...ability to move through musical genres flawlessly, with dynamic ambience...” this debut record produced by Burton is the product of enormous talent, artistry and market savvy. Burton completed both bachelors and masters degrees in Jazz Studies under the renowned musician and professor, David Baker at Indiana University’s School of Music.

Trained in music from an early age, his mother is a founding member of the legendary Mississippi Mass Choir, and his father a tenor saxophonist himself. Burton’s distinctive soulful saxophone performances, riveting grooves and vocal productions are the result of this influence and the Jackson, Mississippi culture.

Burton has toured with Mary J. Blige, Patti LaBelle, and Anita Baker as well as with New Edition, and performed with Aretha Franklin, Young Jeezy and Eric Roberson. He has appeared on The Tonight Show, Good Morning America, The Steve Harvey Show, Ellen and Jimmy Kimmel. The Atlanta metro area resident has also played keys and sax for the Tyler Perry Stage and film production for over ten years.

“Rita B” (Cherita Brent-Handy) has been active in the entertainment industry since her late teen years. She’s performed with the likes of Dexter Allen, Laurie Walker, Grady Champion, Southern Comfort Brass Band, Henry Rhodes, KD Broasia, D’Mar, and more. In 2006, Rita B. would find her niche in radio broadcasting. She began a career in radio at WJSU Jazz Radio Station during her collegiate career at Jackson State University.

Tickets for a “Night of Musical Artistry” are \$40.00 in advance on line at [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com), by phone at 1800-745-3000 or in person at Thalia Mara Hall Box Office (255 E. Pascagoula Street, Jackson, MS), Monday-Friday 10:00AM-4:00PM. For more information, call The Mississippi Jazz Foundation @ 601-594-2314.

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The Mississippi Link

# MEMA unveils new preparedness app for smartphones and tablets

The Mississippi Link Newswire

PEARL, Miss –The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency unveiled its new preparedness app for smartphones and tablets today. The new app provides current weather conditions, live radar, an interactive emergency kit list, real-time social media posts, preparedness sections for all-hazards, news alerts, videos and interactive contact directories for both

MEMA and county emergency managers.

To view MEMA App Promo Video, click here.

“This is truly a one-stop shop for everyone to use every day,” said MEMA Executive Director Lee Smithson. “Our goal in development was to give people a reason to open this app every morning, not just when a disaster is on the horizon. We believe this could be a game

changer when it comes to preparing Mississippians or those visiting our great state.”

The MEMA App is free and available for download in both the Android and Apple app stores.

Highlights of the APP include:

Weather: Current conditions, hourly forecast as well as an extended seven-day forecast.

Map: Provides current radar

and editable layers to show open shelters, Grand Gulf Nuclear Station Protection Zones, county emergency operations centers, county sheriff’s offices, fire stations and hurricane evacuation routes.

Emergency Kit: Allows you to customize your emergency kit with specific needs and keeps a running inventory of items you have and need.

Social Media: lists current

posts on MEMA’s Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Preparedness: key information to prepare for hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, radiological, floods, winter weather and disaster kits.

News and Alerts: MEMA news releases and emergency alerts.

Videos: All videos in the MEMA YouTube library

Other Resources: Informa-

tion on community preparedness, disability preparedness, FEMA assistance (when available), MDOT traffic information. Direct contact information for all 82 county emergency managers and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and a directory of all MEMA offices.

The App was created by OCV LLC, the developer of the original MEMA App back in 2013.

# Be Ye Separate

PART 1

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



The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church in 2 Corinthians 6:14-17: “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.”

The Lord says to be separate from that which is unclean. If we are going to have fellowship with God and God’s people, we must be separate. Let us consider what the Bible has to say about division. Paul said, “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.” He did not say to “come out from among it”, but to “come out from among them”, and then He will receive you. In verse 18 he tells us, “And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord almighty.” We can only enjoy fellowship with the Father if we separate ourselves from that which is unclean (sin). By the way, this separation is not a one-shot deal. This separation continues as long as we live! Paul continued in verse 1 of the seventh chapter, “Hav-

ing therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”

When God, through His Word, a testimony, or any other means, reveals that we need to separate ourselves from something, as a saint of God who has real Bible salvation, we will do it. A true saint will not hold onto anything that is unclean. My friends, the Pastor should not have to use twenty scriptures and six messages to try to separate us from that which is unclean. All we need to know is that God says it is unclean and we will cleanse ourselves. Why, because we want to have God and fellowship with the saints.

Surely, we love people and want to help them, but we cannot fellowship with the unclean. Again, 2 Corinthi-

ans 6:14 reads, “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?” Right cannot fellowship with wrong (sin) and light has no communion with darkness. We cannot share with people who are in darkness. Light reproves darkness! If we are a child of light, the life we live and the spirit we possess bring reproof and rebuke to the works of the flesh. We cannot go along with, partake of, or share in the works of the flesh. It is impossible!

Next week – October 20, Part II “Be ye Separate”

*Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.*

PRESERVED

# Google, God and Prayer

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



“I can’t find anything!” was the response from one of my English Composition 1 students a few weeks ago when I asked if anyone had questions about their research projects. Other students nodded their heads in agreement and complained that they were having the same problems. “Why can’t we use Google? I can’t find any information on the library databases!” exclaimed another. I responded that they would not be able to use Google because it wasn’t effective academic research but then offered tips on how to find information in the library databases.

One tip was to remember that Google is matching but the databases are for research. Since its introduction in the late 1990s, Google has simplified information gathering. We can find just about anything, good or bad, legal or illegal, moral and immoral on it within seconds. For example, when you look for something or someone on Google, you are most likely going to effortlessly find an exact match. Research, on the other hand, might require repeatedly looking at more than one database and comparing results to find something that is useful.

Despite my explanation students continued to say that the databases didn’t have any information about their research topics (even though the databases have thousands of articles). But because the information they found on the databases didn’t match exactly what they were looking for, students concluded it didn’t work. Trying to help them get past their frustration while learning a new research technique, I shared with


them that they had to change their mindset about what the databases could do.

After going into the databases and showing students how to change their search terms and find information in the databases, they realized that not only was the information there, in most cases, it was more accurate and helpful than what they found on Google or Wikipedia.

Not only has Google exposed us to more information, I think it has also made us more impatient and less willing to accept things, people or situations that aren’t exactly what we want. After all, Google generally gives exact (or very close) search results. With these kinds of results, I think Google has trained us to believe that we will always get what we want or something close to it when we ask for it.

And for some of us (me included!), we go to God with a similar attitude. In that past, I’ve written about how dangerous it is to think this way because we end up treating God like Google! If I pray this specific kind of prayer, then I’m going to get these specific results. When we don’t we have the nerve to get mad at God! However, James 4:3 explains, “You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.” Sometimes, it’s not what you pray, but the attitude you have when you pray (in other words, HOW you pray) that determines your results.

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](mailto:preservedbypurpose@gmail.com) or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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# Fake math fuels Trump's lopsided, lousy Tax Reform

By Marc H. Morial  
President and CEO  
National Urban League



“Rightful taxation is the price of social order. In other words, it is that portion of the citizen’s property which he yields up to the government in order to provide for the protection of all the rest. It is not to be wantonly levied on the citizen, nor levied at all except in return for benefits conferred.” — Journal of the Senate of the State of Ohio, December 6, 1847

Hard on the heels of yet another failed effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, President Donald Trump and some congressional leaders have swiftly pivoted to another top legislative agenda item on their shared wish list: tax reform. Regardless of your political stripe, tax reform enjoys near universal support—but, as we all know, the devil is in the details.

Like most public positions or legislative efforts endorsed by Trump, comprehensive tax code reform is heavy on hype and light on details. Given what we do know of the president’s work-in-progress proposal, it is lopsided. The vast majority of its benefits, including “historic” tax cuts and a repeal of the estate tax, will fatten the pockets of the wealthiest one percent of Americans. And that’s a lousy deal for low-income and middle-class families—including Trump’s working-class supporters—who will ultimately foot the bill and bear the brunt of enriching the already rich.

To hear Trump tell it—or sell it—any payouts to the top one percent, of which he is a card-carrying member, would be incidental to nonexistent. During Trump’s announcement of his skeletal nine-page framework to rewrite our nation’s tax code, Trump insisted his proposal included an, “explicit commitment that tax reform will protect low-income and middle-income households, not the wealthy and well-connected,” adding that, “They can call me all they want. It’s not going to help. I’m doing the right thing. And it’s not good for me. Believe me.” Perhaps it would be easier to believe the president if he had released his own taxes during his 2016 presidential run?

We have no way of knowing how Trump’s tax code revisions would benefit him, his family, his associates and his global network of businesses, but virtually every non-partisan analysis of his still-in-development framework arrives at the same conclusion: the plan profits wealthy Americans and barely tips the scale for low income and middle-class families.

The Tax Policy Center, a think tank of nationally recognized experts in tax, budget and social policy, estimates that the top one percent of households would get close to 80% of the framework’s tax cuts, adding up to an annual, after-tax boost of close to \$200,000. The top 0.1 percent of households would receive 40% of the framework’s tax cuts, giving our nation’s wealthiest Americans an annual \$1 million boost in after-tax income. Middle class and lower earning families in the bottom 80% would get almost 13% of the tax cuts and see less than half a percent increase in after-tax income.

Tax cuts sound appealing, but the reality is that there is no free lunch. Tax cuts are not free and cannot pay for themselves. Traditionally, tax cuts are paid for through a combination of spending cuts—think Medicaid. The president’s outline includes the elimination of personal tax breaks and itemized deductions (excluding mortgage interest and charitable deductions) that have likely benefited you in the past. And think tax increases. For many middle-class Americans who are supposedly a protected class under Trump’s tax code rewrite, an analysis by the Tax Policy Center predicts nearly 30% of those in the middle class could see their taxes increase. Bottom line: fake math only arrives at unequal outcomes.

Tax cuts do not add up to tax reform. Our nation does not benefit from tax cuts that widen income inequality and unfairly burden families struggling to get by. We need tax reform with a focus on fairness. Prudently designed tax policy should raise revenue to bring desperately needed relief to poor, working and middle-class Americans, and it should reduce our stubbornly wide income inequality gap.

The National Urban League has longed believed in—and advocated for—tax reform that prioritizes economic mobility for low-income families and strengthens the middle class. A constructive approach to tax reform would increase the Earned Income, Low-Income Housing and New Markets tax credit programs while reining in tax and special interest loopholes and expenditures that solely benefit wealthy individuals and corporations.

Our nation deserves more than a hastily cobbled together plan that cuts taxes for the top one percent, drives up the deficit, adds a check mark in the win column for congressional Republicans looking ahead to the 2018 midterm elections, and allows Trump to finally make good on at least one campaign trail promise. The tax code is a serious and important tool that can incentivize and stimulate job creation and economic development. The current plan must be restructured to produce equitable and efficient outcomes. Anything else, and anything less, is simply unacceptable.

# How to put Puerto Rico back on its feet

*What obligations do we owe one to another as Americans?  
What does patriotism and citizenship mean in practice?*

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



Hurricane Maria’s devastation of Puerto Rico has posed these questions. Americans should be dissatisfied with the way our federal government has responded.

The island has been utterly savaged by the worst hurricane in memory. Weeks after the tragedy, parts of Puerto Rico still have no water. The electricity grid is utterly destroyed. Fuel is short. The death toll, currently at 38, is likely to rise further. The danger of epidemics sweeping through families weakened by hunger and exposure is stark.

Even before the hurricane hit, Puerto Rico was literally bankrupt. Its efforts to declare bankruptcy and to renegotiate its unpayable debts were fiercely contested. Wall Street bankers were enforcing a harsh austerity on the island. One of the reasons the island was so vulnerable was that it was unable to modernize dated energy and water systems.

Puerto Rico is an American territory; its people are American citizens. Like those living in New Orleans in the wake of Katrina or Houston in the wake of Harvey, they can abandon their homes, move to another part of the country and start over. In

Houston, in Florida and in New Jersey, the federal government moved in to help with emergency assistance and to spur rebuilding of homes and infrastructure. In New Orleans after Katrina, the botched federal response became a national scandal for the Bush administration.

Puerto Rico suffered worse devastation, and it impacted more people. As the hurricane approached, it was impossible to evacuate more than a handful of the 3.4 million people from the island. Getting aid to the Americans there, caring for the wounded, providing food and water, and beginning the process of rebuilding pose far greater challenges than similar responses to other disasters.

The Trump administration’s response to this challenge has been, in a word, disgraceful. President Trump himself was absent without leave for a week; he was more focused on tweeting about the NFL from his golf club. He publicly scorned the mayor of San Juan for doing her job: pleading for more assistance for her people in peril. He slurred Puerto Ricans for supposedly wanting “everything to be done for them.”

When he finally visited the disaster last week, he seemed intent on ignoring reality while boasting about the federal response. He claimed Puerto Rico hadn’t experienced a “real catastrophe”

like Hurricane Katrina, and bizarrely praised the official death toll (at the time, 16) as something Puerto Ricans “can be very proud of.”

Trump also told disaster survivors that “you don’t need” the flashlights he was handing to them, apparently ignorant of the fact that 93 percent of the island remained without power. Even as he touted a “tax reform” plan that would gift \$5 trillion dollars in tax breaks to the rich and corporations over the next decade, he complained to the American citizens in Puerto Rico that they had “thrown our budget a little bit out of whack.”

At the same time, Trump praised his administration’s response as “unbelievable” and “incredible.” His advisers called it a “good news story.”

This isn’t a game. The lives of American citizens have and will be lost because of the belated and inadequate response.

How should American citizens be treated in a crisis of this magnitude? Surely, mobilization to provide disaster relief should be immediate and sufficient in scale to deal with the emergency. Then the U.S. should invest in rebuilding the core public infrastructure of Puerto Rico — the electric and water systems, the roads and bridges. This would not only make the island more resilient for the next crisis; it would also provide immediate jobs and help

with the economic recovery.

Puerto Rico bears a staggering and unpayable \$74 billion in debt. During his trip to the island, Trump remarked cryptically that “we’re going to have to wipe that out.” Wall Street went nuts, and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin quickly denied the president had meant what he said.

Trump, who has bragged that he is the “king of debt,” could use his experience with bankruptcy to negotiate wholesale debt relief for Puerto Rico. The Wall Street bankers who made improvident loans should refinance them for pennies on the dollar. That would give the island’s residents breathing room to begin to recover. If he chose to lead, Trump could push through a major program of aid — a Trump Plan for Puerto Rico modeled on the Marshall Plan for Europe after World War II — that would rebuild the island and insure jobs and growth for its residents.

The cost would be far less than the hundreds of billions in tax breaks Trump has proposed for U.S. corporations that have booked profits abroad to avoid paying federal taxes. Why not benefit citizens who are victims of disaster through no fault of their own rather than corporate tax evaders?

Puerto Ricans are Americans. We should not fail them in a desperate time of need.

# Parents deserve “Real” School Choice

*What should black parents do when the feeder school system fails?*

By Dr. Elizabeth V. Primas  
Program Manager, NNPA/ESSA  
Public Awareness Campaign



I was recently approached by a father of a student from Ann Arundel County, Maryland that was disappointed that his son was unable to attend his neighborhood magnet school; his son met all the requirements to become classified as a magnet student. Upon inquiry, administrators informed the father that the feeder school system did not permit his child to attend the desired school, even though the campus was less than two miles away from their family home. This was especially upsetting to the father, because he purchased the home 10 years ago with that specific school in mind. The school prescribed by the feeder school system is 12 miles away from his home.

Great Schools, the leading national nonprofit organization

devoted to assisting parents in unlocking educational opportunities for their children, gives the prescribed feeder school a two out of five stars rating, compared to the four stars given to the school initially selected by the father. Realizing that the school’s ratings may lead to a misguided conclusion, he and his wife toured the school to get a first-hand look. They were equally disappointed with the school climate and physical condition of the building.

His son is a recipient of the President’s Award for Educational Excellence. The administrators were adamant that the prescribed school would meet his son’s educational needs; despite their insistence, the father was never convinced.

After failing to make progress with school administrators in Ann Arundel County, he made the hard decision to enroll his child in a local non-magnet school, which has only one Advanced Placement (AP) course

and limited opportunities in advanced courses.

My question to Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is this: Why is it that, despite your push for “school choice,” parents are still being directed to lower performing schools with poor school climate, inadequately prepared teachers, and failing test scores?

This is contradictory to the intention of the Every Student Succeeds Act. It is the opposite of the policies you and the Trump Administration say you support. The options offered to this parent were inadequate and did not allow him the opportunity to ensure his child will receive a quality education. Furthermore, the feeder school system, in this instance, was completely ineffective.

Instead of fixing education, it appears this administration has allowed states and local school districts to re-segregate, provide lower quality education to children of color and sentence our children to academic under-

achievement. This is not how ESSA was designed to operate.

Thankfully, this parent did not accept less for his child. Other parents may not have the ability to stand for their children. ESSA was supposed to provide a high-quality education to all children. Let’s make sure no child is faced with choosing between potential social isolation for a higher quality education or convenience at the expense of academic achievement.

Get involved with education in your community and learn more about the Every Student Succeeds Act at [www.nnpa.org/essa](http://www.nnpa.org/essa).

Dr. Elizabeth Primas is an educator, who spent more than 40 years working towards improving education for children of diverse ethnicities and backgrounds. Dr. Primas is the program manager for the NNPA’s Every Student Succeeds Act Public Awareness Campaign. Follow Dr. Primas on Twitter @ElizabethPrimas3.

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**www.mississippilink.com**

# Tutus at the Zoo: Breast Cancer is “tutu” important to ignore

Mississippi Link Newswire

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Forrest General, Toyota of Hattiesburg, and Comcast Spotlight are teaming up for the 2017 Drive to Inspire campaign, an effort to remind women across the Pine Belt to make time for monthly self-exams and annual screenings.

During the month of October be on the lookout for a 2018 pink Toyota Camry that will be parked at various locations within the Pine Belt. Come sign the car in honor or memory of a breast cancer patient or as a pledge to remind loved ones to schedule annual screenings.

A complete list of additional locations, dates and times can be found at [drive2inspirepinebelt.com](http://drive2inspirepinebelt.com).

Annual health exams are important, including routine mammograms for women. Women should practice monthly self-breast exams and get an annual mammogram beginning at age 40.

“The purpose of the promotion is to remind every woman in the Mississippi area that you cannot underestimate the importance of routine mammograms. Early detection of breast cancer can be life-saving,” said Millie Swan, chief marketing and medical staff services officer.

Forrest General’s Cancer Center urges everyone – cancer survivors and supporters alike – to make



Mayor Toby Barker with First Daughter, Audra, supporting breast cancer awareness as the first honorary tutu recipient.

healthy choices like not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active and getting recommended screening tests. Screenings for breast, prostate, lung, colon or other types of cancer increase the chances of detecting certain cancers early, when they are most likely to be curable.

The 34,000-square-foot Cancer Center offers a comprehensive program encompassing continuing care, detection, diagnosis, education, prevention, psychosocial support, screening, rehabilitation services and treatment for cancer patients. The Cancer Center is accredited by the American College

of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and participates in National Cancer Institute (NCI) approved clinical trials. The facility delivers state-of-the-art technologies, treatments and support services in comfortable surroundings utilizing an interdisciplinary approach that involves the individual, family, friends and healthcare professionals.

To learn more about risks factors associated with breast cancer and prevention, visit [forrestgeneral.com/breastcancer](http://forrestgeneral.com/breastcancer). For more information about the 2017 Drive to Inspire campaign visit [drive2inspirepinebelt.com](http://drive2inspirepinebelt.com).

# MORA attends AMAT Conference

Mississippi Link Newswire

MORA staff members Taylor Phillips (funeral home/coroner liaison), Annie Lucious (supervisor of aftercare), and Becky Pierson (manager of community outreach) recently attended the Association for Multicultural Affairs in Transplantation (AMAT) annual conference in Atlanta.

AMAT was created with the hope of saving more lives by increasing organ and tissue donation among multicultural communities. Over the past 20 years, the significant gap in the percentage of diverse populations who register to become organ and tissue donors and those in need of life-saving transplants who are registered on the national United Network of Organ Sharing waiting list has only widened.

According to the National Institutes of Health, African Americans and Hispanics are three times more



likely to require a kidney transplant compared with their white counterparts. This is due in large part to higher incidences of diabetes and hypertension, both of which are linked to end-stage renal failure. Yet, the donation consent rate among minorities continues to be

lower than whites, accounting for only 34 percent of donors.

It has been clinically proven that organs matched by blood group and tissue type increase the chance of a successful outcome, with most suitable matches often being from the same ethnic group.

# Staff Spotlight: Joel Stevens, hospital development coordinator

Mississippi Link Newswire

Joel Stevens joined MORA’s clinical staff in May of 1999. He is a certified procurement transplant coordinator. “I didn’t know much about the donation/transplantation process, but I knew that I would be a part of a group of people that were helping others,” says Joel.

In 2013, Joel transitioned to MORA’s Hospital Development department. “I enjoy training hospital staff about the donation process and working with hospital administrative/managerial staff to ensure they are maintaining their compliance in regards to organ, eye and tissue donation. I want to ensure that families are given the opportunity to make a donation decision,” he says.

“It is still truly a blessing knowing that I am a part of helping families that MORA is able to serve.”



Joel and his wife Kami live in Hattiesburg and have three children.

Fun fact: Joel played baseball at Pearl River Community College before transferring to the University of Southern Mississippi to

complete his undergraduate degree. He and his family are Chicago Cubs fans and enjoy traveling to see them play.

Joel also enjoys golf and coaching and watching his children in their extracurricular activities.

# ‘Drive to Inspire’ campaign to spread awareness for breast cancer health and prevention

Mississippi Link Newswire

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Forrest General, Toyota of Hattiesburg, and Comcast Spotlight are teaming up for the 2017 Drive to Inspire campaign, an effort to remind women across the Pine Belt to make time for monthly self-exams and annual screenings.

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A complete list of additional locations, dates and times can be found at [drive2inspirepinebelt.com](http://drive2inspirepinebelt.com).

Annual health exams are important, including routine mammograms for women. Women should practice monthly self-breast exams and get an annual mammogram beginning at age 40.

“The purpose of the promotion is to remind every woman in the Mississippi area that you cannot underestimate the importance of routine mammograms. Early detection of breast cancer can be life-saving,” said Millie Swan, chief marketing and medical staff services officer.

Forrest General’s Cancer Center urges

everyone – cancer survivors and supporters alike – to make healthy choices like not smoking, staying at a healthy weight, eating right, keeping active, and getting recommended screening tests. Screenings for breast, prostate, lung, colon or other types of cancer increases the chances of detecting certain cancers early, when they are most likely to be curable.

The 34,000-square-foot Cancer Center offers a comprehensive program encompassing continuing care, detection, diagnosis, education, prevention, psychosocial support, screening, rehabilitation services and treatment for cancer patients. The Cancer Center is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and participates in National Cancer Institute (NCI) approved clinical trials. The facility delivers state-of-the-art technologies, treatments and support services in comfortable surroundings utilizing an interdisciplinary approach that involves the individual, family, friends and healthcare professionals.

To learn more about risks factors associated with breast cancer and prevention, visit [forrestgeneral.com/breastcancer](http://forrestgeneral.com/breastcancer). For more information about the 2017 Drive to Inspire campaign visit [drive2inspirepinebelt.com](http://drive2inspirepinebelt.com).

# MORA represented at screening of “A Question of Faith” movie



Mississippi Link Newswire

On September 15, MORA Hospital Development coordinator, Sonny Soileau, attended a screening of the movie “A Question of Faith” at Bel Aire Baptist Church in Gulfport. Executive Producer Cameron Lewis is originally from Gulfport.

The movie focuses on a tragedy that strikes three families and how their destiny forces them on a converging path to discover love,

grace and mercy. Organ, eye, and tissue donation is also a central part of the storyline.

The movie was released September 29 in a limited run. The trailer for the movie can be found at [aquestionoffaith.com](http://aquestionoffaith.com).

Pictured above from left to right: Nelson Jackson, music supervisor, Sonny Soileau, MORA hospital development coordinator, Cameron Lewis, executive producer, and Angela White, producer.

# Volunteers share the importance of donation with DPS examiners



Mississippi Link Newswire

Donor mom Liz Wroten and heart recipient Linda Amos spoke to examiners at the Mississippi Department of Public Safety’s central region meeting last week in Pearl about the

importance of asking Mississippians to register as organ, eye, and tissue donors while obtaining their driver’s license.

Liz’s son Chase donated his heart to Linda in April 2011.

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BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND  
REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Thursday, 11/16/2017, for:

RE: GS# 110-097  
Campus Repairs & Renovations (Campus Repairs & Renovations)  
University of Southern Mississippi - Gulf Coast Research Laboratory

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

Professional:	Allred Architectural Group, PA
Address:	628 Washington Avenue, Suite C Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564
Phone:	228-762-1975
Email:	contact@allredarchitecturalgroup.com

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

Calvin R. Sibley, Bureau Director  
Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management

10/12/2017, 10/19/2017

LEGAL

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](mailto: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

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid  
Re-Bid 3061 Cleaning Grease Traps

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) October 30, 2017, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project will be held at Enochs, 101 Dennis Holloway Drive, Jackson, MS 39203, on October 23, 2017, at 10:30 A.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing [pagreen@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:pagreen@jackson.k12.ms.us), calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at [www.jackson.k12.ms.us](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us).

10/12/2017, 10/19/2017

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING 3601 N. STATE, LLC A REZONING FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-4 (LIMITED MULTI-FAMILY) RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO GIVE UNIFORM ZONING AND TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TOWNHOMES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3601 NORTH STATE ST., CASE NO. 3980.

WHEREAS, 3601 N. State, LLC has filed a petition to rezone property located at 3601 North State St., in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, from R1 (Single-Family) Residential District to R4 (Limited Multi-Family) Residential District to give uniform zoning and to allow for the construction of townhomes; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Planning Board, after holding the required public hearing, has recommended approval to rezone the property from R1 (Single-Family) Residential District to R4 (Limited Multi-Family) Residential District to give uniform zoning and to allow for the construction of townhomes; and

WHEREAS, notice was duly and legally given to property owners and interested citizens that a meeting of the Council would be held at the City Hall at 2:30 p.m., Monday, August 21, 2017 to consider said change, based upon the record of the case as developed before the City Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, it appeared to the satisfaction of the City Council that notice of said petition had been published in the Mississippi Link on July 6, 2017 and July 20, 2017 that a hearing would be held by the Jackson City Planning Board on July 26, 2017, all as provided for by ordinances of the City of Jackson and the laws of the State of Mississippi, and that the Jackson City Planning Board had recommended approval of the petitioned rezoning of the above described property to R4 (Limited Multi-Family) Residential District; and

WHEREAS, the Council after having considered the matter, is of the opinion that such changes would be in keeping with sound law is use practice and to the best interest of the City and that there has been a substantial change in the land use character of the surrounding area that justifies rezoning the property and there is a public need for additional property in that area zoned in accordance with the request in said application since any previous City Council action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI:

Section 1. That the property located in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, more particular described as follows:

S 1/2 of Lots 17 and 18, Lot 19, Block G, Northview Addition, Hinds County, MS

This is supplemented by the following addendum:

The South Half of Lots Nos. Seventeen (17) and Eighteen (18) and Nineteen (19), Block "G" of North View Addition less ten feet (10') off of West side thereof according to map or plat of Part One (1) of North View Addition which is on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, said lands being the same as that Mrs. Mayme E. Ware conveyed to J.P. Ricks and wife, Mrs. M. R. Ricks, by deed dated May 15, 1945, and recorded in said Clerk's office in Deed Book 403, at Page 269, with the interest of said J.P. Ricks being devised to said Mrs. M. R. Ricks in his last will and testament which was fully administered as case No 62-561, on the docket of the Chancery Court of the first Judicial District of Hinds County, MS.

LEGAL



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BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND  
REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 11/07/2017, for:

RE: GS# 382-003 Civil Rights & History Museums (Security Alarm System)  
The Mississippi Museums (Office of Capitol Facilities) (Department of Finance and Administration)

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

Professional:	ECD Architects Engineers, a Joint Venture
Address:	418 East Capitol Street Jackson, Mississippi 39201 Phone: 601-366-3110 Email: <a href="mailto:cmyers@cdfll.com">cmyers@cdfll.com</a>

A deposit of \$0.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

Calvin R. Sibley, Bureau Director  
Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management

10/05/2017, 10/12/2017

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE  
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS  
JACKSON GATEWAY COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATION PROJECT: Phase I – Part II

The Mississippi Housing Partnership (MHP) wants to contract with an Architectural/Engineering (A/E) consulting firm for the rehabilitation/reconstruction of homes which is Part II of Phase I of the Jackson Gateway Comprehensive Rehabilitation Project. Statements of Qualification will be accepted by the Mississippi Housing Partnership at 1217 N. West Street, Jackson, MS 39202, until 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 18, 2017. The proposed contract will include complete Architectural/Engineering services for 3 pre-existing home sites and development, including blueprints, home design, project costs, material, civil engineering, environmental phase services, construction management, and other services as it relates to the design and construction of a new structure.

Architectural/Engineering (A/E) firms interested in providing these services may so indicate by furnishing the MHP with seven (7) copies of a Statement of Qualification, which should consist of the following:

1. A cover letter specifying the complete project name, JACKSON GATEWAY Comprehensive Rehabilitation PROJECT, the name of the firm's project manager, and the location and address of the office to be assigned the majority of the work.
2. A resume for each principal member, the project manager, and employee(s) of the firm anticipated to be assigned to the project including consulting engineers. Also, provide an organizational chart and list each person's experience and qualifications, including proof that the Project Manager is licensed as a Mississippi Professional Architect/Engineer and that the firm has met state licensure and certification requirements. Include a business recovery plan in the event of a disaster.
3. Evidence of the Firm's knowledge of HOME procurement processes, Section 3 requirements, certified payroll, Davis-Bacon Act, and other reporting requirements of HOME funded projects.
4. A description of similar type work completed during the past five (5) years which qualifies the consultant for this work; the cost and scheduled completion (or actual completion) of this work with project owner's reference contact information.
5. In addition to the information requested above, complete Part II of the Standard Form (SF) 330, Architect-Engineer Qualifications. This Form can be obtained at (<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/forms/download/116486>).

The MHP will evaluate the Statements of Qualification based on the following factors listed in their relative order of importance:

1. Experience of the firm in performing specific services and experience in preparing architectural/engineering design and construction projects funded by HOME dollars.
2. Qualifications and experience of staff and consultants to be assigned to the project based on requested scope of services.
3. Size of the firm's professional and technical staff with respect to the services required.
4. Resume of the firm's current and completed projects of a similar nature.
5. Local presence of the firm within the Jackson Metro Area.

The MHP reserves the right to select one (1) consultant or select a short list of consultants from whom more information will be required. The MHP reserves the right to reject any and all Statements of Qualification, discontinue Contract execution, and/or request additional information with any party at any time prior to final Contract execution. For any Statement of Qualification questions, contact Tim Collins, Mississippi Housing Partnership, Executive Director: [timcollins11@comcast.net](mailto:timcollins11@comcast.net) or Robbie Smith, Director of Housing, [rsmith1217@comcast.net](mailto:rsmith1217@comcast.net).

The Mississippi Housing Partnership is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the Mississippi Housing Partnership to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the MHP.

The MHP hereby notifies all proposers that, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, that all proposers will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, in consideration for an award.

The Jackson Gateway Comprehensive Rehabilitation Project is a collaborative effort between Mississippi Housing Partnership and the City of Jackson. The impact area of this project is the City of Jackson, Mississippi, therefore please give strong consideration to employing residents of the City of Jackson.

Timothy Collins  
Executive Director

Robbie Smith  
Director of Housing

10/5/2017, 10/12/2017

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI  
SIGN VARIANCE FOR MCDONALDS

THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SIGN VARIANCE FOR MCDONALDS TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 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.

10/5/2017, 10/12/2017

Sudoku Solution

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

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Cryptogram Solution

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNPOQRSTUVWXYZ  
PNUGOIBYMFVQWOTJCNARLEKSX

WHEN ONE DOOR CLOSSES - ANOTHER  
EBGW OWG UOOC ZVONGN FWOABGC  
WINDOW OPENS  
EYWUOE OTGWN

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPEAL FOR A REZONING  
ZONING CASE NO. 3979

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Quality Property, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from C2 (Limited) Commercial to C3 (General) Commercial to operate an automotive service & repair shop for property located at 5408 Robinson Rd. Ext., in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Being situated in lots 11 and 12 SWEP J. TAYLOR SUBDIVISION, Part 2 according to a plat on file in the Office of Chancery Clerk at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, in Plat Book 5, at page 33, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds to writ:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of lot 10 of the aforesaid SWEP J. TAYLOR SUBDIVISION, Part 2, and run easterly along the North line of lot 10 and the South line of lot 12, a distance of 80.0 feet; thence right through an interior angle of 90 degrees 15 minutes and run northerly a distance of 195.1feet to the Point of Beginning of the property herein described; thence continue northerly along the last mentioned line a distance of 110.0 feet; thence right through an interior angle of 269 degrees 45 minutes and run easterly a distance of 80.0 feet; thence right through an interior angle of 90 degrees 15 minutes and run northerly a distance of 134.13 feet to the Southeast corner of a certain 1.032 acre tract; thence right through an interior angle of 65 degrees 38 minutes and run south-westerly along said 1.032 acre tract a distance of 258.7 feet to the east line of Robinson Road Extension; thence right through an interior angle of 115 degrees 57 minutes and run southerly along said eat line a distance of 70 feet; thence right through an interior angle of 194 degrees 48 minutes and continue along said East line a distance of 70.6 feet; thence right through and interior angle of 73 degrees 37 minutes and leaving said East line, run Easterly a distance of 177.5 feet to the point of beginning containing 0.8518 acres, more or less.

Being situated in lots 11and 12,SWEP J. TAYLOR SUBDIVISION, Part 2, according to a plat on file in the Office of the Chancery Clerk at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi in Plat Book 5, at page 33, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds to wit:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of Lot 10 of the aforesaid SWEP J. TAYLOR SUBDIVISION, Part 2, and run easterly along the North line of lot 10 and the South line of lot 12, a distance of 80.0 feet; thence right through and anterior angle of 90 degrees 15 minutes and run northerly a distance of 195.1feet to the point of beginning of the property herein described; thence continue northerly along the last mentioned line a distance of 110.0 feet; thence right through an anterior angle of 26 degrees 45 minutes and run easterly a distance of 80.0 feet; thence right through an anterior angle of 89 degrees 45 minutes southerly for a distance of 110 feet to a point; thence run westerly for a distance of 80 feet to the point of beginning, all being a Part of lots 11 and 12, SWEP J. TAYLOR SUBDIVISION, Part 2, according to a plat on file in the Office of the Chancery Clerk at Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, in Plat 5, at page 33.

Said application was heard by the City Planning Board on Wednesday, July 26, 2017 with a recommendation to deny. The applicant has filed an Appeal of the recommendation of the Planning Board. The Case will be heard at the City Council's Zoning Meeting in the Council Chambers, First Floor, City Hall, 219 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 2:30 p.m., on Monday, October 16, 2017.

WITNESS my signature this 22nd day of September 2017.

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

9/28/2017, 10/12/2017



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**BULLY'S RESTAURANT**  
3118 Livingston Road  
**CASH & CARRY**  
Capitol Street and Monument Street  
**CITY HALL**  
219 S President St  
**GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX**  
2659 Livingston Road  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
2030 N Siwell Rd  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
4331 Highway 80W  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
304 Briarwood Dr  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
2855 McDowell Rd  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
104 Terry Rd  
**JJ MOBIL**  
Northside Drive and Flagg Chapel  
**LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST**  
2325 Livingston Rd.  
**MCDADE'S MARKET**  
Northside Drive  
**MCDADE'S MARKET #2**  
653 Duling Avenue  
**PICADILLY CAFETERIA**  
Jackson Medical Mall  
350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue  
**SHELL FOOD MART**  
5492 Watkins Drive  
**SPORTS MEDICINE**  
Fortification and I-55  
**TWO SISTERS KITCHEN**  
707 North Congress - Jackson, MS

**UPTON TIRE**  
Countyline Road and State Street  
**MURPHY USA**  
6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)  
**REVELL ACE HARDWARE**  
Terry Rd (South Jackson)  
**RITE AID**  
380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave  
**RITE AID**  
114 E. McDowell Rd  
**RITE AID**  
6075 Old Canton Rd

**CANTON**  
**A & I**  
716 Roby Street - Canton, MS  
**B & B**  
702 West North Street - Canton, MS  
**BOUTIQUE STORE**  
3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS  
**BULLY'S STORE**  
Church Street - Canton, MS  
**COMMUNITY MART**  
743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS  
**FRYER LANE GROCERY**  
Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS  
**HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN**  
285 Peace Street - Canton, MS  
**JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY**  
507 Church Street - Canton, MS  
**K & K ONE STOP**  
110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS  
**LACY'S INSURANCE**  
421 Peace Street - Canton, MS  
**SOUL SET BARBER SHOP**  
257 Peace Street - Canton, MS  
**TRAILER PARK GROCERY**  
22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

5495 I-55 South Frontage Road  
**VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE**  
5777 Terry Road  
**CITY HALL**  
Terry Road

**CLINTON**  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

**RIDGELAND**  
**RITE AID**  
398 Hwy 51

**TERRY**  
**SERVICE STATION**  
at Exit 78  
**CITY HALL**  
West Cunningham Avenue

**RAYMOND**  
**HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE WELCOME CENTER**  
505 E. Main Street  
**SUNFLOWER GROCERY**  
122 Old Port Gibson Street, Raymond, MS  
**LOVE FOOD MART**  
120 E. Main Street, Raymond, MS  
**RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS  
**RAYMOND CITY HALL**  
110 Courtyard Square, Raymond  
**RAYMOND COURTHOUSE**

**UTICA**  
**HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP**  
Mississippi Hwy 18  
**PITT STOP**  
101 Hwy 18 & 27

**BOLTON**  
**BOLTON LIBRARY**  
**BOLTON CITY HALL**

# MCAN

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To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

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**EQUIPMENT AUCTION:** Saturday, Oct. 14. 9:00 a.m. Square County Auction Yard. 1680 Countyline Road, Carthage. Open Sale. Taking Consignments. 601-416-5871. [www.squarecountyauctions.com](http://www.squarecountyauctions.com). Joe Helton, Lic. # 136

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**Week of October 08, 2017**

# Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Thalia Mara Hall • October 3, 2017

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



# Links launch leadership program

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Links, Incorporated Jackson (MS) Chapter recently launched Links Cultivating Leaders, a premier leadership program for African American young men. The program features outstanding young men from the Jackson Community who participate in a series of workshops and service projects. Opportunities are provided for them to exhibit their leadership skills while enhancing their social, cultural and personal development.

Beginning in September, an orientation is held and workshop sessions proceed monthly. The program will culminate in March with “The Beautillion,” a spectacular presentation of the young men to the community. The event includes dinner, a Rites of Passage Ceremony and involves the parents and their “belles.” The Beautillion is the Jackson (MS) Chapter’s major fundraising event and funds raised are used to support its local service programs and community outreach endeavors. This biennial presentation began in 1986 and has continued without interruption.

The first workshop session, Careers in Aviation and Tuskegee Airmen Art, was held Saturday, September 23, at Tougaloo College in Holmes Hall. Guest presenters were Ms. Kimberly Farmer from the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority, and Mr. Clintard “Clint” Martin, an artist who specializes in paintings of the Tuskegee Airmen airplanes.



Both presenters were intriguing and passionate as they exposed the young men to new career choices and an appreciation for history in the arts through stories

of the Tuskegee Airmen, America’s first and only all black aviators, and their airplanes. They were especially excited by words from Jackson Mayor Chokwe

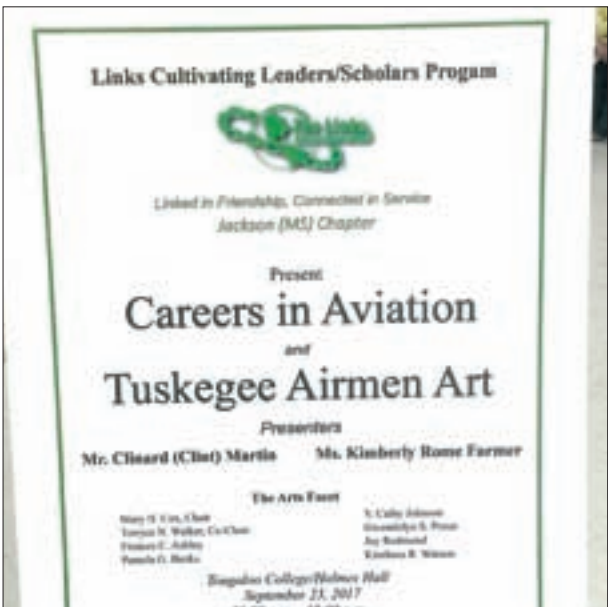
Antar Lumumba, who stopped in to encourage them to excel and follow their dreams.

Participants in Links Cultivating Leaders are young men



15-19 years of age. They must exemplify high moral and ethical standards, academic potential and leadership ability. The chairmen for the Links Cultivating

Leaders program are Betty A. Mallet and Gloria B. Johnson. Ivye L. Allen serves as president of the Jackson (MS) Chapter of The Links, Inc.



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# BOOK REVIEW: “KID AUTHORS”

BY DAVID STABLER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY DOOGIE HORNER  
C.2017, QUIRK BOOKS  
\$13.95 / \$15.95 CANADA • 199 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

“Write that down.”

Your teacher says that all the time in class. Your parents might say it, as a reminder because sometimes, writing things down can be important. And as you’ll see in the new book, “Kid Authors” by David Stabler, illustrated by Doogie Horner, written words can also be magic.

For as long as you can remember, you’ve loved books. They take you forward and backward in time, to places you’ve never been, with new people and new adventure. Books contain awesome stories – and so do the lives of the authors of those

books.

Take, for instance, Edgar Allan Poe.

Poe was the middle child of three, born in early 1809 to parents who were performers. Because they were gone a lot, baby Edgar was mostly cared-for by other people; at age two, that became permanent when his father abandoned the family and his mother died. Says Stabler, Poe was a so-so student and he was bullied as a boy. Was that the reason he wrote such scary stories?

And then there was Laura Ingalls Wilder, who grew up on the prairie, where family often slept out in the open – this was the 1800s, after all – and bugs, weather, and fire were big concerns. So were the local Indians, who were not at all happy that the Ingalls had built on Osage land.

As the tale goes, Zora Neale Hurston was a baby when a wild hog wandered into her mother’s kitchen. That was the first story of her life; later ones included those she heard from the men who hung out at a general store near her Alabama home. She loved words. She loved them so much that she gained a reputation for being her class’s best reader, which won her a hundred pennies and “a library full of books.”

J.K. Rowling wrote her “first adventure story” at age seven.

Poet Langston Hughes endured a “massive earthquake” while living in Mexico as a boy, before meeting his grandmother, who told him family stories of abolitionists, racism, and possibilities. Charles Schulz was a published cartoonist at age 15. And Beverly Cleary loved books but the creator of Henry Huggins was a “struggling reader.”

“Everybody loves a good story,” says author David Stabler – and that includes your bookish child. So what better way to read about the story-behind-the-storytelling than with “Kid Authors”?

Open these covers, and you’ll see a good representation of



literature throughout the centuries. That’s good for you but your child will find something even better here: each of the fifteen mini-biographies and most of the back-of-the-book “fun-facts” are about authors your child will recognize, and Stabler makes them relatable. Chapters are accompanied by illustrations by Doogie Horner but that’s still

not all: oh-so-subtly, there’s encouragement in these tales. If Stan Lee or Maya Angelou can become a famous writer, your child can do it, too.

Kids ages 8-to-12 will devour this book, especially if they’re hungry readers. Parents can love it, too, because “Kid Authors” will teach your child to do the write thing.

## Cryptogram

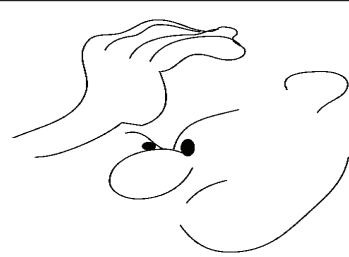
A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to ‘decode’ the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Julie Andrews

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
														O				A							

E B G W    O W G    U O O C    Z V O N G N    P W O A B G C

E Y W U O E    O T G W N



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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.

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

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

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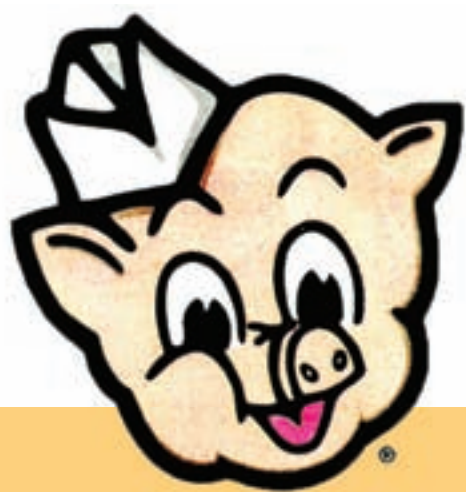
Downtown Jackson, Thalia Mara Hall • Jackson, Miss. • September 24, 2017

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



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