

# 58 dead, more than 500 injured in Las Vegas mass shooting

By Freddie Allen  
Editor-In-Chief, NNPA Newswire

Las Vegas authorities have identified Stephen Paddock, a 64 year-old white man from Mesquite, Nevada, as the gunman in one of the deadliest mass shootings in modern United States history.

During a brief press conference Monday morning, Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo told reporters that more than 50 people were killed and more than 400 people that were wounded during the attack were transported to local hospitals following the attack, according to *The New York Times*. Police have determined that Paddock fired on the crowd of roughly 22,000 attending a country music festival from his room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino Sunday night.

“Online video of the attack outside the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino showed the singer Jason Aldean performing outside at the Route 91 Harvest Festival, a three-day country music event, interrupted by the sound of automatic gunfire,” *The New York Times* reported. “The music stopped, and concertgoers ducked for cover.”

Authorities haven’t reported anything about Paddock’s motive; not much is known about the weapons used in the attack, although some experts have speculated that mul-



x

tiples firearms were used, including a high-caliber, automatic rifle.

Police have reported that Paddock died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

According to NBC News, “The brother of Las Vegas gunman Stephen Paddock was stunned to learn Monday that his relative was the suspected perpetrator of the largest

mass shooting in modern American history. Paddock, who lives in Orlando, said his brother had retired to Mesquite, Nevada and spent his time at the hotels, going to shows and gambling.”

During an interview with NBC News, Paddock said that his brother, “was just a guy” and that the family was “completely at a loss.”

Monday morning, President Donald Trump tweeted, “My warmest condolences and sympathies to the victims and families of the terrible Las Vegas shooting. God bless you!”

Lin-Manuel Miranda, the American composer and playwright of the award-winning play “Hamilton,”

*Vegas*  
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# The American flag is soaked in black blood

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA News Wire Columnist



I am not sure why the national anthem and the so-called American flag are part of our nation’s sports pageantry. Before 2009, while the national anthem was played, sports gladiators were not required to suit up, stand up, and put their hands to their hearts; and why should they?

The song that is sung is an insult to people of color. When I hear “the land of the free and the home of the brave,” I think, “the land of the thief and the home of the slave.” The Department of Defense paid the National Football League (seriously?) to promote a fake sense of cultural hegemony, and to spread the false notion that we are all on the same page when it comes to patriotism.

## COMMENTARY

How could we be on the same page? How could the men who have been hauled out of their cars, pushed down to their knees, forced to justify the reasons they are driving high-end cars be on the same page with the men who “own” them, who may or may not support them, or may or may not kneel with them?

Colin Kaepernick took a knee during the national anthem, not because he wanted to disparage the flag, but because he disparaged the many ways that African-American people were being diminished by police brutality. Call the names, call the names, the men and the women who have been unjustifiably killed, call the

*Flag*  
Continued on page 3

# Weir celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> birthday



Ruth Oatis Weir surrounded by family on her very special day.

By Janice K. Neal-Vincent  
Contributing Writer

Ruth Elizabeth Oatis Weir celebrated her 90th birthday September 23 with a huge turnout of family, friends and church members in the Family Life Center of College Hill Baptist Church, located at 1600 Florence Avenue in Jackson.

She sat on the dais with her sons, Willie Silas, George and

Wilbert Oatis.

Those celebrating with Weir came from as near as Jackson, Miss. and as far as California and surrounding areas.

California friends included Martha Williams, Monique and Barbara Anderson. John and son Mark Oatis and family came from Bogalusa, La. Ruby and Darryl Jones came from Alexandria, La. From Montgomery, Ala.

were cousins Dollie Oatis Hambrick and her three sons. Tilonia Pauline and her daughter arrived from Katy, Texas. Olive Branch, Miss. resident, Pamela Evans was present. Dave House and his wife Dorothy arrived from Meridian, Miss. Weir’s grandson Yancy Oatis and her nephew Derrick Oatis traveled from Atlanta.

For those at the gala, Weir could have very well represented

the persona mentioned in Sam Walter Foss’s poem, House by the Side of the Road. “She’s something else. She almost filled the entire room,” said the Rev. Michael T. Williams, College Hill’s pastor.

Born September 22, 1927, Weir blew out the candles to her birthday cake and was treated to

*Weir*  
Continued on page 3

# Hinds County School District opens door to field house

By Othor Cain  
Editor

It has been a year in the making and Wednesday school officials announced that the wait was over. The Hinds County School District held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its new girls and boys soccer and girls softball field house. The newest building in Hinds County is located on the campus of Raymond High School in Raymond, Miss.

The district broke ground last year and welcomed lawmakers, school board members, school administrators, booster club members, parents, student athletes and the general public to take part in the day of excitement.

“We are excited about this day, it opens the doors of opportunity and possibility,”

said Delesicia Martin, superintendent of the Hinds County School District. “This was a labor of love and a joint effort.”

Daryl Jones, who serves as the athletics director for Hinds County School District, not only gleamed with pride and excitement about the new facility but also highlighted the fact that athletics isn’t just “extra-curricular” in the district. “It is not often that you find in school district where athletics is “co-curricular” meaning it is more than extra, here in Hinds County because of the vision of our superintendent, we work hand in hand. We (athletics) are a part of the overall plan and vision of this district,” he said. “It is an extreme pleasure to serve in this capacity and this facility

*Field house*  
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Inside  
Hope Spring  
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Book Review:  
Lightning  
Men



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## SEPTEMBER 2017 BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT

# Mid State Artificial Limb, Inc.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mid State Artificial Limb, Inc. is the City of Jackson's Business Highlight for September 19, 2017. Owner, Troy Luster, founded the business in 1988 after having careers as a master chef and automobile salesman.

A neighbor employed by a local prosthetic orthotics company wanted to open his own business, but didn't have the capital, so he approached Luster about investing as a partner in the venture. Ultimately, due to the proposed partner's financial hardship, Luster contributed 100 percent of the capital.

Upon a contractual disagreement in the process of opening the business the partner reneged, putting Luster in a dubious position since the proposed partner was the experienced party.

Trusting in God, Luster didn't fret. Once it became known that he owned the business he was invited to a local industry function which led him to Medicare personnel and to the establishment of a business operation training ground. Medicare personnel took the business "under their wings," by providing detailed Medicare program data as well as operational pointers.

At this point it was still an uphill battle. In this profession, dominated by Caucasians, Luster, an African American,



encountered extreme difficulty in hiring qualified and loyal employees.

The business took a turn for the best when employee, Robin Alexander, became one of the first African-American females in the country to become a certified prosthetist. Other employees became certified and additional certified individuals were hired.

The business grew to 25 employees, serving Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana. Wanting to ensure firm control of the operation and quality pro-

duction, Luster scaled down the number of employees. He believes the best advertisement for any business is quality in production/service.

Mid-State currently has four certified employees, including Alexander and Ben Davis, who has been the administrator for four years. Davis, a successful certified medical equipment salesman, also has people skills that lend favorably to making sure customers are meticulously serviced.

"The business was built based on the philosophy of al-

ways maintaining a focal point on doing everything necessary to keep the customer satisfied," said Luster.

Alexander encouraged Luster to get his prosthetist certification about seven years ago. He said with the continuous industry changes it is indeed best to always have a multiple certified presence. Luster said staff certifications and the 20 years of employee stability have solidified Mid State's position in the industry.

Luster envisions leaving a legacy to community youth in

Jackson by creating a training facility to pass on the skills of the trade which will instill pride and keep them out of troubled.

The business participates in career fairs, contributes financially to church activities, youth sports and the Red Cross. In addition, they service needy customers who can't afford the prosthetist. Luster said, profit or not, it warms his heart to know that he is providing a product that enhances the quality of life for his people.

Mid State received national

acclaim in 1988 when featured in *Jet Magazine*. Luster said he received a telephone call from an African-American man from a northern state who was crying with happiness because of the establishment of Mid State. *The Clarion Ledger* wrote a story in 1989 that still hangs on the wall at the business.

Several years ago Luster was invited to Los Angeles to speak at UCLA to share his experiences with students, encourage them to consider the profession and recruit potential employees. He found out that African-American students were being offered full scholarships in prosthetic orthotics or related studies.

Luster is one of the few African Americans in the country who owns a prosthetic orthotics company and one of only two or three in the state of Mississippi.

The City of Jackson's administration is proud to recognize Mid State Mid State Artificial Limb, Inc. because it is an industry pioneer, a strong community leader and a business with a great future.

Troy Luster, a tireless worker totally dedicated to doing whatever he can to improve his native city, is challenging business owners, government, law enforcement and ordinary citizens to collaborate to foster positivity in the City of Jackson.

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## Weir

Continued from page 1

a chorus of “Happy Birthday” by the audience, followed by Mistress of Ceremony Evelyn Reed’s rendition of famed Stevie Wonder’s version.

As Weir and attendees enjoyed a hearty meal, tributes of speech and song were made. Rev. Joe Chapman fervently sang the well-known “I Won’t Complain.” Community songbird Clarice Robinson sang one of Weir’s favorites – “May the Work I’ve Done Speak for me.” Yancy Oatis serenaded his grandmother with a song of special thanks. Others in the limelight of accolades were Dave Houze Jr, Dorothy Webster, Booker M. Rodgers, Jimmy King, Cheryl Mayfield, Otha Burton and Alferdteen Harrison.

Musicians included guitarists Bernard Jones and Jessie Robinson; saxophonist Asaerrill Holly; drummer Al Felder and pianist Andrew Lewis.

The occasion’s hostess was Carrie Robinson. Following the event, Weir commented, “I didn’t know it was going to be that big. I was so overwhelmed, I wanted to scream. I was fighting back tears. All of this made me full. My mother and daddy and sister and brother and husband (Aubrey Weir) didn’t make it. They’re deceased. I had friends who

were coming and going.”

“It was a grand event for a grand lady. There was a lot of love in the room,” stated Marilyn Luckett, president of Connecting the Dots Foundation.

Friendly relations between Weir and the community have been established over many years. Before retirement, Weir worked 4 and a half decades as a hair stylist at the family-owned business, Oatis Barber and Beauty Shop. She ran a variety store for 20 years. She served as director of Smith Robertson Multi-Purpose Senior Citizen Center for 26 years. She coordinated the Miss. Black America of Miss. Beauty Pageant for ten years and accompanied the winner each year to the national pageant.

She is a life member of the now defunct Sophisticated Laverettes. Further, Weir is the sole surviving heir of the Scott Ford Houses (136 and 138 East Cohea Street) in the historic Farish Street Black Business District of downtown Jackson.

When asked what the secret was to living to be an attractive 90-year-old, the celebrant said, “I can’t complain about anything. The Lord is just blessing me to be here.”

*Photos page 19*

## Flag

Continued from page 1

names, and call the names of the many ways black lives must matter. Call the names, call the names, of the structural racism that cuts like a knife, or kills like a bullet. Call the names.

There are those who have a story to tell about so-called disrespect to the “American flag,” the same American flag that is drenched in blood.

Black men went to fight in World War I and came back to this country and were lynched, because they refused to yield the sidewalk to white people. What flag did they serve under, and why should we celebrate it? Why do disingenuous fools, including “Mr. 45,” chide NFL owners with strangely coded language, suggesting a lack of loyalty? Where is the loyalty to the black men and women who supported a country that would not support them? The paradox of loyalty is that African Americans love a country that does not love us. We pledge the flag, drenched in blood, because we want something better.

Kaepernick took a stand, and many of his colleagues support him because they cannot embrace a flag that supports the unjustified killing of African-American men. Kaepernick sacrificed his career to make a point, and he has been focused and fierce about his principles. Kaepernick, by kneeling, encouraged all of us to stand up for our rights. Kaepernick is a hero!

This protest is more, though, than Colin Kaepernick. This protest is about police brutality. This is a protest about the fake-Jake way some would bond us together, linking arms and elbows, trying to make a point. There is no point beyond the fact that young, black men, who play football, baseball and basketball see their brothers and cousins on their knees, legs and arms splayed, forced to the ground by oppressive police forces. The professional athletes freely kneel, because others knelt when they were forced to, because they were not free.

We can fly this flag all we want to, we can sing melodious songs about “the star spangled banner,” but the flag we fly in the name of sports is a flag that is drenched in blood.

Players weren’t “encouraged” to stand at attention during the national anthem until 2009 when the Department of Defense paid money to make it happen. I’d prefer for my tax dollars to be spent more wisely. I’d prefer that some of that money went to washing the blood out of the flag.

*Julianne Malveaux is an author, economist and founder of Economic Education. Her latest book “Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available to order at Amazon.com and at [www.juliannemalveaux.com](http://www.juliannemalveaux.com). Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.*

# Hinds County School District Weekly Update

## HCSD third graders receive dictionaries from the Rotary Club of South Hinds County!



Rotary Club members donated dictionaries to Utica Elementary School third graders.



Rotary Club president Elaine Toney of Community Bank shows Bolton-Edwards third graders on how to use the dictionary.



Rotary Club members donate dictionaries to Raymond Elementary School 3rd graders.



Rotary Club members donate dictionaries to Gary Road Intermediate School 3rd graders. Pictured L-R Front Row: Ashley White, assistant principal; Ed Trim; Felicia Lyles; Rosemary Cargin; Elaine Toney; Rodney Romines; Dr. Delesicia Martin; Ashley Green, principal; and John Neal. Pictured L-R Back Row: Earl Burke; Dr. William Sellers; Don Davis; and John Granger.

## Vegas

Continued from page 1

also took to Twitter to share condolences for people affected by the tragedy in Las Vegas.

“Heartbroken by the news out of Las Vegas,” Miranda said. “Praying for those of us waiting for news from loved ones who went to hear live music on a Sunday.”

During an interview with MSNBC, Danny Tarkanian, a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate from Nevada said that the attack was “the worst fear of anybody who has lived in Las Vegas.”

Jamelle Bouie, the chief political correspondent for Slate.com, questioned why authorities hesitated to call the mass shooting an act of terrorism.

“That Las Vegas authorities have ruled out terrorism at this early stage is another example of how the idea has all but been racialized,” Bouie tweeted.

Writer and social media activist Shaun King suggested that the shooter’s “whiteness” prevented authorities from calling him a terrorist, even though he “conducted the deadliest mass shooting in American history.”

As some took to social media calling for the mass shooting to be labeled an act of terrorism, others used the tragedy to call for stricter gun control.

Still, most social media users continued to share sympathy and prayers for the concert-goers and their families.

“Don’t even know what to say,” R&B singer Trey Songz tweeted. “To be in Vegas while this is happening, brings a pain to my heart. My team and I are safe, Thank God! Prayers up.”

NBA superstar Isaiah Thomas tweeted, “Prayers up for the victims & families of the Las Vegas Shooting! #PrayForVegas”

Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, offered prayers and sympathy, while calling for a deeper conversation about the role that guns play in American society.

“NNPA affirms heartfelt condolences to families impacted by senseless murders in Las Vegas,” said Chavis on Twitter. “End gun violence!”

## Field house

Continued from page 1

is first class.”

Student athletes both from soccer and softball served as the back drop during Wednesday’s ceremonies and every one in attendance acknowledged them, including Raymond High School Principal Lorenzo Grimes. “We have some outstanding student athletes especially our softball team,” Grimes said. “We had a very good softball season, we actually made the playoffs this year for the very first time in school history.”

Grimes said the students can look forward to excelling with this new facility. “I’m appreciative for all of the support, especially the support from the community,” he said. “I’m looking forward to our students doing bigger and better things...I’m looking forward to the growth.”

More than 30 student athlete, in attendance at the ribbon cutting, are ready to use the facility and are prepared for the upcoming seasons of soccer and softball.



Hinds Co. School District officials participate in ribbon cutting at soccer and softball field house.



Superintendent Delesicia Martin speaks during press conference/ribbon cutting event.

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba honored Mississippi native and Olympic medalist Tori Bowie in City Hall.





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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  
5:30 p.m.

Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center  
528 Bloom Street  
Jackson MS 39202

A reception will follow the Opening Ceremony.

\*Funding is provided by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council.  
If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, send an inquiry email to  
[juanita@jsdfoundation.org](mailto:juanita@jsdfoundation.org).



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For additional information, contact Jack Thomas at 601.664.3518.





# 2017 Nissan Titan Crew Cab

## A second attempt to take on the half-ton-pickup establishment

Mississippi Link Newswire

Nissan brought the original Titan to market in 2004. Now, an all-new Titan sets out not to pick up where its predecessor left off, but to finally — truly — challenge the domestic brands.

Actually, despite its Japanese nameplate, the Titan is an American product, with teams from Tennessee, California, Michigan, Arizona and Mississippi all contributing to its development.

To bolster the Titan's chances in what is arguably the auto industry's most competitive — and most profitable — segment, Nissan has endowed it with far more configurations and powertrain options, including an updated 5.6-liter V-8 engine built in Tennessee. Final assembly happens at Nissan's plant in Canton, Mississippi, alongside its heavier-duty counterpart, the Titan XD.

The assembly line isn't all that the half-ton Titan, starting at \$35,975, shares with the Titan XD — the cabin and headlamps are common — but Nissan says each truck has its own body panels, chassis and suspension components. The Titan's wheelbase is almost a foot shorter than the XD's, and overall length is down by 14.7 inches for the Crew Cab model.

The styling of the half-ton Titan is certainly inspired by the XD, with a blocky, chrome-laden grille, bulging front fenders,



lightly sculpted body sides, and an overall similar silhouette.

### Luxury Liner

We drove the off-road-themed PRO-4X. The cabin is quiet and features well-chosen materials throughout. Although the dashboard is peppered with buttons, most of the controls are logically placed. The handsome silver-rimmed gauges are easy to read at a glance; a reconfigurable digital display in the cluster provides a trip computer and shows vehicle information such as tire pressure and fuel economy.

A front bench seat is standard on S and SV models; the front buckets that are standard on the rest of the lineup flank a large center console that features two deep storage bins and a wide center armrest.

The seats are thickly cushioned and supportive and should offer excellent long-haul comfort. Rear-seat accommodations are equally plush in these four-door Crew Cab models, especially in the leather-lined Platinum Reserve.

An optional storage bin under the rear seat is a handy place

to stash tools and other small items and provides a wide, flat platform to haul larger items when the bottom cushion is flipped up.

All Titan Crew Cabs come standard with a touchscreen infotainment system, a modern-day must-have.

### Loaded up and Truckin'

On the road, the 390-hp 5.6-liter V-8 moves the Titan along purposefully. The engine is mostly free of harshness, and at full chat the exhaust note is a light, civilized bellow. The seven-speed automatic trans-

mission, operated by a long column-mounted lever, provides smooth gear changes. A maximum towing capacity of 9,390 pounds and a payload rating of up to 1,610 pounds are both class competitive.

Outward visibility is clear of major obstructions. The Titan's squared-off hood is always in view but doesn't hinder forward vision. Two large and square exterior mirrors, plus a smaller convex mirror mounted beneath the right-side mirror, offer a clear look at adjacent lanes of traffic and should also provide a

good field of view when pulling a trailer. Telescoping mirrors are optional on all but the base S models and standard on Platinum Reserve models.

Although Nissan's first stab at a full-size pickup failed to set the market on fire, it did help drive the industry forward.

**Editor's note:** The PRO-4X that I drove was commanding. It made me feel powerful and that I controlled the road. It is a mix of big truck and fine car; a perfect blend for driving. If you're looking for power and comfort, this is the way to go!

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# 2017 Summer readers celebrate at Mississippi Children’s Museum

## Mississippi Link Newswire

Hundreds of JPS students gathered at the Mississippi Children’s Museum for the 2017 Summer Reading Celebration held September 7. The event celebrates the District’s high-volume readers.

Elementary students who read 20 books or more and middle school students who read 10 books or more were awarded free admission to the museum. High school students received free admission to one of their home schools’ football games.

Additionally, the four top readers – two elementary students, one middle schooler, and one high schooler – received Kindle e-readers for reading the most books in their grade level.

Program presenters included 2017 Summer Reading Ambassador Brittney Noble-Jones, morning news anchor at WJTV News Channel 12. She was joined by Interim Superintendent Freddrick Murray. Representing the Mississippi Children’s Museum were Susan Garrard, president and CEO and Jana Perry, director of Education and Programs. Awards were presented by Bobby Brown, executive director of Curriculum for JPS and the District’s lead teachers of English Language Arts.

### Top Readers

These students read the most books for their grade level:

Jamondre Oatis, Davis IB Elementary, 139 books

Rayjohn Oatis, Davis IB Elementary, 130 books

Parker Henson, Bailey APAC Middle, 33 books

Amber Wheat, Forest Hill High, 39 books

### Top Schools

Schools with the highest per-



JPS Interim Supt. Freddrick Murray and Top Readers (from left) Parker Hansen, Jamondre Oatis, Rayjohn Oatis and Amber Wheat



Murray with Top Schools (from left): Lake Elem., LeKeisha Griffith Sutton, principal; Davis IB Elem., Kathleen Grigsby, principal; Murrah High, Courtney Holmes, librarian; and Northwest IB Middle, Kevin Culver, principal

centage of readers that read across the summer and completed reading logs are:

Davis IB Elementary  
Lake Elementary  
Northwest IB Middle  
Murrah High

Combined, these schools logged 15,939 books read with 1,321 readers participating to reach their goals. Districtwide, a total of 30,763 books were read by students at all JPS schools during the summer. According to Brown, this is an increase of

17 percent in students reading and completing the required reading logs from last year. Notably, more and more students are going beyond the three required books each summer.

“I’d really like to thank the community for engaging all of the scholars and all of the support we received across the summer, said Brown. “Also, thanks to our wonderful ambassador. We’ve exceeded our goal for the percentage of scholars reading this school year.”

### Outstanding Readers

The top 20 elementary students and the top 20 secondary students who read the most books over 20 and completed their summer reading logs received medals. The Outstanding Readers are:

#### Elementary

Timya Woodruff  
De’Nahjae Trimble  
De’Nahri Middleton  
Jaimee Hoskins  
Maybelle McGuffey  
Kameron Moses  
Riley Cloyd  
Aniyah Chapman  
Kylon Graves  
Marlon Roper  
Asia Brown  
Ollie Walker  
Claire McDonald  
Evangelina Pearce  
Jakalah McDowell  
Carliann Edmonds  
Clarissa Coleman  
Trinity West  
Paris Taylor  
Eldesia Moore

#### Middle School

Parker Hansen  
Kaleb Moses  
Gabreilla Ellis  
Jada Brown  
Jamieya Oatis  
Jayla Dunn  
Carlin Nichols  
Joshua Bennett  
Khloe Smith  
Brian Mikel  
Chloe Louisville  
Dominique Joseph  
Jakota McMillian  
Joey Anthony  
High School  
Kamryn T. Banks  
Kameron Cole  
Erica Washington  
TyNia Shelton  
Khadari Johnson  
Amber Wheat

# Murrah seniors named National Merit semifinalists



2018 National Merit semifinalists from Murrah are (from left) Dyshante Bennett, Sophia Bowley and Oluwatosin Akinyemi.

## Mississippi Link Newswire

Three Murrah High School students were named National Merit semifinalists for 2018. They are Oluwatosin Akinyemi, Dyshante Bennett, and Sophia Bowley.

These scholars were among 16,000 semifinalists in the 63rd National Merit Scholarship Program. They have a chance to advance in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million.

High school students from

more than 22,000 schools entered the competition as juniors. They were selected based on their 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test scores. The semifinalists represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors. This includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

The number of semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state’s percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

# Bailey APAC scholar Briyana Jackson writes about her family

## Mississippi Link Newswire

Bailey APAC Middle School sixth-grade student Briyana Jackson wanted to tell everyone about her great family, so with a little encouragement from her grandmother, she decided to write a book.

Cyrus Webb, a media personality and author, helped her to write the children’s book entitled “A Look At My Life.” In it, the 11-year-old author introduces readers to her life as a twin and big sister.

On the surface, hers might look like many families around the world, but Briyana shares how they have grown, experienced challenges, what has helped them remain strong, and how each of us can do the same when faced with difficult times.

Briyana attends Bailey



Jackson

APAC with her fraternal twin Braylon. Her dream is to become a veterinarian when she gets older.

Published in August 2017, “A Look at My Life” can be purchased on Amazon.com for \$6.99.

# Siemens makes \$35,000 donation to JPS for STEM learning

## Mississippi Link Newswire

Siemens Technologies presented a check for \$35,000 to Jackson Public Schools at the September 19 Board meeting. The company announced a partnership aimed at supporting the development of a STEM ecosystem in JPS schools.

Presenting on behalf of Siemens were Matt Ridley, senior account executive and Charlie Cohen, National Director of Sustainability Education.

JPS Board President Camille Stutts Simms and Interim Superintendent Freddrick Murray participated in the presentation.

“We certainly appreciate this

wonderful donation from Siemens,” said Simms. “We have been collaborating for several months, and I am delighted that we have been able to start this initiative.”

Siemens is bringing in the Teacher Institute for Excellence in STEM to work with identified faculty.

JPS will support the project by providing time for the program lead to participate in training and meetings. The District will make space available for meetings.

Working with TIES, JPS will identify and reach out to community partners.



Participating in the partnership announcement were (from left) Matt Ridley and Charley Cohen of Siemens; Board members Camille Stutts Simms, Rickey Jones, and Letitia Johnson; and JPS Interim Superintendent Freddrick Murray.

# The Mississippi Link™




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# Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation extends support for ‘MSU on the Move’

The Mississippi Link Newswire

STARKVILLE, Miss. – The Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation continues its support of “MSU on the Move” with a \$359,132 grant to further expand nutrition and exercise programs for a healthier culture at Mississippi State University.

Leah Pylate, MSU director of health promotion and wellness, said the grant will fund a fourth phase of the successful initiative.

“Each year, MSU on the Move projects have built upon previous accomplishments and expanded in reach and scope,” she said.

Pylate said the new grant will support efforts to enhance nutrition and exercise programs both on campus and in the community and will extend to area schools.

“MSU on the Move continues to demonstrate its leadership by offering innovative and comprehensive wellness programs that are positively impacting the campus and the community,” said Sheila Grogan, executive director of the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation. “They continue to set an example for other colleges and universities that are implementing and expanding wellness initiatives.”

Previous grants from the Foundation supported construction of the one-mile walking track around Chadwick Lake, which was completed in 2013. Other facets



Mississippi State’s “MSU on the Move” initiative is receiving a fourth phase grant from the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation to expand nutrition and exercise programs on campus. The programs also extend to the local community and area schools. PHOTO BY RUSS HOUSTON

of the program included health assessments for faculty, staff and students; mobile kitchen units; fitness programs; standing desks; summer camps; outdoor fitness equipment; recognition for “Health Heroes” and more.

“The impact of this grant is making a difference on the MSU campus and our surrounding communities through the many programs

and events that have taken place,” Pylate said. “This funding will make a lasting impact on our students and employees into the future.”

The MSU on the Move initiative at Mississippi State University is in partnership with the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation. The Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation is committed to supporting Mississippi’s

universities and colleges in implementing healthy eating and exercise initiatives that extend from the campus to the local communities and schools.

Learn more about the work of the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation at [www.healthiermississippi.org](http://www.healthiermississippi.org).

*MSU is Mississippi’s leading university; available online at [www.msstate.edu](http://www.msstate.edu).*

# Northside plans 2017 Arrow Dash race fundraiser



The Mississippi Link Newswire

Northside Elementary is gearing up for the annual Arrow Dash 5K Run/Walk and one-mile kids run.

“We are excited about the 7th year for this race,” said Beth Shepherd, race chairperson. “Not only does it help fund our PTO, it promotes the healthy lifestyle we encourage in our school system and it enables our students and families to engage in a healthy family activity together. This year’s race is going to be an evening event, with a 1-mile GLOW run which we think our students will love.”

The event will be held Friday, Oct. 27 on Arrow Drive in front of Northside Elementary School. On-site registration begins at 3 p.m., the 5K Run/Walk begins at 5:30 p.m. and the one-mile glow run begins at 6:30 p.m.

The cost for the 5K is \$20 if pre-registered by Oct. 25, or \$25 on race day. The fee for the fun run is \$15 if

you pre-register or \$20 on race day.

Families may pre-register for \$60 for up to five people, or \$70 the day of the race. All members must fill out the registration form together.

“You can also be a ghost runner for \$20, which includes a T-shirt,” Shepherd said. “The T-shirt must be picked up at the race but you do not have to race.”

Awards will be given to the overall male and female winners in Open, Master’s and Grand Master’s divisions. First, second and third place will be awarded to specific age groups in these categories: Male & Female 5K Run, Male & Female 5K Walk and one-mile color run.

Sisu Race Timing will direct the race. Register at [www.arrowdash.com](http://www.arrowdash.com). T-shirts are guaranteed for participants registered by Oct. 13.

*To sponsor, donate goody bag items or for more information, e-mail [eshepherd@clintonpublicschools.com](mailto:eshepherd@clintonpublicschools.com) or call Shepherd at 601-924-7531.*

# High school students munch and mingle at Hinds CC Thursday Night Lights



The Mississippi Link Newswire

RAYMOND – Finding the right fit in a college during campus visits is important for moms and dads as much for rising high school seniors.

“I already have a son who attends Hinds and a daughter who had attended Hinds,” said Stacy Garletts, of Pelahatchie, with her younger son, Dwight, at this year’s Thursday Night Lights pregame recruiting event Sept. 28. “I like the positive atmosphere here.”

The same feeling went for Cestley Smith, of Clinton, on hand for the festivities with her daughter, Cheyanne Wynn.

“It’s still close to home for us,” Smith said. “But, it’ll be good for her to step out and be on her own here. It’s really the best fit.”

The recruiting event is a chance for prospective students and their families to find out about the college’s academic transfer programs and more than 80 career and technical program options. Faculty and staff in booths set up across from Joe Renfro Stadium offered an array of information on housing, athletics, honors program opportunities, and

the college’s multitude of other activities outside of the classroom.

Prospects create an applicant profile and get on the college’s mailing list so they can be sent the latest updates on programs and services, plus other details such as deadlines for scholarship applications.

“Thursday Night Lights is a great event for high school seniors because they get to meet so many Hinds faculty and staff members. Guests receive a lot of information about Hinds, but we also have a lot of fun,” said Kathryn Cole, district director of Enrollment Services. “We kick back and relax, enjoy a special band performance, and cheer for the Eagles at the football game.”

Wynn and her friends from Clinton High School want to pursue nursing, while Garletts made a bee line for the Aviation Technology booth.

“I like the sound of hands-on learning with aviation,” he said.

*For more information on what Hinds can offer to upcoming high school graduates, go to <http://www.hindscc.edu> and click on the Apply Now tab.*

# Mississippi’s STEM educators brainstorm to boost sciences

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On September 29 STEM educators from universities and schools across Mississippi discovered new ways to strengthen their teaching efforts at the first-ever Mississippi STEM Education Symposium: Issues and Innovations.

Some of the top professors in the country, who are members of Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER), spoke to Mississippi educators about current innovations and best practices. Speakers shared ways to effectively teach science through the lens of stewardship, civic engagement and social responsibility.

“This was a great opportunity for the STEM education community in Mississippi to engage in meaningful conversations about how to better teach and promote science disciplines,” said Reid Bishop, professor and chair of chemistry and division chair of science and mathematics at Belhaven. He and Belhaven’s Division of Science and Mathematics organized and hosted the all-day event in the University’s Dr. Billy Kim International Center.

Educators and student leadership from Mississippi State University, University of Mississippi, Belhaven, Millsaps College, University



ty of Southern Mississippi, Mississippi College, Hinds Community College, Jackson State University, and others were in attendance. K-12 teachers from around the state also participated in the special conference and gained helpful information they plan on using in their classrooms.

“Educators need and ask for practical ideas that they can use for their students, either in research or in the classroom,” said, Catherine Middlecamp, dean of arts and sciences at University

of Wisconsin Madison and keynote speaker. “Educators need inspiration and this conference brought together many different people in science, technology, engineering and mathematics to share innovations, work through issues and ultimately strengthen STEM.”

Organizers wanted to showcase ideas that get students excited about science, and Garon Smith, chemistry professor at University of Montana, demonstrated how he uses entertain-

ing wizard shows to teach STEM concepts.

“We want to learn from the best science educators in the country about how to effectively teach science,” Bishop added. “We want to take the lessons we learned at this event and apply them to our work with students. Every one of us plays an important part in strengthening STEM and as educators, we are uniquely poised to guide the discussion on how to better connect our students to the study of the sciences.”



# Man arrested for making bomb threat at McAllister-Whiteside Residence Hall

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Jackson State University’s Department of Public Safety announced the arrest of a suspect in the bomb threat at McAllister-Whiteside Residence Hall Friday, Sept. 22.

Christian Ashleigh Jones, 20, of Memphis, is charged with false reporting of an explosive device. He is being held in the Hinds County Detention Center in Raymond after turning himself in at noon, Sept. 27. Jones is not a JSU student, and no motive was provided for the incident, which led to an evacuation.

JSU’s Assistant Chief Dee McClendon, said, “The arrest sends a strong message that this will not be tolerated by anyone who wants to make a false threat. This is not a joke. We are very passionate about the safety of our students, faculty and staff at Jackson State University.”


Leading to the arrest, JSU authorities worked with various departments and agencies, including the FBI, Mississippi Police Department, Jackson Fire Department, Mississippi Highway Patrol, Homeland Security, Jackson Fusion Center and Mississippi



Assistant Chief Dee McClendon of Jackson State University’s Department of Public Safety discusses the arrest. The 20-year-old suspect in the bomb threat is being held in the Hinds County Detention Center in Raymond. He is not a JSU student. PHOTO BY KENTRICE S. RUSH/JSU

ous departments and agencies, including the FBI, Mississippi Police Department, Jackson Fire Department, Mississippi Highway Patrol, Homeland Security, Jackson Fusion Center and Mississippi

### Congressman Bennie G. Thompson D-MS 2nd District



### Reps. Thompson, Jackson Lee and Green present HBCU game day offering

WASHINGTON — U.S Representatives Bennie G. Thompson (MS-02), Shelia Jackson-Lee (TX-18) and Al Green (TX-09) hosted an offering after the annual Alcorn State University and Texas Southern University football game.

Thompson: “As a two-time HBCU graduate, I am deeply committed to preserving these institutions to ensure they continue educating future generations of our youth,” Thompson said before the game. “I am confident in Alcorn pulling a win against Texas Southern because no one knows football better than a Mississippi SWAC school.”

Jackson-Lee: “Given Texas Southern University’s illustrious heritage of educating African-American students and inspiring them to achieve their dreams, I have no doubt that the TSU Tigers will reinforce this tradition of excellence when the Alcorn Braves encounter the #TSUNAMI. TS-TS-TSU! I thought you knew! #TSU.”

The game took place at the BBVA Compass Stadium in Houston, Texas September 29. The three members of Congress have agreed to offer one another catfish or bar-b-que if the HBCU in the member’s district and/or state wins the game.

The Alcorn State University and Texas Southern University face-off comes a week after National HBCU Week, which is dedicated to bring awareness of the importance of HBCUs nationwide.

Alcorn State University sits in Mississippi’s Second Congressional District, represented by Thompson, while Texas Southern University is located in Texas’ Eighteenth Congressional District, represented by Jackson Lee and the alma mater of Green.

If you have any questions please contact Guy King at [guy.king@mail.house.gov](mailto:guy.king@mail.house.gov) (Thompson), Rucks Russell at [rucks.russell@mail.house.gov](mailto:rucks.russell@mail.house.gov) (Jackson Lee) or Kamau Marshall at [kamau.marshall@mail.house.gov](mailto:kamau.marshall@mail.house.gov) (Green).

# JSU senior competing in national pageant plans to use her platform to empower, uplift

**By Rachel James-Terry**  
*jsumsnews.com*

Jackson State University senior Jaelah Wright-Keely was recently named Miss Black Mississippi US Ambassador by the Miss Black US Ambassador Scholarship organization.

“I was super excited. Honestly, the feeling was indescribable. I didn’t think I would receive the title,” Keely said upon learning the news.

Next summer, she will travel to Atlanta to compete among 53 other “Miss State Ambassadors” all vying for an opportunity to take home the national title.

Because Mississippi does not have a state director for the pageant, Keely was selected through an application process.

According to a press release, the Miss Black US Ambassador and Miss Black Teen US Ambassador Scholarship Pageant LLC, in partnership with the GE Institute Foundation Inc., exists to give a once in a lifetime opportunity for young African-American women to serve as an ambassador of change and to encourage, empower and enlighten, communities, states and nations.

“During my reign as Miss Black Mississippi US Ambassador, I will be hosting community events geared toward my platform Route 365 which stands for rejuvenating opportunities to uplift, transcend and enhance lives 365 days a year,”



Wright-Keely PHOTO BY CHARLES A. SMITH/JSU

Keely announced.

Not wanting to enter a pageant that solely focused on looking good, the senior said she desired to work with an organization that was community centered and made a positive impact on the world.

The honor student further

our people and build each other up so that we can thrive,” she urged.

Keely described African American’s as brilliant people, but “we are more willing to spend our money elsewhere and support other people instead of our own.”

Eventually, the chemistry major would like to be a cosmetic chemist and start a fully-functional, research-driven cosmetic company that develops top-tier beauty products specifically for African-American women.

“I’ve always had a creative side, but I also have an analytical side. Originally, I wanted to do something in fashion, but that didn’t pan out, so I started getting involved in makeup, and that’s how I nurtured my creativity,” she said.

A native of St. Louis, Keely’s grandfather was born in the capital city. But, her first visit to the hospitality state stemmed from her interest in attending JSU. Since enrolling at the university, a strong bond has developed between her and her extended family.

Keely goes on to divulge that she has an equal passion for her hometown and Mississippi. Recalling her feelings when she stepped on the campus of the HBCU nearly four years ago, she said: “I immediately fell in love. It felt like a second home like I was supposed to be here.”

# Campus Listening Sessions scheduled for Mississippi Valley State University

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Members of the Board Search Committee leading the search for the next president of Mississippi Valley State University will hear from constituency groups in Campus Listening Sessions Thursday, October 12. The discussions will center on the qualities and qualifications stakeholders believe the next institutional executive officer should possess.

The Campus Listening Sessions will begin at 3 p.m. and conclude at 5:55 p.m. on the campus located at 14000 Highway 82 W. in Itta Bena, Miss.

While all sessions are open to the public, each session focuses on the needs of a specific constituency group.

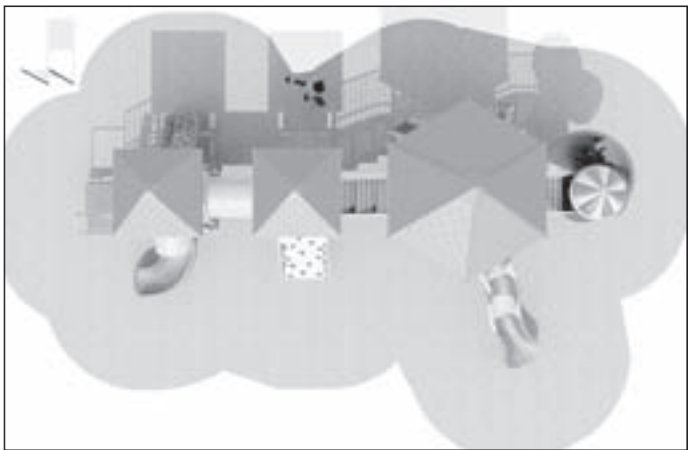
“We are committed to finding the right person to lead Mississippi Valley State University,

Time	Event	Location
3:00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.	Students	Business Education Building/Auditorium
3:40 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Break	
3:45 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.	Administration	Business Education Building/Auditorium
4:25 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Break	
4:30 p.m. – 5:10 p.m.	Faculty & Staff	Business Education Building/Auditorium
5:10 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	Break	
5:15 p.m. – 5:55 p.m.	Alumni & Community	Business Education Building/Auditorium

so it is very important that we hear from all members of the campus community,” said Trustee Shane Hooper, chair of the MVSU Board Search Committee. “I hope that all students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the surrounding community will join us and let us know what type of leader they want to see in the next president.”

For updates and additional information, the search can be followed on Twitter @MVSU\_Search and @MSPublicUniv.

# Clinton Park uses PTO grant to purchase playground equipment



Clinton Park Elementary School is purchasing new playground equipment with a donation from the PTO.

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

CLINTON — A \$24,000 grant from the PTO will allow Clinton Park Elementary School to purchase new playground equipment.

The total cost of the equipment is \$34,000 but Principal Kelli Pope said the difference will come from other PTO donations in recent years.

“With this money we’ll be able to purchase one big play area that can hold 60-70 kids,” she said. “We will also be adding swings and other covered play areas for students.”

The new equipment is expected to be installed by the time students return from the Christmas and New Year holiday.

Last year, the school had two major fundraisers, a raffle for a trip to Disney and the Boosterthon. This year’s Boosterthon began Monday, Oct. 2 and concludes Oct. 13 with a fun run.

“The kids will be collecting sponsorships for each lap,” Pope said.

Through Boosterthon, students also learn important character lessons, and all students participate in the fun run regardless of whether they collected sponsorships.

“We have an amazing PTO that does a fantastic job supporting our students, teachers and school,” Pope said. “This purchase will make our playground even better for many years to come.”



## Rep. Al Green meets with the Black Press on Capitol Hill



(Front left-right) Rep. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA, Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA and Rep. Al Green (D-Texas) pose for a photo after a meeting on Capitol Hill with NNPA members. FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

By Freddie Allen  
Editor-In-Chief, NNPA Newswire

During an on the record meeting with publishers of Black-owned newspapers on Capitol Hill, Rep. Al Green (D-Texas) discussed a range of issues from symbols of the Confederacy to advertising in the Black Press and the impeachment of President Donald Trump. Publishers and staffers representing the *Daily Challenge*, *Cross Roads News*, *the San Diego Voice and Viewpoint*, *the Chicago Crusader*, *the Gary Crusader*, *The Washington Informer*, *the Michigan Chronicle*, *Atlanta Daily World*, *New Pittsburgh Courier*, *Chicago Defender* and the *Houston Forward Times* attended the meeting, that lasted more than an hour.

When he learned that the Black Press was celebrating its 190th anniversary, Green, who represents Houston, Missouri City and Stafford, recommended that the milestone receive a formal Congressional citation.

Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, said that Green is a servant of the people, adding that he was one of the best lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

“Each member of the Congressional Black Caucus, including Green, not only well-represents their constituencies – but when you are black and you are something, you have to do more than what your title says you’re responsible for, that’s just who we are,” said Chavis. “Your congressional district is represented by one of the best, because you are one of the best.”

Green said that he has taken up the cause to get Confederate monuments removed from public spaces and he lamented the proliferation of Confederate monuments and symbols across the South and in Houston, in particular.

According to ABC 13 Eyewitness News, “Spurred on by calls from the public, Mayor Sylvester Turner has agreed to begin a full review of Confederacy-

related statues on Houston public lands.”

Green said that tax dollars shouldn’t go to supporting the Confederacy that fought to enslave blacks.

“The Confederacy is dead,” said Green. “[Confederate monuments] won’t come down, if we don’t let our [representatives] know where we stand. It really requires our say...and we have to tell them why, because ‘Confederacy’ is a nice word for ‘rape’; it’s a nice word for ‘murder’; it’s a nice word for ‘stealing’; it’s just a nice way to say that a gang of cutthroats went through the South and tried to maintain an institution that was antithetical to our existence.”

Green also sought to debunk myths about Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution that involve impeachment proceedings for government officials.

Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution states that:

“The President, Vice President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.”

Green noted that for the president to be impeached, the president does not have to commit a crime.

“That’s important, because the mainstream media isn’t telling the whole story,” said Green.

Green said that lawmakers, who are serious about starting the impeachment process, should not wait for the outcome of former FBI chief Robert Mueller’s special investigation into Russia’s tampering with the 2016 election.

“Impeachment is a political process, not a judicial process and, because it’s a political process, all of these rules that you normally apply to a case going to court don’t apply to impeachment,” said Green. “The president can be impeached whether he commits a crime or not.”

Green encouraged the black publishers to read the “Federalist Papers,” espe-

cially “Federalist 65,” written by Alexander Hamilton.

“We have to find that the president has committed an act that would merit his removal from office because of the harm that he is doing to society,” said Green.

The Texan lawmaker said that the Constitution gives each member of the House the same amount of power when it comes to impeachment.

“I’m not giving my power of impeachment to anybody,” said Green. “No president ought to be above the law and be beyond the long arm of justice...I’m going to bring impeachment of Donald J. Trump to the floor of the Congress of the United States of America.”

Green continued: “I’m going to give everybody there the opportunity to make their own decision, their own consciences will be their guide, I won’t lobby a single one of them, but everybody is going to have to take a vote, everybody is going to have to take a stand...and you can tell the world.”

When he was asked about the status of the Government Accountability Office’s report on advertising spending by federal agencies, Green said that that invidious discrimination still exists.

“If we don’t acknowledge that racism still exists, others won’t either and it exists in the halls of power and it exists in the places where contracts are awarded and in banking,” said Green.

The federal government is the single largest advertiser in the United States, and black-owned companies have been disproportionately left out of the bidding process for government contracts for years.

Green concluded with a popular political quote that epitomizes Mahatma Gandhi’s nonviolent philosophy.

“First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you and then, if you have a righteous cause, you win,” said Green. “We will win. We’re gonna win. We’re gonna win.”

## New Nielsen study reveals growing spending power, influence of black women

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Contributor

A new report detailing the record-setting spending power of African-American women has further buoyed the confidence of black female entrepreneurs, who said the information proves their undeniable value to the United States and the global economy.

The report titled, “African-American Women: Our Science, Her Magic,” was released by Nielsen during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation’s annual legislative conference; it revealed that African-American women’s consumer preferences and brand affinities are resonating across the mainstream culture, driving total black spending power toward a record \$1.5 trillion by 2021.

The report also noted that black women comprise 14 percent of all females in the U.S. (“24.3 million strong”) and 52 percent of all African Americans.

With an average age of 35.1 years (versus 42.8 for non-Hispanic white women and 39.4 for all women), black women have enjoyed steady growth in population, incomes and educational attainment.

Sixty-four percent of black women currently enroll in college right out of high school and 23 percent over the age of 25 have a bachelor’s degree or higher, up from 18 percent in 2005.

Further, the report noted that the number of businesses majority-owned by black women grew 67 percent between 2007 and 2012, more than all women combined.

The latest U.S. Census figures show African-American women have majority ownership in more than 1.5 million businesses with over \$42 billion in sales.

“This report is helpful to show banks and brands that black women are highly qualified to be recipients of fair lending and to be fairly represented in advertising campaigns,” said Samantha Gregory, the founder of the website richinglemma.com, a platform developed to help single mothers earn extra cash. “As a black woman in technology and personal finance, who is also a business owner, those statistics are useful, when I am making a case for working with brands for my blog and business.”

Gregory continued: “However, if the powers that be are not educated about these statistics, it is still challenging to get a seat at the table, where all the prime contracts are being handed out.”

Briana Santirosa, the founder and CEO of online retailer, Casa de Reinas, said that after working in retail for four years, she made the decision to start her own business.

Santirosa said that fashion and



Cheryl Grace, the senior vice president of U.S. Community Strategic Alliances and Consumer Engagement for Nielsen, says that marketers must recognize the intercultural influence of black women on the general market. In this photo, Grace (née Pearson-McNeil) speaks during the 2017 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Fort Lauderdale. FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

beauty industries often chose to ignore the purchasing power of black women.

“I do see the market beginning to recognize black women more and cater to our spending preferences,” Santirosa offered.

In Nielsen’s new Diverse Intelligence Series report, the global researcher paints a portrait of black women as trendsetters, brand loyalists and early adopters, who care about projecting a positive self-image. As they wield that #BlackGirlMagic, black women play an increasingly vital role in how all women see themselves and influencing mainstream culture across a number of areas, including fashion, beauty, television and music, the report’s authors said.

“Black women have strong life-affirming values that spill over into everything they do. The celebration of their power and beauty is reflected in what they buy, watch and listen to, and people outside their communities find it inspiring,” said Cheryl Grace, the senior vice president of U.S. Community Strategic Alliances and Consumer Engagement for Nielsen. “Understanding how black women’s values affect their buying decisions has long been a marketing necessity.”

Grace continued: “Now, marketers must also recognize the intercultural influence of black women on the general market, as an increasingly vital part of how all women see themselves, their families and the rest of the world.”

The African-American woman’s independent mindset is present in her growing confidence, self-awareness and rising income, according to the report.

Black women are not only redefining what it means to be a woman for themselves, but are at the van-

guard of changing gender roles and unlimited possibilities for American women of all ages and races.

The report noted that 64 percent of black women agree their goal is to make it to the top of their profession; 58 percent agree that they don’t mind giving up their personal time for work – 20 percent higher than non-Hispanic white women.

Further, 14 percent of black women have annual incomes of \$50,000 or higher with ages 35–49 enjoying the highest income within the black female cohort.

For millennial women, 81 percent have never been married, up from 71 percent in 2005 and, with an average household size of 2.47, 29 percent of total black American households contain a married couple.

Black women also have embraced the social media movement #BlackGirlMagic, a term that describes a cross-platform gathering of empowered black women who uplift each other and shine a light on the impressive accomplishments of black women throughout the country.

According to the report, black women “over-index by 29 percent for spending three to four hours each day on social networking sites and by 86 percent for spending five or more hours each day on social networking sites.”

Especially adept at using technology and social media to trade opinions and offer recommendations, black women 18 and older, more than any other demographic group, have taken social media and adopted it for higher purposes, the report found.

Whether they are buying cars, jewelry, smartphones or beauty products, the advice, referrals and feedback they receive from friends and community play an important role in black women’s purchases, the report said.

Forty-three percent of black women say they like to share their opinions about products and services by posting reviews and ratings online; 47 percent agree that people often come to them for advice, before making a purchase.

“The trend of black women becoming increasingly educated and driving the buying power of black households, means that they are making purchase decisions that historically they didn’t make,” said Bianca Blake, a marketing specialist.

“Couple that with trends of the millennial generation marrying and starting families later, the black woman becomes an independent decision maker for much more of her journey through life, as opposed to abiding by decisions made by her parents, husband or heavily influenced by her children.”

## Anthem Blue Cross And Blue Shield delivers to BDPA in a big way

The Mississippi Link Newswire

LARGO, MD – Supporting IT giant BDPA in a big way, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield recently announced its sponsorship of the organization. Anthem, Inc. is one of the largest health benefits companies in the United States.

Through its affiliated health plans, Anthem companies deliver a number of leading health benefit solutions through a broad portfolio of integrated health care plans and related services, along with a wide range of specialty products such as life and disability insurance benefits, dental, vision and behavioral health benefit services. It also provides long term care insurance and

flexible spending accounts (www.anthem.com).

“Information Technology and Computer Science professionals at Anthem, Inc., are actually driving the future of health care by delivering innovative and reliable solutions that address consumer and health care provider needs,” said Tracy Joyner, Anthem Diversity Talent Pipeline Strategy manager.

“We value the exceptional talent, from intern to senior leader, that we will engage through our partnership with BDPA. We are excited to invite you to join us as we use the power of advanced technology to deliver trusted and caring solutions that improve the health of our members and

transform health care,” she added.

BDPA is the largest African American information technology association in the U.S., and the largest national non-profit organization continually involved in training students underrepresented in STEM education across the country.

For more than 40 years, BDPA has fulfilled its mission by bridging the digital divide and providing career growth opportunities for its members.

For more details about BDPA or the corporate sponsorship program, contact the corporate sales support team at (301) 584-3135 ext.108 or corporales@bdpa.org. Additionally, please visit www.bdpa.org.

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## U.S. Small Business Administration awards exporting grant to Mississippi Development Authority

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), recently awarded Mississippi Development Authority \$556,810 to help Mississippi small businesses enter and compete in the global marketplace. The State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) grant will be used to support export development and trade endeavors for eligible small businesses.

“I consider this an opportunity to spotlight the state of Mississippi, MDA and the SBA, highlighting our respective brands, bringing attention to the STEP Program as one great example of state and federal government here working in concert to make some good things happen for small businesses and entrepreneurs – and in this instance, in the great big wide world of ex-

porting,” said Janita R. Stewart, SBA Mississippi district director.

This will be MDA’s sixth consecutive year of receiving the STEP grant on behalf of Mississippi. The STEP program is designed to increase both the number of small businesses that begin to export and the value of exports for small businesses currently engaged in this multinational commercial activity. Mississippi small businesses will have the opportunity to participate in marketing events throughout North, Central and South America, Asia, Africa and Europe.

“With two-thirds of the world’s purchasing power outside of the United States, Mississippi-based companies increase capacity through the

use of STEP funds,” said MDA Executive Director Glenn McCullough Jr. “In 2016 Mississippi companies exported more than \$10.2 billion in goods to 177 countries. Thanks to the support from the STEP grant program, many Mississippi businesses are strengthening their communities through job creation supported by exporting.”

During the grant’s inaugural year in 2011, SBA awarded fifty-one awards totaling more than \$29 million. In most cases the Federal government provides 75 percent of the total funding and states provide 25 percent.

“Making the business decision to export can have a transformational impact on the growth of any business,” said

Mississippi Development Authority International Trade Office Director Rose Boxx.

“The Mississippi STEP grant program assists small businesses with financial assistance for international marketing strategies such as sales trips, trade shows, market research and technical counseling. STEP is instrumental in helping many Mississippi companies become first time exporters opening new markets to their products and services.”

The STEP Grant Initiative was authorized in the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010. Under the statute, the 50 states, District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa, are eligible to compete for award of matching-fund grants.

## Department of Public Safety statement on Las Vegas Shooting

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety continues to provide ongoing training to local, county and state law enforcement officers through its active shooter program at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers’ Training Academy.

Additionally, the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) provides funding for active shooter training and conducts training for civilian emergency response teams.

DPS officials stress the importance of local, county, state and federal law enforcement officers working as a team when a tragedy happens.

“We have a great working relationship with all our law enforcement partners in Mississippi,” Public Safety Commissioner Marshall Fisher said. “We are constantly funding and providing training so that we will be ready when a crisis occurs.”

MOHS has provided funding for Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training to educate law enforcement officers on effective response measures in active shooter incidents. To date, over 450 classes have been conducted and more



than 10,000 Mississippi law enforcement officers have gone through the program.

The Department of Public Safety through the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security is involved in the national “See Something, Say Something” campaign. This initiative encourages local citizens to contact authorities if there is unusual activity in your neighborhood. A smart phone app, “See Send” is available from your app store and you may report suspicious activity through the toll-free telephone number 888-4-SAFE-MS.

“The employees of the Department of Public Safety express our heartfelt sympathy to all who were affected by Sunday night’s shooting,” Fisher added. “Our thoughts and prayers are also with our law enforcement counterparts in Las Vegas.”

## Corps Vicksburg District selects district counsel

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

VICKSBURG – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District recently selected David Dyer as its district counsel.

Dyer will serve as the senior attorney advisor to the commander and provide timely and accurate legal advice to all district division chiefs, supervisors and leaders on areas such as: regulatory guidance, environmental law, real estate law, contract law, claims, Freedom of Information Act requests, ethics and litigation processing.

He will also serve as the primary liaison between Mississippi Valley Division senior counsel and the district commander.



Dyer

Col. Michael C. Derosier, district commander, stated, “We are very excited to have David join

the district. With his wealth of experience in the Army and the Corps’ Mississippi Valley Division, he is a perfect fit to lead the district’s Office of Counsel and support the district’s mission across the entire Civil Works spectrum.”

In 2007, he joined the Corps, working for the New Orleans District as assistant district counsel. He has also served with the Army Geospatial Center and the Afghanistan Engineer District South. He previously worked in Vicksburg for a developmental assignment in 2012, as deputy district counsel.

Dyer has received numerous awards including the E. Manning Seltzer Award, Command-

ers’ Awards for Civilian Service, Achievement Medals for Civilian Service, the Civilian Combat Service Pin, the Secretary of Defense Global War on Terrorism Medal and a Non-Article 5 NATO medal.

The Vicksburg District encompasses a 68,000-square-mile area across portions of Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana that holds seven major river basins and incorporates approximately 460 miles of mainline levees. The district is engaged in hundreds of projects and employs approximately 1,000 people.

*To learn more about the Vicksburg District, visit our website. [www.mvk.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil)*

## Opioid addiction treatment center now open in Jackson

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Jackson Comprehensive Treatment Center, a medication assisted treatment program for adults who are struggling with opioid addiction, is now open and accepting patients. The center is located at 1935 Lakeland Drive Suite 900. Jackson, Miss. 39216.

The new center is an outpatient treatment program that will provide patients with a combination of medication and therapy to help them overcome dependence upon heroin, certain prescription drugs and other opioids. Medication options at this center include methadone,

buprenorphine (Suboxone and Subutex) and naltrexone (Vivitrol).

Methadone has been used in medication-assisted opioid addiction treatment for decades, while buprenorphine first received approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use in this manner in 2002. Vivitrol was approved by the FDA for use in opioid treatment programs in 2010. All three medications help individuals to remain opioid-free by alleviating cravings and other unpleasant withdrawal symptoms that they would otherwise experience.

Patients in the methadone and buprenorphine programs will initially be required to visit the center each day for their medication. Depending upon their progress and compliance with center procedures, they may be able to earn the right to take home limited amounts of the medication. Vivitrol is administered via once-a-month injections, which will be provided at the center.

In addition to receiving these medications, patients at Jackson Comprehensive Treatment Center will also participate in a variety of therapeutic and educational activities, including individual and group counseling

sessions.

The therapeutic and educational components of treatment at Jackson Comprehensive Treatment Center are designed to help patients identify the issues that may have contributed to their opioid abuse and to make the lifestyle changes that will support long-term abstinence from opioids and other substances of abuse.

Facility is open Mondays to Fridays, 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays, 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.

*For more information about Jackson Comprehensive Treatment Center, visit [www.jackson-mat.com](http://www.jackson-mat.com) or call (877) 231-9902.*

## VEC to host tree identification program

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Brady Self, the Northwest Mississippi Extension Forestry Specialist with the Department of Forestry at Mississippi State University will present a tree identification program at the Visitor Education Center (VEC) Saturday, October 7, at 2 p.m.

The tree identification course is for anyone interested in learning how to identify trees during the fall. The program will consist of a short presentation and a hands-on field tour of the trees located around the North Mississippi Fish Hatchery and Visitor Education Center.

The program is free with the price of admission. Admission is \$2.50 for adults ages 18-59, and \$2 for youth ages 3-17 and adults over the age of 60.

*For additional information or to pre-register for the event, call the VEC at (662) 563-8068.*

The VEC is part of the MD-

WFP North Mississippi Fish Hatchery and is located at Exit 233 east off I-55.

*For more information regarding fishing in Mississippi, visit [www.mdwfp.com](http://www.mdwfp.com) or call (601) 432-2200. Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/mdwfp](https://www.facebook.com/mdwfp) or on Twitter at [twitter.com/MDWFPonline](https://twitter.com/MDWFPonline).*

## Gov. Phil Bryant appoints Sen. Sean J. Tindell to Mississippi Court of Appeals

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Tindell’s appointment is effective Nov. 2. He replaces David Ishee, who Gov. Bryant appointed to the Mississippi Supreme Court in September.

“Senator Tindell’s experience as a prosecutor and his work in private practice make him the perfect fit to serve on the Court of Appeals,” Gov. Bryant said. “I am pleased he has agreed to accept this appointment.”

Tindell, 43, has represented District 49, which includes parts of Harrison County, in the Mississippi State Senate since 2012. He serves as chairman of the Senate Judiciary, Division A Committee and vice chairman of the Senate Tourism Committee.

From 2002 to 2007, Tindell was an assistant district attorney for Harrison, Hancock and Stone counties. In 2007, he entered private practice, also serving as a prosecutor for the city of Biloxi and as city attorney for the city of Diamondhead.

“I have taken great pride as a senator in working with Governor Bryant, Lieutenant Governor Reeves, Speaker Gunn, other legislators and state leaders to enact legislation that improves the lives of all Mississippians,” Tindell said. “It is with great excitement, humility and enthusiasm that I accept Governor Bryant’s appointment to the Mississippi Court of Appeals. Rest assured, I will continue to work tirelessly to see that the rights of all Mississippians are protected, our Constitution



Tindell

is adhered to and justice prevails.”

Tindell graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1996, receiving a bachelor’s in business administration. That same year, he participated in a study abroad program with an emphasis in finance at the London School of Economics.

In 1998, Tindell earned a master’s in business administration from USM. He received a juris doctorate from Mississippi College School of Law in 2001. There, he served as student body president and earned honors of American jurisprudence in counseling and negotiations and domestic relations.

Tindell is the son of Tom and Dora Harvey of Biloxi, and the late Sidney Tindell of Biloxi. He was born and raised on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Tindell and his wife Claire live in Gulfport with their four children, Sam, John Thomas, Meredith and Henry.



# Have you lost your love for the truth?

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



First Corinthians 10:12 reads, “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.” Many have made the statement, “That will never happen to me. I will never go that far. I have enough good common sense to stop.” My friend, we cannot stop through common sense; we can only stop through the Spirit of God and the truth. Many unwed mothers have said, “I will never go that far,” but they did. Some young people say, “I will never take drugs.” Watch out! Others have said, “I will never become an alcoholic.” Remember, people who have become alcoholics did not start drinking a fifth at a time. They might have started with

a can of beer or one shot of whiskey, and as time went on, they drank more and more. Saul once had the Word of God to give him direction, but he disobeyed it. When we disobey the Word of God, we cannot receive any more direction from God. We cannot disregard the Word of God and then expect to receive further directions from Him. If we disobey His Word, He has only one thing to say to us: “Repent!” We cannot play around with truth; failing to do square business with God and get by with it. There is no telling what condition we will end up in if we lose our love for the truth. Have we lost the fire out of our soul? Are we professing to be blessed of God; but in reality, we are under a delusion? We may act pious around people at church, but when we get out where no

one else is around, we know that we are lacking. God is true to us, just as He was true to King Saul. Saul was a mighty man of God when he was little in his own sight. Saul’s ending was terrible, but remember that he started right; he was anointed of God. Then, he got lifted up in pride, overstepped priestly duties and failed to destroy all that the Lord told him to destroy. When Samuel confronted Saul, he would not come clean and acknowledge his transgression. He put the blame on the people. What a difference between Saul and David. David said in Psalm 51:3, “For I acknowledge my transgressions: And my sin is ever before me.” Saul got in a terrible condition because he trifled with the Word of God; he overstepped God’s Word. If we have overstepped any known truth and have not

straightened it out, we are wide open for a strong delusion. If we have disobeyed God, we should do as David did and acknowledge our transgression. If we will do that, we surely will receive help from God; He will come to our rescue. Is there any disobedience in our heart? We know if we have disobeyed God. If we have, we need to take care of it quickly, and God will have mercy on us and will restore us. We can have peace and joy in our hearts and souls. Saul was searching for something he once had, but he could not find it. There is no satisfaction away from God or in unrighteousness. 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.


# P R E S E R V E D Surrendering to God’s voice and God’s will

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



What was a lighthearted lunchtime conversation catching up between me and one of my best friends a few years ago took an interesting turn when she blurted out “Girl, I just feel like I can’t hear God the way I used to...and I sure miss it!” She finished her statement, took a sip of her water and added, “You can hear God’s voice so clearly. I want that.” After a few seconds of silence, I responded. “You’re right. I do hear God’s pretty clearly sometimes. What happens to me is that I doubt what I hear is really the voice of God. Sometimes I wonder if it’s better not to hear His voice at all.” I admitted to her that I struggle sometimes with doubt more than anything else. I then took a sip of my sweet tea as she stared back at me. Our awkward moment of silence was broken when we both chuckled at the irony of what we’d both just said. She added that she missed those times of strong spiritual connection where she felt so connected to God. I honestly felt bad thinking that sometimes I didn’t like hearing God’s voice. It was just too hard to determine whether the voice I heard was really God or something else. What was wrong with me? Was that yet another sign of my being ungrateful to God? Even though we were both dealing with what appeared to be two different issues, after thinking about it later, it seemed to me like we actually were both dealing with two sides of the same coin:

doubt and how it impacts our longing for an authentic connection with God. I believe that an authentic connection to God leads to completely surrendering to His will. If you doubt that you hear God’s voice or what you hear, then you’ll struggle with making the important first step to surrendering to God’s will. By allowing your connection to God to stay strong, you are more likely to recognize and completely surrender to His will. 1 Thessalonians 3:16-18 says, “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” Surrendering to God’s will means that we then agree, regardless of the circumstances and even when we doubt hearing God’s voice, to rejoice, pray and give thanks. We sometimes allow normal doubts to convince us that we are somehow not as connected to God...and possibly out of His will. However, doubting can lead to asking the right questions which ultimately lead to the right answers. I believe that doubting and questioning can actually be a great chance for you to reassess where you are spiritually then make the necessary changes to make sure that you strengthen your connection to God...and stay in His will. 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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## Racist extremism remains a crisis in the United States

By Marc H. Morial  
President and CEO  
National Urban League



*"Now, therefore, be it resolved that Congress rejects White nationalism, White supremacy, and neo-Nazism as hateful expressions of intolerance that are contradictory to the values that define the people of the United States urges the President and his administration to speak out against hate groups that espouse racism, extremism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and White supremacy; and use all resources available to the President and the President's Cabinet to address the growing prevalence of those hate groups in the United States." – Congressional Joint Resolution signed 9/14/17*

Last weekend's escalation of NFL protests against police brutality seems to have sparked another wave of racist incidents across the United States. A fire chief in suburban Pittsburgh was fired after publicly using a racial slur against Steelers coach Mike Tomlinson. A bar in Missouri created a doormat of jerseys spelling out "Lynch Kaepernick."

The words of the Charlottesville "Unite the Right" organizer Jason Kessler, interviewed for the most recent episode of NPR's "This American Life," may go a long way toward explaining why white supremacism and racial hostility are on the rise.

"We are being replaced culturally and ethnically," Kessler said, referring to white men. "It's a genocide by replacement ... Our first immigration policy, you know, said that in order to be a citizen you had to be a white person of good character, right? So it was explicitly a white country. Like, there are traditional demographics. And when you don't respect those, you destroy a people."

Kessler, 33, does not consider himself a white supremacist. "White supremacy, blah, blah, blah. That's a BS liberal term that you have been indoctrinated with. That white supremacy, white supremacy!" This is our country!"

The current Congress, the most diverse in history, is 81 percent male and 81 percent white. White men hold about 70 percent of all seats on corporate boards. More than 70 percent of Fortune 500 senior executives are white men. The black unemployment rate is consistently about twice that of whites, and studies show resumes with traditionally "white-sounding" names garner about 50 percent more job interviews over "black-sounding" names.

In every measureable way, white men are vastly overrepresented beyond their percentage of the U.S. population in positions of power. But men like Jason Kessler look at this overrepresentation and see ... white genocide.

Earlier this week, FBI Director Christopher Wray told Congress the agency has about 1,000 open investigations into potential domestic terrorists, including extremist white supremacists and white nationalists. Within the past nine years, right-wing extremists in the United States plotted or carried out nearly twice as many terrorist attacks as Islamist extremists. Police managed to foil twice as many of the Islamist cases as the right-wing incidents. Yet the current administration has decided to cut federal funding for groups fighting right-wing violence to shift more resources to fighting Islamist terrorism.

Police told the *New York Times*, "Militias, neo-Nazis and sovereign citizens" are the biggest threat we face in regard to extremism, and the threat is so high exactly because "it is an emerging threat that we don't have as good of a grip on, even with our intelligence unit, as we do with the Al Shabab/Al Qaeda issue."

Earlier this month, President Trump signed a resolution, unanimously passed by the House and Senate, condemning "the violence and domestic terrorist attack that took place" in Charlottesville as well as white supremacists, neo-Nazis and other hate groups.

The resolution urges the president and his administration to "speak out against hate groups that espouse racism, extremism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and white supremacy," and calls on the Justice Department and other federal agencies to "use all resources available" to address the growing prevalence of those groups.

It's unclear how the resolution will affect funding for anti-racism efforts, but we expect Congress to remain committed to the principles it espouses and to hold the administration accountable for using "all resources available" to combat racial hate.

## The fight to protect voting rights continues #staywoke

By Derrick Johnson  
Interim President and CEO, NAACP



We all know the power of the vote. One person, one vote serves as the basic ethos and measurement of any democratic nation.

Without true voter protection, integrity and universal access, America's light on the hill dims.

Since Shelby V. Holder dismantled the Voting Rights Act, many southern states with a history of voter suppression and related oppression of black communities, could once again enact laws that would attempt to manipulate the sole entity which made all Americans equal: the vote.

During the presidential election of 2016, the first in 50 years without full protection of the VRA, six of the 14 states implementing restrictive voter laws were previously covered by Section 5 of the VRA. Additionally, five of those states – Mississippi, Texas, South Carolina, Alabama and Virginia – put in place new voter ID laws.

Since 2010, twenty states have placed additional obstacles to the ballot box and according to the Brennan Center for Justice, "States most likely to pass new voting restrictions were those with the highest African-American turnout in 2008, those with the highest Hispanic population growth between 2000 and 2010, and/or those formerly covered under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act."

In 1858, when running for the U.S. Senate from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln said:

"A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved – I do not expect the house to fall – but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other..."

Lincoln would go on to lose that election to Stephen A. Douglas, but the words he uttered would last the test of time. Today, we ask the same question: Can a nation half-slave

and half-free continue?

It's the same question athletes like Colin Kaepernick ask when they are singled out for freedom, yet their brothers remain in chains. If the vote is actively suppressed in communities of color and poor communities, are we really free or just half-free?

Sometimes history will repeat itself, if we give it enough time and a little help.

What is the difference between our present partial believers in democracy, who callously promote gerrymandering, mischievous voter ID laws, poll moving and poll closing or voter purges, and those who engineered the post-Reconstruction elimination of black power in the South?

During the first post-Civil War election in which blacks could vote, they provided 700,000 votes to help elect Ulysses S. Grant to the White House in 1868. The often-untold secret is that before the Civil Rights Era, where black voters in the South once again sought out the ballot box in greater numbers, we stood ready at the first opportunity to use the vote, when treated as free people. At that time, and clearly to some today who seek to suppress the vote, this was not acceptable.

During the 1898 constitutional convention in Louisiana, Thomas J. Semmes, chair of the Judiciary Committee of the Convention and former president of the American Bar Association said, "We (meet) here to establish the supremacy of the white race, and the white race constitutes the Democratic Party of this State. The convention of 1898 interpreted its mandate from the people to be to disenfranchise as many Negroes and as few whites as possible."

This process was replicated throughout the South as Andrew L. Shapiro points out in his Yale Law Journal article, "Challenging Criminal Disenfranchisement Under the Voting Rights Act: A New Strategy" (1993). He highlights how Mississippi's constitutional convention of 1890 became a prototype for implementing constitutional provisions designed to disenfranchise those individuals, who committed "certain

crimes, which blacks were supposedly more likely than whites to commit."

This meant that, "the law removed the vote from those convicted of such 'furtive offenses' as burglary, theft, arson, obtaining money under false pretenses, but the 'robust crimes of whites,' which included robbery and murder or 'crimes in which violence was the principal ingredient,' were not."

Today, we know the impact of felony disenfranchisement and the role it plays in keeping millions of individuals, who have served their time, from being able to vote.

The end result of these post-Reconstruction constitutional conventions, which suppressed the vote through legal and often terroristic means and the Black Codes, was that, in states like Mississippi, the number of eligible black voters registered dropped from 70 percent in 1867 to less than 6 percent in 1892. In Louisiana, blacks made up over 44 percent of the electorate after the Civil War, but less than 1 percent after 1920.

This is the ugly history of voter suppression, where those who often drape themselves in patriotic rhetoric and colors, also wear the millions of stolen and suppressed votes around their necks like rotting, white albatrosses of political expediency, while keeping their foot solidly on the throat of true democracy, which remains handcuffed and unable to breathe.

It would be great if we could solely discuss our nation's affair with voter suppression in some historical context with little to no impact on our current nation's politics. Yet, regardless of how idealistic we are in believing that we can make democracy real for all people, we know, in our hearts, it is not.

Last year, the NAACP won nine major federal cases, critically confronting all manners of ugly, unconstitutional voter suppression, including voter purging, intimidation and misinformation. In North Carolina, our state conference saved nearly five percent of the electorate when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the

Fourth Circuit ruled that the state legislature had enacted discriminatory voting laws that intentionally targeted and disenfranchised black voters.

The NAACP continues to take on legal battles against the newest generation of voter suppression models being implemented through bottlenecked voting districts in Virginia, partisan gerrymandering in Texas or North Carolina that intentionally target and severely dilute not only the vote of African Americans, but also Latino populations.

In Indiana, our state conference recently sued the Secretary of State Connie Lawson, who is a member of the Pence-Kobach Commission, to prevent her from turning over personal voter information and to also prevent the her from using the allegedly discriminatory and inaccurate "Cross Check" system as a means of purging voters.

In Texas, the NAACP has also been successful in challenging racially-biased and unfair redistricting plans and recently won a voter ID case, where more than 600,000 individuals were disenfranchised by the law. We also saved 608,470 votes with a victorious decision from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

In states like Georgia, our state conference is challenging a law that allows voting lists to be purged simply due to failure to vote and in Ohio we are supporting the A. Phillip Randolph Institute et al, in their case, which, like Georgia, seeks to remove people from the voting rolls, due to their inability or failure to vote.

Oftentimes, the flashier issues and nonstop, highly visible attacks against the foundation of our nation's values take our minds off the critical bread and butter issue that without which there is no true democracy – the vote.

We cannot sleep through this period of time, and through all means necessary, we must #StayWoke.

*Derrick Johnson is interim president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Follow him @DerrickNAACP and @NAACP.*

## Trump tries to divide us, but we are a better nation than that

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



When Colin Kaepernick first took a knee during the national anthem last year, he acted alone, a silent protest against a society that

repeatedly fails to hold police accountable for the killing of unarmed African Americans. Kaepernick was condemned and now essentially has been banned from the NFL, with the owners surely colluding to ensure that a quarterback of immense talent would not find a place among the dozens of teams desperately in need of one.

Kaepernick is alone no longer. After Donald Trump's ugly outbursts and tweets urged the NFL owners to kick out any player with the courage to protest and, bizarrely, condemned rule changes designed to provide some protection against concussions – players and even owners across the NFL reacted. Teams linked arms on the sidelines during the anthem, some kneeling and others not, unified in protest of Trump's divisive

rants and tweets. The Seattle Seahawks, Tennessee Titans and all but one of the Pittsburgh Steelers chose to stay in their locker rooms when the anthem was played.

They stood together to defend the right of their teammates to express themselves, whether they agreed with those views or not. They stood together to show that they are citizens, not chattel. They are skilled athletes practicing their profession, not chained slave gladiators forced to entertain the mob.

Every athlete knows that expressing controversial views publicly is a harsh risk. Their careers are short; their contracts are not guaranteed. The owners are billionaires, dependent on public subsidy, fearful of any controversy. They are clearly prepared, as they did with Kaepernick, to punish independence. Yet dozens of athletes responded to Trump's jibes by joining the protest, and their teammates stood arm-in-arm defending their right to do so. Trump thinks the NFL is a plantation. The players showed the real patriotism that the flag truly represents.

For Trump, the assault on protest-

ing black athletes — he also tweeted his withdrawal of an invitation to Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors to visit the White House after Curry expressed reservations about the president — is a classic diversion. He has terrified the country with his bluster, schoolyard insults to a North Korean leader armed with nuclear weapons. His efforts to dismember basic health care are failing despite lies and bribes. Hurricanes and wildfires are mocking his inane denial of climate change. His embrace of the "fine people" in the neo-Nazi march in Charlottesville alarmed decent people across the country. After eight months in office, he has the lowest approval ratings of any president since polls were invented.

Kaepernick took his knee to protest the criminal police killing of African Americans. This year to date, the *Washington Post* reports that 10 unarmed African Americans, and 32 unarmed people in total, have been fatally shot by the police in the United States. St. Louis has been shaken by days of protests after the acquittal of a police officer who shot an 24-year-old African American after

a car chase.

Trump has fueled this conflagration. Police chiefs rebuked him when he urged police to feel free to rough up suspects. His Department of Justice has told prosecutors to seek maximum sentences, adding to mass incarceration that shames this nation. His DOJ has also scorned the consent agreements that Obama's Justice Department forged to reform racially biased police departments. Kaepernick and the players taking a knee have ever more reasons to do so.

The stern visage of Dr. Martin Luther King now graces the national mall. America has come a long way since he left us. We are a more diverse nation. Segregation is no more. We still need leaders and citizens who will work to bring us together, to reform biased institutional practices, to rededicate ourselves to fulfilling Dr. King's dream.

Sadly, in the White House, this president has chosen, purposefully and with malice, to drive us apart to serve his own political ends. The protests of the NFL players this weekend show that we are a better nation than that.



LEGAL

**PUBLIC NOTICE:  
UNDER CONSIDERATION  
FOR PARTIAL DEMOLITION OF A  
MISSISSIPPI LANDMARK PROPERTY**

Certain portions of Smith Park, located in the City of Jackson and bounded by East Amite Street, North Congress Street, Yazoo Street and N. West Street Mississippi, are currently under consideration for demolition by the City of Jackson. The park was designated a Mississippi Landmark on April 21, 2017 by the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History under the provisions of the Antiquities Law of Mississippi, Section 39-7-3 et seq. of the Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended. Mississippi Landmark Designation recognizes the historical significance of the property and requires that proposed demolition or alterations which may affect the property's historic character be reviewed by the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

The proposed partial demolition includes the removal of the concrete waterway within the park and the leveling of earthen berms to be used as fill material for the concrete waterway. The Board of Trustees invites public comment on this proposed undertaking. Comments and requests for more information should be sent to Mr. Jim Woodrick, Director, Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, P. O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0571 within fourteen (14) days from the date of this publication.

10/5/2017

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 Architectual/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

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

LEGAL

ORDINANCE GRANTING 3601 N. STATE, LLC A REZONING FROM R-I (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 lat 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.

Which aforesaid ten (10') feet off of west side was more particularly described in that certain Warranty Deed of J. P. Ricks and Mrs. M. R. Ricks unto Champion M. Wilbourn and Mrs. Marjorie B. Wilbourn, dated July 27, 1950, filed for record July 31, 1950, in Deed Book 664, Page 226, reference to which is hereby made for descriptive purposes, and in which said instrument in said Book 664, at Page 226, the following description is set out:

A strip of land ten (10) feet wide off the west side of the South Half of Lot Seventeen (17) in Block "G", Northview Addition, Part One, according to the official map or plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the chancery clerk of Hinds County, at Jackson, MS, and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows:

Beginning at a point on the line dividing Lots 16 and 17 in said Northview Sub-division in said Block "G" on the south intersection of said lots, run thence north along the dividing line between said lots 16 and 17 a distance of 75 feet, run thence east along a line parallel with the south line of said Lot 17 a distance of 10 feet, run then south along a line parallel with the west line of said Lot 17 a distance of 75 feet to a point on the south line of said lot 17, which point is 10 feet east of the point of beginning, run thence west along the southline of said lot 17, 10 feet to the point of beginning.

is hereby modified so as to approve the rezoning of the property located at 3601 North State St. 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, however that before a permit is issued for any structure to be erected or use thereof on the said property, the applicant must meet the requirements established through the Site Plan Review process. The Zoning Administrator is ordered to note such change on the Official Zoning Map to the City of Jackson, Mississippi.

SECTION 2. That the cost of publication of this Ordinance shall be borne by the petitioner.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage and after publication of same by the petitioner.

Council Member Stamps moved adoption; Council Member Banks seconded.

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay and Stamps

Nays- None.

Abstention- Priester.

Absent- Stokes and Tillman.

ATTEST:

Kristi Moore, City Clerk

I, Kristi Moore, the duly appointed qualified City Clerk and lawful custodian of records of the Council and seal of said City of Jackson, Mississippi, certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Order passed by the City Council at its Zoning City Council Meeting on August 21, 2017 and recorded in Minute Book "6L, Pgs. 1060-1061".

WITNESS my signature and official seal of office, this the 19th day of September, 2017.

SEAL

Kristi Moore, City Clerk

10/05/2017

Office  
Space  
for Rent

Garrett  
Enterprises  
Building

(Near Jackson Medical Mall)

2659 Livingston Road  
Jackson, MS 39213

2500 Square Feet

Call: 601-209-9199





LEGAL

SECTION 901

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi  
West Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project  
MDOT Project No. ER-7254-00(005)LPA/107358-701000  
City of Jackson Project No. 17B4500.701

The City of Jackson, Mississippi will receive bids to repair the West Street Bridge over Town Creek, MDOT Project No. ER-7254-00(005)/LPA/107358-701000 no later than 3:30p.m., local time, Tuesday, November 7, 2017, in the City Clerk's office of Jackson, at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the City Hall located 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

Reconstruction of the West Street Bridge over Town Creek and all other related items of work required to complete the project as shown as specified in the contract documents.

The contract time is 90 calendar days.

This general description of the work does not in any way limit the responsibility of the Contractor to perform all work and furnish all plant, labor, equipment and materials required to complete the project as shown on the Contract Drawings and as specified in the Contract Documents.

The attention of bidders is directed to the Contract Provisions governing selection and employment of labor. Minimum wage rates for Federal-Aid projects have been predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and are subject to Public Law 87-581 Work Hours Act of 1962, as set forth in the Contract Provisions.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all Bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged and women's business enterprises will be afforded the full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The award of this contract will be contingent upon the Contractor satisfying the DBE/WBE requirements. The DBE goal will be 3%.

The Pre-Bid meeting will be held Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 10:00 am - 5th floor Conference Room in the Hood Building.

Plans, specifications and contract documents are on file and open to public inspection at the Office of Stantec Consulting Services Inc., 200 North Congress Street, Suite 600, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201 and the Engineering Department of the City of Jackson. One (1) copy of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be procured upon payment of \$200.00 (by check, made payable to "Stantec Consulting Services Inc.") from 200 North Congress Street, Suite 600, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201. The payment is non-refundable.

Each bidder must deposit with his proposal a Bid Bond or Certified Check in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid payable to the City of Jackson as bid security. The successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment bond each in the amount of 100% of the contract amount awarded.

Attorneys-in-fact who sign Bid Bonds or Payment Bonds and Performance Bonds must file with each bond a certified and effective dated of their power of attorney.

The proposal and contract documents in its entirety shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and deposited with the City Clerk, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi prior to the hour and date above designated. Stripped Proposals will be rejected. Bidders may not withdraw their bid within sixty (60) days after the date of the actual bid opening without consent of the City of Jackson.

Work to be performed shall be in accordance with the "Mississippi Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, 2004 Edition", together with all amendments and/or special provisions and/or addenda to the standards duly approved and adopted, unless otherwise noted in these specifications.

No (bid proposal) will be sold after 12:00 o'clock Noon, of the day preceding the Advertised Date for receipt of bids

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities.

Jerriot Smash  
Interim Director of Public Works

Dr. Robert Blaine  
Chief Administrative Officer Department

Terry Williamson  
Legal Counsel Department of Public Works

9/28/2017, 10/05/2017

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 3993

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 Ivory Maynor has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from SUD Special Use District to C3 (General) Commercial District with a Use Permit to operate an automotive service shop and to sell used cars on the property located at 0 Country Club Dr. – Parcel #805-12, in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

The North Half of the Southeast quarter of the Southeast Quarter (N ¼ of SE ¼ of SE ¼), of Section 13, Township 6, Range 1 West, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, containing 20 acres, more or less

AND ALSO:

Lot Forty-Nine (49) Ridgewood Park, Part One(1), and a subdivision according to the map or plot thereof on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County, at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plot Book 19 at Page 1

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 3991

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 Cobalt Realty, LLC has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to operate a tattoo parlor and art gallery within a C80-MU (Mixed-Use) Subdistrict on property located at 4700 Robinson Rd. – Suite 750, in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A parcel of land being situated in the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 5 North, Range 1 West, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an existing iron pin marking the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 5 North, Range 1 West and run thence South 00 degrees 01 minute 53 seconds East along the East line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12 for a distance of 520.48 feet to a point on the South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad; run thence North 61 degrees 09 minutes 11 seconds West along said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad for a distance of 401.79 feet to the Point of Beginning of the parcel of land herein described; from said Point of Beginning, leaving said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad, run thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 39 seconds West, for a distance of 208.02 feet; run thence North 89 degrees SO minutes 21 seconds West for a distance of 56.18 feet; run thence South 28 degrees 55 minutes 38 seconds West for a distance of 29.47 feet; run thence South 53 degrees 24 minutes SO seconds West for a distance of 138.02 feet; run thence North 89 degrees 51 minutes 07 seconds West for a distance of 112.63 feet to the Point of Curvature of a 13.402500 degree curve bearing to the left having a central angle of 19 degrees 07 minutes 08 seconds and a radius of 427.50 feet; run thence along the arc of said 13.402500 degree curve bearing to the left a chord bearing of South 80 degrees 05 minutes 01 seconds West and a chord distance of 141.99 feet to the end of said curve; run thence South 89 degrees 36 minutes 06 seconds West for a distance of 27.20 feet; run thence North 16 degrees 17 minutes 40 seconds East for a distance of 259.39 feet to the Point of Curvature of a 23.873333 degree curve bearing to the left having a central angle of 31 degrees 56 minutes 25 seconds and a radius of 240.00 feet; run thence along the arc of said 23.873333 degree curve bearing to the left a chord bearing of North 00 degrees 19 minutes 28 seconds East and a chord distance of 132.06 feet to the Point of Tangency of said curve; run thence North 15 degrees 38 minutes 45 seconds West for a distance of 76.88 feet; run thence North 18 degrees 18 minutes 42 seconds East for a distance of 69.66 feet to an existing iron pin on the aforesaid South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad; run thence South 68 degrees 32 minutes 52 seconds East along said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad for a distance of 98.30 feet; run thence South 66 degrees 17 minutes 52 seconds East along said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad for a distance of 98.20 feet; run thence South 64 degrees 29 minutes 52 seconds East along said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad for a distance of 98.00 feet; run thence South 61 degrees 44 minutes 22 seconds East along said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad for a distance of 98.50 feet; run thence South 61 degrees 09 minutes 11 seconds East along said South right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad for a distance of 34. 54 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 3.625 acres, more or less

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of September 2017.

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

10/05/2017, 10/19/2017

reference to which is hereby made.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of September 2017.

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

10/05/2017, 10/19/2017

LEGAL

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 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: cm Myers@cdfi.com

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

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 3990

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 KMS Investments, 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 allow for automobile sales of the property located at 5750 I-55 N. Frontage Rd., in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 0.78 ACRES (33,995.48 SQUARE FEET), MORE OR LESS, BEING SITUATED IN THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 1 E, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY METES AND BOUNDS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI; RUN EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SECTION 12 FOR A DISTANCE OF 1649.16 FEET; THENCE SOUTH FOR A DISTANCE OF 238.19 FEET; THENCE N81°27'36"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 85.99 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING FOR THE PARCEL HEREIN DESCRIBED; FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING RUN S00°09'00"E FOR A DISTANCE OF 144.29 FEET; THENCE S89°53'46"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 62.00 FEET; THENCE N80°53'14"W FOR A DISTANCE OF 172.87 FEET TO THE EAST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF HIGHWAY I-55; THENCE RUN ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY 150.30 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A 4748.50 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE RIGHT, SAID ARC HAVING A 150.29 FOOT CHORD BEARING N06°47'19"E; THENCE S81°27'36"E FOR A DISTANCE OF 216.95 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of September 2017.

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

10/05/2017, 10/19/2017

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP  
RFP 2017-14 Lead Partner to Provide Extensive Support on the  
Jackson Public Schools  
Reading Software Subscription & Related Services

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp 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 12, 2017, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing 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 HYPERLINK "http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us" www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

9/28/2017, 10/5/2017

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.

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

Cryptogram Solution

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
PJIUWXLTYATVNZQOKRBSHDC EFMG

HAPPINESS IS ANYONE AND ANYTHING  
YPKKAQWSS AS PQMOQW PQU PQMHYAQL  
THAT'S LOVED BY YOU  
HYPH S NOCWU JM MOD

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Sudoku Solution

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

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

ZONING CASE NO. 3992

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 the First Presbyterian Church has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Special Exception to allow for the residential structure to be used as an office within a R-2 (Single-Family & Two-Family) Residential District on property located at 772 Pinehurst Pl. in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

The following described land and property situated in the City of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, State of Mississippi, to-wit:

Begin at a point on the North line of Pinehurst Street, which point is a distance of 160 feet West along said line from the West line of North Jefferson Street, as said streets are now laid out and improved in said City, and run thence North parallel to said West line of North Jefferson Street a distance of 172 feet; thence West parallel to said North line of Pinehurst Street a distance of 75 2/3 feet; thence South parallel to said West line of North Jefferson Street a distance of 172 feet to the said North line of Pinehurst Street; and thence East along said North line of Pinehurst Street, a distance of 75 2/3 feet to the point of beginning.

The properly hereby conveyed is seventy-five and two-thirds (75 2/3) feet off the East side of that certain parcel of land conveyed to S. P. McRae by Stokes V. Robertson and wife, Sudie B. Robertson, by deed dated June 15, 1934, and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of said County, at Jackson, in Deed Book 268 at Page 593 thereof, to which deed reference is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

AND ALSO

Begin at a point on the North line of Pinehurst Street which point is a distance of 235-2/3 feet West along said line from the West line of North Jefferson Street, as said streets are now laid out and improved in said City, run thence North parallel to said West line of North Jefferson Street a distance of 172 feet; thence West parallel to said North line of Pinehurst Street a distance of 21-1/3 feet; thence South parallel to said West line of North Jefferson Street a distance of 172 feet; and thence East along said North line Pinehurst Street 21-1/3 to the point of beginning; said land being a part of that said land as conveyed by S. P. McRae to Richard Duncan McRae, by deed dated October 25, 1940 and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of said County, at Jackson, in Deed Book 342, at Page 427 thereof, to which deed reference is hereby made in aid of and as a part of this description.

AND ALSO

Begin at a point on the North line of Pinehurst Street, which point is a distance of 257 feet West along said line from the West line of North Jefferson Street, as said streets are now laid out and improved in said City, run thence North parallel to said West line of North Jefferson Street a distance of 172 feet; thence West parallel to said North line of Pinehurst Street a distance of 13 feet; thence South parallel to said West line of North Jefferson Street a distance of 172 feet; and thence East along said North line of Pinehurst Street a distance of 13 feet to the point of beginning; said land being a part of that said land as conveyed by S. P. McRae to Richard Duncan McRae, by deed dated October 25, 1940 and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of said County, at Jackson, in Deed Book 342 at Page 427 thereof, to which deed reference is hereby made in aid of and as part of this description.

And being the same property described in Instrument recorded in Book 7133 at Page 6799.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 28th day of September 2017.

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

10/05/2017, 10/19/2017

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

IN RE: ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE  
CELESTINE RATLIFF, DECEASED  
PRESTON RATLIFF, JR., PETITIONER

CAUSE NO.: P-2017-5801/L

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO: Any Unknown Heirs or  
Any Other Respondent

You have been made a respondent in the Petition to Close the Estate of Celestine Ratliff. Administration of the Estate by Administrator, Preston Ratliff, Jr., seeking a Decree to Close the Estate, Disburse Assets, Discharge the Executor and Other Relief.

You are Summoned to appear and defend against said Petition filed herein before the Honorable Judge, Dewayne Thomas, December 4, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., at the Hinds County Chancery Court, Chancery Courthouse, Jackson, Mississippi. And in case of failure to appear and defend, a judgement will be entered for the things requested in the Petition. You are not required to file any answers or pleadings, but you may do so if you desire.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE COURT this 19th day of September.



EDDIE JEAN CARR  
HINDS COUNTY CHANCERY COURT, Clerk  
By [Signature] D.C.

Chancery Court, Jackson, MS - (601) 953-9191  
Court Reporter - (601) 953-9191  
Post Office Box 5141, Jackson, MS 39296  
(601) 953-6491; chertones4545@yahoo.com

10/05/2017

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6096C MB16-NM001GC

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**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.  
**MCDADDE'S MARKET**  
Northside Drive  
**MCDADDE'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**  
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**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

**BYRAM**  
**DOLLAR GENERAL**  
125 Swinging Bridge Dr.  
**HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE**

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

## Mississippi Classified Advertising Network

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

### Events

#### Trash and Treasures along the Tenn-Tom Waterway (TTTT)

**50 + miles of yard sales, Tishomingo County, Mississippi Friday-Saturday, Oct. 6-7**

Highway 25 North/South and Highway 72 W. and Alt. 72 W. to Burnsville.

Designated set up areas available on a first-come first-serve basis.

### Services-General

**DISH NETWORK.** 190 channels. \$49.99/mo. for 24 mos. Ask about Exclusive Dish Features like Sling® and the Hopper®, plus HighSpeed Internet, \$14.95/mo. (Availability and Restrictions apply.) TV for Less, Not Less TV! 1-877-628-3143

**ADVERTISE STATEWIDE** for one flat rate by placing your ad in the Mississippi Classified Ad Network that runs in almost 100 newspapers. Call Sue at 601-981-3060. and talk with her about your advertising needs.

### Services-Financial

**SAVE YOUR HOME!** Are you behind paying your MORTGAGE? Denied a Loan Modification? Is the bank threatening foreclosure? CALL Homeowner's Relief Line now for Help, 866-948-7316

### Services-Legal

**DIVORCE WITH OR WITHOUT CHILDREN, \$125.00 to start.** Balance of \$25.00 when divorce is final. Property settlement, alimony, child support, fee waiver INCLUDED. Call 800.835.1314.

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### Services-Medical

**CANADA DRUG CENTER:** Safe, affordable medications. Licensed mail order pharmacy. SAVE up to 75%! Get \$10.00 off your first prescription. Free shipping! Call 855-401-7432

**LIVING WITH KNEE OR BACK PAIN?** Medicare recipients that suffer with pain may qualify for a low or no cost knee or back brace. Call 877-863-6359

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### Miscellaneous

**DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY.** Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263

### Services-General

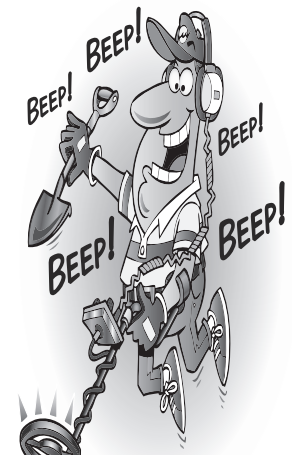
**CUT THE CABLE! CALL DIRECTV.** Bundle & Save! Over 145 Channels PLUS Genie HD-DVR. \$50/month or 2 Years (with AT&T Wireless.) Call for Other Great Offers! Call 1- 800-215-6713

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**1 col. x 4 inch.....\$1050**  
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**Call MS Press Services 601-981-3060**



**September 24, 2017**

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON







By Kam Williams  
Columnist

Lloyd Garmadon (Dave Franco) must be the least liked student at Ninjago High. The unassuming 16 year-old is so unpopular that no kids will even sit on the same side of the bus with him on the ride to school.

What they don't know, however, is that he has a superhero alter ego, namely, the Green Ninja. In that capacity, he

serves as the leader of the Secret Ninja Force, a team of five teens and an android under the tutelage of Lloyd's wise and wisecracking uncle, Master Wu (Jackie Chan).

In lieu of weapons, he's trained each of his proteges to harness a different force of nature contained in his magical treasure chest. The hot-headed Red Ninja (Michael Pena) controls fire. The music-loving Black Ninja (Fred Armisen)

has mastered earth; the Blue Ninja (Kumail Nanjiani), lightning; and the Gray Ninja (Abbi Jacobson), water; while the robotic White Ninja's (Zach Woods) domain is ice.

Their appointed mission is to prevent Lord Garmadon (Justin Theroux) from conquering Ninjago City. Complicating matters is the fact that the evil villain also happens to be Lloyd's long-lost father. He abandoned his wife (Olivia Munn) and

baby when she resisted his embrace of the dark side.

So, all the boy knows about his dad is the little he's been told by his mother and uncle. Consequently, Lloyd is as eager to meet as to defeat the diabolical warlord with the well-earned reputation as the world's "Worst Guy Ever."

If you've seen either LEGO or LEGO Batman, then you have a decent idea of what to expect from the third install-

ment of the inspired, animated franchise. Directed by Charlie Bean, the frenetically-paced, action film features not only another visually-captivating adventure, but more of the pithy asides and clever allusions to screen classics which make the movie interesting to adults not necessarily in the target demo.

Ninjago ultimately proves to be the best episode yet because of the profusion of positive messages delivered by the

picture's end. An alternately high-octane, hilarious and heartwarming treat that's hard to beat.

Excellent (4 stars)

Rated PG for mild action and rude humor

Running time: 101 minutes

Distributor: Warner Brothers Pictures

To see a trailer for The LEGO Ninjago Movie, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bziAA4u7STU>

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BOOK REVIEW:

“LIGHTNING MEN”

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
Columnist

It struck in a second.

If you would have blinked, you would have missed the flash but you would have known it was there by the rumble that followed. There’s nothing like the power and beauty of a summer thunderstorm to put respect into you – except, as in the new novel “Lightning Men” by Thomas Mullen, maybe the crack of a gun.

Even from the front of the truck, Officers Lucian Boggs and Tommy Smith could see that this was trouble.

They’d known for a time that if anyone was going to stop illegal substances from flowing

into the part of Atlanta known as “Darktown,” it would have to be them.

White police officers wouldn’t bother arresting “Lightning Men” who brought drugs and moonshine in; they didn’t care, but Boggs and Smith knew what those things were doing to the people of their community. And so, there they were, approaching a delivery truck in a narrow alley one night, guns in hand.

The subsequent lack of support from fellow officers came as no surprise, nor did the release of the men Boggs and Smith had arrested. That was the latest in a long line of slights from white Atlanta, which was busy being outraged that black

families were moving into formerly-white neighborhoods.

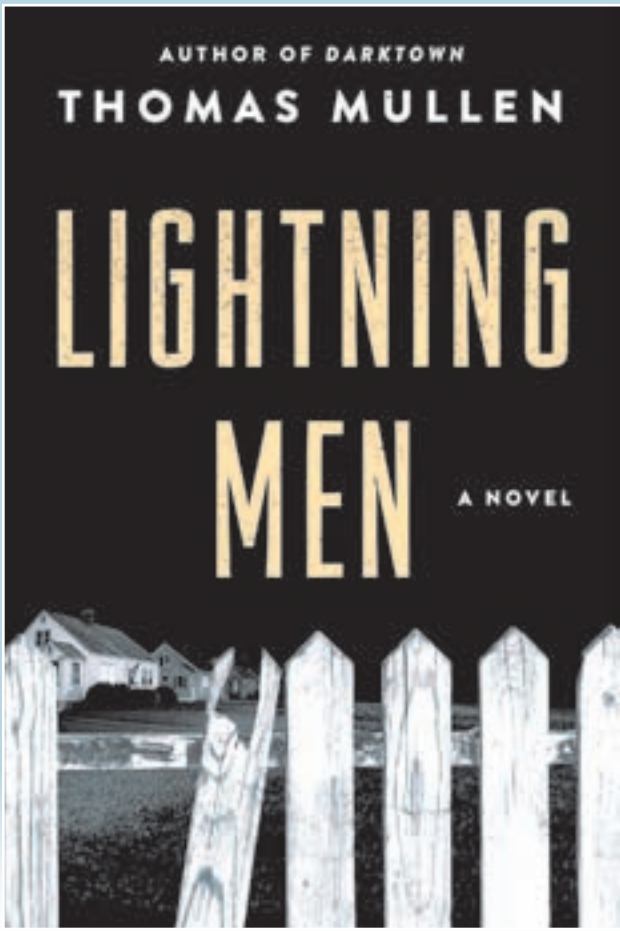
One of those neighborhoods was where Officer Dennis Rakestraw lived.

Rake really had no issue with “Negroes” moving into his neighborhood, but he knew his brother-in-law, Dale, did. Dale was an idiot, that was sure, and Rake was dismayed to know that he was also klan. It was that part that got Dale into trouble before – but never as much trouble as Dale was in now, and he’d pulled Rake straight in the middle of the storm.

As tension heated up over neighborhood segregation, a similar tension simmered within the APD over “the colored experiment” within the department, a white banker assaulted by klansmen, shoot-outs, beatings, and the return of someone who should’ve stayed away. Trust in Atlanta that summer was a rare commodity – between man and woman, between relatives-by-marriage, and even between two APD partners.

There’s a lot going on inside “Lightning Men” – which is good, and it’s not.

Rich in detail and flavored by the presence of real-life people, this novel, set in 1950, also contains snippets of authentic racism, Jim Crow laws, and social mores of the post-War American South. This offers readers a fine tale with an atmosphere of



confusion, beauty and horror, in which author Thomas Mullen inserts two officers, both of whom are likeable characters and fit perfectly into this story.

But oh, it’s a long story. Too long, in fact: plot lines stretch forever before tying up; dead characters strut on the sidelines; and a rotating cast numbers in the dozens, which can make a

reader disoriented. A too-convenient ending is no fun, either.

And yet, readers of noir crime dramas might relish tackling this book and its meticulously-written lushness; if that’s you, this is your kind o’book.

For lighter readers or cozy-mystery fans, though, “Lightning Men” probably won’t strike you.

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 Charlie Brown

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
P																		S							

A

Y P K K A Q W S S

A

S S

A

S

A

P Q M O Q W

A

P Q U

A

P Q M H Y A Q L

A

H Y P H

S

N O C W U

J M

M O D

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

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

The BEAUTY of CANCER

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October 13 - 29, 2017

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Jackson, Mississippi 39201

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# *90th Birthday Celebration* *Ruth Elizabeth Oatis Weir*

**College Hill Baptist Church • Jackson, Miss. • September 23, 2017**

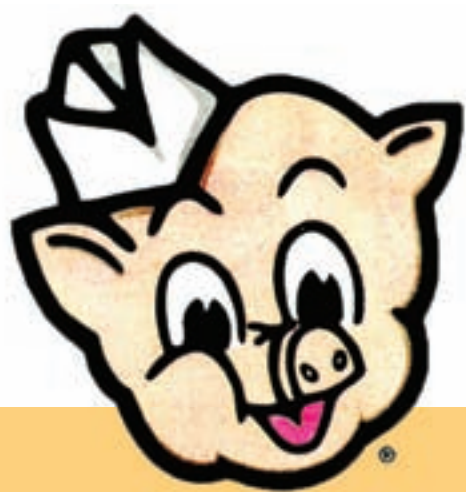
PHOTOS BY THOMAS JOHNSON





October 4 - 10, 2017

# piggly wiggly



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STORE HOURS:

Monday - Saturday / 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

225 Meadowbrook Rd.  
JACKSON, MS

2875 McDowell Rd.  
JACKSON, MS

STORE HOURS:

Monday - Saturday / 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

1574 West Government Blvd.  
BRANDON, MS

Crossgates Shopping  
Village

*Down Home, Down The Street™*

the price you see is the price  
you pay at the register.  
[www.pigglywigglyms.com](http://www.pigglywigglyms.com)

## No Cards Needed To Shop Our Low Prices

USDA CHOICE BEEF

**RIBEYE  
STEAKS**

PER LB.

**\$8<sup>99</sup>**

USDA CHOICE BEEF

**SIRLOIN TIP  
ROAST**

PER LB.

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**

SAVE ON

**QUARTER LOIN  
PORK CHOPS**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>39</sup>**

USDA CHOICE BEEF

**SIRLOIN TIP  
STEAK**

PER LB.

**\$3<sup>49</sup>**

FAMILY PACK

**CENTER CUT  
PORK CHOPS**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>79</sup>**

FAMILY PACK

**BREAKFAST CUT  
PORK CHOPS**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>99</sup>**

GREAT ON THE GRILL!

**BABY BACK  
PORK RIBS**

PER LB.

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**

SUGARTREE

**SPIRAL  
SLICED HAM**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>39</sup>**

GWALTNEY

**SLICED  
BACON**

12 OZ.

**\$2<sup>99</sup>**

BONELESS

**FRYER  
BREAST**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>99</sup>**

JUMBO PACK

**FRYER  
WINGS**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>99</sup>**

FAMILY PACK

**CATFISH  
NUGGETS**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>39</sup>**

### FRESH PRODUCE

RED DELICIOUS / GALA

**APPLES**

PER LB.

**\$1<sup>00</sup>**

FRESH ICEBERG

**LETTUCE**

HEAD

**\$1<sup>00</sup>**

**BAGGED RUSSET  
POTATOES**

8 LB.

**\$2<sup>49</sup>**

### DAIRY & FROZEN DEPARTMENTS

COUNTRY CROCK

**SPREAD  
MARGARINE**

45 OZ. ....

**2/\$5**

PIGGLY WIGGLY

**SHREDDED  
CHEESE**

8 OZ. PKG. ....

**3/\$5**

FLORIDA NATURAL

**ORANGE JUICE**

59 OZ. ....

**2/\$6**

WHITE OR YELLOW

**PICTSWEET  
CHUB CORN**

64 OZ. ....

**5/\$5**

SELECT FROZEN

**PICTSWEET  
VEGETABLES**

10 - 12 OZ. ....

**5/\$5**

SELECT

**ORE IDA FRIES**

2 LB. ....

**2/\$5**

FROZEN

**EGGO  
WAFFLES**

10.7 - 12.3 OZ. ....

**2/\$4**