



You're not supposed to be so blind with patriotism that you can't face reality. Wrong is wrong, no matter who says it.

-Malcom X

Saving the MetroCenter

The Mississippi Link Editor Othor Cain sat down with Jackson businessman Leroy Walker, managing partner of Retro/Metro, LLC, for a candid conversation about the future of the MetroCenter. Next week, details from that exclusive conversation. Hope is on the way!

NNPA, NAACP sign historic partnership agreement



Derrick Johnson, president and CEO of the NAACP; Leon Russell, chairman of the NAACP; Dorothy Leavell, chairman of the NNPA and Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., president and CEO of the NNPA sign a strategic partnership agreement to join forces in focusing on key issues that affect the black community, during the 2018 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. PHOTO BY FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), a trade group representing more than 200 black-owned media companies, signed a historic, strategic partnership with the NAACP, one of the most influential civil rights group in the world, during the NNPA's Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas.

"Sometimes you have to take a step back and reconnect in order to move forward," said NAACP Chairman Leon W. Russell. "Signing this agreement is taking that step back and it says it's time for us to re-commit to each other and work together to move our people forward."

NNPA President and CEO

Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., who once served as president of the NAACP, called the partnership historic.

"This [signing] consummates a working relationship of two of the world's largest organizations focused on the empowerment of black people," said Chavis.

NNPA National Chairman Dorothy Leavell added that she's very pleased with the new partnership.

"I attempted to do something similar in the nineties and I'm very determined now," said Leavell. "We are going to set a precedent and I hope we will be able to repeat this with many other national organizations, because if we solidify our

NAACP

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CBC chair offers stinging rebuttal to President Trump's State of the Union address



Members of the Congressional Black Caucus wear Kente cloth-inspired prints, during the State of the Union address January 30. The CBC members stood in solidarity with the Americans, Haitians and the African nations smeared by President Trump's comments during a bipartisan meeting about immigration at the White House. PHOTO BY LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE/NNPA

By Freddie Allen
Editor-In-Chief, NNPA Newswire

Rep. Cedric Richmond, the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus railed against President Donald Trump's boasts about the economy, especially his claims about the black community, in a blistering response to the president's State of the Union (SOTU) address.

CBC members also wore Kente cloth-inspired prints to the State of the Union address. Richmond said that every action taken by Trump, since

his election, has been destructive for poor, working-class, and middle-class communities throughout the country, as well as communities of color.

Richmond said that nothing that the president said during his speech wiped that slate clean.

The CBC chairman also leveled the charge made by lawmakers and economists alike that Trump is just riding the economic wave that began during President Barack Obama's tenure.

"He boasts about a booming

economy, but it is not something he can take credit for," said Richmond. "Much like the money he inherited from his father to start his business, Trump inherited a growing economy from Obama."

Richmond continued: "The low black unemployment rate he boasted about has been falling for eight years and has only changed by one percent since he took office. In addition, while the black unemployment rate is at an historic low, it is still double the rate of white unemployment and doesn't take

into account the fact that African Americans are disproportionately underemployed and underpaid."

Janelle Jones, an analyst working on a variety of labor market topics within EPI's Program on Race, Ethnicity, and the Economy (PREE) told Vox that, "The recovery of employment was happening long before Trump got into office."

Richmond also said that even though the president's infrastructure proposal sounded

Richmond

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State of Black America is strong, experts say

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Four, preeminent black leaders in America today, addressed the challenges and celebrated the success stories of the African American community, during a "State of Black America" forum at the 2018 National Newspaper Publishers Association annual Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lezli Baskerville, president and CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity (NAFEO), spoke passionately about the future of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), while Julius Cartwright presented a sobering, yet optimistic report from the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB).

And while Reverend Tony Lee, pastor of Community of Hope A.M.E. Church, delivered fervent remarks about the strong state of the Black Church, it was a fiery, no-holds-barred speech from Amos C. Brown that brought the capacity crowd to its feet. Brown, a civil rights icon, who serves as the senior pastor at the Third Baptist Church of San Francisco and president of the San Francisco Branch of the NAACP, touted the virtues of the oldest civil rights organization in America and its importance today.

In what amounted to a sermon worthy of any Sunday service, Brown said the Black Press must tell the story of African Americans. "Let no one else tell it for us," he said, before

providing a vivid picture of his foray into the Civil Rights Movement, as a teenager. "One of the problems with the black community, today, is that we don't have enough rituals of remembrance," Brown said. Referring to the current administration and its policies, Brown said, "'The man' is doing today what he's always done." Brown continued: "They say to make sure, 'If you're black you get back. If you're brown, you stick around and if you're white, you're always right. They're not any better than we are. We came from Mother Africa.'"

Baskerville, a 2014 Harvard University Advanced Leadership Fellow, said the state of

Black America

Continued on page 3



Lisa Frison, vice president of African-American Segment Strategy at Wells Fargo; Julius Cartwright, former president of National Association of Real Estate Brokers; Dorothy Leavell, chairman of the NNPA; Reverend Tony Lee, pastor of Community of Hope A.M.E. Church; Amos Brown, pastor of the Third Baptist Church of San Francisco; Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., president and CEO of the NNPA; and Lezli Baskerville, president and CEO of NAFEO at the NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas. PHOTO BY FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

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Jim Hill Choir performs at annual state of the church breakfast

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Pastor Michael T. Williams stated that the Jim Hill High School Choir was magnificent beyond words when they performed Saturday at the 14th annual church breakfast sponsored by the Public Relations Ministry of College Hill Baptist Church located at 1600 Florence Avenue.

The choir, directed by Pamela Byrd Moody, opened up with two well-known African-American spirituals, “Oh Mary, O Martha” and “Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho.” The two selections brought thunderous applause from those that attended the event which was held in the church family life center.

Breakfast was served by members of the College Hill Hostess Ministry. The breakfast was described by Public Relations member Leon Williams as simply delicious. He said there was a wide variety of hot breakfast foods and everyone ate plenty.

Prior to Williams giving his annual state of the church address the choir brought the audience to their feet when they sang “You Must Be Born Again.”

Malena W. Dow, who served as moderator, stated that the church must invite the choir again. She said, “They are a part of our community and we look forward to having them back soon.” Jim Hill is located at 2185 Coach Fred Harris Street which is in close proximity of the church.

Moody thanked the College Hill Public Relations Ministry for inviting them to perform and said she



Jim Hill Choir directed by Pamela B. Moody

looked forward to bringing the choir back again.

In his state of the church message Williams said to his members:

“As we embark upon this spiritual journey in 2018, I need you to keep your spiritual eyes sharp. I need you to maintain your spiritual focus. This is an exciting year in the life of College Hill, for we are about to embark upon the groundbreaking of a new church edifice to the glory of God.”

Williams made it a point to say the vision is not being done so that we can be like other churches nor was it being done to make the name of the church great. He said, “This building is being erected so that this church can do more for God’s people in our community and city.” Williams said that with additional rooms and space more programs and activities can be implemented to reach the disenfranchised and the disadvantaged. He

said that this new building would be a blessing for God’s people for generations to come.

After the state of the church address a panel of College Hill ministry leaders, along with the pastor, was assembled to answer questions regarding their ministry. The panel, introduced by Emma Williams-Holmes, included Deacon Frank Yates (Deacons & Christian Education), Deacon Louis Wright (Sunday School and Trustees), Deacon Jacob McEwen, (Evangelism), Mary Fisher (Girl Scouts), Deacon LaVaughn Rankin (Boy Scouts), Vera Williams (Mission & Outreach), and Rev. Justin Wyatt, (Children & Youth Minister). Each panelist gave a brief description of their ministry prior to addressing questions.

The breakfast ended with special award presentations for members of College Hill. Awards were given in three areas to include ‘Member

of the Year (MOY Award), Most Valuable Player (MVP Award) and “Going the Extra Mile” (EXTRAM Award). They were presented by Dow.

The MVP award was presented to Vondakay Harden, a member of the Hostess Ministry also described as a behind the scene hard worker.

The MOY award was presented to Calvin Peoples, an associate minister at College Hill who has been described as one who preaches powerful messages when called upon and supports the church family above and beyond the call. These two awards were based on the highest vote count by church members.

The EXTRAM award was presented to Sherry Rankin, president of the Public Relations Ministry. This award is annually given to a member of the PR Ministry and is determined by a majority vote count from the members of the ministry.



College Hill Pastor Williams



Malena Dow (left) with awardees Harden and Rankin



Dow, awardee Peoples and Rankin
PHOTOS BY JIMMY COLEMAN

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Richmond

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good, he doubted that the proposals would live up to their promise.

“We know that it will be more of the same: toll roads, reduced federal cost-share and giveaways to his wealthy friends in the construction industry,” said Richmond. “It is important to note that he said nothing about contracting with minority firms.”

Richmond said that the CBC can now answer the question that Trump posed to the black community in 2016, “with 100 percent certainty.”

Richmond continued: “African Americans have a lot to lose under the Trump Administration and we have lost a lot already, especially when it comes to his justice, voting rights, education, housing and healthcare policies. Trump is still who we thought he was and we won’t be fooled by this speech.”

Black America

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HBCUs remains strong. “From my vantage point, HBCUs in 2018 are strong and getting stronger. In fact, it’s harvest time for HBCUs,” Baskerville said. He also said that the vitriol coming out of the White House and the policies that jeopardize voting and other rights are reminiscent of the time when HBCUs were born. “The actions and words and legislation taking place will turn back the clock, if we let it happen,” Baskerville warned. “But, I say it’s harvest time for HBCUs, because it’s the 50th anniversary of the sanitation workers march [in Memphis] and the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and we are still going strong. We are 106 strong, but if you read fake news, HBCUs are closing.”

Baskerville continued: “We have lost just one [black college] and we are still struggling to get it back. I say its harvest time, because while HBCUs are just three percent of schools, we graduate 20 percent of African Americans across the country; Sixty-percent of African-American public health professionals; 50 percent of African-American public school teachers; and more than 40 percent of black STEM professionals.”

Cartwright said NAREB, the oldest group representing black realtors (which he called “realtists”), is working to help black homebuyers. “Most African Americans were stripped of their wealth with the

NAACP

Continued from page 1

strength, things will be different for all of us in the United States of America.”

Derrick Johnson, president and CEO of the NAACP, said one of the things he and Russell share is the rich tradition of the NAACP.

“Anytime we move away from that [tradition], we lose our way,” he said. “The NAACP would not be here, if not for William Monroe Trotter, a civil rights activist, newspaper editor and real estate businessman based in Boston, Massachusetts; the NAACP would not be here today, if not for Ida B. Wells, a newspaper writer...the NAACP would not be here today, if not for W.E.B. DuBois and his “Crisis” magazine. I commit today, that we will be joining the NNPA.”

Johnson added that the NAACP is as strong as its volunteers and the Black Press is as strong as its readers, many of whom are

NAACP members.

The signing, which took place Friday, January 26, was attended by a number of NNPA members, staffers from both organizations and Gary, Indiana Mayor Karen Freeman Wilson, the first African-American woman to hold the office of mayor in the state of Indiana.

“We have to take the resources that we have in our collective communities and we have to use these resources in a way that educate our children and benefit our people,” Wilson said. “We also have to support [black] businesses.”

Wilson added that black consumers have to let go of the stereotype that black businesses are inferior to white businesses.

Wilson also noted that African Americans aren’t receiving a fair shake from the federal government and, in her city, finances are a challenge she’s trying to meet head-on.

“Many of the answers depended on the state, but last night, a light bulb went on and it was that we can’t wait on the Republican governor to save Gary,” she said. “So, I said to my team that whatever the governor does or doesn’t do, we are going into the war room and we will stay there and not come out until we have a plan.”

Wilson joined Russell, Johnson, Chavis and Leavell in advocating for a strong relationship between the NAACP and the Black Press.

“If black newspapers didn’t tell our stories, no one ever would have,” said Russell, echoing the founders of the Black Press, Samuel E. Cornish and John B. Russwurm who stated 191 years ago: “We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentations, in things which concern us dearly.”

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Mississippi connection at NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nev. L-R, Derrick Johnson, NAACP President & CEO; Alice Tisdale, publisher, Jackson Advocate; Jackie Hampton, publisher, The Mississippi Link; Rev. Amos Brown, president of the San Francisco Chapter of the NAACP and native Mississippi Civil Rights leader



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Alcorn community named amongst most football fan friendly atmospheres in America



Mississippi Link Newswire

Lorman, Miss. (Jan. 30, 2017) – The rich winning tradition and game day experience of Alcorn State University Braves football has landed the local community and Jack Spinks-Marino Casem Stadium amongst the most accessible and fan friendly environments for college football in the nation.

Thanks to the consistent and enthusiastic support of Braves fans, Alcorn's Spinks-Casem

Stadium was named on walletHub.com's Most Accessible College Stadiums list for 2018.

Fayette, Mississippi, which is about 15 miles from Alcorn's campus, was also ranked number 53 on the website's Best Football Cities for Fans list.

Both entities were the highest ranked in the state of Mississippi.

WalletHub compared more than 240 U.S. cities with at least one college or professional football team across 21

key metrics. The website's data set ranges from number of NFL and college football teams to average ticket price for an NFL game to fan friendliness.

Alcorn State University is a premier comprehensive land-grant university that develops diverse students into globally competitive leaders, and applies scientific research through collaborative partnerships that benefit the surrounding communities, state, nation and world.

Lovett Elem. student's letter published in national magazine

Mississippi Link Newswire

Lovett Elementary School student Eliana Vaughn has creative ideas about how robots could be used in the classroom.

"I typed up an email about how robots could be teacher assistants, or be partners with someone if there was an odd number of students in the class," said the sixth-grader. "If the robot broke, kids could learn engineering and how to fix it."

Her letter was published in the January edition of TIME for Kids magazine, a national publication distributed to schools throughout the country.

Eliana's mother Francis Vaughn said they were excited and proud when they saw the magazine.

"My first response was a smile," she said. "She showed



Vaughn

me the publication she had gotten from school that day ... She took the initiative and wrote this herself."

Lovett Principal Mike Pope said Elaina's teacher Wendy Kane rushed to the cafeteria to tell him about the article.

"I made sure I announced the good news to the whole school over the intercom,"

he said. "Our students here at Lovett were very excited about Eliana's accomplishment."

The news of Eliana's letter being published in TIME for Kids was posted on the school's Facebook page and included in school district announcements.

"I think this accomplishment encourages Eliana's peers at Lovett to strive for that same excellence in themselves," Pope said. "It's a reminder to our students that they too can contribute and make a positive mark for themselves."

This is the Vaughn family's second year in the Clinton Public School District, and Francis Vaughn said the teachers and staff have been supportive and encouraging.

"We're proud to be in the Clinton Public School District," she said.

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition announces Annual Recycling Awareness Day at the State Capitol

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition (MRC) is announcing its annual Mississippi Recycling Awareness Day at the Mississippi State Capitol Wednesday, February 7, from 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

This year's event will be jointly hosted with Keep Mississippi Beautiful and will include an "Ice Cream Social" with state legislators and other elected officials in the 1st Floor Rotunda area of the Capitol Building. The event is being

held to promote the positive impacts that the recycling industry is having on Mississippi's economy and environment to the state's elected officials.

The MRC will also recognize the "Recyclers of the Year" in the State for 2017 at 1:15 p.m. at the event with the organization's annual "Environmental Hero" awards. The awards recognize extraordinary recycling efforts among business, government and institutions in the state.

The Mississippi Recycling

Coalition is a consortium of businesses, manufacturers, local governments, state and federal agencies, non-profit groups and other interested organizations that promotes and encourages the growth of recycling in Mississippi.

For more information on MRC or the upcoming Recycling Awareness Day, please visit the MRC web page at <http://www.msrecycles.org> or contact Jennifer Milner at 601-961-5739 or at info@ms-recycles.org.

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Pictorial highlights Alzheimer's Day at the Capitol



Celebrate Black History Month at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

AARP proudly acknowledges the legacy of the men and women who have worked to build a more equal and just society. During Black History Month and beyond, we affirm our commitment to supporting the work and achievement of the African American community.

Join us in commemorating this historic month. AARP Mississippi is offering free admission to the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum.

Saturday, February 10, 2018

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

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* Admission is free to the first 300 people.

AARP.org/blackcommunity



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JPS names the 2017-2018 Teacher Of The Year



Power APAC Principal Sandra Reed (left) with Teacher of the Year honoree Malaika Quarterman and JPS Interim Superintendent Fredrick Murray



Power APAC Teacher of the Year honoree Malaika Quarterman with her elementary theatre students



Jackson White (left), a fifth-grade theatre arts student, and Jefferey Stafford, PTA president (right), congratulate Quarterman for her Teacher of the Year honor.

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Public Schools is proud to announce Malaika Quarterman as the 2017-2018 JPS Teacher of the Year. Quarterman is the chairperson of the Theatre Arts Department at Power APAC. JPS Interim Superintendent Fredrick Murray made the announcement during a surprise visit to the school January 29.

Quarterman holds a master of arts in theatre from Regent University and a bachelor of arts degree in theatre performance from Belhaven University. She graduated with honors from both institutions.

Though she has been the department chair and instructor at Power APAC since 2011, her theatre teaching experience be-

gan much earlier – nearly two decades ago. In the summers of 2001, 2002 and 2005, the versatile Quarterman traveled extensively as an artist and instructor, from teaching musical theatre camps at the University of Miami to performing in mime and dance workshops throughout Europe. Her current leadership roles include serving as director for the International Thespian Troupe 4909 and as a board member for the Fondren Theatre Workshop.

One of her more recent achievements was to reinstate Power APAC’s National Honor Society for Theatre Students. This group of students earns nationally recognized awards and competes at the state and national level for scholarships

and industry recognition.

She is very proud of the success of her students in recent years. Many of her graduates have obtained full scholarships to the universities of their choice. Some of have been hired for professional theatre productions at New Stage. Others have been offered movie contracts.

Quarterman received enthusiastic letters of support for her Teacher of the Year nomination. Each of them esteemed her qualities of excellence and passion, as well as the generous opportunities she affords her students. Power APAC Principal Sandra Reed was one of those supporters.

“From an academic perspective, Mrs. Quarterman sets the bar very high for all of her

students and works alongside them to achieve lofty academic goals,” said Reed. “She sets the same high bar for all of her students without regard to their individual circumstances – rather, she works to provide accommodations and support that enables all of her students to be successful.”

The Fowler family, current theatre students and their parents, explained why they consider Quarterman a great teacher.

“One of the differences between good teachers and great teachers is the ability to provide the student with tools and knowledge that can be translated to other areas of life and not just that specific subject,” they said. “The high school students

learned about the 12 Guideposts as a method to gain a better understanding of their characters. This has greatly assisted students, not only in theatre but also when writing papers and preparing for a speech and debate competition.”

“I have personally witnessed many students’ lives positively changed because of the contagious passion for education that Malaika has poured out and nurtured in the lives of her students,” said Nancy Smylie, lead volunteer at Power APAC. “She is a superior teacher, arts education advocate, community volunteer, all-encompassing professional and perpetual dynamo of passion and encouragement for every life that God blesses with her presence.”

Quarterman will be considered with other outstanding teachers across the state for the Mississippi Teacher of the Year.

Jackson Public Schools would like to thank our Teacher of the Year sponsors for these generous gifts to our honoree:

Personalized plaque, donated by the Mississippi Association of Educators.

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District completes second school consolidation study

Mississippi Link Newswire

As part of its Corrective Action Plan, in response to an audit performed by the Mississippi Department of Education, the Jackson Public School District conducted a second study into the feasibility of consolidating schools. The district’s first study led to board approval of the consolidation of Poindexter Elementary and Barr Elementary schools last school year.

The findings of this most recent study were presented to the Board of Trustees by Interim Superintendent Fredrick Murray and the district’s leadership staff December 19, 2017, during a board work session.

The increased costs to maintain aging buildings, school architecture design, combined

with decreased state funding and a decline in student enrollment has led the district to conduct this study.

The district looked at schools with approximately 200 students or less and schools with costly infrastructure repairs. As part of the study, the district researched projected cost savings, transportation, staffing, food services and exceptional education services.

As a result, the following schools met the qualifications for consolidation:

Brown Elementary–193 students, 13 teachers, 23 support staff

French Elementary–200 students, 16 teachers, 21 support staff

George Elementary–129 stu-

dents, 11 teachers, 11 support staff

Woodville Heights Elementary–Costs for repairs approaching \$4 million

Brown Elementary was originally constructed in 1962 and has a projected cost for repairs of about \$4.38 million. In the event of the school’s closing, its students would attend Galloway Elementary School.

French Elementary was built in 1951 and will need \$2.73 million in capital improvements. The school’s students would be transferred to Lake Elementary and Raines Elementary schools.

George Elementary was originally built in 1907. The school needs close to \$2.75 million in repairs and renovations. Students at George would attend

Isable and Casey Elementary Schools.

Although enrollment at Woodville Heights Elementary was over 300 students, the study revealed the school needs some expensive improvements. The school was built in 1969, and repair and renovations costs are projected at close to \$4 million. With the corridors located outside of the main building, the school’s design presents some unique challenges. Students must go outside each time they transfer from class-to-class and to the cafeteria. If it closed, the school’s students would attend Bates, Oak Forest and Timberlawn Elementary Schools.

Transportation and exceptional education services would be provided to all students relocat-



George Elementary was built in 1962. It is one of four schools the Jackson Public District studied for consolidation.

ed to other school sites. Teachers and staff members of closed schools would be extended opportunities to fill vacancies at other schools and offices across the district.

The school consolidation study was presented to the board as information only. Currently, no recommendations have been made on closing or consolidating schools.

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MSU's Adkerson School of Accountancy looks to future of analytics



Vy Nguyen, right, a sophomore accounting major at Mississippi State, meets with representatives from HORNE LLP during a recent on-campus networking event. MSU's Adkerson School of Accountancy is updating its undergraduate and graduate programs to give students the tools needed to remain leaders in the accounting profession. (Photo by Megan Bean)

The Mississippi Link Newswire

STARKVILLE, Miss.—Mississippi State University's Richard C. Adkerson School of Accountancy is updating its undergraduate and graduate programs to give students the tools needed to remain at the forefront of the accounting profession.

The curriculum update emphasizes technology skills relevant to data analytics and big data, areas that are becoming increasingly prominent in the accounting profession. The changes include integrating data analytics content into current courses, adding a required data analytics graduate course, and providing a minor in business analytics in the Masters of Professional Accountancy and Masters of Tax programs.

"The main objective of these changes is to ensure that the next generation of accounting professionals from Mississippi State University have the advanced technology skill set necessary to be successful in a highly complex and data-centric environment," Adkerson School of Accountancy Director Shawn Mauldin said. "The new curriculum is structured in such a way that as new technologies evolve they can easily be incorporated into existing courses without revamping the entire curriculum."

The school boasts a 100 percent job

placement rate among its graduates. The updated curriculum will make MSU's accounting graduates even more highly sought after, according to leaders in the accounting profession.

John Scott, a partner with HORNE LLP, said MSU accounting graduates "already possess excellent technology skills, and these curriculum changes will further enhance the quality and marketability of State's accounting students."

Susan Bell, a partner with EY, observed that, "Technology is a key enabler across all aspects of business, including accounting, tax and auditing. MSU's added curriculum around data analytics and emerging technologies will help our students be more efficient and effective business leaders and advisors."

Housed in MSU's College of Business, the School of Accountancy is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the world's largest business education network and longest-serving accrediting body for business schools with undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in business and accounting. MSU is among 799 business schools around the world that hold AACSB accreditation. Additionally, MSU is among only 186 institutions that hold an additional, special-

ized AACSB accreditation for their accounting programs.

"The inclusion of data analytics as part of the new curriculum for both master of professional accountancy and master of taxation programs will provide the additional tools needed to keep our MSU graduates at the forefront of an ever-changing accounting profession," College of Business Dean Sharon Oswald said.

The school graduates approximately 100 bachelor's degree candidates and 35-40 master's degree candidates every year. The school offers a bachelor's in accountancy and an accounting minor for undergraduate students. For graduate students, the school offers professional accountancy and taxation master's programs. The undergraduate and master's programs both are ranked among the top 20 in the country by the Commerce Clearing House Public Accounting Report for programs with 15 or fewer faculty.

The school is named for Richard C. Adkerson, an MSU College of Business graduate and CEO of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc.

For more on the Adkerson School of Accountancy, visit www.business.ms-state.edu/programs/adkerson/.

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

Fortune 500 Company Cintas features large number of USM graduates

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Perhaps, it is a stretch to say The University of Southern Mississippi has developed an employment pipeline for students with Fortune 500 company Cintas. Then again, maybe not, especially when considering the fact that 147 USM graduates have been hired by Cintas over the past 10 years.

Why exactly have so many USM graduates chosen to start their professional careers with the service industry giant? Rusty Anderson, director of Career Services at USM, explains that Cintas' strong management training program leads to professional management opportunities for a company ranked No. 1 in its class.

"The numerous career opportunities within the corporation is very attractive," he said. "Cintas has strong core values and strives to adhere to those in all aspects of business. They treat their partners with respect and provide partners what is necessary for success."

Not to be underestimated, Anderson also points out that "salaries are very competitive" with Cintas.

Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, Cintas is an industry leader in supplying corporate identity uniform programs, providing entrance and logo mats, restroom supplies, promotional products, first aid & safety, fire protection products and services, and industrial carpet and tile cleaning. The company operates more than 400 facilities in North America – including six manufacturing plants and eight distribution centers.

The strong Cintas connection to USM can be traced to a pair of USM graduates – Todd Gregory and Brandt Schmersahl. Schmersahl is regional human resources director for the company. Gregory served as vice president for the south central territory for many years and recently became vice president for a new territory in the U.S. – the northern plains. New south central territory vice president Richard Guillory looks to maintain the vibrant relationship with USM.

Many Cintas executives have made repeated trips to the Hattiesburg campus in recent years for recruiting purposes and these efforts have helped create brand awareness for USM graduates.

Schmersahl points out that USM provides platforms for students to become involved in leadership roles – a facet that appeals to Cintas management. He adds that the education gained at USM helps establish a very solid foundation for graduates entering the workforce.

"Students that we have hired have demonstrated visionary and servant

leadership, a mentality for personal and professional growth, an aptitude for growing a business, display competitive urgency and a professional approach to their educational pursuits," said Schmersahl.

Today, Cintas is a multi-billion-dollar company that touches more than 1,000,000 users each day.

A vast majority of USM graduates hired by Cintas have ascended into management and leadership roles such as: executive vice president, corporate director, regional director, general manager, branch manager, service manager, production manager, market sales manager, major account manager and special account manager.

Schmersahl adds that extensive training is provided in any area that a new hire enters with ongoing professional development serving as a cornerstone of the company's mission. But that does not mean Cintas is all work and no play.

"We like to have fun. We interact with our partners and customers in a way that fosters long-term relationships," said Schmersahl.

To learn more about Cintas, visit: <https://www.cintas.com/>. For information about Career Services at USM, call 601.266.4153 or visit: <https://www.usm.edu/career-services>

About The University of Southern Mississippi

Founded in 1910, The University of Southern Mississippi is a comprehensive doctoral and research-driven university with a proud history and an eye on the future. A dual-campus university, Southern Miss serves students on campuses in Hattiesburg and Long Beach, in addition to five teaching and research sites in Mississippi and through Online at Southern Miss. Since 2006, our students have collected three Truman Scholarships and 17 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships. USM students also lead Mississippi with 21 Goldwater Scholarships, an honor that recognizes the next generation of great research scientists. Our Drapeau Center for Undergraduate Research affords our students meaningful research opportunities, and as a proven leader in innovation, we conduct transformative research that translates into real-world solutions. As one of only 36 institutions in the nation accredited in theatre, art and design, dance and music, we are a haven for creativity and artistic expression. In the classroom or lab, on the playing field, or in the performance hall, we strive to have a positive impact not only on our students, but also the world around us.

Further information is found at usm.edu.

MVSU alum Darryl Gaines NASA Day speaker at the Valley

The Mississippi Link Newswire

ITTA BENA, Miss – The Mississippi Valley State University community received a behind the scenes look at the nation's outer space program Thursday during a "NASA Day at The Valley" event.

Darryl C. Gaines, a 1988 MVSU graduate and current assistant to the center director at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston, Texas, spoke with university students, faculty, staff and the general public about NASA.

Also, Gaines and his colleague shared information about funding for research, mentorship, internships and career opportunities.

"When I was a student at Valley, one of the things I was so impressed with was seeing former students coming back and speak," said Gaines. That impressed on me how important that is. Coming back to Valley to me is a part of the whole Valley community of giving back and being an advocate and letting the students see that there are opportunities out there and all



During the event, MVSU students had the opportunity to check out NASA's headquarters using Google Goggles.

they need to do is reach out for it," he added.

Gaines is a native of Mobile, Ala. He was awarded a four-year scholarship to play football and majored in computer science with a minor in mathematics at MVSU. With this in mind, Gaines shared his story in regards to his time at MVSU and how valuable his experiences were.

"Not being from Mississippi and having a loving campus family was everything to me. Dr. Carolyn Ford and the other instructors here made

Valley feel like a family, and she was like a mother to me," Gaines said.

The event was held in the Cliff E. Williams Auditorium, located in the Business Education Building. Informational sessions were held for students, and there was an informational session for faculty and staff research opportunity.

Participants in the event also had the chance to view the NASA Headquarters using Google Goggles technology. Jourdan Beverly, a senior computer science and electronic engineer major



Darryl Gaines (purple shirt) speaks to students about the variety of careers and internships available with NASA.

from Chicago, said that the experience was enjoyable.

"I thought it is noble that Mr. Gaines wanted to come back and show where your degree from Valley can take you. I know a lot of people don't understand how valuable an education from Valley can be, so it was great that he came back to share with his Valley family," Beverly said.

"Our teachers are very good, and they go beyond to help us. They are not going to give you anything; you have to work for it," she added.

As a member of the Center Director's staff, Gaines is responsible for policy development, staff relations, strategic planning, management integration of technical, mission support and communications activities for the organization of approximately 3000 civil servants and 8500 contractors.

He has been employed with NASA for 25 years and previously with McDonnell Douglas Aircraft for three years. Before becoming the assistant to the center director, Gaines was the deputy manager of the International Space Station (ISS), Program Planning and Control (PP&C) Office where he was responsible for managing an annual budget of \$3.8 billion and led both NASA civil servants and contractors.

Gaines was selected by the National Football League Kansas City Chief's in 1988 and managed a dual career working for McDonnell Douglas Aircraft while playing for the Chiefs.

He is a current member of the Former NFL Players Association, Houston Chapter, where he volunteers in activities to help schools, families and children.

JSU STUDENT CENTER THEATER | 12PM
www.jsu.edu/margaretwalkercenter / 601-979-3935

Documentary shows HBCUs continue to rise despite struggles, violence

By L.A. Warren
jsumsnews.com

Although only seven percent of African-American students today choose HBCUs, several college presidents and a documentary film director told a Jackson State University audience screening “Tell Them We Are Rising” that these institutions must survive

JSU joined Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Tougaloo College and JSU’s Department of Journalism and Media Studies as sponsors of the powerful documentary about the relevance of HBCUs. It was previewed by more than 100 people Thursday inside the Mississippi e-Center@JSU and will be released nationwide Feb. 19 on PBS stations, including MPB.

The story explores 150 years of African-American history by examining black colleges and universities. Despite smaller enrollment, HBCUs still account for 25 percent of African-American graduates.

Director Stanley Nelson set out to tell the world HBCUs are still rising. The institutions are credited with building the middle class, paving a path to the American dream and shaping culture. Although it took him 10 years to complete the project, he said it was important to tell this story.

“Furthermore,” said Nelson, “There’s no way my mother and father would have gone to college if it had not been for HBCUs ... You will come out of this screening feeling what HBCUs have been and what they are today.”

Nelson’s film begins from the time of enslavement when an education for blacks was forbidden to modern-day history of more than 100 black colleges in the nation.

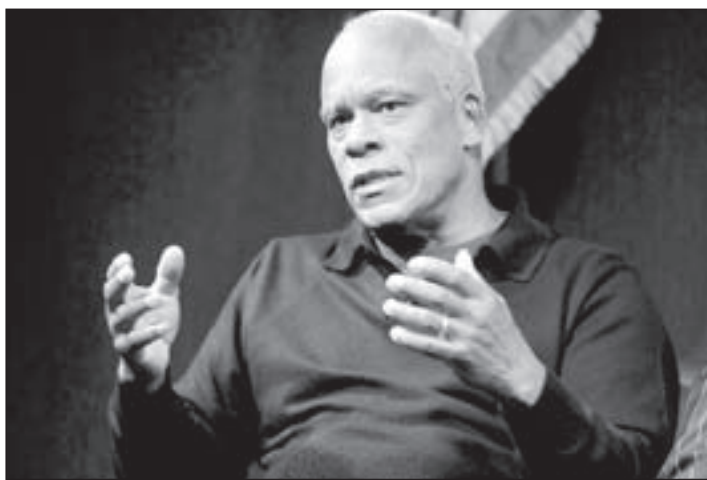
He said Southern whites, in particular, feared that educated blacks would unravel their society. The story also reveals that individuals venturing to be educated after the Civil War were killed. Even some abolitionists supporting education were hanged as others helped to set up schools. It’s believed that 20,000 people were slain because of the perceived threat associated with educating blacks – most victims, of course, being African Americans.

Resistance against white oppressors began to swell and eventually made its way to college campuses over the next several decades. Protests also were leveled against some black university administrators who didn’t appear to sufficiently support the progression of African Americans.

Clouding America’s violent era of the late 1800s was the 1972 uprising at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where two African-American students were shot in the head. The horrific scene was captured on film and is included in the documentary. It shows law enforcement officers hurling tear gas and unleashing a hail of gunfire on crowds. The deadly aftermath sent shockwaves throughout the nation and beyond.

JSU professor Rickey Hill, chair of the political science department, was a student activist during the deadly assault. At the time, the junior political science major was vice president of the Student Government Association at Southern. Also, Hill was part of the Black Stone Society, which was labeled by some authority figures as a radical student organization.

Eventually, Hill and other



Documentary filmmaker Stanley Nelson said, “Tell Them We Are Rising” highlights the importance of HBCUs. The institutions are credited with pulling people out of poverty and paving a path to the American dream. The film took 10 years to complete. Nelson said, “There’s no way my mother and father would have gone to college if it had not been for HBCUs.”



The documentary screened at Jackson State University was sponsored by Mississippi Public Broadcasting, JSU, Tougaloo College and JSU’s Department of Journalism and Media Studies. Panelists included moderator Ronnie Agnew, president of MPB, left; filmmaker Stanley Nelson; JSU President William B. Bynum Jr.; Tougaloo President Beverly Wade Hogan; and Mississippi Valley State University President Jerryl Briggs.



Bynum said the future of HBCUs means “we must meet students where they are, change our pedagogy and the way we instruct.”



Jackson State University students, faculty and alumni assemble with award-winning documentary filmmaker Nelson after screening “Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities.” PHOTO BY CHARLES A. SMITH/JSU

young activists battled with the administration, alleging it “didn’t care for students and faculty and was incompetent.” He said they believed school officials had aligned themselves with outside leadership that controlled the institution.

So, Hill helped stage a monthlong student boycott that brought the campus to a standstill. As a result, a string of events culminated in the deadly attack on their peers. As a young leader rallying for justice, “I did not abdicate responsibility in the loss of lives. We didn’t pull the trigger, but students trusted us on doing the right thing.” He still mourns the loss of his classmates.

Meanwhile, during a panel discussion, JSU President William B. Bynum Jr. described the documentary as “powerful.” He said he hopes people view the film and learn about the history and struggles of HBCUs.

“I am convinced that if students see this film they will

be more willing to attend HBCUs,” said Bynum, who acknowledged that the institutions face future challenges. He has children who attended an HBCU and realizes that competition for students is “fierce,” especially with white institutions that are better financed.

“We all want each generation to do better than the previous generation so that kids don’t have some of the hardships we faced. There are consequences,” Bynum said. “We’re raising kids who have certain expectations of what an educational experience should be like. Some kids seek certain amenities. Unfortunately, many HBCUs lack adequate appropriation and support from alumni,” he said.

Bynum said the future of HBCUs means “we must meet students where they are, change our pedagogy and the way we instruct.”

Tougaloo President Beverly Wade Hogan said the film

evoked a number of emotions.

“We’re resilient people with all the odds stacked again us. HBCUs have been the launching pad helping Americans create a democracy, getting them involved civically and breaking down barriers,” she said.

Hogan also said HBCUs must do a better job delivering its message. Nevertheless, she urged majority institutions to take note because they will have to “draw from the growing minority population, which will become the largest group of people in the future.” Because of the impending shift in demographics, she said America eventually will realize it can’t sustain itself with an uneducated minority population.

For institutions to thrive, Hogan said, “We must not let the message be that HBCUs are substandard, and we must improve our infrastructure, evaluate academic programs and tell our own story.”

Mississippi Valley State University President Jerryl Briggs was also part of the panel discussion. He was “overwhelmed” after viewing the documentary. He said the film will help people “understand the importance of where we came from and where we’re going.”

Briggs said the future of HBCUs will require stakeholders to “speak of how we can do more with less.” And, in contrast to other institutions, he said one positive aspect is that HBCUs continue to provide a whopping 25 percent of degrees to African-Americans.

In addition, Briggs said he’s especially proud that HBCUs have role models who let students know “you matter, and you earn an education that matters.”

Like Briggs, even historians in the film praised black schools for being a haven for the best and brightest so they can embrace their full potentials. Commentators also hailed instructors for providing a safety net for faltering students so they eventually would excel.

During a Q&A, Briggs also addressed a student wondering how an education can free individuals of enslavement. Briggs said, “We must share wisdom by not withholding knowledge.”

As for Hill, he did not complete his undergraduate degree at Southern University. He and others were expelled and barred. He transferred to Fisk University, which accepted all his credits. Interestingly, he said a college in London that heard about his plight and the campus strife had invited him to enroll. He’s since visited Southern many years later after the tragic events.

For those willing to become activists today, Hill quotes philosopher Frantz Omar Fanon: “Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, fulfill it, or betray it.”

Hill said the young activists only wanted Southern to be “responsive to the people.”

Of his legacy, he said people today don’t blame him or the other students for the events that occurred. Besides the obvious regret over the loss of lives, Hill said the group was successful in helping the university establish a board of trustees, a faculty senate and gave students a voice to help implement policies.

An even greater joy for Hill is that Southern graciously awarded posthumous degrees to the slain students recently.

Margaret Walker Center hosts 23rd annual ‘For My People’ awards luncheon



Joyce Ladner (left) accepts the ‘For My People’ award in the JSU Student Center Ballroom.

By LaToya Hentz-Moore
jsumsnews.com

Immediately following the 50th-year celebration of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Convocation, Jackson State University’s Margaret Walker Center hosted its 23rd annual “For My People” awards luncheon in the JSU Student Center Ballroom to honor those for their exemplary work toward social justice and community service.

Joyce Ladner, the keynote speaker for the MLK observance, was among this year’s recipients along with three others.

This year’s four honorees were Joyce Ladner (a civil rights activist and scholar); Wilma Mosley-Clopton (a founder of NMHS Unlimited Film Productions); Maryemma Graham (a Margaret Walker scholar); and Airena D. Matthews (a recipient of the 2016 Yale Younger Poets Award).

Ladner and Mosley-Clopton were in attendance to humbly accept their honor. Ladner expressed gratitude for being chosen as a recipient of the “For

My People” award.

“I feel wonderful, and I can’t think of an award bearing the name of any other person that would make me more proud. Margaret was just so amazing, so honoring her legacy makes me so proud.”

Ladner also addressed her return to JSU several decades later after having been expelled for leading an on-campus civil rights protest. “I feel like I finally told my story and that feels good. It feels like a homecoming for me.”

After years of hard work and diligence, Mosley-Clopton says she never thought she would receive such an honor for her efforts.

“To be recognized for this award is phenomenal, and I feel so amazing. But, I literally still think they have the wrong person because I don’t do what I do for awards. So, this is very special to me,” said Mosley-Clopton.

The 2018 award recipients also were noted for their commitment to the public preservation of African-American history and culture.

Retirement Media Release

Dr. Maurice James wishes to thank all his patients for their dedication, patronage, and loyalty over his past several decades of practice. His office located at St Dominic Medical Towers is now closed. The care of his patients has been transferred to Dr. Terrel Williams. Maurice James MD, Ophthalmology, P.A. Patient records may be obtained from the office of Dr. Terrel Williams. Please contact his office at (601) 981-1550. Or, patients may obtain their records by completing a ‘medical release’ form to Dr. Williams located at 3000 Old Canton Road, Suite 305, Jackson, MS 39216.

Mississippi Wildlife Federation welcomes new executive director

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Wildlife Federation is proud to announce and welcome Lindsey Lemmons as their new executive director. Lemmons will oversee all aspects of the Mississippi Wildlife Federation's operations including issue development and advocacy, administration, fundraising, staff supervision, event planning, membership, communications and program activities.

She will manage all federation employees, appoint staff, plan for fundraising, supervise all conservation and education programs conducted by the federation, and formulate position recommendations on

a variety of environmental issues.

Lindsey is an expert strategist with a sincere passion for conserving our outdoor heritage. She is effective in environmental policy development and implementation for both public and private entities, and applies this knowledge to cultivate partners and support

She is known for her ability to collaborate, engage and build strong relationships with individuals of various backgrounds by utilizing exceptional communication skills in combination with expertise in relationship management, performance management, natural and cultural

resources, planning for energy and water conservation, green procurement, environmental compliance and community outreach.

Lemmons worked for the Mississippi National Guard for over 10 years, where she effectively identified deficiencies in environmental performance and strategically advised on issues for large-scale implementation, positioning the organization to secure \$20M for wastewater infrastructure improvements.

Lindsey provided simple solutions to maximize impacts of legislative funding opportunities and successfully advised on programming to secure and

maintain multi-million dollar budgets while saving the organization over \$200,000 in administrative costs.

Lindsey spent over two years with The Nature Conservancy of Mississippi, applying her skills towards a fundraising strategy that doubled the organization's giving in one year.

Demery Grubbs, MWF board president, states "We are very excited to welcome Lindsey to our team at MWF. Not only will she bring fresh energy and ideas to the federation, but will also bring a wealth of knowledge for managing environmental policies and programs."

Secretary of State's Office earns three awards for Web creativity, leadership in cybersecurity

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Two websites operated by the Secretary of State's Office have earned recognition for excellent web content.

Y'all Vote, www.yallvote.sos.ms.gov, and Charities Online, www.sos.ms.gov/charities, are Silver W³ Award winners. The W³ Awards, which included more than 5,000 entries this year, honor creative excellence on the web and recognize the people behind award-winning sites, marketing programs, social content, mobile site/apps and online video.

"Our team is laser-focused on organizing data and information in a way which is intuitive to Mississippians," Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann said. "This has helped us fulfill our core mission: operating the agency from the citizen up."

Y'all Vote, Mississippi's online voter information center, aggregates all election information on one easy-to-use website. The site also allows citizens to check their registration status and allows registered voters to change their address online if they have moved to ensure their ballot counts.

Since the site's launch in September 2016, it has received more than 44,000 hits, 5,300



Walker

Mississippians have checked their voter registration status, and 1,396 Mississippians have changed their voter registration address online.

The Charities Division completed its process to move all registration forms online in April 2017. Charities and other entities required to register in the

state can also verify and approve their information online before submitting it. Currently, more than 3,700 charities are registered in Mississippi, and more than 4,200 charities have filed exemption paperwork.

The W³ Awards are sponsored and judged by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts

(AIVA), top-tier media, interactive, advertising and marketing professionals. For more information about the awards or AIVA, visit www.w3award.com or www.aiva.org.

Additionally, McAfee recognized Russell Walker, the agency's chief technology officer, for his attention and dedication to cybersecurity in its annual Digital Government Cybersecurity Leadership & Innovation Awards.

A native Mississippian, Walker has worked for the Secretary of State's Office for six years facilitating the virtualization of the Agency's infrastructure, modernizing outdated policies and enhanced the overall security of the network.

"Network security initiatives start from the top down," Walker said. "I'm grateful to work for an organization which has invested in necessary training and equipment and prioritized keeping our networks secure."

Walker was honored at McAfee's MPOWER Cybersecurity Summit in October 2017.

For more information about the summit and award, visit <http://www.govtech.com/cdg/cybersecurity/Cybersecurity-Leadership-and-Innovation-Awards-2017-Winners-Announced.html>

THANK YOU

our sincere appreciation to all of you who have donated warm clothing and bedding for our drive so far. We have had so many wonderful items - coats, scarves, blankets, sleeping bags, etc. donated. These were taken to Broadmoor Baptist Church on Wednesday so that the Jackson Street Ministries folks could deliver them directly to the homeless who were delighted to receive them.

More donations of the same are still needed and appreciated...so you bring whatever you have to us at the Mississippi Craft Center, and we will get them to those in need.

If you don't need the 10% discount off quilts or scarves we're offering, we will give you a 20% off discount card for whatever you desire in our retail gallery in exchange for your donation.

MISSISSIPPIANS HAVE SUCH BIG HEARTS!

No One Should Suffer in the Cold...



We are collecting donations at the Mississippi Craft Center for Jackson Street Ministries to distribute to homeless in the Jackson area.

YOU donate warm clothing items
men's sweaters, coats, gloves, scarves, etc.

WE give you 10% off scarves and quilts.

Your donation will make *everyone* feel warm inside!

OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY 9 AM - 5 PM • SUNDAY 12 - 3 PM

We will accept all donations but items for men, unless clothing is what is most needed.

Event: 58th Mississippi Conversation Achievement Awards Luncheon

\$25 adults / \$10 age 12 and under
<https://mswildlife.org/events/awards-banquet/>

When: Wednesday, February 15, 2018, 11:30 a.m.

Where: Hilton Jackson, 1001 East County Line Road, Jackson
Credentialed Media Invited

The Mississippi Wildlife

Federation is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2017 Conservation Achievement Awards. The awards are presented to individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution to conservation in Mississippi over the past year. "This a great way to recognize the efforts of the people and groups who do so much for the natural resources of this state," said Lindsey Lemmons, executive director. "This year's selections are truly deserving of this special honor."

Winners of the 2017 Conservation Achievement Awards are:

Conservationist of the Year – Dr. Jack Killgore, Vicksburg
Fisheries Conservationist of the Year – Dr. F. J. Eicke, Ocean Springs

Wildlife Conservationist of the Year – Dr. Daryl Jones, Starkville

Forest Conservationist of the Year – Chester Hunt, Columbia

Conservation Educator of the Year – Adam Rohnke, Clinton

Conservation Officer of the Year – Master Sergeant Sheila Smith, Brookhaven

Soil, Air and Water Conservationist of the Year – Robin Whitfield, Grenada

Elected Official of the Year – Mayor Gene McGee,

Ridgeland

Hunter Education Volunteer Instructor of the Year – Kevin Owens, Booneville

MWF President's Award – Michelle Blair, Brandon
MWF Scholarship Recipient – Alex Davis, Searcy, AR

Catch-A-Dream Volunteers of the Year – Gordon Jones, Valley Head, AL

The 58th Annual Conservation Achievement Awards Luncheon will be held Thursday, February 15, 2018 at the Hilton of Jackson. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 with a theatrical portrayal of the life of Fannye Cook by Dr. Cathy Shropshire. Shropshire's incarnation of Miss Cook entertains, educates and captivates, in the true spirit of the incredible Fannye Cook. Libby Hartfield, co-editor of the University Press biography, "Fannye Cook: Mississippi's Pioneering Conservationist," will be on hand to sell and sign books. The Conservation Achievement Awards are made possible through sponsorships from Chevron, Mississippi Power Company, The Westervelt Company, Cooperative Energy, Southern Ag Credit, Sunbelt Sealing, Anderson Tully Company, and Seth Harris Childhood Cancer Foundation.

Holmes Community College Grenada, associate degree nursing program students visited with lawmakers at the Capitol



Lift your eyes above the circumstance

PART 1

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



God tells us to trust in Him. He encourages us to trust in Him with all our heart. One never goes

wrong when he truly places his trust and confidence in the Lord. We read in Proverbs 3:5-6 these words: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

In order for God to direct one’s paths, a person must be doing whatever he or she already knows to be right – obedience activates God’s promises. To depend on one’s own understanding of truth and life means to disregard God’s Will.

In Proverbs 16:3, we find these words: “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” Prayer is a mighty force when guidance is needed for the next step. Asking the Lord

to direct one’s paths is better than having to ask Him to correct one’s mistakes.

Commit means to take the whole of one’s life and give it to God. No one, however, should expect God’s approval of plans on which He has not been consulted. Trust in God grows when a believer’s life and soul feed on His faithfulness in times past.

By trusting God’s divine guidance and counsel, we will never be ashamed. If our steps are always ordered by Him, we will not err. That is exactly what the Scripture tells us. We read in Psalm 37:23 these words, “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.”

The person in whom God delights is one who follows God, trusts Him and tries to do His Will. God watches over and makes firm every step that person takes. If we would like to have God direct our way, then we must seek His advice before we step out.

Sometimes people get things fixed in their minds: “This is what I want,” and

they do what they want; then they ask God to bless it. It does not work that way. What we need to do is ask God for divine direction: “Lord, what would you have me to do in this situation? Would you have me go here? Would you have me buy this?”

There are many things that we may like to do. The Apostle Paul said that he could do anything, but some things he would not do, not because he could not, but because it might hurt his influence with a weaker brother or sister. We need to be careful of those things, my friends. This all falls under the heading of trusting God and trusting His judgment. He has given us pastors to guide us.

Sometimes we run across problems that are not easy to answer or to work with, but we have to trust God. Sometimes only God knows how to help us. We must not allow Satan to sow doubt and unbelief in our hearts and minds. He will use every means possible to lead us into confusion. He is hoping to kill our confidence

in God. The Scripture says that Satan is an accuser of the brethren. He also accuses us to God and he accuses God to us. He says, “If God really love you, he would help you.” That is not altogether true. We have to find a balance. God wants to help us, and He will help us. However, there are conditions that we have to meet.

We read in Jeremiah 29:13 these words, “And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.” Those who earnestly seek God anywhere and everywhere will, in time, cultivate the sacred art of meeting Him at every crossroad and of feeling His breath in every wind. Through pain and victory, each new step will help us come to know Him better.

Next week – Part II, “Lift Your Eyes above the Circumstance”

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

PRESERVED

Living in the overflow

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“Them those got shall get; them that’s not shall lose,” are words sung so sweetly by the late Billie Holiday that can apply to our current economic situation. With so many people struggling to find work and pay bills, it’s amazing to hear how some people have gotten even richer during these hard times. According to Robert C. Lieberman, professor of political science and public affairs, the top 5 percent of earners have increased their wealth dramatically since 2009.

The bible even mentions this kind of strategy when it says in Matthew 13:12, “Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.” It’s always seemed unfair to me that people who have more (and need it the least) can get more and that people who have the least (and need it the most) seem to lose more. How are those who are in great need going to ever get to be one of those “who have” if they continue to lose?

How have the rich stayed richer? Some wealth strategists say that one successful strategy of wealthy people is to live off the interest from investments and to continue to make investments that will allow them to live off interest. For some of us, it’s hard to imagine making an investment much less living off the interest from one.


We may not be able to make financial investments, but we can make a “spiritual” investment of sincere obedience to

God’s word. The “overflow” of that obedience is an assurance that God will not only hear our prayers but will bless our lives. 2 Corinthians 8:2-7 describes how despite their poverty, the early believers overflowed with joy and generosity despite their difficult circumstances. They were obedient to scripture and gave as God directed them and were blessed.

Romans 15:13 says “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Often, the overflow of peace comes from us submitting the control of our emotions to the direction and power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible also mentions in a few places how God wants us to “live in the overflow.” “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows,” are familiar words from Psalm 23:4-6.

When we are in a vulnerable situation, God will allow those who think they have gotten the best of us see him pour out blessings and increase his anointing in our lives. We must be bold enough to allow God to protect us even in the face of opposition or spiritual attack. Our “overflow” is the assurance that comes in knowing that God is our “Jehovah Nissi,” our banner who has prepared the path of victory for us.

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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Sunday Sch: 10 a.m.

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Church: 601-859-2858

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Will Congress keep its promise to the Dreamers?

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



While the debate rages daily on op-ed pages and on cable news, the nation won't know until next month whether a Congressional deal to protect Dreamers will be successful. What we know right now is that protecting Dreamers is the right thing to do.

The Senate deal to keep the government funded through February 8 includes a commitment to vote on a solution that would address the status of young people brought to the United States by their parents when they were children. The Trump Administration in September announced an end to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the program that protected them from deportation and allowed them to attend school and work.

About 90 percent of Americans believe that those covered under DACA – commonly known as “Dreamers” – should be permitted to remain in the United States – the country that is their home, the only they’ve ever known. Of those who are committed to legal status for Dreamers, many have criticized the Senate deal because they do not believe Senate leadership can be trusted to maintain commitment to a vote. On the other side are those who believe the bargain – which also included a six-year extension of the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), ultimately will end with the result all players have declared they want: legal status – and eventual citizenship – for Dreamers.

President Trump reiterated his support for Dreamers this week, saying he wants them to be able to become citizens. House Speaker Paul Ryan made a highly publicized promise to a young Dreamer at a nationally-televised town hall that he did not want to see her deported and wanted to help her “get right with the law.” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell also has said he has sympathy for the Dreamers.

To the extent the general hostility of some Americans toward immigrants is based on wildly inaccurate stereotypes; no group could go further in exploding those false impressions than the Dreamers. Their employment rate exceeds that of the native-born population, with more than 90 percent of them working. About 65,000 graduate from high school each year, and 10,000 graduate from college. They pay \$2 billion in state and local taxes, and are ineligible for safety net program benefits and most government subsidies. About 900 are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

If the Dreamers are deported, the United States will lose more than \$280 billion in economic contribution. Plus, the deportations would cost more than \$60 billion additional tax dollars.

The United States is at a crossroads. Deportation of Dreamers would be a shameful stain on our history, diminishing our standing in the international community. Allowing them to remain in limbo, living with the looming disaster of job loss, discharge from the military or expulsion from school is cruel, and not in keeping with American values.

S***hole countries not a priority

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



Our 45th President has traipsed over to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, planning to rub elbows with world leaders, repair some relationships and possibly shred even more. He had hardly landed before he started threatening to cut off aid to the Palestinians unless they participate in peace talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Palestinian leaders are justifiably angry that 45, without a conversation with them, said he would move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, the city that both Palestinian and Israelis consider their capital.

Since 45 has been president, the world has been losing respect for us. According to a November Gallup poll, approval of U.S. leaders among 134 countries has hit a new low of 30 percent, down 18 percent from the 48 percent approval rate in President Obama’s last year, and even lower than the previous low of 34 percent in George W. Bush’s last year. Only Liberia, Macedonia, Israel and Belarus increased their approval rating of the U.S., while Portugal, Norway, Belgium and Canada saw approval ratings plunge by 40 points or more.

45 has been currying Israel’s favor, so it is no wonder that they are more approving of him. But U.S. leadership lags behind support for leadership in both Germany and China. Only Russia has a lower approval rating than we do.



Meanwhile, 45 is ignoring most of the rest of the world. A year into his presidency, he has not appointed ambassadors for fully half of the world. The Bureau of African Affairs, part of the State Department, has no leader. There is an “acting” assistant secretary for African Affairs, Donald Yamamoto, a career foreign policy professional who has worked for both Presidents Bush and Obama. Yamamoto has some responsibility for the Bureau of African Affairs, but it is not his priority.

There is no ambassador to the African Union, which is perhaps a blessing because that person may have had to defend 45’s ignorant remark about s***hole countries. But 45 didn’t have to make such an ignorant statement in order for us to know how he felt about people of African descent. He illustrates his disdain every time he opens his mouth. He did not have to compare Haiti to Norway, all he had to do was fail to appoint an ambassador to Brazil, which is home to the largest population of Afrodscendents outside the African continent.

There is no U.S. ambassador to

Belize, Bolivia, Burkina Faso or Cape Verde. No ambassador to Cote D’Ivoire or Cuba, Guinea or Ghana, Jamaica or Kenya. Neither Madagascar nor Mali, Mozambique nor Nigeria, South Africa nor Tanzania, Togo nor Trinidad have U.S. ambassadors.

Blessedly, 40 percent of 45’s appointees are career foreign policy experts. Some, like Calista Gingrich’s appointment as ambassador to the Vatican, are clearly political plums. But how can 45 justify having no ambassadors to two of the most important countries on the African continent, oil-producing Nigeria, and economically advanced South Africa? I guess he will be forced to pay attention to these s***hole countries if there is an oil crisis and we need some Nigerian oil.

Africa and the Caribbean are not the only parts of the world that have been ignored by this administration. Highly desirable appointments, like those to Canada, France, the United Kingdom and Germany have been filled. Even as 45 has squabbled with North Korea’s Kim Jong-un, he has appointed no ambassador to South Korea.

This could have been completely avoided if 45 had allowed Obama appointees to stay in place until he found people to replace them. Instead, people had to come home in the middle of the school year, hurriedly making arrangements for new schools, new housing and more. Why did 45 demand resignations so abruptly when he had few replacements, breaking precedent and also thumbing his nose at the world?

Our NATO allies look askance at him because of his obnoxious and

belligerent behavior. He has made strange remarks about terrorism in the UK, taken swipes at France and Germany, and generally behaved like an overgrown child when gathering with other world leaders, pushing the Prime Minister of Montenegro aside so he could get in front of a group photo at a NATO summit in May. Incidentally, there is no U.S. Ambassador to Montenegro.

Actually, staffing the government is not a priority of this administration. When he was elected, he indicated that he thought some agencies were “huuuuge”, and there were positions he would not fill. He has been much slower than his predecessors in staffing up every agency, but especially the State Department. By the end of their first calendar year (2001 for Bush, 2009 for Obama), Bush had 139 State Department confirmations, with 14 pending. Obama had 119 confirmed and 18 pending. 45 has 61 confirmed and 28 pending!

We who are connected to s***hole countries can rest assured that foreign policy is not this administration’s strong suit. 45’s failure to appoint ambassadors to African countries perhaps reflects the disdain he feels for us. But his disdain is yet another reflection of his ignorance.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book “Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannemalveaux.com

What could be worse?

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



Political right/Republicans have given nearly every bad excuse possible for their own bad behavior. Truth and objectivity seem to escape their ilk. Since the swearing-in of #45 and his one-year hijacked occupancy of the people’s house, strange stories that oppose the truth emerge at every turn. After hearing one bad excuse, it’s hard to believe that an even worse excuse could materialize, but it can. Here are my nominees, in order of bad to worse, of recent right-wing idiocy:

Four: Despite owning a majority in both the Senate and House of Representatives and occupying the White House, Republicans blame Democrats for the government shutdown. Blaming Democrats, they have ignored their rejection of the overwhelming will of the American people and the legislative votes of several ‘principled’ Republicans who joined with Democrats against their own party.

Three: Senators Dick Durbin and Lindsey Graham exposed racist and profane statements made by #45 during a White House meeting related to the shutdown vote. Of the others present, one cabinet officer could only remember #45 using strong language, but didn’t say what that language was. Republican Senators from Arkansas and Georgia originally feigned failure to hear the comments and/or forgetfulness, but, as the fallout of #45’s comments became more heated, they remembered that he “absolutely” did not make the statements of which he was accused. Never mind that they were meeting to avoid a government shutdown – between not hearing and not remembering, one wonders why they were there.

Two: After the Democratic Senate Minority Leader, unbelievably, agreed to give #45 money he’d requested to build his “Mexican Border Wall,” #45 reneged on that agreement which led to the shutdown vote. Although claiming he wanted to resolve the DACA crisis, #45 disappeared from public view, but published photographs showing him at his empty Oval Office desk hoping to make us

believe he was actively working for resolution. When Democrats reached agreement with Republicans to reopen the government, #45, and many of his fellow Republicans, rewarded them with disparaging tweets and comments accusing them of “caving” to Republican pressure. Seemingly, Republicans have conveniently forgotten that democratic legislation is a process of give-and-take in order to achieve a plan with which both sides can live -- even when that compromise is objectionable or disappointing to supporters.

One: Finally, the week’s worst rears its ugly head. Pennsylvania Republican Congressman Pat Meehan is the “hands down” winner of my “What Could Be Worse” award. Meehan is accused of sexually harassing a female staffer he obsessively labeled his “soulmate.” His infractions include creating a hostile work environment after he learned of the staffer’s involvement with a male (outside of work) other than himself and the probability that she would be leaving his office. Disappointed and angry, Meehan engaged in practices that caused his staffer to charge him

with sexual harassment.

While admitting that, after learning of her serious relationship with another, he sent the young woman an emotional letter. Meehan denied that he sexually harassed her. He did, however, offer an excuse for his workplace behavior that flows straight from the right-wing Republican playbook. His excuse was that he blamed President Obama. He said that he worked so hard to repeal the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), that his efforts stressed him out, and that he was so stressed that any bad behavior with which he was charged had to be blamed on that Obama person. We never heard from Republicans calling for his resignation or repayment of taxpayer dollars used to pay hush money to the young woman involved. On his own terms, he announced he won’t run for re-election.

These truths are stranger than fiction. I really worry about what could be worse and when that shoe will drop.

E. Faye Williams is national president of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. www.nationalcongressbw.org. (202) 678-6788.

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Greenville civil rights leaders to present oral histories

By **Angelia Davis**
Greenvilleonline.com

Some were high school students in the 1960s when their activism provoked change in Greenville and beyond. Despite their youth, they stood up to a segregated system in Greenville supported by Jim Crow laws the city had adopted in 1912.

Their marches, lunch counter sit-ins, and demonstrations for basic civil rights helped break down boundaries divided along racial lines and set Greenville on a path of equality. The Rev. Jesse Jackson, a Greenville native, once said that remembering such roots is “crucial to continuing the campaign for equality.”

“Unless we tell it ourselves, it will never get told,” he’d said.

Each week in February, a different Greenville civil rights icon will tell their story on www.GreenvilleOnline.com. Oral histories will be presented by Jackson, State Rep. Leola Robinson-Simpson, Benjamin Downs, Grady Butler, and Ruth Ann Butler – former students of the all-black Sterling High School, which played a role in promoting social justice.

Jackson and Downs were among a group of three young men and young ladies known as the Greenville Eight.

The Greenville Eight walked into the whites-only Greenville County Library one summer in the 1960s. Each picked up a book or a magazine and sat quietly at a small wooden desk until police took them to jail.

Charles Busha, a Greenville native and former presidential candidate, was a Greenville County librarian in the day of the Greenville Eight. He has said the actions of those black teenagers “overturned racist policies, opened



A young Jesse Jackson (center) was one of the Greenville Eight. Joan Mattison Daniel is third from the right.

the library door to all citizens of the county and eliminated the need for a costly second library for blacks.”

Robinson-Simpson, a former Greenville County Schools trustee and the author of a book on the civil rights struggle in Greenville, was a junior at Sterling when she began speaking out against racial injustice, she told The Greenville News. Her first march was from Springfield Baptist Church to the Greenville Downtown Airport in 1959 when baseball great Jackie Robinson was denied the use of airport facilities on a visit to speak at the church.

Robinson-Simpson said she was arrested five times for demonstrating at the old library and in front of Woolworth’s, H. L. Green’s and Kress.

“Our parents knew better than to try to buck the system,” Ruth Ann Butler, founder of the Greenville Cultural Exchange Center, once said. “We were

the generation that decided it was time for a change.”

Butler helped spark change when she and her friends decided to eat their after-school ice cream at Woolworth’s rather than taking it outside as the law required.

Her brother, former Greenville County School Board member Grady Butler, told The News that he recalled being rushed into back rooms by his parents when the Klu Klux Klan rode through Nicholtown trying to intimidate blacks to prevent them from voting.

He graduated from Sterling in 1953 and went to Tuskegee. He stayed away from Greenville for nearly 40 years. He worked with Martin Luther King Sr. and pastored several churches. He was arrested during the Atlanta sit-ins and spent a week in jail with Martin Luther King Jr.

New Hope Baptist Church celebrates the Seventh Annual “Back in the DAY” Black History Celebration series

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Pastor Jerry Young, New Hope Baptist Church and the Black History Committee continue their commitment to present informative, inspirational and educational programs designed to celebrate the past, present and future accomplishments of many African-American trailblazers. The seventh Annual 2018 “Back in the Day” Black History series will be held Thursday, February 1, 15 and 22 at 6 p.m. The Mississippi Living Legends Recognition will be held Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30 p.m. All programs will be held in the Robert B. Cooper Gymnasium, 5202 Watkins Drive, Jackson. This year’s theme will focus on “A Celebratory Series of our Legacy: Past, Present and Future.”

Thursday, February 1, is known as “New Hope Legacy Night.” Special features include a Monologue Presentation of Sojourner Truth’s speech, “Ain’t I a Woman” by Albertha McDavid and the Highlights of the Legacy of Harriet Tubman as told through the Art of Quilting by Deloris Stringer. Juadine Cleveland, the Women’s Missionary

Union, deaconess and music ministries are special guests. A number of homemade quilts will be on display.

Wednesday, February 7, pays tribute to four “Mississippi Living Legends.” They are Canton’s own, Arthur J. Tate Sr., the first African-American Mississippi state senator since Reconstruction, noted educator, Alfredteen B. Harrison, who worked with Jesse Mosely to restore and open the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, Dorothy Steward-Samuel, founder of Women for Progress, Inc., and a primary catalyst behind the Kwanzaa celebrations in the state and Rev. Wendell H. Paris, a SNCC civil rights organizer whose work in Tuskegee, Alabama is chronicled in Alabama’s history. Music will be provided by the New Hope Christian School Choir.

Thursday, February 15, is “Youth Heritage Night.” Back by popular demand is featured guest speaker James B. Ewers, former dean of Miami University, Middletown, Ohio. Special guest will be the Murrah High School Concert Singers and “Eye shine Praise

Dance Troupe.” Ewers is a noted author, national guest columnist, president emeritus of the Teen Mentoring Committee of Ohio and specializes in mentoring young African-American men.

Thursday, February 22, is our “Grand Finalé.” This special celebration will feature “An Evening with Mississippi’s Tommie Tonea” Stewart.” Among her many starring roles and accolades is a special White House honor by President Barack Obama as “A Champion Of Change.”

Our special guest will once again be students from the Mississippi School for the Deaf. Music will be provided by the New Hope Youth Choir.

These programs are open to the public. “This program is financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Mississippi Humanities Council.”

For additional information, please contact Flonzie Brown Wright, event coordinator, at (601) 981-8696 or New Hope Baptist Church at (601) 366-7002.

Black History Month February 1-28, 2018

Schedule of Activities



**Hanging Moss Road
Church of Christ**
5225 Hanging Moss Road
Jackson, MS 39206
Phone: (601) 982-5219
**Bro. Curtis W. Pittman
Minister**

February 4, 2018

Super Sunday

Sunday Morning

9:40am – 9:50am

“A Black History Moment”

Primary Bible Class – Sis. Jasper/Smith/Doss

Note: All members are asked to wear casual attire with their favorite NFL jersey

February 7, 2018

Wednesday Night – Way Back Wednesday

Food Served: 5:30pm – 6:20pm

Guided-Tour:

(Looking back at our pathway to voting rights on “Bloody Sunday”)

Black History Program – 6:30pm

“A Black History Moment”

Adult Bible Classes – Bro. Pittman/Bro. Stribling

Guest Speaker: Ms. Pam Junior

Closing – Dismiss for bible classes

Note: All members are asked to wear attire from the 70’s (Disco attire & afros)

February 11, 2018

Sunday – African Attire

Sunday Morning

9:40am – 9:50am

“A Black History Moment”

Toddlers Bible Class – Sis. Watts/Williams

Note: All members are asked to wear African attire

Best “African outfit” wins a prize

February 14, 2018

Wednesday Night

Food Served – 5:30pm – 6:20pm

Guided-Tour:

(Looking back at our pathway to voting rights on “Bloody Sunday”)

Black History Program – 6:30pm

“A Black History Moment”

Marriage Class – Bro. Smith/Hervey

Guest Speaker – Judge James Graves

Closing – Dismiss for bible classes

February 18, 2018

Black Sunday & Black Hair Day

Sunday Morning

9:40am – 9:50am

“A Black History Moment”

High School Bible Class – Bros. Hall/Cain/Bart

Note: All members are asked to wear black & showoff your black hair styles

February 21, 2018

Wednesday Night

Food Served: 5:30pm – 6:20pm

Guided-Tour:

(Looking back at our pathway to voting rights on “Bloody Sunday”)

Black History Program – 6:30pm

New Convert Class – Bro. Catchings

Speaker: – Dr. Timothy M. Quinn

Closing – Dismiss for bible classes

February 24, 2018

Saturday – Black History Banquet – 6:00pm

Tickets \$40 Adults/\$15 Children under 12

February 25, 2018

Sunday – Hat Sunday & Black Business Owners’ Expo

9:40am – 9:50am

“A Black History Moment”

Intermediate Bible Class/Jefferson/Stribling

Note: All members are asked to wear “hats” – Best “hat” will win a prize

February 28, 2018

Wednesday Night – YOUTH NIGHT

Food Served – 5:30pm – 6:20pm

Black History Program – 6:30pm

Note: All Black History activities will take place in the

All Purpose Building

Youth Trip to Tour The Museums – February 17, 2018 – 10:00am

Tickets \$7

Door Decorating Contest

(Prize for best decorated door)

YOU COULD BE A WINNER!

If you attend Sunday Morning Bible Class and Wednesday Night Bible Class and arrive on time, your name will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 bill. You may enter each Wednesday and Sunday beginning February 4-28, 2018. The winner will receive the prize on Sunday, March 4, 2018.

Note: You must arrive on time to be eligible for the drawing.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested public and private transit and paratransit operators within Hinds, County, are hereby advised that the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation is applying to the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Jackson, Mississippi, for a grant under Section 5310 of the Federal Public Transportation Act, as amended, to provide transportation services to elderly and disabled persons. These services will be beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Service is being provided within Hinds, County. This program consists of existing services with no environmental impact, and no relocation resulting from the project.

The purpose of this notice is to advise all interested parties, including transit and paratransit operators, of the service being planned for providing transportation services for persons with disabilities within the area as described above, and to ensure that such a program would not represent a duplication of current or of proposed services provided by existing transit or paratransit operators in the area.

Comments either for or against this service will be received at any time within 15 days from the date of this notice. All comments should be addressed to The Jackson Medical Mall Foundation at 601-982-8467.

1/25/2018 2/1/2018

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RFP 2018-01 Lead Partner for Instructional Support for Elementary, Middle and High Schools

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) February 13, 2018, at which time and

place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing pagreen@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

1/25/2018, 2/1/2018

Cryptogram Solution

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
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Sudoku Solution

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

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MURPHY USA
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REVELL ACE HARDWARE
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KAM'S KAPSULES

WEEKLY PREVIEWS THAT MAKE CHOOSING A FILM FUN

By Kam Williams
Columnist

Big Budget Films

Winchester: (PG-13 for violence, sexuality, drug use, mature themes and disturbing images) Revenge flick revolving around a Winchester Gun heiress (Helen Mirren) whose house is haunted by the ghosts of people killed by her company's repeating rifle. With Sarah Snook, Jason Clarke and Angus Sampson.

Bilal: A New Breed of Hero (PG-13 for violence and mature

themes) Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje plays the title character in this animated adventure, set a thousand years ago, about an orphan who dreams of becoming a great warrior despite being sold into slavery after the murder of his mother. Voice cast includes Ian McShane, Jacob Latimore and China Anne McClain.

Independent and Foreign Films

Braven (R for violence, sexual references and pervasive profanity) Action thriller about a logger (Jason Momoa) and

father (Stephen Lang) forced to fight for their lives when their family's cabin in the woods is seized by drug smugglers. With Jill Wagner, Garret Dillahunt and Brendan Fletcher.

The Cage Fighter (Unrated) Blue-collar hero biopic chronicling 40 year-old journeyman Joe Carman's return to mixed martial arts after a long layoff, over the vehement objections of his wife and four daughters.

Driving While Black (Unrated) Hands on the dashboard comedy, set in L.A., highlight-

ing the hazards of being an African American (Dominique Purdy) delivering pizza in a city where cops routinely make profile stops. With Sheila Tejada, John Mead and Julian Bane.

A Fantastic Woman (R for profanity, nudity, sexuality and disturbing violence) Chilean drama, set in Santiago, about a struggling cabaret singer (Daniela Vega) who becomes a murder suspect when her straight sugar daddy (Francisco Reyes) suddenly dies and the cops find out she's a transsexual. Sup-

port cast includes Luis Gnecco, Aline Kuppenheim and Amparo Noguera. (In Spanish with subtitles)

Lies We Tell (Unrated) British crime saga about a trusted limo driver (Gabriel Byrne) who comes to regret destroying evidence of his recently-deceased, billionaire boss' (Harvey Keitel) clandestine affair with a 16 year-old, Muslim mistress (Sibylla Deen). With Mark Addy, Jan Addin and Reece Ritchie.

The Music of Silence (Unrated) Thinly-veiled biopic of

Andrea Bocelli (Toby Sebastian), the blind Italian boy who overcame his limitations and humble origins en route to opera superstardom. Cast includes Antonio Banderas, Jordi Mollà and Luisa Ranieri.

Scorched Earth (R for violence and profanity) Post-apocalyptic sci-fi thriller about a female bounty hunter (Gina Carano) with criminals to kill before the end of the world. Featuring John Hannah, Stephanie Bennett and Patrick Gilmore.



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 Frank Sinatra

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
				E											U										

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E E EAO XWQ QJE XZXB E VNOV
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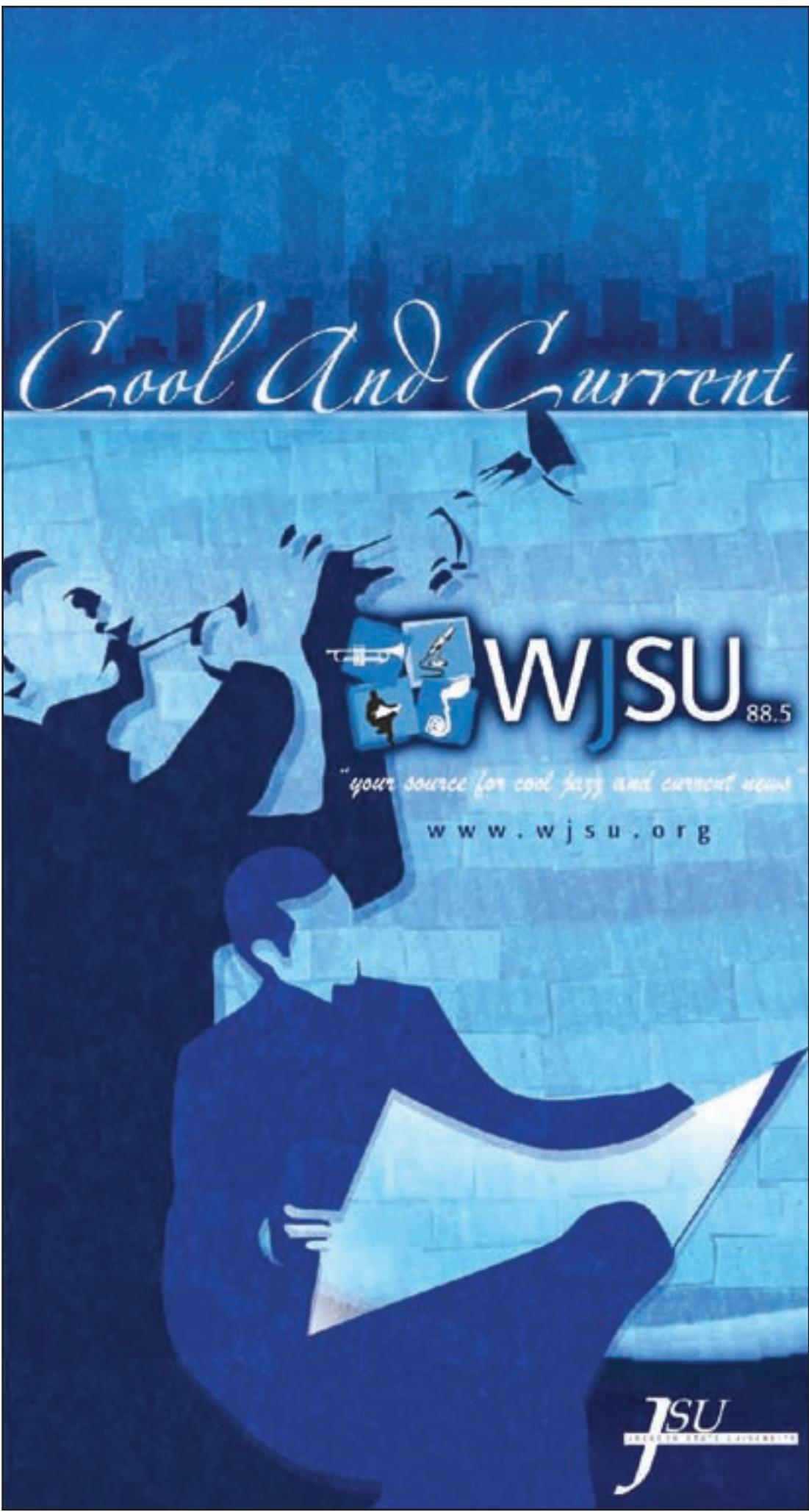
Sudoku

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.

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

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)



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BOOK REVIEW:

“JEFFERSON’S DAUGHTERS”

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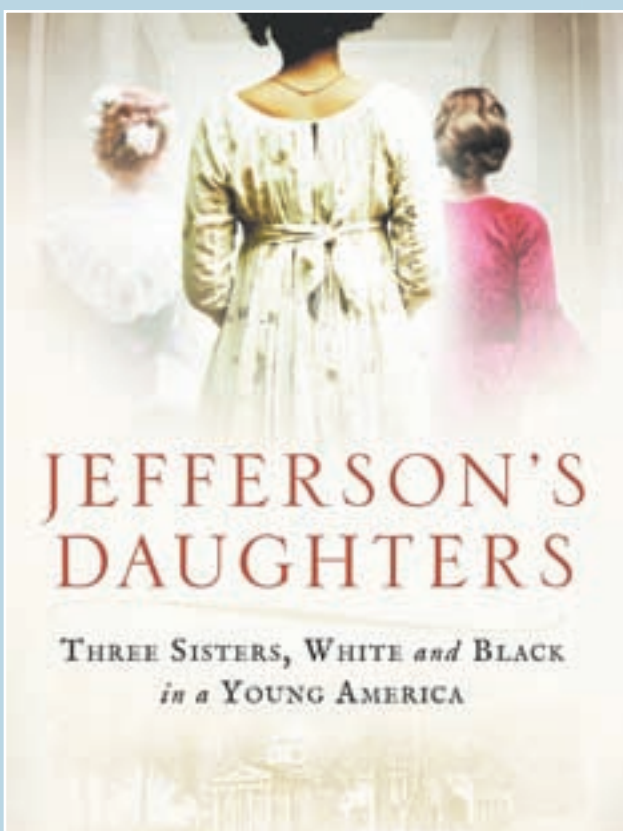
By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Which one is your favorite? That’s a question heavy with danger, as any parent knows. You might be asked, but you can’t choose one child over another. Parents are supposed to love each of their children differently but equally though, in the new book “Jefferson’s Daughters” by Catherine Kerrison, history sometimes shows otherwise... When young Thomas Jefferson married the widow Martha Wayles Skelton, their first nights were spent inside a promise: Monticello, on the grounds he’d received from his father, was only partially completed. Mar-

tha Jefferson would spend just “a little over half of her married life” and much heartbreak there. After having birthed several children, most of whom didn’t live, Martha sickened and died in the fall of 1782, perhaps compassionately, Thomas Jefferson was sent by the U.S. Congress to Europe. With him, he took his daughter, eleven-year-old Martha; and James, the son of Elizabeth Hemings, Jefferson’s late wife’s slave and her half-sister. Jefferson sent his youngest two daughters, along with Elizabeth’s youngest daughter, Sally, to his sister-in-law’s home. Known as a lively, intelligent girl, young Martha was quick

with languages, could sing and dance, and had become her father’s best support after her mother’s death. Shortly after she arrived in Paris, she was sent to a convent school and considered the idea of becoming a nun. In 1787, Jefferson sent for his second daughter, then-nine-year-old Maria, who arrived in Paris with fourteen-year-old “companion-maid” Sally Hemings. Maria must have been rather used to being uprooted: over the years, her father had sent her to several homes to be raised and educated. Paris was just another in a long line. No record was made of Sally’s feelings, although Kerrison imag-

ines she was unhappy. Just two years later, Thomas Jefferson, his daughters, and his slaves returned home to Virginia, reportedly to great fanfare. Seventeen-year-old Martha, wishing to avoid being suddenly “supervised,” quickly became betrothed. Eleven-year-old Maria, a sweet child, was soon sent to Philadelphia, to boarding school. Sixteen-year-old Sally, pregnant with her master’s child, didn’t have to come home to Virginia at all; in France, she was legally free, but she chose to return after negotiating with Jefferson. She’d be, after all, “a mother of children destined for freedom.”



For the casual reader, “Jefferson’s Daughters” may be a challenge but that’s not author Catherine Kerrison’s fault; it’s because of naming habits of eighteenth-century people. For instance, there are several Marthas in this book, so beware. There’s also a lot of backstory here, too, but it’s necessary. Kerrison reaches well back into time to explain several points that she makes later, especially when it comes to Sally Hemings, her actions, and her decisions that

showed eye-popping strength. There – once we get more into Hemings’ life and that of her eldest daughter, Harriet – is where this book becomes totally compelling and can’t-put-down irresistible. Of course, it’s perfect for historians but anyone who’s interested in women’s issues and black history will be happy reading this book, too. Once you settle into “Jefferson’s Daughters,” it may become one of your favorites.

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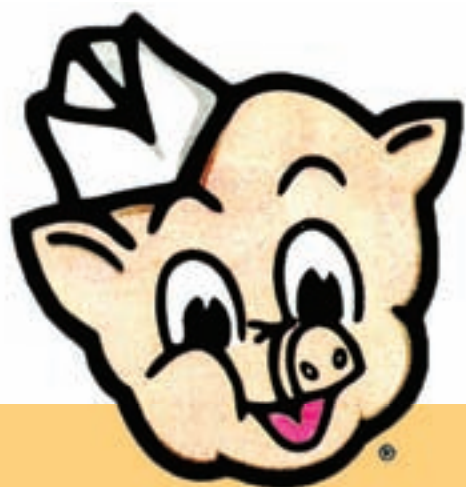
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