


BREAKING NEWS: New details in the Robert Shuler Smith case



Smith

A bomb shell explosive uncovered Wednesday reveals a pattern of intentional intimidation/scare tactics by Christie Edwards towards Smith. The Mississippi Link has uncovered a police report filed by a Hinds County investigator Tuesday in Rankin County that showcases threats and the brandishing of a weapon, intended for Smith. Could this be considered “transferred intent?”

The Mississippi Link will go inside the story in next week’s publication. Stay tuned for details in print and online at www.themississippilink.com

Tax-forfeited property sales in Hinds County generate more than \$414,000 for cities, schools and the county

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann handed Hinds County officials a \$414,265.67 check today representing proceeds from a tax-forfeited property auction earlier this fiscal year and other general sales.

“With the implementation of online auctions, citizens are able to go online and bid on property in a matter of minutes,” Hosemann said. “This has allowed us to return more property to the tax rolls and more money to local schools and governmental entities, like those within Hinds County.”

The Public Lands Division held an online property auction in July-August 2017, which generated a majority of the sales. Including other sales since the be-


Tax sales

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Respect the press

Black celebrities, athletes and politicians must respect the black press

By Rosetta Miller-Perry
The Tennessee Tribune/NNPA Member



Throughout history, the Black Press has been the best friend that black celebrities, athletes and politicians have ever had. The Black Press often covers black public figures from the very start of their careers, before they’re “discovered” by the mainstream media, all the way through to their ascension to star or leadership status.

Before they became household names, had hit records, secured multi-million dollar contracts or became leaders in the United States Congress, it was the Black Press that was always there for their press conferences and events, often giving them extensive coverage when the mainstream media might only give them a brief mention in the B-section of their newspapers or 15 seconds at the end of an evening news segment.

Waters declares Trump impeachment to be her ‘number one priority’

Says ‘impeachment resolutions’ will be unveiled

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

U. S. Rep. Maxine Waters says she has made the impeachment of President Donald Trump her “number one priority” and that she will soon “unveil impeachment resolutions” for supporters to read and educate others.

“I’ve decided to put my career on the line to make the removal of this president my number one priority because he does not deserve to be president, he’s dangerous and he has undermined the whole democracy,” Waters told hundreds in the audience at the 90th Anniversary reception of the National Bankers Association (NBA). “I’m about to unveil impeachment resolutions so that you can read them and you can see it’s about collusion, it’s about obstruction of justice; it’s about violation of the emoluments clause. We are going to make sure everyone gets copies because I want you to talk about it everywhere and explain it to other people so that they understand that it is possible.”

Waters made her remarks Oct. 5 just before receiving the NBA’s “Statesperson of the Year” award from NBA President Michael Grant. In various press interviews and speeches, Waters has repeatedly made clear her intent to lead impeachment proceedings against Trump. In her NBA speech she was explicit about her reasons. At the top of the list, “He’s colluded with Russians.”

Although, there has not yet been proof of collusion between the Trump campaign and the Russian government, numerous Trump associates have been found to have been in touch with Russians during his presidential campaign against Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton.

Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III has announced charges

National Bankers Association President Michael Grant and NBA Chief Financial Officer Victor Cook present ‘Statesperson of the Year’ award to U. S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) PHOTO: RODNEY MINOR

against three advisers to the Trump campaign.

Former Trump campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, has turned himself in to the F.B.I. and pleaded not guilty to a 12 count indictment that includes millions in laundered money. Manafort’s longtime advisor, Rick Gates, also a Trump campaign associate, has also been charged and has turned himself in while pleading not guilty.

A third Trump associate, George Papadopoulos, former foreign policy adviser to the Trump campaign, has pled guilty to lying to the F.B.I. and has been cooperating with investigators, according to the FBI. Federal investigators believe Russians contacted Papadopoulos through intermediaries in order to offer “dirt” on Clinton through thousands of emails, according to widespread reports.

“It was about getting Trump elected and preventing Hillary Clinton from getting elected. And maybe when Mr. Mueller finishes his job and connects the dots, we’re going to see exactly what happened,” Waters told the bankers in anticipation of the charges.

But in her speech, which was punctuated with applause, Waters expressed belief that there’s sufficient reason for the impeachment of Trump even without any findings of collusion or Russian engagement.

She said the president has become a danger to Americans as he nods, winks and gives comforting messages to hatemongers such as white supremacists, Ku Klux Klan members and white nationalists who came to Charlottesville, Va.

“He said there are some good people over there too and he stood up for them. And so, we know who

he is and we know what he’s doing,” Waters said.


Waters encouraged the bankers to “step outside the box” and to aggressively join her in speaking up on key democratic issues.

“Bankers, African-Americans, leaders, business persons, you owe it to this country to give leadership. We can’t wait for somebody else to do it as if we don’t have any role in all of this,” she said. “It’s important for us to understand that we do have some power, we do have some influence and that we must organize that power and that influence. And we must speak out on the issues of this democracy.”

The NBA is made up of banks that have historically served in communities which are often redlined or denied loans by major white-owned

Waters


Continued on page 3



Left to right Corinne Anderson, Wauline Carter, Rita Wray, Terryce Walker, Laverne Gentry, Maggie Terry Harper, Katrina B. Myricks, Lisa Green, Ethel Gibson, A Darby, Brenda Cox

NCAA releases graduation success rates, Tigers continue to succeed

Inside



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Holiday Hats still going strong

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Incorporated, Central Mississippi Chapter will celebrate its 26th Annual Holiday Top Hat Brunch Saturday, November 25, at the Hilton Jackson, 1001 East County Line Road, Jackson. The fun begins with seating at 10:30 a.m., and the program starts at 11 a.m.

This holiday tradition in the metro Jackson area serves as the primary fundraiser for the chapter’s annual scholarship awards and other programs that impact our community in the areas of education, health, economic empowerment, and leadership development. Over the years, more than \$240,000 in scholarships have been provided to deserving young ladies throughout Mississippi.

As one of the holiday season’s most anticipated events, it promises to be an afternoon filled with live music, fun and door prizes.

This year’s theme is Holiday Hats on the Runway and all guests (men, women and youth) are invited to participate in the Legendary Parade of Hats competition in the various categories.

Participants will be judged, with winners selected in each category.


Not only is the excitement of the runway the center of attraction during this annual event, but a holiday shopping extravaganza will take place from 9:30 a.m. — 2 p.m. Vendors will be onsite to provide a selection of items to purchase as gifts, keepsakes and more.

Tickets for this fun and festive event are \$50 and can be purchased in advance from members.

Hats

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Bound to the Fire: How Virginia’s Enslaved Cooks Helped Invent American Cuisine



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Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:

Hinds Board to recognize heroic JPD, JFD and AMR staff

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Two Jackson residents are alive today thanks to the quick, expert work of a Jackson Police officer and three Jackson firefighters in separate incidents. And an AMR paramedic badly hurt in an ambulance crash in March is also being called a hero.

The Hinds County Board of Supervisors will hear the five public safety workers' stories and present them the board's Above and Beyond Award at the body's meeting Monday, November 20 near 9 a.m. in the chancery building boardroom, 316 South President Street.

On March 28, AMR medic Jimmy Miller was taking care of his patient in the back of his ambulance traveling north on I-55 in Jackson when another vehicle crashed into the ambulance and flipped it on its side. Although Miller suffered serious head and face injuries with major blood loss, he continued to help his patient.

The stretcher with the patient strapped in had held so the patient was suspended in mid-air above Miller. After getting thrown around violently in the patient compartment, Miller wound up on the side of the ambulance facing the pavement. When rescuers pried open the ambulance doors, he told them, "Take the patient out first." Rescuers replied, "We have to take you out now so we can take the stretcher down safely."

Miller's AMR co-workers took him to the hospital in another ambulance. Miller, on his own stretcher, arrived moments before the patient he had been treating. As the patient was rolled by Miller, he gave the nurse assigned to the patient a full report about the patient – just as he would for any patient he brought to the emergency department.

Miller's injuries included skull fractures which led to his missing four months of work to allow healing. He has resumed fulltime paramedic duties.

On August 17, AMR Paramedic Jeff Goodwin was dispatched to a patient with a life-threatening wound. When Good-

win arrived, he saw that Jackson Police Department Corporal Robert Flanagan had applied a "combat tourniquet" to the patient.

Goodwin said, "Because Cpl. Flanagan put the tourniquet on quickly and correctly and it controlled the bleeding, I have no doubt whatsoever he saved the patient's life. Without Flanagan's excellent decision-making and precision, the patient would have bled to death."

Goodwin told AMR managers he felt Flanagan's work deserved recognition.

On September 28, AMR Paramedic Ken Walters was sent to a patient whose heart had stopped. On arrival, he saw that personnel from Jackson Fire Department had reached the scene. A trio from JFD Station 19, Sammy Nicholson, Erik Baker and Dewayne Watkins, had revived the patient.

The JFD rescuers told Walters they

found the patient unresponsive, not breathing and lacking a pulse. They had attached an automated external defibrillator to the patient's chest and when the device told the trio not to shock the patient, they started CPR.

Walters said, "They did everything right so when I began to treat the patient, the AED was still attached but the patient was sitting up, breathing and conscious. JFD's high quality CPR saved the pa-

tient's life."

Jim Pollard, AMR public affairs manager, said, "While law enforcement officers, fire-rescue teams, paramedics and EMTs are heroes every day, getting recognized isn't their motivation. But the great work on these three calls struck us at AMR as worthy of sharing with the community. And what better time is there to honor public safety responders than the week of Thanksgiving."



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Hats

Continued from page 1



2017 Top Hat chairs Rita Wray, Katrina B. Myrick, Terryce Walker, Laverne Gentry, Corinne Anderson

bers. The 26th Annual Holiday Top Hat Brunch Parade of Hats Competition Categories:

ASHANTI
Action-oriented, energetic, strong-willed, undefeatable! This hat is designed for the spirited tigress or lioness who adores animal print and dares to “walk on the wild side” with class and intrigue. Whether cheetah, giraffe, leopard, tiger, or zebra, this hat adds “jungle fever” with style to any ensemble.

SISTER CORETTA
Representing the fashionable church lady, always dressed to impress in hat, gloves, suit or dress, this hat is the essence of conservative ladyship and “Sunday morning.”

ENJOLI
Anything goes...This hat is designed for the woman who struts her own style, may be plain or bold. With an ensemble chosen for the occasion...or not. It simply says, “My Style.”

CONTESSA
Worn sedately, royally and regally. Whether simply adorned or “classy with sass,” the wearer of this hat chose it and her accessories to exude an aura of nobility, distinction, celebration of life and a commitment to service to the community.

JAZMINE
(K-12) Designed for the young ladies looking fabulously fierce and commanding attention, this hat may be dressy, casual, snappy, bold or daring, yet stylish; coordinated with dressy or casual at-

tire, coming or going, this hat has head-turning S-t-y-l-e.

DIVA
Worn bodaciously by the self-assured, style-conscious woman, this hat, small, medium or large is fashionably adorned with jewels, feathers, beads or flowers and is coordinated with a trendy ensemble and accessories to compliment a bold dramatic ensemble.

LABELLE
This head garment is the bomb and is bedecked with lots of glitter. It may be adorned with an outlandish design, jewel-tipped hackle feathers, or ornate gemstones, but the bling just cannot be missed. The hat is coordinated with a **BOLD** dramatic ensemble letting you know this woman is “feeling good from her head to her shoes!”

JUSTICE
(K-12) This stylish hat is worn by a young, aspiring male who is cognizant of what it means to be young, gifted and black in the 21st century. The wearer of this hat accepts advice and makes wise choices, including the garments he wears which are always appropriate to the setting.

SOPHISTICATED GENT
Designed for the distinguished, debonair MAN who knows how to don a hat to accessorize and complement dressy, conservative, and/or ethnocentric apparel. The gentleman knows his hat symbolizes class, style and sophistication.

For additional information you may contact Maggie Terry Harper at 601.898.0326.

Black Press

Continued from page 1

until proven innocent.” It’s the Black Press that usually takes the “innocent until proven guilty” approach, urging fairness and caution, telling readers, listeners and viewers to wait until all the evidence is in, frequently reminding folks of all the great things that their favorite hero did in the past.

The Black Press remains the advocate for black celebrities, athletes and politicians, even now, despite the fact that so many of them seem oblivious to our existence. That is why, increasingly, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade group that represents over 200 black-owned media companies that reach more than 20 million readers in print and online every week, is reminding these black public figures that black newspapers are their champions and defenders 24/7, and that we have backed them in good times and bad.

While the classic case of a black superstar, who ran away from the Black Press for years and then returned at the eleventh hour, remains O.J. Simpson, it is instructive to see how mainstream media is covering the NFL in the wake of Donald Trump’s garbage claims that the players are somehow “disrespecting the flag and the military” if they kneel during the playing of the national anthem, a claim that was and continues to be absolute nonsense.

The Black Press backed Colin Kaepernick’s protest against oppression and police brutality from the beginning, and continues to do so. The Black Press supports Seattle Seahawks defensive lineman Michael Bennett and other players who have responded positively in the wake of criticism. Black newspapers have printed the entire Star-Spangled Banner, including its verses supporting slavery, while many mainstream publications have bought into the Trump idiocy. When conservative newspapers and publications attacked ESPN commentator Jemele Hill for her tweets about Trump, it was the Black Press that offered unqualified support.

We’ve been there through decades of attacks on black leaders, and we remain vigilant to the constant character assassination and innuendos lodged against black public figures at the local, state and national levels.

What the Black Press wants from black celebrities, athletes and politicians is respect, fairness, transparency and the same access provided to mainstream media outlets. Don’t just advertise in *The New York Times* or *The Washington Post*; also do business with NNPA member publications; continue to make appearances at black radio stations; order subscriptions to black publications, in print and online. Our subscriptions and advertising rates are more reasonable than those of the big corporate newspapers, and despite what some advertising firms say, we’re more trusted in the black community than “general” market publications.

It’s time for black celebrities, athletes and politicians who say they value entrepreneurship and economic empowerment to do business with the Black Press. Why should black public figures financially support our mainstream competitors, exclusively, who have very few connections to the black community?

The Black Press was there for our black entertainers and politicians passionately sharing their stories with our readers, listeners and viewers when no one knew who they were. We celebrate their success and we won’t assume guilt if something goes wrong, or desert them when they’re wrongfully accused and dragged through the gutter by the mainstream media.

So, to the black celebrities, athletes and politicians that think that they’re too big for the Black Press: recognize and support us as we’ve recognized and supported you all along.

The Tennessee Tribune is a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.

Waters

Continued from page 1

banks. Waters praised their records of standing with and for oppressed communities. “You have not only stayed the course, but you’ve remained in our communities and we all have a responsibility to help you grow and to be stronger and to get the impediments and the road blocks out of the way. We’re going to do that,” she said.

Waters, now the ranking member of the House Financial Services Committee, has attended NBA annual conferences for the past 10 years. She is a favorite as she pushes to “establish an agenda for minority and black owned banks and work with the Democratic Caucus in trying to bring about equality in the financial services world.”

At the close of her speech, NBA President Michael Grant awarded Waters with what he described as “the highest honor a public official can receive in this country.” He said, the “‘Statesperson Award’ means they have transcended politics, that they have put their country

and the greater good above their own careers and their own safety.”

Grant praised Waters for repeatedly standing for black bankers and business, demanding a fair share. He added, “She not only fights for African Americans and for women and workers, she doesn’t care what color you are. Anybody who’s locked out or left out find their way to her. She has the largest Congressional District in the country. It goes from Los Angeles to Boston and from Miami up to Detroit,” he said to enthusiastic applause.

“Everything that you fight for seems to be the good fight, the just fight, the fight for or the concern for the least of these,” Grant said. “She understands patriotism better than anybody I know. She loves America, she loves democracy. She wants this country to be what the flag tells us it is – one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

Tax sales

Continued from page 1



ginning of Fiscal Year 2018 outside of the property auction, the Secretary of State’s Office has restored more than 440 parcels to the tax rolls in Hinds County. The sold parcels include the Southport Mall Shopping Center, located at Highway 80 and Ellis Avenue, which has been vacant for years.

Money raised through the sales of tax-forfeited property in Hinds County will be distributed in varying amounts to the Hinds County Board of Supervisors, Chancery Clerk and Sheriff; the cities of Clinton, Jackson and Terry; and Hinds, Jackson and Clinton Public Schools.

“Every dollar we receive is another dollar we can spend on important city services, like police and fire protection,” Jackson Mayor Chokwe Lu-

mumba said. “Most importantly, though, we’re seeing redevelopment and reinvestment in land which has been dormant in our neighborhoods. That is good news for Jackson, Hinds County, and the state.”

In recent years, successful tax-forfeited auctions in Greenville, Greenwood/Leflore County, Hancock County, Hinds County, Jackson, McComb, Meridian, Pearl River County, Rankin County, Waveland, Vicksburg and Yazoo City have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Mississippi schools, cities and counties.

For more information about parcels forfeited for nonpayment of ad valorem taxes, visit <http://www.sos.ms.gov/Public-Lands/Pages/Tax-Forfeited-Lands.aspx> or call (601) 359-5156.



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JMMF partners with Clothing Across America & The Williams Family to give jeans to needy families



The Mississippi Link Newswire

Just in time for the holiday season, The Williams Family will make a special trip to the Jackson Medical Mall to give away brand new jeans, socks and more to underserved families. Jumping for Jeans will take place Monday, November 27 from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. at the Jackson Medical Mall.

In a unique partnership with Jackson Medical Mall Foundation, Clothing Across America is donating thousands of brand new clothing items and necessities to needy families and individuals, and The Williams Family will host the event.

Clothing Across America's Clothes Drop Events are a unique collaborative event consisting of a non-profit organization, a celebrity and Clothing Across America with a specific theme attached to the event.

This is Clothing Across

America's second event with the incredible Williams Family. The theme for this event is Jumping for Jeans as the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation and the Williams family give back to help those in need.

About Clothing Across America

Clothing Across America is a dynamic national non-profit organization that collaborates with manufacturers and businesses to get new clothing/related items into the hands that need them most throughout the United States. Clothing Across America distributes brand new clothing to shelters, clothing banks and emergency relief organizations free of charge. Clothing can provide a person in poverty the opportunity to move forward, fit in and increase their self-esteem. Clothing Across America – a united journey to restore hope and dignity one thread at a time.

Employees honored for service at Mississippi State hospital



Service Award Group

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi State Hospital recently honored employees with November anniversaries for their years of service to the hospital.

Service awards are given to MSH employees in the month of their date of hire, beginning with one year and followed by every fifth anniversary year. Employees receive a certificate of appreciation and a service award pin.

The program is sponsored by Friends of Mississippi State Hospital Inc.

Mississippi State Hospital November service award recipi-

ents include: Front Row (left to right): Sharon Sanders (Byram), 1 year; Tiara Barnes (Brandon), 1 year; Shaeffer Anne Williams (Pearl), 1 year; Mary Lynn Bankester (Madison), 5 years; Back Row (l-r): Lea Bailey (Pelahatchie), 1 year; Denise Rogers (Jackson), 25 years; Clifton Clincy (Jackson), 1 year.

MSH, a program of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and helps the individuals it serves achieve mental wellness by encouraging hope, promoting safety, and supporting recovery.

The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

HCSD Celebrate Red Ribbon Week!



Local law enforcement officers and emergency responders address students at GRI.



McGruff the Crime Dog visit RES



McGruff the Crime Dog visit GRE



BEEMS students do a balloon release for Red Ribbon Week.

Shining more light on solar.



Entergy Mississippi is committed to providing affordable, reliable and clean power to Mississippians for generations to come. So we're making it easier for our customers to self-generate solar electricity and incorporate solar power into our power grid. Thanks to net metering, registered solar users earn credit for excess solar energy sent back to the grid.

The Mississippi Public Service Commission is making it easier to understand how solar can work for you. "A Consumer's Guide to Solar Power in Mississippi" provides information on how solar and net metering work, and the details you need to consider before purchasing or leasing hardware.

Get the working group's guide for free at entergybrightfuture.com.



Congratulations to Jay Johnson

from The Mississippi Link

The JSD Foundation is delighted
to announce an

Inaugural Exhibit



A Legacy Retrospective of Jay D. Johnson:
Rays of Hope in Mississippi

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.*



Five JPS JROTC cadets attend Selective Youth Leadership Conference

Mississippi Link Newswire

Five outstanding JROTC cadets were selected to attend the 2017 Military Order of World Wars (MOWW) Youth Leadership Conference at the U.S. Space Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

The selectees, all high school juniors, were:

Cadet Shamia Thompson, Wingfield High, GPA 3.82 on 4 point scale. Ranks No. 1 in her class of 142 juniors.

Cadet Jaydin Reeves, Murrah High, GPA 3.7 on 4 point scale.

Cadet Brianna Gunn, Jim Hill High, GPA 4.0 on 5 point scale.*

Cadet Osha' Love Lowery, Jim Hill High, GPA 4.4 on 5 point scale.*

Cadet Brandie Wigley, Provine High, GPA 3.2 on 4 point scale.

Their JROTC instructors nominated the JPS cadets. Board members from the Jackson Chapter of the MOWW reviewed resumes and interviewed students from across the metro area. Over 80 other high school students

from five states attended the conference. The four-day conference was held November 1–4.

Cadet Thompson of Wingfield had this to say regarding her experience at the Youth Leadership Conference:

“I was very thankful for the opportunity to participate in the Youth Leadership Conference in Huntsville. I was able to meet amazing new people, and my team managed to place first in every competition. Our leadership skills improved. We learned and grew as a result of this camp. We also gained more information on the Constitution, free enterprise and this outstanding country in which we live. I had an amazing time representing JPS and Jackson.”

Cadet Love Lowery of Jim Hill offered these comments:

“At YLC (MOWW) I had an amazing experience. I enjoyed not only learning how to become a more effective leader, but I also encountered different cadets from diverse backgrounds. The team building exercises and workshops informed me about

survival skills. That is what I liked the most. There were opportunities to learn about career fields. I appreciated the panel of retired military speakers that talked to us about their profession and answered questions. The experience was very eye-opening. I plan to use the skills I learned there in my everyday life.”

MOWW serves America’s youth by hosting youth leadership conferences throughout the U.S. These students receive free training on leadership in a free society. They learn concepts of the free enterprise system, principles of Democracy, and the Constitution and Bill of Rights. They also learn the civic responsibilities associated with preserving American rights and freedoms. Attendees develop speaking, writing and leadership skills, which contribute to making them better citizens and future leaders.

**International Baccalaureate students. Grades are weighted for IB students on a 5-point scale.*

15 members appointed to Better Together Commission

Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant, Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation have appointed 15 members to the newly created Better Together Commission. The independent group is charged with transforming the Jackson Public School District to ensure that all students succeed.

“I believe that a strong educational system is the basis of an economic model based on human dignity,” said Lumumba. “I am deeply appreciative of these commissioners sharing their skills to better our community. As we work together to build a bold new vision of our city, let us start where it matters most – the future of our children.”

“I am grateful for these individuals’ willingness to serve and for their commitment to bring transformational change to Jackson Public Schools,” said Bryant. “I look forward to the commission beginning work as we move toward becoming better together.”

The group has been assembled to chart a new path toward transformational change in the district.

The fifteen commission members are:

Ivy L. Allen, president, Foundation for the Mid South

Claiborne Barksdale,



Assistant Superintendent Laketia Marshall-Thomas is one of three JPS administrators appointed to serve as a member of the commission.

CEO, Barksdale Reading Institute

Robert Blaine, CAO, City of Jackson

Dr. Geraldine Chaney, pediatrician

Cheryl Coleman, JPS employee with two children in the district

Ronnie Crudup Sr., senior pastor, New Horizon Church International

Kathleen Grigsby, principal, Davis Magnet Elementary School

Shauna Nicholson-Johnson, principal, Baker Elementary School

Charles McClelland, board member, Mississippi Board of Education

Paheadra Bratton Robinson, partner specialist, U.S. Census Bureau with three children in JPS

Yumeka Burt Rushing, program officer, W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Laurie Smith, Education and Workforce Development policy advisor, Office of Gov. Phil Bryant

Ed Sivak, executive vice president, Hope Enterprise Corporation

Leland Speed, developer and former MDA executive director

Laketia Marshall-Thomas, Area 2 assistant superintendent, JPS

The Better Together Commission held its first meeting November 8 at the Mississippi Museum of Art located at 380 S. Lamar Street in downtown Jackson. The meeting was open to the public.

Jackson Public Schools' Students to compete for top honors in reading fair


Friday, November 17 Cardozo Middle School, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Jackson Public Schools’ students in grades PreK-12 will compete for top honors in the District’s annual reading fair Friday, November 17, 2017, at Cardozo Middle School located at 3180 McDowell Road Extension.

Registration and set-up begins at 7:45 a.m. with the judging of the storyboard exhibits beginning at 9 a.m., followed by an awards ceremony at 12:30 p.m. Students participating in the fair will display projects that reflect their love and enthusiasm for their favorite books. Each student will stand by his or her project during the judging to answer questions about the storyboard.

Winners of the JPS fair will advance to the regional fair in the spring.

For more information, contact the Office of Advanced Learning Programs at (601) 960-8310.



Jackson Public Schools

JPS Food Service earns gold award for fifth straight year

Mississippi Link Newswire

The JPS Food Service Department received the Gold Award from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSC) Program. The honor goes to school districts that model excellent USDA programs. All of the district’s elementary schools have achieved this title for the last five years.

The JPS Food Service Program has earned national recognition for providing quality meals to students. It has led local efforts to prevent obesity since 2006. That’s when the district instituted its first wellness policy. Not long after that, First Lady Michelle Obama visited the district as part of her Let’s Move campaign.

The department’s initiatives include:

- A wellness walk held annually in October



Participation in National School Lunch Week

An employee weight loss challenge

An ongoing rollout of combi ovens to replace fryers in schools

The OrganWise Guys Nutrition Education Program.

The USDA oversees the Food Service Department at the federal level. The Of-

fice of Child Nutrition of the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) and the JPS School Board also manage the program.

The HUSC is a voluntary certification program. It recognizes schools that have created healthier school settings by promoting nutrition and exercise. Established in 2004, it has recognized thousands of schools across America.

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Hinds CC culinary students compete, place in culinary events in Mississippi

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Culinary arts students at two Hinds Community College campuses competed in two events in Mississippi during the week of Oct. 23-27.

Students from the Vicksburg-Warren Campus won third place at the Central Mississippi “Savor the Flavor of Mississippi” competition held Oct. 23-24 at Oak Grove High School in Hattiesburg. Six colleges and high schools competed in the event. Dishes that helped the team place included sweet potato hash and white chicken enchilada casserole.

On Oct. 26, three teams of culinary students from the Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center competed against each other at the third annual Fall FEASTival at Township at Colony Park in Ridgeland, presented by the Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi. A dish titled Holy Guacamole won, consisting of sweet potato toast topped with guacamole and a chipotle marinated shrimp sautéed in avocado oil and a coriander crema.



Brandi Emerle, left, and Tykeria Henyard prepare ingredients during the Central Mississippi “Savor the Flavor of Mississippi” competition Oct. 23-24 at Oak Grove High School in Hattiesburg. Both are culinary arts students at Hinds Community College Vicksburg-Warren Campus. The Hinds team’s dishes of sweet potato hash and white chicken enchilada casserole won third place out of six colleges and high schools who competed. HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE/SEDRICK LILLEY



Keeana Bell, of Clinton, a culinary arts student at Hinds Community College, moves some marinated shrimp from one pan to another during the 3rd annual Fall FEASTival at Township at Colony Park in Ridgeland. Teams of Hinds culinary students from the Jackson Campus competed against each other at the event, which was presented by the Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi.

USM College of Business to honor Robinson as Alumna of Year

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Longtime Sanderson Farms executive and former State College Board President Robin Robinson has been named the 2017 Boardman Alumna of the Year by The University of Southern Mississippi’s College of Business. She will be honored during a special ceremony set for Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. in Scianna Hall’s McDonnell Auditorium on the Hattiesburg campus.

The award, sponsored through an endowment by the late Joseph F. Boardman, is presented annually during the college’s Fall Honors ceremony.

“The students graduating in December who are earning awards in the college have the opportunity to hear from an alum who has a distinguished career and record of service to the community,” said Faye Gilbert, dean of the USM College of Business. “I am particularly pleased that this year we honor Robin Robinson. Her record of service to our state, to the people of Sanderson Farms, and to Southern Miss is simply exemplary.” The daughter of a justice court judge and a USM accounting graduate, Robinson was born and reared in rural Mississippi, the same state where she would later serve as a community leader, education advocate and director for the only Fortune 1000 company headquartered within the state.

Throughout her nearly 40-year career at Sanderson Farms, Robinson has been a proven leader, making history as the first female cost accountant, chief account-



Robinson

tant, chief internal auditor, human resources manager and the first female member of the company’s executive committee.

A graduate of Jones County Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi, Robinson earned an associate’s degree in business administration and a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting.

Robinson, director of Organization Development and Communication at Sanderson Farms, is quick to note that the importance of a good education can never be understated. And she emphasizes that students at Southern Miss are afforded the opportunity to receive a great education. “An education at Southern Miss not only provides the basics of a good education, the college of business also facilitates both teamwork and innovation, and I believe these attributes, along with integrity, are indeed factors for a successful life and career,” said Robinson. “It means a great deal to me to receive the Alumna of the Year Award from the College of Business at Southern

Miss. In so many ways I did benefit in my career from the opportunities provided to me. This award seems to bring that together in a full circle.”

Now the third largest poultry producer in the nation, Sanderson Farms has grown significantly since Robinson began her career with the company in 1978. With nearly \$3 billion in sales, over 14,000 employees and operations spanning five states and 14 different communities, Sanderson Farms is a leader in the poultry industry.

Since being named director of Organization Development and Corporate Communication for Sanderson Farms in 2000, Robinson and her team have been responsible for training more than 27,000 employees, recruiting and hiring more than 130 full-time employees and 130 interns, mentoring more than 60 employees and reporting feedback from more than 3,000 employees to company management annually. She currently serves as chairman of the Board for the Jones County Junior College Foundation and is a member of the Board of Directors for the USM Foundation, the Mississippi Center for Obesity Research and the University of Mississippi Medical Center, as well as serving on the External Advisory Committee for the University of Mississippi Medical Center Neuro Institute and on the Business Advisory Council for the College of Business.

She is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts of Greater Mississippi and the Greater

Pinebelt Community Foundation.

Robinson’s past appointments include serving on the USM Alumni Association’s International Board of Directors, president of the Institutions of Higher Learning Board of Trustees, chairman of Leadership Mississippi, and chair of the M.B. Swayze Educational Foundation.

To learn more about the College of Business at Southern Miss, call (601) 266-4659 or visit: <http://www.usm.edu/business>

Community Learning Centers receive \$14.1 million in federal funds

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi State Board of Education approved recently the distribution of \$14.1 million in federal funds over a three-year period for 21st Century Community Learning Center grants to eligible districts and organizations for the 2017-18 school year.

The 21st Century grants provide federal funding for the establishment of community learning centers that provide academic, artistic and cultural enrichment opportunities for students, particularly those who attend high-poverty, low-performing schools. Typically, these programs are offered after school.

In the grants awarded, 15 new community learning centers received funding totaling \$10.4 million and 23 centers received continued funding at \$3.7 million over three years. Applicants went through a rigorous screening and evaluation process, and the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) offices of

Federal Programs and Grants Management reviewed the final list of providers to ensure accurate funding and program viability.

“As promised, the MDE instituted new procedures for the grant application and awarding process to prevent the errors that occurred in 2016. We understand the importance of the community learning centers, and we believe the new process strengthens accountability for the grant program,” said Carey Wright, State Superintendent of Education.

In August 2016, the MDE announced it was facing a deficit up to \$19 million in the 21st Century grant program because more grants were awarded than available funds. The deficit dropped to \$7.6 million after reconciling 21st Century funds between 2015-16 and 2016-17 and because reimbursement requests from 2015-16 were less than anticipated. The \$7.5 million has been fully restored to the districts.

Hinds CC opens registration for spring classes

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Spring 2018 registration for current students at Hinds Community College is now open with registration for new students to open Nov. 13.

Spring 2018 16-week and first eight-week classes begin Jan. 8 with second eight-week classes to begin March 5.

To register for classes for any term, students must first be admitted to the college. After meeting with a counselor, new students can then register

for classes.

Offices are open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and until 6 p.m. on Tuesdays. The college will close for Thanksgiving at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 21 and reopen Nov. 27. The college will be closed for Christmas break from Dec. 21 to Jan. 1.


The Admissions Office can be reached at (601) 857-3212. Visit the admissions tab on the Hinds website at www.hindscc.edu.

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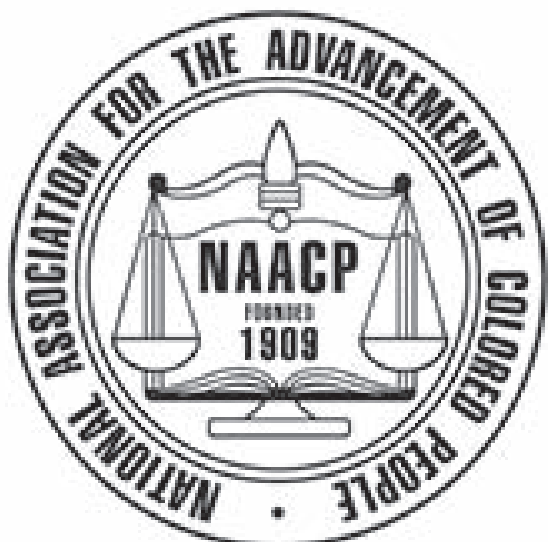
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NAACP set to change tax status to engage politically



By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

After being eclipsed in recent years by Color of Change, Black Lives Matter and other younger, more tech savvy and politically-pointed groups, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization will change its tax status.

The group's leaders said that the new tax status would allow them to be more aggressive politically.

During a call with reporters, NAACP officials announced that the civil rights group will transition from a 501(c)(3) to 501(c)(4) designation. The change will allow the organization to be more partisan and politically focused. However, the tax designation does not allow political work to be the "primary activity" of the organization.

Even though the NAACP is 108 years old, the organization is struggling to modernize and stay relevant in a rapidly-evolving, social media-driven landscape that requires speed and strategic communications skill.

In October, the NAACP named Derrick Johnson as its president; Johnson was elected by the NAACP's board to serve for three years.

In a statement announcing Johnson as the new president, Leon Russell, the board chairman of the NAACP said, "As both a longtime member of the NAACP, and a veteran activist in his own right – having worked on the ground to advocate for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, along with championing countless other issues – Derrick also intimately understands the strengths of the Association, our challenges and the many obstacles facing black Americans of all generations, today. I look forward to continuing to work with him in this new role."

Russell continued: "In his time serving as our interim president and CEO, Derrick has proven



The NAACP announced plans to change their tax status, shortly after announcing that Derrick Johnson would become the group's new president. NAACP

himself as the strong, decisive leader we need to guide us through both our internal transition, as well as a crucial moment in our nation's history. With new threats to communities of color emerging daily and attacks on our democracy, the NAACP must be more steadfast than ever before."

Johnson is a native of Detroit, Michigan who lives in Jackson, Miss. He is a long-time member of the NAACP, who was elected vice chair earlier this year and served as the interim president after Cornell Brooks was forced out. Johnson attended Tougaloo College before earning a juris doctor degree from South Texas College of Law in Houston.

The NAACP ousted Brooks in the spring of this year, a few months before the group's annual convention in Baltimore.

Lauren Victoria Burke is the White House correspondent for the NNPA Newswire, author and political analyst. She is a frequent guest of "News-One Now" with Roland Martin. Connect with Lauren by email LBurke007@gmail.com and on Twitter at @LVBurke.

Democrats, black candidates win historic victories on election night

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The blue wave that swept the country last week wasn't just a victory for Democrats, but a resounding win for African American candidates, who defied the odds – and Trumpism – to make history.

In Charlotte, N.C., voters elected the first female African-American mayor in the city's history, choosing Democrat Vi Lyles over Republican Kenny Smith.

In St. Paul, Minn., Melvin Carter became that city's first black mayor, earning slightly more than 50 percent of the vote in a field that featured 10 candidates and a write-in opponent.

In Virginia, Democrat Justin Fairfax trounced Republican challenger Jill Vogel in the race for lieutenant governor. In January, Fairfax will become only the second African American to hold statewide office in Virginia. Doug Wilder was the first, serving as lieutenant governor from 1986-1990, then as governor from 1990-1994.

Fairfax said his and other Democratic victories could "be the match that sparks the wildfire of progressive" change all across the country.

"This is a battle for the nation's soul," Fairfax said. "Since I announced my candidacy, this campaign has been about the future, about building a Virginia where all of us have the opportunity to rise."

Most saw victories by Democrats as a referendum on President Donald Trump,



Melvin Carter was elected the first Black mayor of St. Paul, Minn., on Tuesday night, Nov. 7, 2017. SCREENSHOT/MELVINCARTER.ORG

whose record low job approval rating has shrunk to 39 percent according to various reports.

Republicans lost races for governor in Virginia, where Ralph Northam easily beat Trump-backed Ed Gillespie, and in New Jersey, where former U.S. Ambassador to Germany Phil Murphy won election as governor, defeating Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno.

Also, in Virginia, attorney general Mark Herring, a Democrat, won reelection over Republican John Adams while Democrats gained at least 10 seats in the House of Delegates.

The party also won key mayoral races in New York, Charlotte, Stamford, Conn., and St. Petersburg and, in a direct rebuke of Trump and Republicans who have tried to repeal the Affordable Care

Act, voters in Maine approved a ballot measure to expand Medicaid under former President Barack Obama's signature healthcare law.

On Twitter, University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato wrote that the results were a "backlash to Trump and Trumpism, pure and simple."

Results may have been helped by a strong get out to vote campaign launched by the NAACP.

The legendary civil rights organization and its approximately 500,000 adult and youth members around the country were on the frontlines committed to raising awareness for political, educational, social and economic equality of minorities in the electoral process, the organization said in a statement posted on its website.

"The NAACP is actively engaged in increasing the African-American responsiveness of citizens to be fully engaged in the democratic process," the statement read.

Terry McAuliffe, Virginia's outgoing Democratic governor, told reporters that the election night victories were indeed a springboard for future elections, including the 2020 presidential race.

"This was a spark plug," McAuliffe said. "This is the revitalization of the Democratic Party in America."

Former Vice President Joe Biden said voters clearly sent a message to Trump.

"A resounding defeat to-night for President Trump," Biden tweeted. "Voters across the country rejected the ugly politics we have seen this past year. Instead, they chose candidates who unite and inspire us."

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus also engaged voters. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), urged everyone to vote.

"The vote is precious, almost sacred," Lewis said. "It is the most powerful nonviolent tool or instrument in a democratic society [so] use it."

And, if that admonition wasn't enough, the legendary civil rights leader reminded voters why participating is so important.

"I was beaten, left bloody and unconscious so that every American has the right to vote," Lewis said. "Friends of mine gave their lives. Do your part. Vote."

Alan "AP" Powell, Checkered Flag Run Foundation hosted community policing forum in Phoenix

NNPA president to moderate forum on community policing in Phoenix

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Law enforcement officials and community leaders hosted a solution-seeking bridge forum with high school students in Phoenix, Arizona, November 14.

The theme of the forum, held at South Mountain High School in Phoenix, was "Law Enforcement and Teens Learn How Living Together and Working Together Leads to Respect."

It's the brainchild of Alan "AP" Powell and his Checkered Flag Run Foundation, which provides diverse educational programs that help underserved students and veterans.

The foundation believes that access to quality educational opportunities ensures every student and veteran get across the finish line.

"I was having breakfast with constituents and saw what happened in Baltimore and in St. Louis and wanted to come up with ideas to bridge the gap between police and the community," Powell said.

It's the fifth such forum; others have been held in Scottsdale, Ariz. and Louisville, Ky.

"We came up with six topics: community relations, community engagement, media relations, multicultural awareness, crisis management and conflict management," said Powell, a member of the Phoenix Aviation Advisory Board and chairman of the Airport Subcommittee. "We thought those subjects would be perfect to create a conversation between law enforcement and stake-



Alan AP Powell



Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.



holders. The last bridge forum in Scottsdale resulted in that city's police department making 27 policy changes."

Born in the inner city of Louisville, Ky., a short walk from the home of the legendary boxing champ Muhammad Ali, Powell graduated from Missouri Valley College in Marshall, Mo. He became one of the country's foremost authorities on multicultural content and leveraging brand connections with multicultural audiences.

Powell partnered with the local NAACP, the Greater Phoenix Urban League and

the National Newspaper Publishers Association to coordinate participation in the forum.

"It's a great event that exhibits the NNPA working with NAACP, National Urban League, Bridge Phoenix, Arizona elected officials and law enforcement leaders to promote improving the quality of life of all people in America," said Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., NNPA president and CEO. "In other words, this is a significant example of building civic unity and mutual cooperation in a manner that transcends the current partisan divide in the

United States."

Chavis continued, "Good civic engagement leads to better social equality and access to opportunities to help communities to become empowered."

South Mountain High School's senior class and the Teen Court, a problem-solving court within the juvenile justice system, joined the program to seek solutions and best policing practices from top law enforcement professionals.

Also, local community leaders and parents of students that work with the Teen Court and parents of South Mountain High School students participated in the forum.

During the forum, law enforcement officials from across metropolitan Phoenix lead interactive dialogue sessions to gauge different perspectives, attitudes and beliefs about community policing and police etiquette, Powell said.

Feedback from participants was recorded and will be used by Arizona's police departments for additional research and curriculum training, and to better impact the community by using best policing practices, Powell said.

Other notable speakers included Checkered Flag Run Foundation Board member Dennis E. Prince and State of Arizona and District 27 Representative Reginald Bolding.

Panelists included Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams; Maricopa County Sheriff Paul Penzone; Scottsdale Police Chief Alan G. Rodbell and Police Chief of Peoria, Roy W. Minter.

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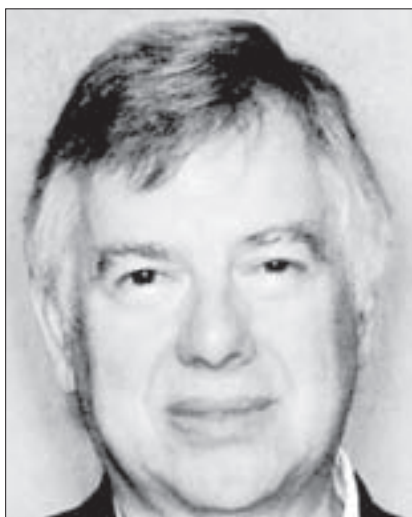
Former development manager arrested for embezzling more than a half million in bonds

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson resident W. David Watkins turned himself in to authorities November 8 after being indicted on two counts for embezzling bond money intended for a development project he managed, announced Attorney General Jim Hood. Watkins, 68, turned himself in to the Madison County Sheriff's Department on one count of wire fraud and one count of embezzlement.

The indictment, which was handed down in October by a Madison County grand jury, states he took \$587,084.34 in bond proceeds from the Mississippi Business Finance Corporation while employed as the managing member of development company Retro Metro, LLC in June 2011.

According to the indictment, the



Watkins

bonds were intended for construction costs for a project financed through tax-

able revenue bonds for which BankPlus in Ridgeland served as Trustee. The bond money was ultimately put toward Watkins' own use.

The wire fraud charge stems from the scheme being transmitted by telephone, wire or other communication across county lines.

If convicted on all counts, Watkins faces up to 25 years in prison and \$30,000 in fines. A charge is merely an accusation, and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

This case was investigated by Roger Wade and will be prosecuted by Special Assistant Attorney General Robert G. "Bob" Anderson, both with the Attorney General's Public Integrity Division.

Restoration begins on Jackson's historic Smith Park

Public-private partnership will turn park into first-class green space

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The second phase of a long anticipated multi-million-dollar restoration of one of America's oldest city parks will begin this week, Jackson city officials and downtown leaders announced today.

Phase II of the Smith Park restoration calls for the removal of dilapidated concrete waterways, the elimination of unsightly berms and the re-sodding of grass to create a more open and level green space for visitors to use in a safe and inviting environment.

At a cost of \$100,000, funding for this portion of the overall \$2.5 million restoration is made possible by Downtown Jackson Partners (DJP) in partnership and with the cooperation of the City of Jackson.

Friends of Smith Park, a volunteer group committed to the park's restoration, is also spearheading the effort.

Plans for the project were reviewed and approved by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, given its designation as a Mississippi historic landmark.

"The City of Jackson is excited to partner with Downtown Jackson Partners in the restoration of Smith Park," said Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba. "This project is

symbolic of the renaissance occurring in Downtown Jackson. When completed, Smith Park will be a world-class green space for all of Jackson and the state to enjoy."

Phase II will take approximately two months to complete, during which time the park will be closed to the public for safety reasons. During the first phase last year, dead and dying trees were cleared from the park as well as those deemed unsustainable for long-term growth in a city park.

Through a series of public meetings and gatherings in 2013 and 2014, input was collected from property owners, businesses, residents and visitors on ways to best improve the landmark. From those meetings, Friends of Smith Park developed a plan and budget to transform the park into a top venue for entertainment and a place to relax amid the bustle of the city's central business district.

"The restoration of Smith Park reflects the commitment of business owners and residents to transform downtown Jackson into the crown jewel of Mississippi's capital city," said John Ditto, who chairs Friends of Smith Park.

The third phase of the restoration calls for a re-designed open space with landscaped walkways, a mod-

ern stage to accommodate concerts and other entertainment, and a water pad and playground for children. Situated across the street from the Governor's Mansion and bounded by Amite, Congress, West and Yazoo streets, Smith Park is one of the oldest continuously used city parks in America. It is the only surviving undeveloped square from the original 1822 plan for Mississippi's then new capital.

"Smith Park is testament to what can happen when a city and its residents come together during a period of financial hardship to improve the quality of life for the entire state," said Ben Allen, president of Downtown Jackson Partners.

Named for James Smith Jr., a colorful 19th century Scottish merchant and Jackson transplant who donated funds to improve the park in 1884, the green space is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

"Mississippi gave this land to the City of Jackson in 1838 for the express purpose of being enjoyed as a park, and this project will ensure that those plans remain for future generations," said Michael Rejebian, president of Jackson's Downtown Neighborhood Association.

For inquiries, contact Michael Rejebian at 601-946-5169.

Vicksburg Mayor George Flaggs to appoint jail planning committee

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Vicksburg's Mayor George Flaggs is appointing a committee to look at the construction, design and operations of a jail/holding facility inside the city or outside the county seat of Warren County. The purpose of this committee will be to do a feasibility study of the cost and operation.

The committee will also assist in the

drafting of any legislation necessary that is required by law for this project.

This committee will work with the Warren County Board of Supervisors to facilitate a compromised use of such a facility.

The members of this committee will be Vicksburg Police Chief Milton Moore, who will serve as the chairman; Vicksburg Fire Chief Craig

Danczyk; City Attorney Nancy Thomas; City Accountant Doug Whittington; and Municipal Court Judge Toni Terrett. The committee will make recommendations to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Mayor George Flaggs believes the construction of a new jail for Vicksburg and Warren County is critical for the future of the city.

The Second Amendment

By Leonard Moore

Student Writer

The Second Amendment (Amendment II) to the United States Constitution protects the right of the people to keep and bear arms and was adopted December 15, 1791, as part of the first ten amendments contained in the Bill of Rights.

The Supreme Court of the United States has ruled that the right belongs to individuals, while also ruling that the right is not unlimited and does not prohibit all regulation of either firearms or similar devices. State and local governments are limited to the same extent as the federal government from infringing this right per the incorporation of the Bill of Rights.

The Second Amendment was based partially on the right to keep and bear arms in English common law and was influenced by the English Bill of Rights of 1689. Sir William Blackstone described this right as an auxiliary right, supporting the natural rights of self-defense, resistance to oppression and the civic duty to act in concert in defense of the state.

In *United States v. Cruikshank* (1876), the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that, "The right to bear arms is not granted by the Constitution; neither is it in any manner dependent upon that instrument for its existence" and limited the scope of the Second Amendment's protections to the federal government. In *United States v. Miller* (1939), the Supreme Court ruled that the Second Amendment did not protect weapon types not having a "reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well regulated militia."

In the twenty-first century, the amendment has been subjected to renewed academic inquiry and judicial interest. In *District of Columbia v. Heller* (2008), the Supreme Court handed down a landmark decision that held the amendment protects an individual right to possess and carry firearms. In *McDonald v. Chicago* (2010), the Court clarified its earlier decisions that limited the amendment's impact to a restriction on the federal government, expressly holding that the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment incorporates the Second Amendment against state and local governments. In *Caetano v. Massachusetts* (2016), the Supreme Court reiterated its earlier rulings that "the Second Amendment extends, prima facie, to all instruments that constitute bearable arms, even those that were not in existence at the time of the founding" and that its protection is not limited to "only those weapons useful in warfare."

Despite these decisions, the debate between various organizations regarding gun control and gun rights continues.

In guns, particularly firearms, caliber or calibre is the approximate internal (bore) diameter of the gun barrel, or the diameter of the projectile it shoots, in hundredths or sometimes thousandths of an inch. For example, a ".45 caliber" firearm has a barrel diameter of 0.45 inches (11 mm). Barrel diameters can also be expressed using metric dimensions, as in "9mm pistol." When the barrel diameter is given in inches, the abbreviation "cal" (for "caliber") can be used. For example, a small-bore rifle with a diameter of 0.22 inches (5.6 mm) can be referred to as ".22" or a ".22 cal"; however, the decimal point is generally dropped when spoken, making it a "twenty-two caliber" or a "two-two caliber rifle."

In a rifled barrel, the distance is measured between opposing lands or grooves; groove measurements are common in cartridge designations originating in the United States, while land measurements are more common elsewhere in the world. Good performance requires a bullet to closely match the groove diameter of a barrel to ensure a good gas seal and hence maximal bullet propulsion.

While modern firearms are generally referred to by the name of the cartridge the gun is chambered for, they are still categorized together based on bore diameter. For example, a firearm might be described as a "30 caliber rifle," which could be any of a wide range of cartridges using a roughly 0.30 inches (7.6 mm) projectile; or a "22 rimfire," referring to any rimfire firearms firing cartridges with a .22 caliber projectile.

Firearm calibers outside the range of .17–.50 inches (4.3–12.7 mm) exist, but are rarely encountered. Wildcat cartridges, for example, can be found in .10, .12, and .14 cal (2.5, 3.0, and 3.6 mm), typically used for short-range varmint hunting[citation needed], where the high-velocity, lightweight bullets pro-

vide devastating terminal ballistics with little risk of ricochet. Larger calibers, such as .577, .585, .600, and .700 (14.7, 14.9, 15.2, 17.8 mm) are generally found in proprietary cartridges chambered in express rifles or similar guns intended for use on dangerous game. The .950 JDJ is the only known cartridge beyond 70 caliber used in a rifle.

Referring to artillery, "caliber" is used to describe the barrel length as multiples of the bore diameter. A "5-inch 50 calibre" gun has a bore diameter of 5 in (12.7 cm) and a barrel length of 50 times 5 in = 250 in (6.35 m). The main guns of the USS Missouri (Iowa Class Battleship) are 16" 50 caliber.

An assault weapon is a rapid-fire, magazine-fed rifle designed for military use. It is a shoulder-fired weapon that allows the shooter to select between semiautomatic (requiring you pull the trigger for each shot), fully automatic (hold the trigger and the gun continuously fires) or three-shot-burst mode.

What's called an assault rifle in reports on gun violence is actually a semi-automatic rifle that looks similar to the assault weapons used by the military. An AR-15 rifle, like one that has been used in some mass shootings, is an example of this type of weapon.

An automatic weapon (assault weapon) can shoot more than one round when you pull the trigger. A semi-automatic weapon ("assault rifle") does not. The M-16 is an automatic weapon – hold the trigger and multiple rounds can be fired. The AR-15, as does the Sig Sauer, requires that you pull the trigger to fire each cartridge.

Semi-automatic rifles can accommodate high-capacity magazines – compartments that hold cartridges. That allows the shooter to fire off tens of rounds in a short period of time. A Sig Sauer and an AR-15 magazine generally holds 20- 30 rounds. There are magazines that can hold more.

In 1939 the U.S. Supreme Court considered the matter in *United States v. Miller*. 307 U.S. 174. The Court adopted a collective rights approach in this case, determining that Congress could regulate a sawed-off shotgun that had moved in interstate commerce under the National Firearms Act of 1934 because the evidence did not suggest that the shotgun "has some reasonable relationship to the preservation or efficiency of a well regulated militia" The Court then explained that the Framers included the Second Amendment to ensure the effectiveness of the military.

This precedent stood for nearly 70 years when in 2008 the U.S. Supreme Court revisited the issue in the case of *District of Columbia v. Heller* (07-290). The plaintiff in *Heller* challenged the constitutionality of the Washington D.C. handgun ban, a statute that had stood for 32 years. Many considered the statute the most stringent in the nation. In a 5-4 decision, the Court, meticulously detailing the history and tradition of the Second Amendment at the time of the Constitutional Convention, proclaimed that the Second Amendment established an individual right for U.S. citizens to possess firearms and struck down the D.C. handgun ban as violative of that right. The majority carved out Miller as an exception to the general rule that Americans may possess firearms, claiming that law-abiding citizens cannot use sawed-off shotguns for any law-abiding purpose. Similarly, the Court in its dicta found regulations of similar weaponry that cannot be used for law-abiding purposes as laws that would not implicate the Second Amendment. Further, the Court suggested that the United States Constitution would not disallow regulations prohibiting criminals and the mentally ill from firearm possession.

Thus, the Supreme Court has revitalized the Second Amendment. The Court continued to strengthen the Second Amendment through the 2010 decision in *McDonald v. City of Chicago* (08-1521). The plaintiff in *McDonald* challenged the constitutionality of the Chicago handgun ban, which prohibited handgun possession by almost all private citizens. In a 5-4 decisions, the Court, citing the intentions of the framers and ratifiers of the Fourteenth Amendment, held that the Second Amendment applies to the states through the incorporation doctrine. However, the Court did not have a majority on which clause of the Fourteenth Amendment incorporates the fundamental right to keep and bear arms for the purpose of self-defense. While Justice Alito and his supporters looked to the Due Process Clause, Justice Thomas in his concurrence stated that the Privileges and Immunities Clause should justify incorporation.

Picture of the Week



Senator Hillman T. Frazier visited with members of the Uzbekistan Parliament who toured the United States studying the checks and balances system of American government.

Who is a sinner?

PART 3

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



Many people want to come to God and want to wait to drop this sin one week and another sin the next week, and then next year maybe they will get over that one. They think God will accept that. No! They have to turn from all sin.

We are living in a day when people believe the false notion that they are sinners saved by grace. Many people believe that God is not looking at what they are doing but that He is looking at what they are professing. They think that as long as they profess to be Christians, God accepts them. On the contrary, Ezekiel 18:30(a) states, “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord God.”

God is looking at the way we

are living. If we are still living in sin, we could testify all day long about how God saved us, but that would not change the fact that we are unsaved. God judges us by what we do. Our testimony ought to match our lives. Some folks testify on credit, so to speak: they have not paid for anything that they testify about.

God does not have “credit card” religion. We should not testify of salvation until we have the goods. Ezekiel 18:30(b) reads: “Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity (sin) shall not be your ruin.” If we do not turn from our sin, sinner friend, sin will be our ruin.

Sin does not help us. It might make us feel better for a little while. There is pleasure in sin for a season, but if we stay in sin, it will take us down and destroy us in this life and then, we will have to go to hell.

Ezekiel 18:31 states, “Cast

away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit.” God wants to do a spiritual operation on us. He wants to take out our old sinful heart and give us a new heart. He wants to take out that disobedient spirit and give us His spirit.

Then, He asked this question, “For why will ye die, O house of Israel?” This was addressed to the house of Israel; however, it is true for every sinner. Verse 32 states, “For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.”

Sinner friend, we can turn ourselves and say within our hearts, “I’m finished with sin.” Why not come to Jesus and live? My friends, it is just that simple! It does not cost money to get salvation. We do not have to die with sin in our lives. If we go into eternity

with sin in our lives, we will lift up our eyes in hell.

In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus Christ said: “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me, for My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”

The Bible says the way of a transgressor is hard. Also, it says that wicked are as the troubled sea; they cannot rest. If we want peace, we must stop rejecting the Prince of Peace. If we want happiness, we must quit rejecting the One who will bless us. Why would we choose to die in our sins? I plea with all, do not continue to be a sinner. We can be saved today.

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

Thankful that over ain’t over

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“Over ain’t over!” My former pastor, the late Rev. Jerome McNeil, stated these words a number of years ago in the middle of a sermon about having hope in the future that God has for us. He said that some people need to be reminded that when it looks like things are at their worst, God still has things under control. Even when man says things like our jobs and our marriages are over, God wants us to remember that “over” for man isn’t necessarily “over” for him.

Like so many of you, I’ve seen this happen in my own life. When relationships have ended or I’ve lost jobs and other things that I’ve valued, I’ve mourned. However, as I went from seeing the loss as a negative to seeing it as a chance to embrace something new, I became more thankful and hopeful. For example, when I was fired from my job at KNON radio in 2003, I was angry about the situation. However, a few weeks later when I’d accepted another better paying job as a college English instructor, I was thankful that “over” meant that I’d overcome that negative situation.

“Over” ain’t over for a few reasons:

God is in control. – Even when we seem to lose a grip on our lives and don’t understand what’s happening, God still has us in his hands. 2 Samuel 7:28 reads, “O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good

things to your servant.”


God is never surprised. – Even when we are caught off guard by what happens in our life, God never is. Isaiah 46:10 shows, “I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.”

God always has a plan B. – God expects us to follow him on the path of obedience with the eyes of faith. Genesis 22:13 says, “Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.”

As we look forward to Thanksgiving, other highlights of the holiday season and the end of 2017, we have to be thankful for “over” transitions ... they make us overcomers.

In most cases, “over” is a chance to revisit the goodness of God. “Over” is an uncomfortable place but it reminds us of what God promises to be. Numbers 23:19 reminds us, “God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?” It’s all about how you see it. Will you be overcome by your circumstance or will you be an overcomer?

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



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Mississippi Schools: Celebrate your successes and keep aiming high

By Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education



In November and December, I will visit every A-rated school district in Mississippi. My visits are part of the second annual “Celebration of Excellence” tour to recognize district achievements. During each celebration, I will join district leaders and school board members to thank teachers and students for their hard work.

We initiated the “Celebration of Excellence” tour last year to applaud school districts that completed the school year at the top of their class. It is not easy to earn an A.

Last year, several superintendents in districts that did not achieve an A told me they were determined to get their district on the A-list for 2017.

Their determination paid off. Six districts that set their sights on earning a spot on the A-list this year achieved their goal. I offer special congratulations to the school districts of Lamar County, Poplarville, Biloxi, Pearl, Union County and Newton County for aiming higher and reaching their goal.

I also congratulate the other 39 districts that improved their letter grade from 2016 to 2017. Ten districts improved from a C to a B; 15 increased from a D to a C; and 12 moved from an F to a D. Two districts jumped two letter grades. Most of the grade-level increases occurred using both the old and new baseline for setting grades.

The Mississippi State Board of Education Strategic Plan calls for every district in the state to be rated C or higher. The 2017 account-

ability grades show that 70 percent of Mississippi districts have reached this goal. That achievement is worthy of celebration.

We teach our children to build upon their past accomplishments and to continually strive for higher goals. I am pleased to see the same momentum and drive for continuous improvement in our school districts.

Mississippi’s school district accountability grades are based on how well students perform and progress from year to year on statewide assessments and the ACT, the four-year graduation rate and student participation and performance in high school advanced coursework school such as Advanced Placement and dual credit/dual enrollment courses.

The purpose of our state accountability system is to give the public useful information about how well local schools and districts are preparing our children for the future.

I encourage everyone to view Mississippi school district grades at www.mdek12.org. If you like what you see, be sure to thank your local teachers, students and district and school leaders and celebrate their hard work. If you don’t like what you see, I urge you to get more involved in your school district and stay involved. Schools with strong community support and involvement perform better than those where community members are less engaged.

I am proud of all of the students, teachers and school district employees who aimed higher and achieved more. There is no limit to what Mississippi students and school districts can accomplish if they set ambitious goals and work hard to reach them.

Segregating public schools won’t make America great again

Public schools are more segregated than they were 40 years ago

By Rushern Baker
County Executive
Prince Georges County, Md.



On November 4, 1952, Dr. Helen Kenyon addressed the Women’s Society of Riverside Church in New York City and opined that, “Eleven o’clock Sunday morning is the most segregated hour in America.” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. often paraphrased the quote.

Today, sadly, our public schools best reflect their sentiment as the most segregated place in America.

The rampant re-segregation of American public schools poses a greater threat to the trajectory of America’s progress than terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and Russian meddling in our elections. Sixty-two years after Brown v. Board, the GAO (Government Accountability Office) reported that from the years 2000-2014, both the percentage of K-12 public schools in high-poverty and the percentage of African-American and Hispanic students enrolled in public schools more than doubled, and the percentage of all schools with so-called racial or socioeconomic isolation grew from 9 percent to 16 percent.

Research shows that racial and socioeconomic diversity in our classrooms leads to higher than average test scores, greater

college enrollment rates, and the narrowing of achievement gaps. These gains don’t just apply to poor and minority children either – every student benefits from learning and engaging with peers from different backgrounds. Despite the evidence, today our public schools are more segregated than they were 40 years ago.

As an advocate for children and families, and as a public servant, who has fought for more resources for students, I believe we must act boldly to save free, high-quality public education for all.

Some of the very leaders tasked with solving the negative effects from school re-segregation offer shortsighted policies that exacerbate racial and economic divisions. The ripple-effect, consequences of their misguided thinking remains the greatest policy foible of the modern era. Lazy logic behind bad policy feeds a perception that the achievement gap exists simply because poor and minority students learn differently than their wealthier, white peers. Rather, it is directly tied to declining enrollment, lower property values, and the dwindling resources available to tackle mounting challenges in the communities that surround underperforming public schools.

The greatest irony remains that those promoting harmful education policies use the same language of “giving every child

a chance at a high-quality education” to pitch their tax-dollar-poaching and resource-pilfering experiments to desperate parents.

Rather than making public education a number one priority, a Hunger-Games-like competition for vouchers and charter schools leaves parents and students fending for themselves. The families that lose the education lottery end up at schools with increased needs and declining resources.

In Maryland, our governor’s BOOST voucher program set aside \$5 million of public money to help 2,400 families pay for their child’s education. Yet, 80 percent of the families receiving these grants had children who were already enrolled in private schools.

Vouchers, whose American roots can be traced back to some Southern states’ attempts to avoid integration, perpetuate segregated education and are nothing more than a thinly-veiled attempt to cut off funds to public schools.

It gets even worse. Some communities have simply seceded from the larger school district, as we’ve seen in Alabama and Tennessee, to avoid integrating their schools.

Since 2000, the U.S. Justice Department has released 250 communities from their desegregation orders and consequently facilitated their financial and administrative secession from their school districts.

After all those factors lead to a dip in school performance, students and their communities are stigmatized as “failing.” Schools close; quality of life drops; economic prospects dwindle; public safety decreases; and the cycle repeats, so that higher-needs populations receive even fewer resources.

I know. I’ve lived through it. It’s time to back up the big talk of “opportunity for all” with policies that don’t ask parents to compete for a few spots, but instead, make public dollars work for every child.

We’ve embraced this mission in my home of Prince George’s County, Maryland where I serve as county executive. Though we know our best days are to come, we’ve seen incredible progress: increased enrollment; higher graduation rates; an increase in innovative academic programs; and more students receiving college scholarships.

The debate over how we improve public education can’t begin with state-funded segregation, which harms communities and students, especially our most vulnerable. Let’s secure our children’s futures and the future of America by making a meaningful investment in quality public schools for all.

Rushern Baker, a graduate of Howard University, is the county executive in Prince George’s County, Maryland. You can follow him on Twitter at @CountyExecBaker.

Trump makes George W. Bush look like the 2nd best U.S. president

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



I never thought I would miss President George W. Bush, our 43rd president, and I’ve never much thought of him as a great, or even a good speaker; but the speech he gave at a conference convened by the George W. Bush Institute was simply eloquent, excellent, thoughtful and compelling. After keeping a low profile for the past eight years, he spoke up to decry the fact that “bigotry seems emboldened.”

Bush said that, “Bullying and prejudice in our public life sets a national tone, provides permission for cruelty and bigotry, and compromises the moral education of children.”

Why did George W. Bush choose to speak so forcefully, in a speech that did not mention “45,” but was at least partly directed at him? Perhaps, it was the violent protests in Charlottesville.

He and his father, President George Herbert Walker Bush, issued a joint statement denouncing white supremacists, something that it took “45” forever to do. The younger Bush was blunt when he said, “Bigotry or white supremacy in any form is blasphemy against the American creed.”

I knew that I would miss President Barack Obama (44). Like his predecessor, he has kept a low profile since leaving office, stepping out very briefly to campaign for Virginia gubernatorial candidate Ralph Northam and to reflect on the challenges we face in our democracy. Like Bush, Obama did not refer to “45” by name, but his speech in Virginia was a repudiation of virtually everything that our prevaricating current president stands for.

“Some of the politics we see now, we thought we put to bed,” said Obama. “That has folks looking 50 years back. It’s the 21st century, not the 19th century. Come on.”

Seemingly scolding the current administration, Obama said, “Instead of looking for ways to work together to get things done in a practical way, we’ve got folks who are deliberately trying to make folks angry, to demonize people who have different ideas, to get the base all riled up, because it provides a short-term tactical advantage.”

Watching Bush and Obama reminded me of how far the quality of our nation’s leadership has fallen. I saw two men who, with absolute class, reminded us of our nation’s values and everything that is repugnant about the current administration. The contrast

is the persistent crassness of “45,” an ill-spoken, bumbling, coarse and classless individual. He never met a fight he could not pick and escalate, never met an opposing viewpoint he could not demonize. He has belittled everyone he has disagreed with, from his own inner circle to football players he does not even know, calling them “sons of bitches.”

In his entire eight years of service, Obama never disparaged his predecessor, George W. Bush, even as he cleaned up some of his messes. In his several months of leadership, “45” has missed no opportunity to criticize Obama. If I had a dollar for every time Obama critiqued Bush, I’d barely have enough money for a fast-food meal. If I had a dollar for every time “45” disparaged President Obama, I could dine at the nation’s best restaurants for a full week.

Class is visiting Walter Reed Army Medical Center to look in on wounded soldiers, or hosting White House luncheons for Gold Star families. Crass is calling widow Myeshia Johnson, never mentioning her deceased husband, Sgt. La David Johnson, by name, and telling her “he knew what he signed up for.” Class is refusing to disparage either predecessor or successor. Crass is trashing anyone and everyone, including his predecessor. Class is

disagreeing with dignity and civility. Crass is name-calling, challenging people to IQ tests, making fun of ill and disabled people, making fun of war hero and veteran Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) for being shot down and captured during the Vietnam War.

To be sure, I don’t think that “45” maliciously called Myeshia Johnson in an attempt to cause her pain. I think he simply does not know how to talk to people, and we have plenty of evidence. The recent book, “The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump: 27 Psychiatrists and Mental Health Experts Assess a President” (Macmillan, 2017) explains that the sociopathic narcissist we elected is so fundamentally flawed that he could easily imperil our very survival by pushing us into war.

“45” told Johnson, “he knew what he signed up for.” So did the nearly half of our nation’s voters when they chose crass over class.

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 on her website. For booking, wholesale inquiries, and for more info, visit www.julianne-malveaux.com. Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.

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Forrest General announces Junior Cheerleader and Junior Football Player for November 18



Collins

Mississippi Link Newswire

Forrest General is proud to announce the Junior Cheerleader and Junior Football Player for the November 18 home game. Watch the sidelines before the game and during halftime for these young fans as Southern Miss takes on the Charlotte 49ers Saturday.

Junior Football Player of the Game for the November 18 matchup is Bryceson Collins. Bryceson is a second grader at Clara Elementary School and is the son of Alesia Lewis.

Junior Cheerleader of the Game is Caroline Hatten. Caroline is in first grade at Presbyterian Christian School, and she is the daughter of Christopher and Amber Hatten.

De'Asia Mackabee, a sophomore at Hattiesburg High School, will join the Dixie Darlings as Darlin' of the Game for November 18. De'Asia is the daughter of Alisha Barnes and Kevin Hawthorn.

For more information on Forrest General and its available services, visit [forrestgeneral.com](#). Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ForrestGeneralHospital](#).



Hatten



Mackabee

Why black faith leaders must lead the fight for healthcare access

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



First of all, despite the Trump Administration's efforts to kill ("repeal and replace") the Affordable Care Act, it is still the law of the land, and because of the federal mandate everyone is required to have some form of health insurance. However, since "45" and his team have declared it all but dead, they have shortened the enrollment period from three months to a mere six weeks, from November 1 - December 15.

Additionally, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has drastically cut the budget for outreach. This time last year, there were television and radio announcements, billboards on buses and other reminders that people should enroll for healthcare, if they didn't already have healthcare through their jobs.

The Trump Administration hopes that, without outreach, people will not enroll for healthcare, so that they can then crow that people "don't want" healthcare.

Some faith leaders, however, have pledged to use their pulpits to remind their congregations to get enrolled for healthcare. Rev. Barbara Williams Skinner, the first executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus and an activist who melds faith with public policy, who is also a spiritual advisor to many black leaders, has developed a toolkit for communities of faith to help them do the work that our government won't: encouraging people to sign-up for affordable healthcare.

You can follow the faith leaders' conversations about open enrollment and healthcare on social media using the hashtags #SOULSTOENROLL or #SOULS2ENROLL, and by liking the Facebook page, Facebook.com/FaithinPublicLife, where you can find the toolkit adopted from the government page, GetAmericaCovered.org;

COMMENTARY

instructions for the weekend campaign that began November 12, suggestions for faith leaders; a sample bulletin announcement; a PSA; and social media tips. In other words, the faith community is being encouraged to treat healthcare enrollment like any other grassroots organizing campaign and get involved in it.

Back in the day, before social media, we used to talk about how "the drum," shared information in the black community; many of our radio stations, or public broadcast programs and newspapers were our drums. Now, faith leaders are taking the drum viral to ensure that people who don't get the word, because of lack of government outreach, will get it through churches and through the Internet.

We will rely on these methods of communicating more and more, as this administration attempts to contract, not expand, information people need to get regarding healthcare (and other services). The toolkit and other resources are proof that our community has the ability to out organize the evil that is seeping out of Washington.

"Woke" members of Congress are working with Rev. Skinner and others to get the word out. Congressman Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) had his PSA up before the enrollment period opened November 1, and some members of Congress have PSAs posted on their webpages; but everyone won't log on to a congressional website to get access to the PSA. That's where churches and community organizations come into play.

Once upon a time, we were great at mobilizing. Without any Internet, 250,000 people managed to get to Washington, D.C. for the March on Washington August 28, 1963. Mimicking that effort, and using both word of mouth and the Internet, more than a million women made it to Washington D.C. for the post-inaugural Women's March. Now we have the opportunity to rally mil-

lions to participate in the benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

There are consequences to not enrolling. If you don't enroll by December 15, you may have to wait a whole year before getting access to affordable healthcare and the subsidies available under ACA, and you may have to pay a fine for not enrolling.

Some states (California, Washington, Minnesota, Colorado, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C.) will allow enrollment until January, but most will close enrollment on December 15. Even with a longer enrollment period, the best thing to do to ensure that the people who need health insurance get it is to encourage them to enroll early.

Helping people enroll for ACA benefits is not only a public service, it is also an act of resistance to "45's" pernicious attempts to undermine President Obama's signature piece of legislation. To be sure, the ACA is not perfect, but it is responsible for expanding the base of people who can get affordable health insurance.

This example of Faith in Action may be a template for other ways to use the church to organize resistance. The novelist Daniel Black (author of "Perfect Peace: A Novel") recently described our churches as the backbone of the black community. "Disagree with your pastor, or with the sermon if you will," he said, "but still get to church for the sense of community that can only be found there."

While the black church is less impactful than it was in 1963, when most of us could be reached through church announcements, it is still a place where we gather and share information.

Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and founder of Economic Education. Her latest book "Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via amazon.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries, or for more info, visit [www.juliannemalveaux.com](#). Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.

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Eli Lilly meets with multicultural groups to discuss healthcare in the U.S.



A group of leaders from national multicultural organizations, including Ron Burke from the NNPA (center, gray jacket), visited Eli Lilly headquarters to learn more about the pharmaceutical industry's role in the healthcare system. ELI LILLY AND COMPANY

Mississippi Link Newswire

Nineteen leaders of select, national multicultural organizations visited the headquarters of Eli Lilly and Company, the global pharmaceutical maker, for an all-day "learning lab" about the pharmaceutical industry's role in the healthcare system.

Attendees heard from Lilly's senior leadership team as well as individuals working in clinical trials, research, manufac-

turing and medicine. Attendees also toured a drug development lab, participated in informational sessions on healthcare topics, and learned about the variety of diversity and inclusion initiatives underway at Lilly.

Lilly's senior leadership team talked about how the company values the hard work and dedication of community groups that are also committed to ensuring quality healthcare for patients and caregivers.

As a company dedicated to discovering breakthrough therapies, Lilly's senior leadership team said that Lilly welcomed opportunities to share an innovator's perspective on the biopharmaceutical industry in the United States and their efforts to provide value to the healthcare delivery system. Company leaders also look forward to gaining more insight from organizations that represent multicultural communities.

LEGAL

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LEGAL

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PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Jackson is seeking submission of proposals from qualified professional firms for professional assistance with the following project: A Feasibility/Market Analysis in the Central Business District of Downtown Jackson, Mississippi. Services needed include Inventory and Analysis of Existing Conditions, Conceptual Site Plans and Market Feasibility reports of general uses.

Detailed information pertaining to submission of a response to this request for proposals may be obtained from the Department of Planning and Development, Suite 229, Warren Hood Building: 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201, or by contacting Vanessa Henderson at 601-960-2155 or e-mail: vhenderson@jacksonms.gov.

One (1) original and eight (8) signed copies of the proposal must be received no later than 3:30 P. M., on Friday, December 8, 2017, at the City Clerk's Office, 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Mailed proposals should be addressed to the Office of the City Clerk, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205-0017. Packets should be sealed and clearly marked "Proposal for The Feasibility/Market Analysis in the Central Business District of Downtown Jackson, Mississippi."

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting and professional services. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City.

Mukesh Kumar, PhD., Director
Department of Planning and Development
City of Jackson, Mississippi

11/16/2017

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR
COMMON/SHARED USE PASSENGER PROCESSING SYSTEM
BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
PROJECT 001-18
October 25,2017

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") requests Proposals ("Proposal.") from a contractor ("Consultant") to provide equipment, software, technical support, installation, and training services in support of a Common/Shared Use Passenger Processing System ("C/SUPPS") for the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA).

JMAA will receive Proposals to perform the Services at the offices of JMAA, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208, until 3:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on November 28, 2017 (the "Deadline").

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("REP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Mr. Deuntagus Herndon, JMAA's Procurement Specialist, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airpon Authority
100 International Drive, Suite 300 (39208)
Post Office Box 98109
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist
Telephone No: (601) 360-8622
Facsimile No.: (601) 939-3713
E-Mail: dherndon@jmaa.com

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

10/26/2017 11/2/2017 11/9/2017 11/16/2017

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR AN
ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SOLUTION
BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
PROJECT 002-18
OCTOBER 25, 2017

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") requests Proposals ("Proposal") for an Enterprise Resource Planning Solution ("ERP") to collectively manage Human Capital, Financials, and Enterprise/Capital Assets.

JMAA will receive Proposals at the offices of JMAA, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208, until 3:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on November 30, 2017 (the "Deadline").

JMAA will not consider any Proposals received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Proposals ("RFP") is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFP, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents and Criteria for Selection. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Ms. Robin Byrd, JMAA's Procurement Manager, as follows:

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

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

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

10/26/2017 11/2/2017 11/9/2017 11/16/2017

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017 AT 12:00 P.M. IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

A. OLD BUSINESS

1. CASE NO. 2017-24, REQUEST BY: CENTURY CONSTRUCTION/HELM PLACE III, LLC (APPLICANT: STUART POVALL), TO CONSTRUCT UP TO 70 NEW HOMES FOR PHASE III OF HELM PLACE DEVELOPMENT AT MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, LOCATED IN THE FARISH STREET HISTORICAL DISTRICT (CASE NO. 2017-24 WAS TABLED AUGUST 31, 2017 DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION).

2. CASE NO. 2017-45, REQUEST BY: DR. ROSLIND MCCOY SIBLEY (APPLICANT: ROY C. FARRIS, II), TO INSTALL A CONCRETE HANDICAPPED RAMP W/ WROUGHT IRON RAIL, RESURFACING OF EXISTING FRONT PARKING AREA, INSTALL A SIDEWALK FROM BUILDING TO STREET AND A YIELD SIGN AT INTERSECTION (ON CITY PROPERTY) AT 526 N. FARISH ST., LOCATED IN THE FARISH STREET HISTORICAL DISTRICT. (CASE NO. 2017-45 WAS TABLED NOVEMBER 8, 2017, APPLICANT/REPRESENTATIVE DID NOT ATTEND MEETING)

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. CASE NO. 2017-47, REQUEST BY: DOUG PYRON (APPLICANT: JOHN WEAVER), TO BUILD A NEW ONE STORY GARAGE, EXTEND CONCRETE DRIVEWAY TO THE GARAGE AND BUILD A NEW BRICK RETAINING WALL AT 719 GILLESPIE ST., LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

4. CASE NO. 2017-48, REQUEST BY: MICHELE D. BIEGEL (APPLICANT: JEFF SEABOLD), TO REPLACE EXISTING CLAPBOARD SIDING WITH HARDIE PLANK, ADD A TWO CAR GARAGE AND REPLACE WINDOWS AT 1240 ROSEHILL CIRCLE., LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

5. CASE NO. 2017-49, REQUEST BY: JENNIFER STUDEBAKER, TO INSTALL A 3 RAIL GENESIS WITH QUAD FINIALS 5' WROUGHT IRON FENCE IN THE FRONT/SIDE YARD WITH A GATE FOR EACH WALKWAY AT 932 GILLESPIE ST., LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

II. OTHER ITEMS

DISCUSSION

1. PRESENT UPDATED CITY OF JACKSON'S HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY PACKET.

III. ADJOURN

11/16/2017, 11/23/2017

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11/16/2017

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

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IT'S VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME
AG W JXVI SAUUAEBRG UCV ZX
TO SAY 'I LOVE YOU' BUT TO
GC WKI A RCJX ICB LBG GC
SING 'I LOVE YOU' FOR ME IS
WAOH A RCJX ICB UCV ZX AW
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B & B
702 West North Street - Canton, MS
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3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS
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Church Street - Canton, MS
COMMUNITY MART
743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS
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Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS
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285 Peace Street - Canton, MS
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507 Church Street - Canton, MS
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110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS
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22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

BYRAM

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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

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Week of November 12, 2017

2017 All-SWAC volleyball honors announced



The Mississippi Link Newswire

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – The Southwestern Athletic Conference announced the 2017 All-SWAC Volleyball Teams with Alabama State’s Ni’yesha Brown and Kori Kutsch, Alabama A&M’s Meredith Sieck, Arkansas-Pine Bluff’s Lisa Casimie and Prairie View A&M’s Christen Augustine collecting individual honors.

The teams and individual accolades were voted on by the league’s coaches and sports information directors.

Brown earned Player of the Year honors, and Kutsch was named Setter of the Year. Augustine took home Libero of the Year honors, and Casimie was tabbed as the conference’s Newcomer of the Year. Sieck collected the Freshman of the Year award.

Brown, a First Team outside hitter for the second-straight season, tops the conference with 410 total kills on a .217 attack percentage. The 2016 Newcomer of the Year also leads the league with 472.5 total points and ranks second in service aces with 40. The senior ranks in the top 40 nationally in total points, and is responsible for the top three single-game kill outputs by a SWAC player this season.

On her way to a First Team selection, Kutsch paced the top-seeded regular season champion Lady Hornets with 778 assists in 123 sets, third-best in the SWAC. The Torrance, Calif. native was fourth in the league in assists per set (6.08), sent out 35 service aces – seventh-best in the league – and posted 240 digs. A four-time winner of the Setter of the Week award this season, Kutsch recorded double-digit assist totals in all but one match for the Lady Hornets this season, including a season-best 44 helpers versus Texas Southern on Sept. 24. This marks the second-straight year a Lady Hornet has won Setter of the Year (Justus Tuiolosega, 2016).

Prairie View A&M’s Augustine led the conference in digs per set at 4.47, accumulated 398 digs in 89 sets played – good for sixth-best in the conference. The Humble, Texas native chipped in 63 assists and in terms of conference play was tops among all liberos in digs (319) and digs per set (4.69). The junior is also a one-time defensive player of the week winner (Nov. 1) and a First-Team choice at defensive specialist.

Casimie currently ranks second in the SWAC in kills per set (2.94), having put away 265 of them –

good for a top-10 ranking among all players in total kills – in aiding Arkansas-Pine Bluff to the No. 4 standing in the conference. In addition, the junior transfer put up 133 digs, 55 total blocks, and 21 service aces. The 5-foot-11 front-liner put away a personal-best 21 kills versus Prairie View A&M on Nov. 6, and had 14 matches with at least 10 kills as she earned three weekly honors (two-time Newcomer of the Week on Oct. 11 and Nov. 8, one-time Offensive Player of the Week on Nov. 8) during the 2017 campaign.

Sieck led the conference in assists (881) and assists per set (8.31). Sieck posted three of the five-best single-game assist efforts by any league player this season and cracked the 50-assist plateau twice during the year. Sieck earned two Newcomer of the Week honors (Sept. 27, Oct. 4) and one Setter of the Week honor (Sept. 27).

Alabama State led all teams with five total honorees. Grambling State and Texas Southern earned two All-SWAC nods each, and Alabama A&M, Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Prairie View A&M each landed one selection.

The entire 2017 All-SWAC Volleyball Teams and award winners are listed to the right.

2017 Player of the Year	
Ni’yesha Brown	Alabama State
2017 Setter of the Year	
Kori Kutsch	Alabama State
2017 Libero of the Year	
Christen Augustine	Prairie View A&M
2017 Newcomer of the Year	
Lisa Casimie	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
2017 Freshman of the Year	
Meredith Sieck	Alabama A&M
First Team	
Outside Hitter	
Ni’yesha Brown	Alabama State
Kevreion Ward	Grambling State
Middle Hitter/Middle Blocker	
Briana Dorsey	Alabama State
Kirby Anderson	Texas Southern
Defensive Specialist	
Christen Augustine	Prairie View A&M
Setter	
Kori Kutsch	Alabama State
Second Team	
Outside Hitter	
Lisa Casimie	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
Bayle’ Bennett	Alabama State
Middle Hitter/Middle Blocker	
Syretha Pride	Alabama A&M
Payten Clark	Alabama State
Defensive Specialist	
Erineka Mollere	Grambling State
Setter	
Asia Howard	Texas Southern



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TWO
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MUSEUMS



FILM REVIEW: “MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS” COMPLEX COSTUME DRAMA DOES JUSTICE TO AGATHA CHRISTIE’S CLASSIC WHODUNIT!

By Kam Williams
Columnist

First published in 1936, *Murder on the Orient Express* revolved around the most famous case handled by Inspector Hercule Poirot. Created by Agatha Christie, the Belgian detective appeared in 33 of her novels, as well as a play and over 50 short stories.

This complex crime caper was first brought to the big screen by Sidney Lumet in a fairly faithful adaptation co-starring Lauren Bacall, Sean

Connery, Ingrid Bergman, Anthony Perkins, Vanessa Redgrave, Sir John Gielgud, Albert Finney and Jacqueline Bisset. Bergman won the last of her three Oscars for her sterling performance as Greta Ohlsson, a Swedish nurse.

Murder on the Orient Express 2.0 was directed by five-time, Oscar-nominee Kenneth Branagh who assembled a top-flight cast with an equally-impressive pedigree. His A-List ensemble features Academy Award-winners Judi Dench

and Penelope Cruz, along with nominees Michelle Pfeiffer, Willem Dafoe and Johnny Depp.

Branagh also stars as Poirot, sporting a world-class mustache while playing the super sleuth with perfect aplomb. The visually-captivating costume drama is perhaps more memorable for its breathtaking panoramas than the deliberately-paced mystery which takes its sweet time to be unraveled.

The picture’s point of departure is Jerusalem, which is

where we find Poirot paying homage at the Wailing Wall before boarding a slow boat to Istanbul. There, he starts soaking in the sights until the vacation is cut short by a telegram summoning him back to London immediately.

With the help of a fellow Belgian who happens to be a train company executive (Tom Bateman), he secures a berth aboard the lavishly-outfitted *Orient Express* for what he reasonably expected to be an unremarkable three-day trip.

However, he shifts into detective mode when an American art dealer (Johnny Depp) dies soon after expressing a fear of being killed.

As Poirot digs deeper and deeper for clues, we gradually see that each of the 13 passengers had a good reason to want the unsavory character dead. Sure, everybody’s a suspect, but which one’s a murderer?

An Agatha Christie classic whodunit solved the old-fashioned way... by the extraordinary deductive reasoning of the

legendary Hercule Poirot.

Excellent (3.5 stars)

Rated PG-13 for violence, ethnic slurs and mature themes
In English and French with subtitles

Running time: 114 minutes

Production Studio: Kinberg
Genre / The Mark Gordon Company

Distributor: 20th Century Fox

To see a trailer for Murder on the Orient Express, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mq4m3yAoW8E>

FILM REVIEW: “ROMAN J. ISRAEL, ESQ.” DENZEL DELIVERS OSCAR-QUALITY PERFORMANCE AS ATTORNEY WITH ASPERGER’S

By Kam Williams
Columnist

Roman J. Israel (Denzel Washington) is a high-functioning savant on the autism spectrum who has been practicing law in L.A. for the past 36 years.

The brilliant attorney has spent most of his career under the radar, writing legal briefs in a rear office for indigent criminal defendants, while his partner, William Henry Jackson, served as the face of the firm, whether cultivating clients or arguing their cases in the courtroom.

This unorthodox arrangement

worked well for Roman who, besides his disorder, is a long-time political activist dedicated to a progressive agenda, namely, to assist downtrodden individuals unfairly ensnared in the net of the prison-industrial complex. And because of that commitment, he’s been willing to work for far less pay than colleagues of his caliber. Consequently, the highly-principled lawyer has had to scrape by on a modest salary, living in the same dive for decades, where he subsisted on a steady diet of peanut butter sandwiches and jazz classics

played on an old-fashioned turntable.

Everything changes the day Jackson suffers a heart attack and the two-person firm is forced to dissolve. Roman first applies for a position with a public interest non-profit that shares his values. But when the empathetic director (Carmen Ejogo) explains that she doesn’t have the money to hire an attorney, he resigns himself to joining a corporate firm where he’s soon teamed with a young associate (Colin Farrell) interested only in maximizing profits.

This leaves Roman sitting on the horns of an ethical dilemma. Should he abandon his morals to keep a roof over his head? That is the question at the center of *Roman J. Israel, Esq.*, a compelling character portrait written and directed by Oscar-nominee Dan Gilroy (for *Nightcrawler*).

The legendary Denzel Washington is quite convincing as well as moving, here, as a beleaguered soul afflicted with Asperberger’s syndrome. His powerful performance might very well be remembered at Oscar time, given the Academy’s

recent history of rewarding thespians playing impaired characters, including Eddie Redmayne (2014) for wheelchair-bound Stephen Hawking (ALS); Colin Firth (2010) for stuttering King George VI; Geoffrey Rush (1996) for mentally-ill David Helfgott; Tom Hanks (1994) for dimwitted Forest Gump; Tom Hanks (1993) for AIDS patient Andrew Beckett; Daniel Day-Lewis (1989) for cerebral palsy victim Christy Brown; and Dustin Hoffman (1988) for mathematics savant Rain Man.

Win, lose or draw, Roman J.

Israel, Esq. deserves accolades aplenty in its own right for its touching treatment of such a sensitive subject.

Excellent (4 stars)

Rated PG-13 for violence and profanity

Running time: 129 minutes

Production Studio: Bron Creative / Cross Creek Pictures / Escape Artists / FZ /Macro

Distributor: Columbia Pictures

To see a trailer for Roman J. Israel, Esq., visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChEtmp3nPY>



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BOOK REVIEW:

“BOUND TO THE FIRE: HOW VIRGINIA’S ENSLAVED COOKS HELPED INVENT AMERICAN CUISINE”

BY KELLEY FANTO DEETZ

C.2017, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY PRESS

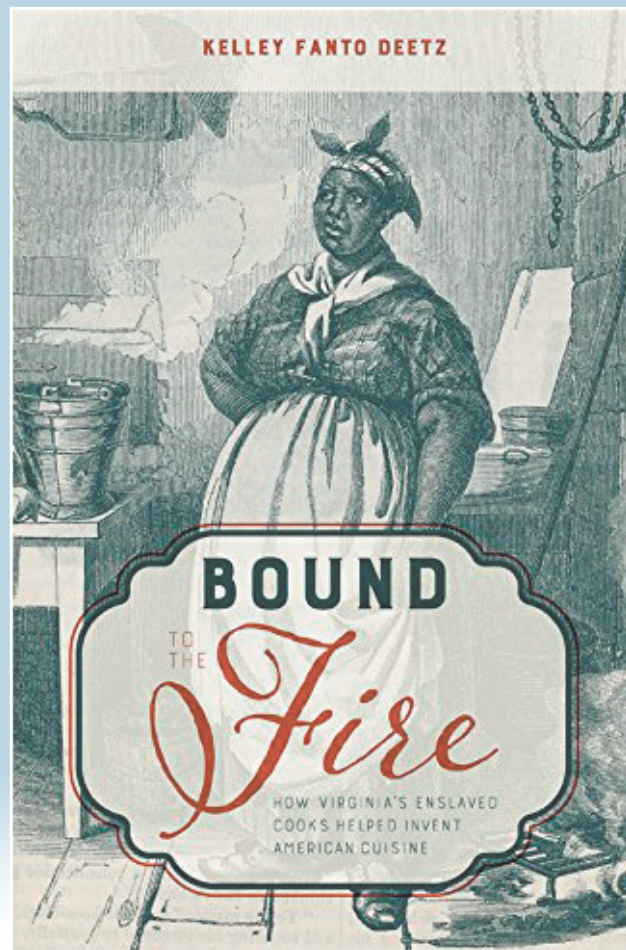
\$29.95 / HIGHER IN CANADA • 177 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You’ve been cooking up a storm for days. Soon, the whole family will be sitting at your table, which will be loaded down with everybody’s favorites. The turkey will be golden. The bread, warm and soft. Pies line your kitchen counter because you’ve cooked for days. At least, as you’ll see in “Bound to the Fire” by Kelley Fanto Deetz, you didn’t cook ‘round the clock, too. Most of us, says Deetz, are used to seeing black faces on boxes of our breakfast foods. We might not notice them much anymore but those trademarked figures hide an often misunderstood

truth. The “black community” in Virginia, says Deetz, “is almost as old as the colony itself.” In 1619, some twenty “negroes” lived in Jamestown; by 1625, there were 23 “Africans” in all of Virginia. Once slavery took firm hold in the state, there were tens of thousands of enslaved people but Deetz focuses on cooks, beginning with plantation homes. As slavery expanded, kitchens began to be set apart from the main house, probably because white plantation owners didn’t want slaves under their roofs. For enslaved cooks and their families, that was both good and bad: more privacy was gained by living in the building where the kitchen was, and accommodations were usually larger than in the slave cabins – but that proximity meant that cooks were constantly on-call. It took “a network of enslaved folks” to put food on the table, not only in growing the food, but in what may have been a house-staff of dozens. Cooks cooked, but they were also bakers, butchers, brewers, distillers, and sometimes, laundresses. A cook was likely taught to read and do “basic math,” and she (sometimes, he) taught kitchen chores to new slaves. Despite a constant likelihood of abuse and brutality, cooks often had surprising power over their mistresses and may’ve even

negotiated their own circumstances. And if things went really bad, there was always the danger-filled chance for a cook to tamper with the food... There are, as author Kelley Fanto Deetz indicates in her introduction, several myths and misunderstandings related to enslaved cooks. There were, until now, many unknowns. “Bound to the Fire” sets things straight, but cooking isn’t the only focus here. What would “Southern hospitality” be without the influence of enslaved cooks? Not much, as Deetz indicates – and Southern architecture would be the lesser, too. Using documents and research, Deetz explains how



this is so, which leads to a fascinating look at day-to-day work of Virginia cooks, the power they wielded, and how they influenced what you’ll eat this holiday season. You’ll come to eagerly anticipate those tales, and they serve to underscore Deetz’s final point: Americans must look beyond stereotypes and be mindful of those who literally nourished a nation. Be aware that this is not a cookbook. Instead, this is a book of history and a chance to set it straight. Yes, there are old-timey half-recipes in here but really, “Bound to the Fire” is meant for opening eyes, rather than mouths.

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 Neil Diamond

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
				X							R														

AGW JXVI SAUUAEBRG UCV ZX

GC WKI A RCJX TCB LBG GC

WAOH A RCJX TCB UCV ZX AW

X KWAXV

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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.

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

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 15)

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INTERVIEW: CORY HARDRICT THE “DESTINED” INTERVIEW

By **Kam Williams**
Columnist

Cory’s Story:
Born and raised in Chicago, Cory Hardict immersed himself in the arts at an early age. His passion and talent led to an enviable and enduring movie and television career.
His big screen credits include Gran Torino, Brotherly Love, American Sniper, Spectral, Crazy/Beautiful, Naked, Battle: Los Angeles, Never Been Kissed and He’s Just Not That into You, to name a few. Meanwhile, he’s appeared on such TV shows as Law & Order, ER, Boston Legal, Cold Case, The Shield, Saving Grace, Heroes, Dark Blue and CSI: NY.
Here he talks about playing both lead roles in his new film, Destined, a coming-of-age saga revolving around alternate possible paths followed by a youngster trying to make it out of the ghetto.
Kam Williams: Hi Cory, thanks for the interview.
Cory Hardict: Thank you for having me, Kam. Let’s do it!
KW: What interested you in Destined?
CH: The material. Getting a chance to play two characters in

a film was something I couldn’t pass up on. Both worlds with two different meanings. Being able to show different sides to a story.
KW: How would you describe the film in 25 words or less?
CH: I would describe Destined as a groundbreaking, innovative slice-of-life adventure that reflect the times we live in now.
KW: The movie has two lead characters, Sheed and Rasheed, and you play them both. Was it hard playing people with such different personalities?
CH: The characters were shot like two separate films. But it still had its challenges grounding them. Living in such different worlds kept it simple and real.
KW: What was it like being directed by Qasim Basir, whose movie, Mooz-lum, received such critical acclaim?
CH: Working with Qasim was great. He’s a calm director who loves the arts and has a great vision of what he wants to accomplish. He has a very bright future.
KW: How did you get along with Hill Harper, Zulay Henao and the rest of the cast?
CH: Hill Harper was awesome, and he’s such a positive

guy. When he speaks, everyone listens, and you can take some key gems and apply them to your life. Zulay was cool to work with. She is passionate about her craft. The whole cast was wonderful, and I had great chemistry with Robert Christopher Riley who’s an amazing actor.
KW: What message do you think people will take away from Destined?
CH: The message I hope people will take away would be that choices and decisions can make or break you. They can alter the next 30 years of your life.
KW: Harriet Pakula-Teweles asks: With so many classic films being redone, is there a remake you’d like to star in?
CH: I haven’t really given it much thought. But If I had to do one, it would be Scarface, set in Chicago, with me playing Tony Montana.
KW: Larry Greenberg asks: Do you have a favorite movie monster?
CH: I’m sorry I don’t, but I love to watch whatever my son is watching.
KW: Ling-Ju Yen asks: What is your earliest childhood mem-

ory?
CH: Playing football in the street with my friends, and swimming in creeks. The good old days.
KW: Was there a meaningful spiritual component to your childhood?
CH: Yes, going to Catholic school which taught me at a early age the power of prayer.
KW: What is your favorite dish to cook?
CH: Mac and cheese!
KW: Sherry Gillam would like to know what is the most impor-

tant life lesson you’ve learned so far?
CH: Just to help other. To be of service to people. I believe that’s why we are here on this Earth.
KW: The Viola Davis question: What’s the biggest difference between who you are at home as opposed to the person we see on the red carpet?
CH: There is no difference. I wear sweats and a T-shirts everyday at home. On the carpet I just dress up. But same personality and all. At least with work, I get to tap into someone else

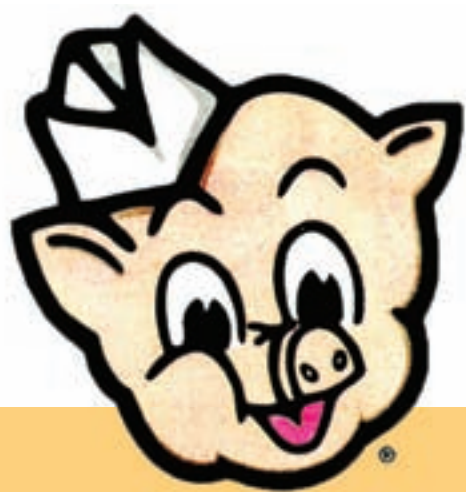
for a bit.
KW: When you look in the mirror, what do you see?
CH: A God-fearing man who would risk it all for family and his beliefs.
KW: Finally, Samuel L. Jackson asks: What’s in your wallet?
CH: Pictures of family, credit cards and an ID. No money, though. [LOL]
KW: Thanks again for the time, Cory, and best of luck with Destined.
CH: Thank you, Kam. I appreciate the interview.



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