



Special Report: U. S. schools are failing to teach the hard history of American slavery

By Maureen Costello
TriceEdneyWire.com

Even during Black History Month, U. S. schools are not adequately teaching the history of American slavery, educators are not sufficiently prepared to teach it and textbooks do not have enough material about it. As a result – students lack a basic knowledge of the important role that slavery played in shaping the United States and the impact it continues to have on race relations in America, according to a recent study by the SPLC’s Teaching Tolerance project.

The report, Teaching Hard History: American Slavery, traces racial tensions and even debates about what, exactly, racism is in America to the failure of schools to teach the full impact that slavery has had on all Americans. The report examines the lack of coverage that U.S. classrooms provide about American slavery through a survey of high school seniors and U.S. social studies teachers. It also offers an in-depth analysis of 15 state standards and 10 popular U.S. history textbooks, including two that specifically teach Alabama and Texas history.

The investigation – conducted over the course of one year by the Teaching Tolerance Project – revealed the need for far better and much more comprehensive classroom instruction across the board. “If we are to move past our racial differences, schools must do a better job of teaching American slavery and all the ways it continues to impact American society, including poverty rates, mass incarceration and education,” said Maureen Costello, a former history teacher who is director of Teaching Tolerance. “This report places an urgent call on educators, curriculum writers and policy makers to confront the harsh realities of slavery and racial injustice. Learning about slavery is essential for us to bridge the racial differences that continue to divide our nation.”

Only 8 percent of high school seniors surveyed



This famous 1863 photo of a severely beaten and scarred runaway slave named Gordon depicts some of the horrors of slavery that are being undermined in many classrooms across the nation. Some teachers have even called slaves “servants.”

could identify slavery as the central cause of the Civil War. Most didn’t know an amendment to the U.S. Constitution formally ended slavery. Fewer than half (44 percent) correctly answered that slavery was legal in all colonies during the American Revolution.

While nearly all teachers (97 percent) surveyed agreed that teaching and learning about slavery are essential to understanding American history, there was a lack of deep coverage of the subject in the classroom, according to the report. More than half (58 percent) reported that they were dissatisfied

with their textbooks, and 39 percent reported that their state offered little or no support for teaching about slavery.

Teaching Hard History: American Slavery relies on noted historian Ira Berlin’s 10 essential elements for teaching American slavery, articulated in the foreword to Understanding and Teaching American Slavery, as a framework for analysis.

Teaching Tolerance worked with the book’s editors, Bethany Jay, Ph.D., an associate professor of history at Salem State University; and Cynthia Lynn Lyerly, Ph.D., an associate professor of history at Boston College; to convert these elements into 10 key concepts of what students should know.

Teaching Tolerance also assembled an advisory board of distinguished scholars and partnered with teachers and institutions of higher education, to develop a framework and offer a set of recommendations for teaching about American slavery.

The recommendations include fully integrating American slavery into lessons about U.S. history, expanding the use of original historical documents, improving textbooks and strengthening the curriculum on topics involving slavery.

“It is of crucial importance for every American to understand the role that slavery played in the formation of this country,” said Henry Louis Gates Jr., a Harvard University professor and adviser for the report. “And that lesson must begin with the teaching of the history of slavery in our schools. It is impossible to understand the state of race relations in American society today without understanding the roots of racial inequality – and its long-term effects – which trace back to the ‘peculiar institution.’ I hope that publishers, curriculum writers, legislators and our fellow American citizens on school boards who make choices about what kids learn embrace the thoughtful framework

Slavery
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Mississippi Link’s Black History Spotlight Pam Confer becomes Canton Chamber president



Confer

Confer is first African-American woman leader

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Pam Confer has become the first African-American woman president of the Canton Chamber of Commerce Main Street Association. She has a proven track record in community and economic development, environmental management and public relations. A motivational speaker, Confer is expected to implement an energized platform for moving the City of Canton forward.

Canton is the county seat of Madison County, and is part of the Jackson, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area. “Economic development in Madison County is moving towards Canton,” Confer said. “Because we are all in this together, I plan to help Canton unpack its many gifts so that we can be prepared for the countless opportunities that lie ahead and become contributors to Mississippi’s progress.”

At the Chamber’s Annual Dinner January 25, Confer unveiled the slogan and acronym, “I ‘SEE’ Canton,” her three-pronged approach to success for the organization. Each month, she will update the community on the progress made in each of these areas:

1. Spurring Economic Development

No one comes to Canton without boasting about the Canton Square. It is an historic, attractive space surrounded by some great places to live, shop and fill our bellies. Working with the mayor, local and area leadership, the Chamber will work hard to recruit businesses that complement those on the Square and throughout the city. Canton can become the place where residents and visitors, alike, can be incentivized to support an array of quality services and amenities.

2. Encouraging Ownership

The love for this bright city begins with Cantonians. With the over 13,000 residents top of mind, the Chamber will serve as a conduit for conversations amongst partners that create lasting collaborations. Over the years, Canton’s challenges have proven to make it stronger, more creative and determined. We all must have pride

Confer
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Obamas’ official portraits unveiled at Smithsonian

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

With buzz building for months, the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery recently unveiled the official portraits of President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama in Washington D.C.

New York City-based artist Kehinde Wiley created the portrait of President Obama and Baltimore artist Amy Sherald was selected to paint Michelle Obama. Both Wiley and Sherald are a noteworthy change of pace from artists who typically are selected to paint presidential portraits that will hang at the Smithsonian or in the White House. The artists were selected by the Obamas and commissioned by the Smithsonian after the former first couple reviewed dozens of portfolios.

Wiley, 41 and Sherald, 44, are both African American; their selection caused buzz and excitement and was a noted departure from the more literal and realistic portraiture style American leaders are typically depicted in.

Wiley’s portraits often feature Af-



rican Americans in heroic poses and Sherald uses a bold and dramatic style of painting African-American subjects with an artistically forward perspective. Those unique artistic statements are likely to set their portraits apart from many others in the gallery and at the White House.

Sherald depicted the former First Lady sitting confidently and looking the viewer in the eye wearing a large flowing white dress with black and white patterns.

“I see something bigger and more symbolic,” Sherald stated as she spoke of her work, during the ceremony at the National Portrait Gallery.

Former First Lady Michelle Obama paused to take in the portrait before delivering her remarks to the audience assembled in the large

Obama
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Black History Supplement Inside

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The Black Press remembers Lerone Bennett Jr.

By Stacy M Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Perhaps no other voice – or pen – captured the real life of Africans and African Americans like Lerone Bennett Jr., the former editor of EBONY and Jet magazines who died Wednesday, February 14, at the age of 89.

Chicago Sun-Times reported that, Bennett suffered from vascular dementia.

Among his many hard-hitting and compelling works was the exposé, “Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America,” in which Bennett traces black history from its origins in western Africa, through the transatlantic journey and slavery, the Reconstruction period, the Jim Crow era and the Civil Rights Movement.

The book was later re-issued five times and ultimately included life in the 1990s.

Bennett would go on to pen at least 10 books, including the eye-opening, 2000 book titled “Forced into Glory: Abraham Lincoln’s White Dream,” which, for some, shattered centuries-old myths about America’s 16th president’s involve-



Bennett

ment in the freedom of slaves.

A description of the book on Amazon.com said: “Beginning with the argument that the Emancipation Proclamation did not actually free African-American slaves, this dissenting view of Lincoln’s greatness surveys the president’s policies, speeches and private utterances and concludes that he had little real interest in abolition.”

Pointing to Lincoln’s support for the fugitive slave laws, his friendship with slave-owning Senator Henry Clay and conversations in which he entertained the idea of deporting slaves in order to create an

all-white nation, the book, concludes that the president was a racist at heart – and that the tragedies of Reconstruction and the Jim Crow era were the legacy of his shallow moral vision.

“Smart man and great author. His book [about Lincoln] changed my life,” said comedian Sinbad. “Before the Mayflower” educated me about the need to research our true history.”

Others too expressed their sadness and profound gratitude for Bennett.

“I am personally saddened by the death of Lerone Ben-

nett Jr. We have lost another great journalist who will be sorely missed,” said Dorothy R. Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA and editor/publisher of the Crusader newspapers in Chicago, Illinois and Gary, Indiana. “We knew him as the conscience and voice of EBONY and Jet magazines and through the many books he published. The world is richer, because of his work here on earth and we are grateful for his many contributions.”

“Bennett counted as an elegant scholar and freedom fighter who used the power of his pen to awaken millions of people to the true history of African people in America and throughout the world,” said NNPA President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.

“Bennett’s journalistic genius will be missed, but his contributions to documenting the struggles and triumphs of black men, women and children will continue to be cherished by generations far into the future,” Chavis said. “The NNPA salutes the living legacy of Lerone Bennett Jr. with a commitment to pick up his pen

and put it into the hands of today’s freedom fighting publishers, editors and journalists.”

Bennett worked for EBONY for nearly 50 years, after starting at Jet in 1951 and then moving to the sister publication in 1953. By 1958, he was the executive editor.

“Lerone worked side by side with my father in establishing EBONY’s voice,” EBONY CEO Linda Johnson Rice told the Chicago Sun-Times. “He was the guiding light for the editorial vision of EBONY. Lerone was not just essential in the formation of EBONY’s historic trajectory, he was a pillar in the black community.”

The Griot reported: “In addition to being remembered as an editor for these two magazines, Bennett, a graduate of Morehouse College, is known for his books, many of which cover the black experience in America and the civil rights movement.”

Bennett’s footprints are cemented at the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame in Atlanta and he once served on President Bill Clinton’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities. The veteran journalist and

historian also served as an early adviser to the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture.

In a tweet, the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Jr., praised Bennett’s work.

“A classmate and biographer of Dr. King, during the turbulent 60’s, his was a pen that mattered. As historian, author of ‘Before the Mayflower’, editor of Ebony magazine, the most read voice of the freedom struggle, his impact will long be felt and remembered,” Jackson tweeted.

From its official Twitter account, the NMAAHC tweeted, “It is with great sadness and profound sense of loss that we share the news of the death of Lerone Bennett Jr., a gifted historian and journalist.”

On Twitter, Bernice A. King called Bennett a beloved and brilliant man.

“If you haven’t read his books, I encourage you to. Even if you have, I encourage you to. Truly one of a kind historian and scholar,” King tweeted. “Grateful for what he’s meant to my family.”

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Slavery

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developed by the Southern Poverty Law Center.”

The Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC) in Washington, D.C., also praised the report and the resources being made available to teachers through the Teaching Tolerance program.

“As the first national museum dedicated to telling the African-American story, we strongly support and encourage Teaching Tolerance’s efforts to unpack the reality of what our education system teaches about slavery and what students are learning about slavery,” the museum wrote in a statement. “The information and the resources that Teaching Tolerance has developed will have a significant impact on the realm of history education.

“The NMAAHC looks forward to being a collaborator in championing the key compo-

nents laid out in the Teaching Tolerance report, especially the need for schools, educators, students and families to become more savvy about talking about race and white supremacy as it relates to the founding of the U.S. and the legacy of slavery.”

The study follows Teaching Tolerance’s widely cited Teaching the Movement reports that evaluated state standards for teaching the civil rights movement. At the time, researchers suspected that states did a poor job of teaching the civil rights movement, in part, because they failed to adequately teach about its historical roots in slavery.

Teachers can access resources on teaching American slavery at: www.tolerance.org/hard-history. The resources are offered to educators at no cost.

Maureen Costello is Teaching Tolerance director at the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Obama

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courtyard at the gallery.

“I have so many thoughts and feelings inside me now. I am humbled. I am proud...I am thankful for all of the people who came before me, before this journey,” Michelle Obama said. “There aren’t many people in my family who have had a portrait done, much less a portrait hanging in the National Portrait Gallery.”

She then paid tribute to her parents in her speech and focused on her mother sitting in the front row of the audience. Sitting close by was former Vice President Joe Biden.

Artist Kehinde Wiley depicted President Obama seated in a dark suit on a background of vibrant green leaves and lush flowers.

“We miss you guys,” President Obama said to the audience and many in the crowd responded in kind.

President Obama went on to thank Sherald

for, “spectacularly capturing the grace and beauty and intelligence and charm that hotness of the woman that I love.”

President Obama also talked about the immediate connection that he shared with Wiley, noting that he and Wiley are both of African descent and had fathers who were absent from their lives.

“It’s fair to say that Kehinde and I bonded,” said President Obama. “Kehinde’s art often takes ordinary people and elevates them, lifts them up and puts them in these fairly elaborate settings and so his initial impulse maybe, in the work, was to also elevate me and put me in these settings with partridges and scepters and thrones and chifferobes and mounting me on horses.”

Obama continued: “I had to explain that I’ve got enough political problems without you making me look like Napoleon.”

Confer

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in the city, and demonstrate a commitment towards progress – with a strong focus on the future of our children and youth. In the coming months, the Canton Chamber will erect two signs that welcome residents and visitors to the city. The Chamber will also support the city’s efforts to maintain a clean, welcoming and confident Canton.

3. Exploring Uniqueness

Much of Canton is on the National Register of Historic Places. From state-of-the-art health care, to the Canton Flea Market, to the Christmas Festival, to the rich Civil Rights history, to movies filmed, to the entertainers that have filled the air with music, Canton continues to host a colorful, multi-faceted culture.

Students in the Canton Public Schools District are being educated and uplifted with this in mind. We want them to remain part of the fabric of the community – depositing their talents, raising their families, working and worshipping here and investing in Canton when they’re older.

Serving until December of 2018, Confer plans to brand Canton as an even more special place.

For more information, contact Pam Confer at pam@conferconsulting.com.

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Murrah alumna’s new book teaches students how to get scholarships

Mississippi Link Newswire

Candace Chambers’ new book, “Write Your Way to a Successful Scholarship Essay,” is a guidebook for high school and college students on how to obtain scholarships. The book provides tips on how to search for scholarships, compose a scholarship essay, and how to use awarded scholarship funds.

Chambers is a 2011 graduate of Murrah High School. She earned her Bachelors of Arts degree from Jackson State University and Masters

of Arts degree from the University of Alabama. She is an award-winning scholar of English and the recipient of over \$80,000 in scholarships, assistantships and grants.

“Write Your Way to a Successful Scholarship Essay” is available on Amazon.com in paperback and Kindle edition formats.

Chambers also conducts scholarship workshops for youth groups, churches or individuals who need assistance in obtaining scholarships.



Chambers

Circle B Hardwood Hero of the Week for February 5

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jakia Harper of Provine High School is the Hardwood Hero of the Week for February 5. Harper is a 5-6 senior guard for the Lady Rams. She had 26 points, 7 rebounds, 4 steals and 6 assists in a win over Wingfield.

Circle B will donate \$120 in Harper’s name to the WJMI Circle B Brand Foods JPS High School Basketball Fund. At the end of the season, one nominated player will be randomly selected to receive \$1,800 for their High School Basketball Program.



Jakia Harper and Provine girls basketball head coach Erica Stringfellow

Murrah High advances to poetry competition state finals

Mississippi Link Newswire

After scoring big wins at school-level and regional poetry contests, Murrah High junior Olivia Bonds has qualified for the state-level competition. She was the top schoolwide winner, out of a field of 15 contestants, at the Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest held December 6 at Murrah.

Bonds secured Murrah’s place at the state finals by finishing in the top three at the Central Regional competition held in February at Jackson State University. She recited against the following 13 metro area public and private schools and homeschool networks:

Christian Home Educators Conference
Crystal Springs High
Education Center School
Germantown High
Hartfield Academy
Jackson Preparatory
Madison Central High
Northwest Rankin High
Park Place Christian Academy
Ridgeland High
Rosa Scott School
Sebastopol High
St. Joseph Catholic High

“Rarely ever do first-time participants move on to state finals,” said Courtney Holmes, Murrah’s librarian and Poetry Out Loud lead teacher. “This is a huge accomplishment for our winner, Olivia Bonds. We are so proud to celebrate her success.”

The state finals will be held March 6 when Bonds will compete against students from across



JPS School Board member Robert Luckett (right) presented Olivia Bonds with a certificate of achievement after winning the school-level Poetry Out Loud Contest at Murrah High.



Murrah student Olivia Bonds (left) with Poetry Out Loud Coordinator Courtney Holmes.

the entire state within the Northern, Southern, and Central Regions.

Frequently asked questions about the makeup day plan

Activity	Elementary	Middle	High
School Day Begins	7 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
Instruction Begins	7:45 a.m.	8:05 a.m.	8:25 a.m.
School Day Ends (Dismissal)	3:15 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	4:30 p.m.

Mississippi Link Newswire

Q1. Why were days missed?
Classes were canceled for seven days due to inclement weather and the 2018 water crisis January 8, 9,10,11,12, 16 and 17.

Q2. How is the district making up the days?

The district will use its two inclement weather days, March 30 and April 2, and the Parent-Teacher Conference Day that was scheduled for February 19 to make up three of those days. Additionally, four days will be made up by extending the school day by one hour from February 12–April 12.

Q3. How did the district choose its makeup day plan?

The makeup day plan was based on the results of a survey in which the district conducted and solicited feedback from students, parents, and employees.

Q4. Why are there more hours than required for the days missed in the makeup day plan?

Additional extended days were added to give the district inclement weather days for the remainder of the school year.

Q5. How did the district calculate the hours missed?

The school day for elementary, middle and high schools is being extended by 60 minutes a day for 39 days. Elementary schools must receive at least 376 minutes of instruction in order to make up one day. The

day has been extended by one hour; therefore, it takes 5.5 days to make up one instructional day. As a result, it will take 22 days to make up the instructional time lost.

Due to A/B block scheduling, middle and high schools must receive at least 376 minutes of instruction. Therefore, it takes 6.26 days to make up one instructional day at the secondary level. As a result, it will take 26 days to make up instructional time lost due to the water crisis and inclement weather.

Q6. Why didn’t the district accept the governor’s emergency declaration that would have forgiven some of the missed days?

The district’s policy requires JPS to make up all missed days.

Q7. Will regular transportation be provided for the adjusted times?

Yes, transportation will be adjusted for the extended day.

Q8. Will snacks be provided for children in the afternoon?

Many of our elementary schools have fruit and vegetable programs that provide afternoon snacks. The district is seeking support from community partners for other schools.

Q9. Will JPS assist in providing transportation for those afterschool care facilities that cannot accommodate the new times?

JPS has notified afterschool

care providers of the extended school days and times. Afterschool providers are responsible for making their own adjustments to transportation accommodations.

Q10. What is the early dismissal policy during this time?

Students are still required to not miss more than 37 percent of the instructional day as required by state law. A student must be present for at least 63 percent of the school day to be considered present for the entire school day as mentioned in Board Policy JBL.

Q11. Will the makeup day plan have an impact on spring break?

No, spring break will not change.

Q12. Will the makeup day plan change the graduation schedule?

No, the graduation ceremonies will not be impacted.

Q13. How long will schools observe the extended-day schedule?

The extending of the school day by one hour will last from February 12–April 12.

Q14. Why couldn’t the days simply be added to the end of the year?

This would have caused a change to the schedule for graduation ceremonies which are scheduled well in advance due to limited availability of venues.



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Ezra Jacks Keats Book Award winners for 2018 announced

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, in partnership with the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection at The University of Southern Mississippi, has announced the winners of the 32nd annual Ezra Jack Keats Book Award. Each year a writer and an illustrator are recognized early in their careers for their outstanding work.

The 2018 award ceremony will be held April 12 during the Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book Festival at the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus. The winning new writer and new illustrator will each receive \$3,000, triple the amount awarded in previous years. The winners also receive a bronze medallion.

Deborah Pope, executive director of the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, said, “It is a joy each year to recognize and encourage new writers and illustrators who create beautiful books for the multicultural children of America, through the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award. The increase in the award this year reflects our dedication to increasing diversity in children’s literature. It also serves to bring greater attention to artists who, like Ezra, seek to inspire all children to achieve their full potential – which I believe will strengthen and enrich our country.”

“The celebratory and thoughtful books of this year’s EJK Book Award winners remind us of the joy and the enduring impact of Ezra’s work. We look forward to their continued, illustrious careers, writing and illustrating delightful children’s books that make a difference,” said Ellen Ruffin, curator of the de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection and the Keats Archive.

Award-winning author T.A. Barron, the 2018 de Grummond Lecturer, will present the Ezra Jack Keats Book Award. Charlotte Jones Voiklis, author of *Becoming Madeleine*, a book about her grandmother, Madeleine L’Engle, will deliver the Keats Lecture.

• The 2018 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award winner for New Writer is Derrick Barnes, for *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh*



Cut, illustrated by Gordon C. James, and published by Agate Bolden/Denene Millner Books.

Barnes’ high-spirited book is a celebration of the self-esteem and swagger that boys, specifically African-American boys, feel when they leave the barber’s chair with a fresh cut. That confidence, observes the young narrator, makes you feel like “a million dollars – and some change!”...ready to take on the world, and take a step closer to manhood.

Barnes said, “I tried to recapture the feelings that I had as a boy when I rode the city bus to ‘the shop’ by myself. When he was done, the barber gave me a handheld mirror, and I’ll never forget how handsome I thought I looked. I just felt like a better, smarter version of myself. For black boys, the barber shop is an affirming experience that helps them develop a deep sense of self-worth. It prepares them to go out into the world with their heads held high. It’s where we go to get tended to and treated with the utmost respect – like royalty.”

Gordon C. James also won a New Illustrator Honor for *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut*.

• The 2018 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award winner for New Illustrator is Evan Turk, for *Muddy: The Story of Blues Legend Muddy Waters*, written by Michael Mahin, and published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers.

Turk’s expressive illustrations celebrate the acclaimed blues musician Muddy Waters,

a visionary who “was never good at doing what he was told.” *Muddy* grew up in rural Mississippi as a sharecropper, but was determined to play the blues. He chased his dream to Chicago, where the sound of his Delta home became the music that set the stage for rock n’ roll. He was eventually venerated as one of the most important artists in American music.

Turk said, “Muddy wouldn’t let anyone tell him that he couldn’t be an artist, and more importantly, the kind of artist he wanted to be. Paying homage to the cultural roots of his music, I depicted Muddy’s early life and his life in Chicago using two distinct palettes. The browns, blues and patterns of Mississippi mud; the river and the cotton fields give way to the neon colors and bold shapes of the city. The colors and patterns of both worlds begin to weave together, as Muddy created a new sound by staying true to his roots.”

The 2018 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award honor winners include:

New Writer Honors
• Rachael Cole, for *City Moon* (illustrated by Blanca Gómez, published by Schwartz & Wade)

• Jessixa Bagley, for *Laundry Day* (illustrated by Jessixa Bagley, published by Roaring Brook Press)

• Elaine Magliaro, for *Things To Do* (illustrated by Catia Chien, published by Chronicle Books)

New Illustrator Honors
• Gordon C. James, for *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh*

Cut (written by Derrick Barnes, published by Agate Bolden/Denene Millner Books)

• Bianca Diaz, for *The One Day House* (written by Julia Durango, published by Charlesbridge)

• E.B. Goodale, for *Windows* (written by Julia Denos, published by Candlewick Press)

New Writer Honor & New Illustrator Honor

• Bao Phi (writer) and Thi Bui (illustrator), for *A Different Pond* (published by Capstone Young Readers)

The Ezra Jack Keats Book Award Criteria

To be eligible for the 2018 Ezra Jack Keats Book Award, the author and/or illustrator had no more than three children’s picture books published prior to the year under consideration.

The selection committee is comprised of nationally recognized early childhood education specialists, librarians, illustrators and experts in children’s literature: K.T. Horning, chair; Angela Johnson, Claudette McLinn, Sean Qualls, Don Tate, Lettycia Terrones, Caroline Ward, Junko Yokota and Paul O. Zelinsky.

Ex officio members are Deborah Pope, executive director, Ezra Jack Keats Foundation; and Ellen Ruffin, curator, de Grummond Children’s Literature Collection.

For a complete list of past award winners, visit www.ezra-jack-keats.org/ezra-jack-keats-award-winners.

For information about submissions, visit www.degrummond.org/ezra-jack-keats-book-award-guidelin.

CPSD celebrates Dr. Seuss during Read Across America Week

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Children in Clinton’s public schools will celebrate reading and Dr. Seuss during Read Across America Week.

During the week of Feb. 26 – March 2, Clinton Park and Northside elementary are holding theme and dress-up days for students and staff.

Clinton Park theme days are:

- Monday: Cat in the Hat Day – wear a hat
- Tuesday: Fox in Socks Day – wear silly socks
- Wednesday: Wacky Wednesday – wear clothes backward or inside out
- Thursday: One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish Day – wear red or blue
- Friday: Dr. Seuss Day – dress like your favorite Dr. Seuss character

On Friday, the school cafeteria will serve green eggs and ham for breakfast. Children who plan to participate need to be at school

no later than 7:30 a.m. The cost of breakfast is \$1.90, and families may apply at any time for free or reduced price meals.

Northside theme days are:

- Monday: Fox in Socks – dress in crazy socks
- Tuesday: One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish – wear red or blue
- Wednesday: Oh the Places You’ll Go – dress like a tacky tourist
- Thursday: The Sleep Book – wear your favorite pajamas
- Friday: Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss – wear a Dr. Seuss or birthday hat

Northside’s theme is “Come Sail Away With Reading.” A Family Fun Night will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, and parents are encouraged to come visit their child’s classroom.

For more information, contact your child’s teacher or visit school home pages on www.clintonpublicschools.com.

Canton Public School District

The Canton Public School District joins districts across the state to thank school board members during School Board Member Recognition Week, February 11-17, for their leadership and service to local school districts and communities.

“This week is a special opportunity to express our gratitude for the hard work of our school board members and to thank them for their dedication to this community and its children,” said Cassandra Williams, CPSD superintendent.

More than 750 Mississippians are members of local school boards. The board members who serve on CPSD School Board are responsible for setting the vision and goals for the district. They work to provide a quality education for 3,472 K-12 students and oversee an annual budget of \$40 million. The school board also hires quality educators, sets district goals, adopts policies and evaluates progress while keeping the interests of our students first. They also serve as the community’s voice in the school district and the district’s voice in the community. “As school leaders, board members play an important role in engaging our community in supporting our public schools,” said Williams.

During School Board Member Recognition Week in Mississippi, the Canton Public School District invites students, staff, community members and the general public to take part in honoring board members.

The men and women serving CPSD are: School Board Chairman Johnny Brown, Vice-Chairman Reverend Moses Thompson, Secretary Dorothy Harris and members Walter Jones and Courtney Rainey. CPSD thanks you for your countless hours of dedicated service to improve the lives of our children.

Community college faculty renew plea for funding, salary increases

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi has one of the lowest workforce participation rates in the United States, yet the 15 community colleges, which are ideally positioned to offer the programs that impact the state’s job growth, continue to be chronically underfunded. Mississippi has more than 40,000 job openings but the majority of those jobs require some education and training beyond high school, but not a bachelor’s degree. Community college career and technical programs are demand-driven education programs tailored in each community to meet local needs.

The Mississippi Faculty Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MFACJC) wants to make sure legislators and communities understand how beneficial the community college system is to our state, said MFACJC President Mary

Warren, who teaches at Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

However, to make good on the promises of those benefits of a quality of education, educational resources need to improve. That includes salary increases for faculty who have not had a state-funded raise since 2008, she said.

“I can truly appreciate all the work our legislators do to make Mississippi a better place to live, but I think it’s time we fund our educational system in order to ensure our state stays a quality place in which to live,” Warren said.

The colleges’ faculty members are at the heart of the college system, she said.

“Community colleges replenish the workforce,” she said.

In that vein, legislators should view community college students as future workers

and future earners, she said.

“If we want the future of our state planted in more fertile economic soil than it has been in for a very long time, we will have to do a few things differently than we have in the past,” she said.

Community college faculty are educating a high percentage of the state’s college students:

• More than 60 percent of first-time college students are enrolled at Mississippi community colleges, where they can enter the job market faster and with less student debt.

• 69 percent of 2015-16 Bachelor’s Degree graduates from Mississippi’s public universities had previously enrolled at a community college.

The Mississippi Faculty Association of Community and Junior Colleges, along with the 15 college presidents, have three funding priorities:

• Fair and equitable funding

of \$62 million, which includes \$37 million for restoration of funding because of budget cuts and \$25 million for salary increases. Current average estimated faculty salaries are \$51,213. The increase would get salaries closer to the midpoint between K-12 and university salaries, which would be 58,380.

• Secondly, the colleges are requesting nearly \$16 million for two workforce and development strands, \$5.25 million for career-technical programs and \$10.68 million for MIBEST Career Pathways. MIBEST is aimed at adults without high school diplomas who need to earn a high school credential and receive career training at the same time.

• The third priority is a two-year bond bill for \$150 million that includes capital improvements over two years and one year of technology upgrades.

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By Julianne Malveaux
TriceEdneyWire.com



Join ASALH. (www.asalh.org)

There are so many other things you might do to celebrate Black History Month. Encourage your friends, regardless of race, to learn more about the amazing story of African-American survival and resilience despite the racism that defines this country. May your Black History Month be exciting and enlightening.

By Erick Johnson
Chicago Crusader/NNPA Member

The Chicago Crusader is a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.



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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 Gem and Mineral Society annual show is Feb. 24-25

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society's 59th Annual Show is scheduled for Feb. 24-25 at the Trade Mart on the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for students. Scouts and Scout leaders in uniform get \$2 admission. Children 5 and younger get in free.

MGMS President and Show Chair Carol Ishee said, "We have something for all ages and a variety of interests. It's family oriented. It's fun and educational."

The show features museum displays, hands-on craft and learning activities for children and a shopping bonanza of fossils, gems, minerals, geodes, beads, cabs, slabs, specimens, carvings, books and lapidary tools. Fine jewelry and custom made pieces are available. A wide range of beads and jewelry elements will be on sale.

About two dozen vendors from around the country are expected to sell at the show. They range from the Petrified Forest from Flora to the Geode Gallery of Davenport, Iowa.

The Artifact Shack from Sylva, near Bay Springs, will return for the second year at the show.

Owner Jeff McCraw has spent a lifetime collecting Native American artifacts and fossils. The collection outgrew his house and became a small museum.

Flint knapping enthusiasts will show how primitive peoples created arrowheads and other stone tools. Jewelry artists will demonstrate techniques in beading, wire wrapping, gem faceting, cabochon making and other stone work throughout the show.

It's a family-friendly show with plenty of interesting activities for kids. Gem tree making allows children to use their creativity. The "touch and see" table is a large collection of Mississippi rocks and minerals as well as specimens from around the country for everyone to examine.

People with an interest in archaeology, geology and paleontology will have an opportunity to talk with professionals and students in those disciplines.

Educational displays will include fossils from the collection of the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, artifacts collected by members of the Mississippi Archaeology Association and Native American tools from MGMS members' collections. Special exhibits are provided by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi and the University of Southern Mississippi.

For more information, call MGMS President and Show Chair Carol Ishee at 601-497-2938 or e-mail izzie1259@aol.com.

The Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society, founded in 1957, promotes knowledge and enjoyment of activities related to the earth sciences. MGMS members include amateurs and professionals with a wide range of earth science and artistic interests.

To learn more about the gem and mineral show, or about MGMS membership, visit the web site at www.missgems.org.



Employees honored for service at Mississippi State Hospital



Front row (left to right): Allison Carmichael (Magee), 1 year; Mary Ashley Angelo (Madison), 5 years; Amber Dishmon (Brandon), 1 year; Kewan Ewing (Ridgeland), 10 years; Karen Troth (Florence), 1 year; Elaine Wilson (Florence), 20 years. Second row (l-r): Andriana Fleming (Ridgeland), 10 years; Sophia Jefferson (Jackson), 5 years; Christian Yeager (Pearl), 1 year. Third row (l-r): Pamela Henderson (Florence), 15 years; Clevie Bryant (Jackson), 1 year; Sharonna Taylor (Clinton), 1 year; Melita Breeden (New Hebron), 15 years. Back row (l-r): William Parker (Brandon), 10 years; Swayze Cheatham (Benton), 5 years; Steven Warner (Jackson), 1 year; Michael Washington (Jackson), 1 year; Cedric Luckett (Brandon), 10 years.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi State Hospital recently released a new report entitled February anniversaries for their years of service to the hospital.

Service awards are given to MSH employees in the month of their date of hire, beginning with

one year and followed by every fifth anniversary year. Employees receive a certificate of appreciation and a service award pin.

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

MSH, a program of the Mis-

issippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and helps the individuals it serves achieve mental wellness by encouraging hope, promoting safety, and supporting recovery. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.

Felony Disenfranchisement in Mississippi Report released

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi State Conference NAACP, One Voice and The Sentencing Project, recently released a new report entitled Felony Disenfranchisement in Mississippi that highlights Mississippi's felony disenfranchisement policy that bars more than 218,000 Mississippians from voting. The report cites data showing that nearly one in ten Mississippi adults are disenfranchised – a rate more than three times the national rate – and illustrates how current policy disproportionately harms black Mississippians.

The report also offers historical context for the racial discrimination inherent in felony disenfranchisement laws and illustrates the present-day impact of such laws on the black community in Mississippi.

"After the Civil War, Mississippi and other states passed felony disenfranchisement laws, alongside voter qualifications that are now illegal like literacy tests, poll taxes and lengthy residency requirements. The intent then and now is clear – to exclude black and other people from participating in the political process," said Charles Hampton Sr., president of the MS NAACP. "The felony disenfranchisement laws adopted in Mississippi continue to have a disproportionate impact on black Mississippians' ability to exercise

their fundamental right to vote."

Mississippi has one the country's worst incarceration rates, imprisoning a significant percentage of its citizens in comparison to other states. Black Mississippians are disproportionately represented at every level of the state's criminal justice system, effectively stripping them of their right to vote and decreasing the potential political influence in communities of color.

More than 90 percent of disenfranchised Mississippians are living in communities either under probation or parole supervision, or have completed their criminal sentence. All of these individuals will be barred from voting in this year's election – a backwards by-product of the state's mass incarceration policies.

"Mississippi's restrictive suffrage laws do not go far enough in providing a meaningful opportunity for enfranchisement," said Corey Wiggins, executive director of the MS NAACP. "To deny people the fundamental right to vote is at odds with ample evidence showing the expansion of voting rights not only leads to safer communities but has widespread public support."

In addition to providing concrete data to support the case for policy reform, the report highlights common sense policy reform measures that have worked

in other states, such as automatic rights restoration and enhanced data collection.

Several states have enacted recent reforms to expand the electorate. Maryland extended voting rights to persons on probation and parole, and in Virginia, Governor Terry McAuliffe has restored voting rights to 174,000 individuals who have completed their felony sentences. In addition, the state of Alabama has moved to ease the rights restoration process for certain individuals who have completed their sentences.

"Mississippi should build on its work in criminal justice reform by addressing the significant collateral consequences of mass incarceration," said Nicole D. Porter, director of advocacy of The Sentencing Project. "Felony disenfranchisement is a heavy and unfair burden for Mississippi's African-American population to bear and impacts not just the people in prison but community residents long after their sentence is completed."

To download the report, visit the MS NAACP website at www.naacpms.org.

For more information on the MS NAACP's work around criminal justice reform or other issues impacting communities of color in Mississippi, contact the state conference office at info@ms-naacp.org.

Rev. Clency delivers prayer at Senate



The Reverend Leroy Clency (left), Interim Pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church in Jackson, delivered an opening prayer to the Senate February 15, at the invitation of Senator Hillman C. Frazier (right), who led the Pledge of Allegiance before Lt. Governor Tate Reeves (center) called lawmakers to order.

Passion for the work of God

PART 1

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



A good salesman, if he truly wants to sell the truth, has to have passion. The word passion means, “a strong, earnest feeling or desire.” We must have a strong desire, a love for people and a love to see souls saved. To be a good salesman, we need to have a strong passion for what we sell.

A Christian will care about this great salvation that God has entrusted to him, not just so he can be saved, but so he can pass it on to others.

To sell the truth we must have a strong passion for it and a longing for more of it. For me, I want more of God and more of the Spirit of God in my life. We need to desire to see other lives changed.

A Christian wants to see

the world saved. Have we ever thought what it would be like to live in a world where everybody was saved? That would be like Heaven. To see souls saved from the bondage of sin ought to give us a greater passion for the work of the Lord. The only way we are going to see souls won to the Kingdom of God is to get out into the neighborhoods, communities, malls, families and spread the Gospel.

We need to dig deep into the Word of God, study it and live it as we learn it. Do we look for doors of opportunities to talk with people about God? When we see a door of utterance open, do we move right through it or do we hesitate? We must have the determination to speak when God says to speak. If God impresses us to say something, He has a reason for telling us to say it; that person needs to hear it. Maybe God is dealing

with their heart and that one little thing that we say could bring them to salvation. My friends, when God tells us to say something to someone; we should say it. We need to be determined, no matter whether it is a little old lady or a big, burly man. We need to be determined and talk to that person no matter who it is. We must not allow fear to get hold of us.

We can overcome fear through the help of God. Do we look for doors of opportunity? De we have the determination to sell this Gospel? If we truly love this truth, we will have the determination to tell people about it. When we first got saved, we were excited and wanted to tell everyone about it. The sad part is, lots of times that excitement dwindles. We lose the enthusiasm that we had when we first got saved. We need to be reminded of what God

has done for us. He saved our soul! If it was not for God, we would probably be in hell or in jail. Only the grace of God could save us and help us through difficult situations. Why should we not want to tell others all about what Christ has done for us?

We are determined to sell the truth. We read these words in Proverbs 11:30, “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.” A wise person is a model of a meaningful life. Leading people to God is important because it keeps us in touch with God while offering others eternal life. Next week – Part II, Passion for the Work of God.

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

P R E S E R V E D

Wakanda Forever

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



“Show them who you are!” were words shouted by Ramonda (Angela Bassett) to T’Challa (Chadwick Boseman)

early in the blockbuster movie Black Panther. By themselves, these words appear to be strong words of encouragement that any mother would say to her child if she saw that he or she were in a difficult situation.

In the case of T’Challa, he hears these words as he struggles in a physical fight meant to decide whether he will become the next king of Wakanda. However, these words could also be interpreted as a foreshadowing of one of the overall positive affirming messages of the movie.

There were many other memorable moments in the movie (too many to name here) but hearing those words to me hinted at one of the most important themes of the movie: T’Challa’s journey of self-discovery. This fight that he was having with M’Baku wasn’t just a fight with a seemingly more physically capable opponent; it seemed like the fight could also symbolize T’Challa’s internal conflict with his purpose or destiny as King. This makes his mother’s words all the more powerful because she reminds him that he already knows who he is.


Despite moments of weakness and doubt, T’Challa knows exactly who he is. Perhaps unknowingly, this scene embodies the truth of Psalms 139: 13-14 “For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know

that full well.” His mother’s shouted words are the reminder of the truth of those words for T’Challa.

Later in the movie, T’Challa’s sister Shuri also reminds him of his strength when she explains to him one of the features of his Black Panther bodysuit. In this important scene, she describes how the suit is designed to use the energy from the blows it may receive to actually make it more powerful against future attacks. When I heard this description, all I could think was how that futuristic technology was an amazing example of the spiritual principle of being made stronger by adversity.

Psalms 18:32 tells us that “It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure.” Hebrews 11:34 also refers to weakness being turned to strength. Both of these scriptures are full of truths that the Black Panther’s bodysuit illustrates: if you are able to withstand the punches of discouragement, doubt and powerlessness, eventually you can choose to be strengthened by even the most traumatic life experiences. It could be that the strength comes from the wisdom of the specific lesson that is learned as a result of the experience. Or, it could be that the strength comes from knowing that you were able to survive the experience. In either case, future strength comes from surviving past negative experiences. I think out of all of the lessons that this amazing movie offers, this is the best one of all. Wakanda Forever!

Shewanda Riley is a Dallas, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends.” Email her at preserved-bypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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Black Panther is the superhero – and heroines – we deserve

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



“The film serves as a breath of fresh intellectual air, especially amid today’s sociopolitical climate. It is the power of representation in its best form. It is empowerment on a higher level. It is inspiration to a different degree. It is black excellence exemplified that will leave audiences yearning to inhabit Wakanda forever.” Film critic Tonja Renee Stidham

As long as there have been movies, there have been movie heroes. From Douglas Fairbanks’ swashbuckling heroes like Zorro and Robin Hood in the 1920s, to Luke Skywalker in the 1970s to Harry Potter in the 2000s, the movies have always provided inspiration and role models for young people and a source for fantasy and imagination. Most of these figures, as one might expect, have been white and male.

That is why the blockbuster superhero film Black Panther, which opened this week, is such a significant milestone.

Few films have been more joyously anticipated, with advance ticket sales breaking records. The character, created for Marvel Comics by Stan Lee in 1966, already had generations of fans. Its A-list cast and crew include a number of Academy Award and Golden Globe winners and nominees. Setting aside its cultural impact, Black Panther has been hailed as one of the best-acted, best-directed, best-created superhero movies of all time.

But let us not set aside its cultural impact. Representation of women and people of color in film also has been an issue as long as there have been films. Actor and playwright Dylan Marron a few years ago introduced a web series entitled “Every Single Word,” which highlights the shockingly small amount of dialogue spoken by actors of color in mainstream films. The entire Harry Potter series – more than 1,200 minutes of film – includes precisely five minutes and 40 seconds of what Marron calls “POC talk time.” In 2015 and 2016, we took the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to task for the woeful lack of diversity among Oscar nominees.

Too often, even when women and people of color do have significant roles in film, negative stereotypes are reinforced. The Bechdel Test, named for cartoonist Allison Bechdel who popularized it, determines whether a work of fiction features at least two women characters who speak to each other about something other than a man. Only half of all films pass this test. Screenwriter and novelist Nikesha Shukla proposed the Shukla Test, which determines “two ethnic minorities talk to each other for more than five minutes about something other than race,” and New York Times critic Manola Dargis devised a variation, the DuVernay test – named for African-American film director Ava DuVernay – asks whether “African Americans and other minorities have fully realized lives rather than serve as scenery in white stories.”

Black Panther doesn’t just pass these tests, it shatters the very precepts on which they rest. The significance of a powerful, intelligent, wealthy and resourceful black hero cannot be overstated. The women of Wakanda, Black Panther’s fictional African kingdom, are the true force behind the throne, and are as complex, varied and layered as white male characters usually are given the freedom to be.

When the first black actress to win an Academy Award, Hattie McDaniel, faced criticism in the 1940s for accepting roles that reinforced negative stereotypes, she retorted, “Why should I complain about making \$700 a week playing a maid? If I didn’t, I’d be making \$7 a week being one.” Thankfully, the world of Wakanda is light-years from the plantations where McDaniels’ “Mammy” character bowed and scraped to Scarlett O’Hara. I’m thankful that our children have the opportunity to see themselves on screen as kings and queens, warriors, scientists, artists and most importantly, the heroes of their own stories.

A statue for Marion Barry, and for us too

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



Marion Barry Jr. was the longest-serving mayor of Washington, D.C. The people and the pundits of D.C. gave him the moniker “Mayor for Life” because, after holding the Mayor’s office from 1979 through 1992, he left politics because of his personal challenges. Then he made an amazing comeback, to regain the mayoralty in 1995. Then, after another break from politics, he was elected to the Ward 8 City Council, serving from 2005 until his death in 2014. Barry served on the D.C. City Council for a total of 16 years, including his early years on the council from 1974-1978.

Maya Angelou best described Barry’s road with a comment that is carved into his tombstone. “Marion changed America with his unmitigated gall to stand up in the ashes of where he had fallen and came back to win.” That is an extremely elegant way of saying, “We fall down but we get up.”

Barry will rise again, metaphorically speaking. An eight-foot bronze statue of the “Mayor for Life” will be dedicated Saturday, March 3, in the courtyard outside the John A. Wilson Building in Washington, D.C. He will be standing, as he always has, for the “least and the left out,” words he often used when describing at least part

of his motivation for participating in politics.

While Barry is responsible for transforming Washington, D.C. from a sleepy, Southern, semi-segregated town to a place some now describe as the “#1 City in the World to live, work and visit.” Not only did he provide significant incentives to entrepreneurs to invest in and develop areas of the district that had been ignored, but he also insisted that developers share contracting opportunities with those minority entrepreneurs who had been sidelined from participating in government contracting. In his first term as mayor he created the Minority Business Opportunity Commission (MBOC), and developed a law that required 25 percent certified minority participation in District government contracts.

Through the MBOC and other efforts to include black entrepreneurs, contractors and suppliers in the business (including the bond business) of Washington, D.C., Barry both expanded the black middle class and created dozens of black millionaires. Indeed, billionaire Bob Johnson got his start when Barry not only granted him the contract for wiring District Cable, but also selling him the land for the BET building for just one dollar!

Barry inspired other mayors in his passion for minority economic development, including Detroit’s Mayor Coleman Young, Chicago’s Mayor Harold Washington, and the mayors

of Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Atlanta and San Francisco. Atlanta’s Mayor Maynard Jackson will be remembered for his admonition to majority businesses – “subcontract or no contract”. Barry was equally firm that minority entrepreneurs should be given a “leg up” in the contracting process.

An entire generation of young Washingtonians benefitted from Mayor Barry’s Summer Youth Leadership Institute. Barry said that any young person who wanted a summer job in the District could have one, and more than 100,000 were hired from every part of the city, from every socioeconomic background. Prince George’s County Executive, Rushern Baker, got his first job from Barry’s program, which now continues as the Mayor Marion S. Barry Jr. Summer Youth Employment Program.

One column is not enough to discuss the background and many contributions of Barry, but one cannot consider his life without mentioning his civil rights leadership as the first chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), his work in rural Mississippi to register black people to vote, and his leadership in the Free D.C. movement. And, it is important to mention a little-known fact about Barry – he completed the coursework for a doctorate in chemistry at the University of Tennessee, dropping out to move to D.C. to lead the SNCC office. Barry was a civil rights leader, and champion for

seniors, women, the GBLTQ community and others.

Washington, D.C. has built a bronze commemorative statue of Mayor for Life Marion Barry, but it is really a statue for all of us, especially since African Americans are so underrepresented in the nation’s statuary. It is a tribute to an amazing man whose life of service transformed a city and uplifted a people. In his autobiography, Barry says, “Most people don’t know me. They don’t know about all of the fighting I’ve done to manage a government that was progressive and more oriented to uplift the people rather than suppress them. That’s what I want my legacy to be. I was a freedom fighter and a fighter for the economic livelihood of not only black people but all people.”

When I was privileged to attend a preview showing of the Barry statue, I was amazed at how like Marion it was. His hand is raised, waving at people. You can almost see him swagger. All I could say was, “that’s him,” meaning not just the person, but also everything he stood for – struggles, challenges and opportunities. Young folks and old, regardless of race, can look at the Barry statue and be inspired.

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.juliannealmalveaux.com

Those who do nothing on gun control fail our children

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



The United States is failing in what surely is the first duty of government – protecting our children from threats that they cannot deal with themselves. Voters and politicians are failing our children.

After 17 students and teachers were killed and a dozen wounded on Valentine’s Day by an unbalanced 19-year-old firing an AR-15 rifle at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., the students vowed no more as they buried their friends.

Young organizers are reaching out to students across the country to enlist them in a national drive to force action on sensible gun laws. As a first step, they’ve called for a national demonstration in Washington March 24 called March for Our Lives. More demonstrations across the country will come.

“We want this to stop. We need this to stop. We are protecting guns more than people,” said Emma Gonzalez, 18, one of five core organizers, as reported in The New York Times. “We are not trying to take people’s guns away; we are trying to make sure we have gun safety.”

Gonzalez, a student at the Florida school, invited politicians from any party to join, but she warned: “We don’t want anybody who is funded by the NRA. We want people who are going to be on the right side of history.”

In a stunning opinion piece in The New York Times, Christine Yared, 15, a freshman at the school who huddled in a closet when the shooting broke out, wrote that her



parents settled in Parkland because the school had a “stellar reputation and because we thought that it was a safe place to live.”

She called on people to “work together beyond political parties to make sure this never happens again.”

She argued sensibly: “If a person is not old enough to rent a car or buy a beer, then he should not be able to legally purchase a weapon of mass destruction. This could have been prevented. If the killer had been properly treated for his mental illness, maybe this would not have happened. If there were proper background checks, then those who should not have guns would not have them.”

A recent study using data from the World Health Organization and the global Human Mortality Database, found that America is now “the most dangerous of wealthy nations for a child to be born into.” Higher infant mortality – high particularly among the poor in states that refused to expand Medicaid – accounts for some of that. Gun violence accounts for

much of it. The U.S. suffers 21,000 “excess deaths” – deaths above the average – for children under 19 every year.

As one writer noted, think of that as three Sandy Hook or three Stoneman Douglas shootings a day, every day of every year. We have failed our children.

President Donald Trump responded to the latest school shooting with “prayers and condolences,” never mentioning the word gun. After he was elected, he went to the National Rifle Association convention. The NRA had spent millions in support of his election. “You came through for me,” he pledged, “I will come through for you.” There is no more brazen statement of the corruption of our politics.

Since 1968, America has lost more lives to gun violence than we have in all the wars of our nation’s history from the Revolutionary War forward. Our leaders are failing in their duty to protect our children.

The NRA and the gun lobby reward politicians who block sensible reforms, and punish those who pro-

mote them. A majority of Americans support sensible gun laws. Yet no progress is made. Politicians fear that they will risk their seats if they oppose the gun lobby. They choose their own political career over the duty to protect our children.

After each mass shooting, there is outrage and tears, but no action. Perhaps the young organizers from Parkland can break through. They can reach millions of their peers through social media. Their passion is clear. It is not partisan, not liberal or conservative, but moral.

At 18, they can register and vote in large numbers. Even now, they can organize marches and demonstrations, do research that exposes who is on the take and who is in the pocket of the gun lobby, run registration and voter education drives.

Our leaders have failed our children. Our parties won’t do the hard work needed. The news media will soon turn to new outrages and new stories.

Our children are at risk. Now they are calling all of us to account. Maybe they have the grit and the moral clarity to break through the icy indifference of those who claim to lead us.

Christine Yared wrote: “We need to expose the truth about gun violence and the corruption around guns. Please. If you have any heart, or care about anyone or anything, you need to be an advocate for change. Don’t let any more children suffer like we have. Don’t continue this cycle. This may not seem relevant to you. But next time it could be your family, your friends, your neighbors. Next time, it could be you.”

She and her classmates have witnessed the unbearable. Let us heed their call.



Youth uplifted at New Hope Baptist Church Heritage Night

By Hope Reeves
Student Writer

“I can. I will. I must succeed.” These words were chanted by the voices of aspiring doctors, writers, artists and soldiers that will soon become the stars of tomorrow.

Thursday, Feb. 15, New Hope Baptist Church hosted the seventh annual “Back in the Day” Black History celebration organized by its Black History Planning committee.

While this year’s theme focused on honoring living legends, Youth Heritage Night was an opportunity for children to not only connect with their heritage but also receive advice from those who have experienced young adulthood.

Along the gymnasium side wall, decorated tri-fold boards crafted by students presented information of African-American influencers and barrier-breakers such as Oprah Winfrey, Benjamin Davis, Thurgood Marshall and Misty Copeland.

Program facilitators, members of the audience and performers were dressed in African attire to proudly represent black culture.

The all-superior Murrah High School Choir opened the program with two selections. As their last note signified an end, the audience instantly cheered and gave a standing ovation.

“The Murrah choir was absolutely stunning, it was one of the best choirs I have ever heard sing,” said Terrance Myles Jr., a program participant and sophomore at St. Andrew’s Episcopal School.

Another spectacular performance group who exhibited youthful talent in the Jackson area was the EyeSunshine Praise Dance Ministry, directed and founded by Shawuanna Williams. They danced to contemporary gospel music and the audience cheerfully clapped to the rhythm of the beat. Some tapped their feet while others swayed from side to side.

These acts marked the tone of the entire night.

The guest speaker of the service was James B. Ewers Jr., a native of South Carolina and a retired professional who worked 40 years at several institutions for higher learning. He now shares his life stories to empower women and specifically young men to obtain a college degree and be the best in their chosen career field.

Ewers’ compelling message for the youth and his comical interactions created an engaging program for attendees. Children were chuckling, adults were hooting, and everyone was filled with joy.

Though the celebration was created to inspire adolescents, it was also a chance for elders to reflect on how far African Americans have progressed.

John Wicks Sr., an attendee of the program, stated he was reminded of his past while observing the educational and enjoyable event.

“It reminded me of the things I lived, experienced and learned about. You tend to forget after a period of time, and it was refreshing to watch.”

New Hope’s grand finale event of “Back in the Day” will be held Thursday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m. with special guest artist Tommie “Tonea” Stewart.



Terrance Myles Jr. leads the audience in prayer at Youth Heritage Night.



Murrah High School choir performing at at New Hope Baptist Church.



EyeShine Praise Dance Ministry delivering their special performance



Officer at the meet and greet reception



Guest speaker, James B. Ewers Jr., receives honorary award from Pastor Jerry Young of New Hope for his contributions to the event.



Pastor Jerry Young and Flonzie Brown-Wright pose with Shawuanna Williams, the director of EyeShine Dance Ministry and founder of EyeShine Creative Arts Company.



Murrah High School Choir director, Pierrdro Gallion, pictured accepting certificate presented by Pastor Jerry Young and Flonzie-Brown Wright.



Facilitators Clint and Fredniki White (left) are presented with their certificate for hosting Youth Heritage Night by Pastor Jerry Young and Flonzie Brown-Wright.



Flonzie Brown-Wright and Pastor Jerry Young thanks Jackson Public School Superintendent Fredrick Murray for his message and attendance at the event

Trailblazing U.S. ambassador reflects on her life and career

The Mississippi Link Newswire

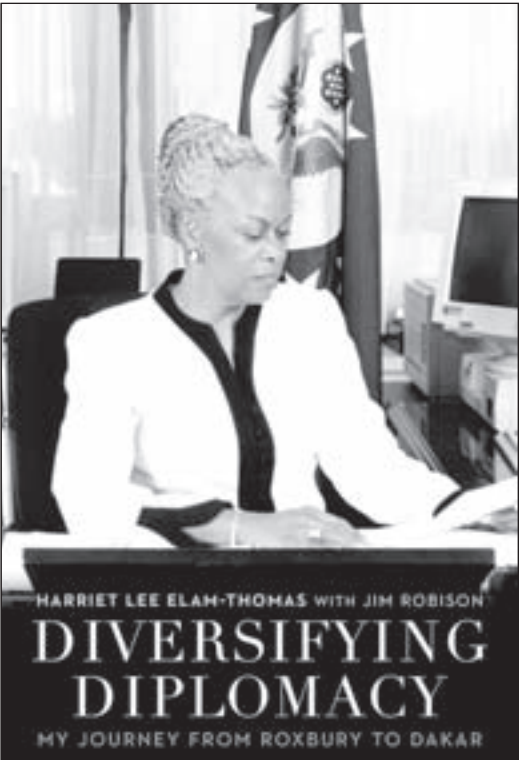
After a four-decades-long career at the U.S. Department of State’s Foreign Service including being appointed as U.S. Ambassador to Senegal in 2000, Harriet Lee Elam-Thomas is now looking back on her remarkable career and life. In time for Black History Month, her new memoir, *Diversifying Diplomacy: My Journey from Roxbury to Dakar* (Potomac Books, 2017), presents readers with insight into her work in diplomacy around the world along with firsthand accounts of a life spent breaking barriers as a black woman growing up in segregated America.

Through examination of her life, career and family tree, Elam-Thomas offers readers a unique glimpse of Black History during the days of Reconstruction, Jim Crow, segregation and beyond – and offers strategies for success in breaking through in any field. What this “hidden figure” in diplomacy has to say may be just what America needs during this divisive political era when old stereotypes are resurfacing, and blacks and women again find they need to prove themselves.

With *Diversifying Diplomacy*, Elam-Thomas has crafted a book that provides readers with a personal view of a bygone epoch of American history. Raised in a working-class family in Roxbury, Boston’s black enclave, in the middle of the 20th century, she was encouraged from an early age to excel in all areas of life.

With an older brother who ran a law practice with famed African-American U.S. Senator Edward Brooke and a grandfather who served as the first black speaker of the house in South Carolina, Elam-Thomas did not lack for examples of greatness. As she traversed the globe and rose through the ranks of the Foreign Service, she never lost sight of those who had inspired and encouraged her during her early years and remained steadfast in the knowledge that in each nation she visited she was not only a representative of the United States of America, but also of her Roxbury community, of black America and of women. As she worked to create peace, she also challenged the stereotypes that many carried about African Americans and women.

Having defied the odds and reached career heights closed to many women and people of color at one time – with her appointment as U.S. Ambassador to Senegal from 2000 through 2002 serving as a true testament to the respect she earned in the diplomatic field – Elam-Thomas continues to



work to bring the United States closer to its full potential as a nation offering opportunity to all.

Currently the director of the University of Central Florida Diplomacy Program, Elam-Thomas works to create the next generation of diverse diplomatic leaders. Her efforts are directed at helping inspire people of color and women to break down new barriers in any field of choice.

“As you move through your career and life, you will feel the scrutiny and may face naysayers and those working to minimize/stifle your advancement because of your gender and race,” said Elam-Thomas. “Remember that you are prepared. Exude confidence and integrity, tempered with civility, and you will succeed.”

Diversifying Diplomacy: My Journey from Roxbury to Dakar, by Harriet Lee Elam-Thomas with Jim Robison, is available for purchase at most major retailers. She has spoken around the world in venues and organizations such as Simmons College, Boston University, Spelman College, the University of Athens in Greece, The Zora Neal Hurston Festival, the Orlando Bar Association and the League of Women Voters.

To schedule her for speaking engagements and book signings, contact Madeline McCray-Matz at madeline@madelinemccray.com.



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LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2012 Niss ALT 1N4AL2AP8CN495595

Registered to Chaffin Alisha Leshunda
Santander Consumer USA, Lien Holder

Date of Sale: March 9, 2018

Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids.

Time: 10:00 A.M.

2/8/2018, 2/15/2018, 2/22/2018

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DOROTHY TAYLOR, DECEASED
STACY DAWSON AND DONNA McLAURIN, PETITIONERS
CAUSE NO. P2018-43 T/1

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Testamentary on the Estate of DOROTHY TAYLOR, Deceased, having been granted to us on the 7th day of February, 2018, by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, to Stacy Dawson and Donna McLaurin as Co-Executrix(s) of the Estate of DOROTHY TAYLOR, deceased, Notice is hereby given that all persons having claim(s) against said Estate to present such claim(s) to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety (90) days of the First Publication of this Notice, or they will be Forever barred.

This the 13th day of February, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Dawson and
Donna McLaurin, Co-Executrix(s)
of the Estate of DOROTHY TAYLOR, deceased

Chester Ray Jones-MSB #3191
Counsel and Attorney-At-Law
Post Office Box 5141, Jackson, MS 39296
(601) 953-6491
chetjones4545@yahoo.com

2/15/2018 2/22/2018 3/1/2018

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Advertisement for Bids

Bid 3065 Roof Replacement for Casey Elementary School
Bid 3066 Roof Replacement for Isable Elementary School

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) March 23, 2018, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Casey Elementary School will be held at 2101 Lake Circle, Jackson, MS 39211, on March 1, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Isable Elementary School will be held at 1716 Isable Street, Jackson, MS 39204, on March 1, 2018 at 10:30 A.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.durrelldesigngroupplans.com. A \$100.00 nonrefundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Durrell Design Group, PLLC, 500-G East Woodrow Wilson Ave., Jackson, MS 39216, Phone: 601-708-4788, Fax: 601-488-4717, Email: contact@durrelldesigngroup.com

2/15/2018, 2/22/2018

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF FRANK THOMAS JR., DECEASED
NAMED HEREIN

CAUSE NO. 2018 T 1

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor upon the Estate of Frank Thomas Jr. Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 16th day of February, 2018.

LaTonya L. Carr
LaTonya L. Carr

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

LEGAL

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF Hinds

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named, Jennifer Lloyd, Executor for the Estate of Mabel Seaton, deceased, who having been by me first duly sworn, states that the above Notice to Creditors is true and correct as therein stated.

Given under my hand this the 19th day of February, 2018.

LaTonya L. Carr
Notary Public

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

LEGAL

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS
EAST METRO LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICE PHASE 1 BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY JMAA PROJECT NO.
6000-001-18 February 14, 2018

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") will receive sealed bids at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport ("JAN"), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 2:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on March 23, 2018 (the "Bid Deadline"), for services in connection with the East Metro Lawn and Landscaping Service, Project No. 6000-001-18, at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the "Work").

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 2:05 p.m. Central Standard Time on March 23, 2018 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building, Suite 300 at JAN. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to attend the Bid Opening.

The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the wording: "East Metro Lawn and Landscaping Service Phase 1, JMAA PROJECT NO. 6000-001- 18." Bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever.

JMAA will award the Work to the lowest most responsive and responsible bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and best bidder. Any Addenda issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instruction to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered a part of the Agreement.

The Information for Bidders is on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the following address:

Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport 100 International Drive, Suite 300
Jackson, Mississippi 39208

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR BIDS
EAST METRO LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICE PHASE 2 BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY JMAA PROJECT NUM-
BER 6000-002-18 FEBRUARY 14, 2018

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") will receive sealed bids at the Jackson- Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport ("JAN"), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 2:00 p.m. Central Standard Time on March 23, 2018 (the "Bid Deadline"), for services in connection with the East Metro Lawn and Landscaping Service, JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 6000-002-18, at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the "Work").

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 2:35 p.m. Central Standard Time on March 23, 2018 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building, Suite 300 at JAN. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to attend the Bid Opening.

The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the wording: "EAST METRO LAWN AND LANDSCAPING SERVICE PHASE 2 1, JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 6000-002-18." Bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever.

JMAA will award the Work to the lowest most responsive and responsible bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and best bidder. Any Addenda issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instruction to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered a part of the Agreement.

The Information for Bidders is on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the following address:

Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
100 International Drive, Suite 300
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 939-5631
Email Address: dherndon@jmaa.com

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MABEL SEATON, DECEASED

CAUSE #116-620

BY: Jennifer Lloyd

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MABEL SEATON, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Jennifer Lloyd, Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Mabel Seaton.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 15th day of May, 2018, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Dewayne Thomas and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 21st day of February, 2018.

Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF MABEL SEATON DECEASED
NAMED HEREIN

CAUSE NO. 16-620

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor upon the Estate of Mabel Seaton Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 19th day of February, 2018.

Jennifer Lloyd
Jennifer Lloyd

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

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Telephone: (601) 939-5631
Email Address: dherndon@jmaa.com Attention: Deuntagus Herndon.
Procurement Specialist

Bid Documents may be picked up, shipped, or emailed to the person making the request.

The contact for all questions and submittal of Bids and required forms is Mr. Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist. Mr. Herndon can be contacted at dherndon@jmaa.com or 601-360- 8622.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference at 3:30 p.m. Central Standard Time on February 28, 2018, in the Community Room, 3rd Floor Mezzanine Level, at the Main Terminal Building at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, MS 39208. Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is highly recommended for all those interested in submitting bids as a Prime Contractor for the Work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Contractor. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Contractors and Sub-Contractors, as well as the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Bid Conference; review of the plans and specifications; and a site visit of the area covered in the scope of work. No site visits will be scheduled other than the one provided during the Pre-Bid conference.

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid and to hold and examine bids for up to ninety (90) days before awarding the Contract.

If it becomes necessary to revise any aspect of this Request for Bids or to provide additional information to Bidders, JMAA will issue one or more Addenda by posting on JMAA's website (<http://jmaa.com/rfqrb-center/>). JMAA will also endeavor to deliver a copy of each Addendum, to all persons on record with JMAA as receiving a copy of the Information for Bidders, via email.

JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 15% for the Work solicited by this RFB. JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: February 14, 2018
/s/ Carl D. Newman, A.A. E.
Carl D. Newman, A.A. E., Chief Executive Officer

2/15/2018, 2/22/2018

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Attention: Deuntagus Herndon.
Procurement Specialist

Bid Documents may be picked up, shipped, or emailed to the person making the request.

The contact for all questions and submittal of Bids and required forms is Mr. Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist. Mr. Herndon can be contacted at dherndon@jmaa.com or 601-360- 8622.

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JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 15% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: February 14, 2018
/s/ Carl D. Newman, A.A. E.
Carl D. Newman, A.A. E., Chief Executive Officer

2/15/2018, 2/22/2018

LEGAL

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF MABEL SEATON DECEASED
NAMED HEREIN

CAUSE NO. 16-620

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor upon the Estate of Mabel Seaton Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probate and registration according to the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 19th day of February, 2018.

Jennifer Lloyd
Jennifer Lloyd

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

LEGAL

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2/15/2018

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LEGAL

RULE 51 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
FRANK BOSTON, DECEASED

CAUSE #:2018-174

BY: LaTonya Lyles

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MABEL SEATON, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by LaTonya Lyles, Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Frank Boston.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock a.m., on the 15th day of May, 2018, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Dewayne Thomas and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 21 day of February, 2018.



Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi

2/22/2018, 3/1/2018, 3/8/2018

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Week of February 11, 2018

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

Synthia Barry named Byram Middle School and Hinds County School District Parent of Year!



Barry is very passionate when supporting school fundraisers and other activities. She has also served as liaison with community leaders and businesses that support the school. There are many projects that she can be credited for; however, the organization of a uniform clothes closet is very unique. This project provides uniform dress code clothing to new or needy students and is available for emergency situations as they arise during the school day. The PTO provides assistance to students and families that are experiencing tragedy. Barry is very dedicated to the PTO and she is excited to see how it is progressing.

Patsy Dixon recognized as Bus Driver of the Month for January 2018!



Pictures L-R: Curtis Washington, General Manager/Durham School Services; Patsy Dixon, Bus Driver of the Month; Sharon Harris, HR Director; and Linda Laws, Board President District - 3.

THS Teacher Assistant Emma McLin Recognized as Employee of the Month for January 2018!



Pictured L-R: Sharon Harris, HR Director; Emma McLin, Employee of the Month; and Linda Laws, Board President District - 3.

Provine Mock Election

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Last week seniors at Provine High School participated in mock elections. Organized by Commissioner Toni Johnson of District 2, the goal of this event was to expose youth in the community to voting and the electoral process.

Students who were already eighteen were given the opportunity to register to vote. Representatives from the Hinds County Circuit Clerk Office were present to take applications.

"My goal is to stir the conversation that voting in every election is important, and to take away any fears or misconceptions young people may have about voting. Knowledge is power," says Johnson. "We also have midterm elections in November, party primaries in June. We want to make sure those students are prepared to cast their ballot."

Students were made aware of certain crimes that would disenfranchise them from voting by Hinds County Prosecuting Attorney Gerald A. Mumford. "I would much rather see you all on this side, than in front of me in court."

Mumford also told students that voting can help determine what their city and county look like, but they have to stay out of trouble in order to be able to exercise that right.

Commissioner James A. Reed, District 1, shared a powerful story about him being enlisted in the military to serve his country, but not being able to vote until the civil rights movement.

Students completed a MS Favorites ballot that consisted of local authors, athletes and favorite foods. After completing the ballots, students were assisted in casting their votes on DS200 voting machines used in actual county and municipal elections. Students received a "Salute me, I Voted Sticker" afterwards.

Local community volunteers such as Mary Church Terrell Literacy Club, OCD Media and local Shriners Rissah Temple #130 also assisted the students.



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FILM REVIEW: “BLACK PANTHER”

CHADWICK BOSEMAN RISES TO THE OCCASION AS AFRICAN KING/MARVEL SUPERHERO

By Kam Williams
Columnist

Chadwick Boseman has already made quite a career out of portraying a variety of prominent African Americans, from football star Floyd Little (The Express), to baseball great Jackie Robinson (42), to Godfather of Soul James Brown (Get on Up) to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (Marshall). The versatile actor's efforts have been appreciated by the NAACP which has seen fit to nominate him for five Image Awards.

Although Black Panther is a fictional character, the role is ostensibly of no less significance than the historical figures Chadwick has played in the past. That's because black kids have rarely had a superhero that looks like them to root for, even in Africa, where the Lord of the Jungle, Tarzan, was white, too.

Consequently, advance ticket sales for this Afrocentric origins tale have been through the roof, and I'm happy to report that audiences will not be disappointed. For, the film not only features a dignified protagonist and a socially-relevant plotline, but it's also a worthy addition to the Marvel Cinematic Universe franchise.

The picture was directed by Ryan Coogler (Creed) who made the most of his \$200 million budget, between visually-captivating special effects and an A-list cast which

includes Academy Award-winners Forest Whitaker (for The Last King of Scotland) and Lupita Nyong'o (for 12 Years a Slave), Oscar-nominee Angela Bassett (for What's Love Got to Do with It), as well as Michael B. Jordan, Daniel Kaluuya and Sterling K. Brown.

At the point of departure, we learn that in ancient times the five tribes of Africa went to war over vibranium, a meteorite which imbues its holder with superhuman powers. Fast-forward to the present and we find T'Challa (Boseman) being summoned home to the fictional nation of Wakanda to assume the reins of power in the wake of the passing of his father, King T'Chaka (John Kani).

Complicating matters is the fact that a number of other warriors covet the throne and that a South African arms smuggler (Andy Serkis) is trying to get his hands on some

vibranium. Not to worry. T'Challa has a capable CIA agent (Martin Freeman) and a trio of loyal females on his side in his 16 year-old sister (Letitia Wright), his ex-girlfriend (Nyong'o) and a two-fisted bodyguard (Danai Gurira).

What ensues is an edge of the seat roller coaster ride every bit as entertaining as any Spider-Man, Wonder Woman or other superhero adventure. Simply 'Marvel'-ous!

Excellent (4 stars)

Rated PG-13 for pervasive violent action sequences and a rude gesture

Running time: 134 minutes

Production Studios: Marvel Studios / Walt Disney Pictures

Distributor: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures

To see a trailer for Black Panther, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dxWvtMOGAhw>

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 Elon Musk

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
I	P	Q	R	Y	D	H	V		R	T	F		X	R	V	O	B	Y		P	N				
R		J		Z	Y	P	V	D	R	D	E	I	P	Q	R	Y	D	H	V		R	T			
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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

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BOOK REVIEW:

“AN AMERICAN MARRIAGE: A NOVEL”

BY AN AMERICAN MARRIAGE: A NOVEL

C.2018, ALGONQUIN BOOKS OF CHAPEL HILL

\$26.95 / HIGHER IN CANADA • 308 PAGES

By Kam Williams
Columnist

He did it on one knee. One knee, with a nervous grin on his face and a velvet box in his shaking hands, asking you the Question of a Lifetime. You’d talked about this day but it was still a surprise and now you have planning to do, just the two of you. Or, as in “An American Marriage” by Tayari Jones, three...

The last time Roy Othaniel Hamilton enjoyed a truly happy evening was about a year-and-a-half after he married his wife, Celestial, the only woman (after his mama) that he ever really loved. It’s true that they’d been

arguing that night – they argued and made up, argued and made up a lot then – but things were going well. They’d even talked about having a baby on that last happy evening before the police broke down the door of their room at Piney Woods Motel and arrested Roy for a rape he didn’t commit.

His life was supposed to be with Celestial. He believed that all along.

They’d met in college: his buddy, Andre, was her best friend and Dre introduced them but Roy and Celestial didn’t click until years later. They met again, dated, and the rest was, well, not exactly smooth. He

cheated on her a time or two. She’d freeze him out when she caught him, but she knew she was his woman.

Celestial also knew the man she married, and Roy wasn’t capable of raping some woman six years older than his own mother. But a jury wouldn’t believe her, wouldn’t believe him, would only believe an old woman who pointed a finger ... and there you go: Roy’s sentence was twelve years in a Louisiana penitentiary.

And, oh, they wrote letters, but they were apart longer than they weren’t and eventually, Celestial wanted to – needed to – move on. She found somebody else, somebody who was her

future and her past, but she was still Roy’s wife.

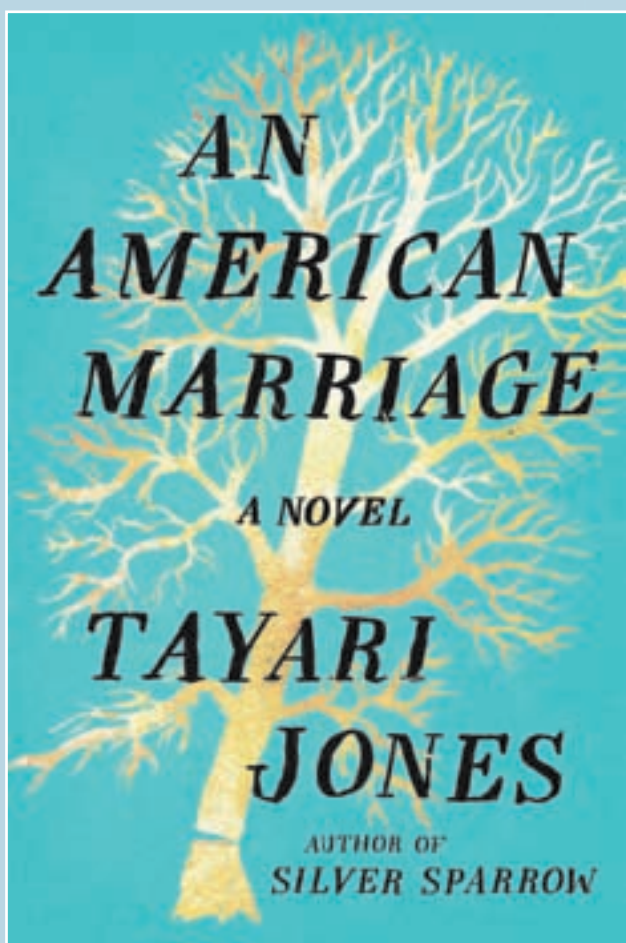
And when Roy got out of prison seven years early, he hoped to remind her of that fact.

There’s a reason that Oprah picked “An American Marriage” as one of her books. Yes, this novel is that good.

Really, though, author Tayari Jones tells a simple story of boy-meets-girl-marries-her. It’s a fairy tale, modernized; a romance with a twist: Roy idealizes his marriage, while Celestial is a realist. He’s your basic Nice Guy. She’s been raised to take care of herself and speak her mind. His memories differ quite a bit from hers, and seeing both

sides through their eyes makes their story better. Add a situation that hints at the unimaginable, and some additional, sometimes irritating, characters with influence and you’ve got a book filled with a tale that’ll keep you dry-mouthed, page-turning and right on the edge of hollering.

This is a novel that unabashedly plays with your senses of right and not-quite-right. It also plays with your emotions, if you’ve ever been in love – so have a handful of tissues nearby. “An American Marriage” could bring you to your knees.



Celebrating

Black History Month 2018

H


C

INDS COUNTY


"We should emphasize not Negro history, but the Negro in history. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, race hate, and religious prejudice."

- Carter Woodson


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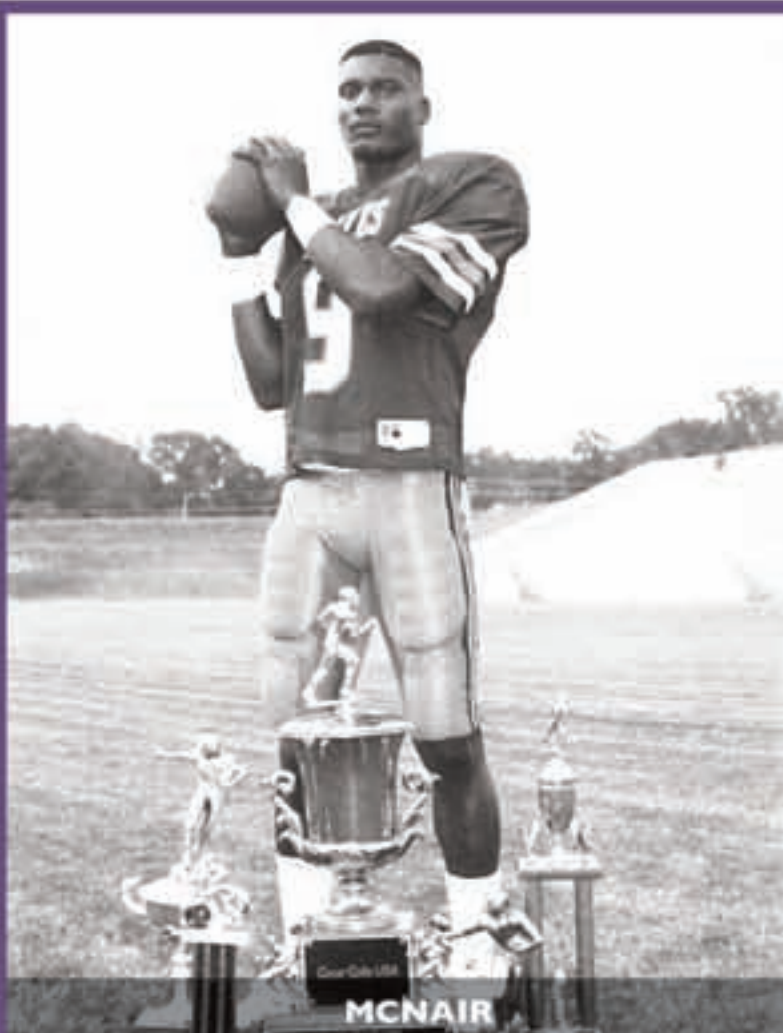


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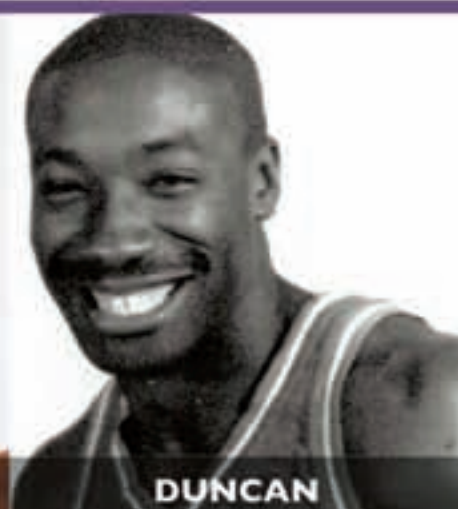
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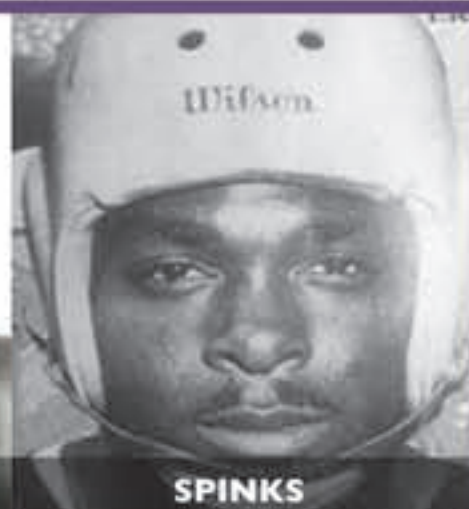
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Kimberly Morgan '05 Miss Mississippi 2007

Larry Smith '80 Professional basketball player who spent most of his playing career with the Golden State Warriors and was inducted into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in 2016

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Medgar Evers '52 First state field secretary of the NAACP in Mississippi

Alex Haley Writer and the author of the widely known book, "Roots"

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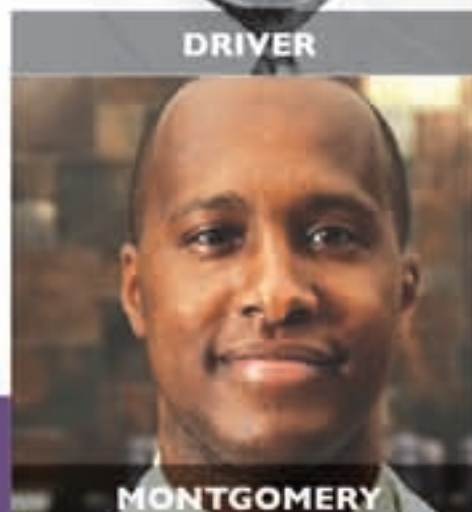
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No Cards Needed To Shop Our Low Prices

USDA CHOICE BEEF

**T-BONE
STEAKS**

PER LB.

\$5⁹⁹

FAMILY PACK SIRLOIN

**PORK
CHOPS**

PER LB.

99¢

SPLIT

**FRYER
BREAST**

PER LB.

\$1⁷⁹

USDA CHOICE BEEF

**BONELESS
CHUCK ROAST**

PER LB.

\$3⁷⁹

FAMILY PACK USDA CHOICE

**CHUCK
STEAKS**

PER LB.

\$3⁹⁹

BONELESS

**PORK LOIN
ROAST**

PER LB.

\$1⁵⁹

FAMILY PACK FRESH

**BONELESS
PORK CHOPS**

PER LB.

\$1⁹⁹

FAMILY PACK FRESH

**PORK
NECKBONES**

PER LB.

99¢

THICK CUT

**OSCAR MAYER
BOLOGNA**

16 OZ.

2/\$3

GREAT ON THE GRILL

**ARMOUR
HOT DOGS**

12 OZ PKG.

75¢

FRESH

**CRISP
LETTUCE**

HEAD

89¢

PRODUCTS OF

**PEPSI
COLA**

2 LTR. BTL.

4/\$5

FRESH PRODUCE

FRESH ICEBERG

LETTUCE

HEAD

89¢

XTRA LARGE RED RIPE

TOMATOES

PER LB.

99¢

EXTRA LARGE

**GREEN BELL
PEPPERS**

EACH

2/\$1

DAIRY & FROZEN DEPARTMENTS

BUTERMILK / JUMBO

**PIGGLY WIGGLY
BISCUITS**

5 CT.

\$1⁰⁰

CRYSTAL FARMS

**SHREDDED
CHEESE**

7 - 8 OZ.

2/\$4

SELECT VARIETIES

**CHOBANI
YOGURT**

5.3 OZ.

99¢

GREAT FOR BREAKFAST

**MINUTE MAID
ORANGE JUICE**

59 OZ.

\$2⁴⁹

SELECT FAMILY SIZE

**PICTSWEET
VEGETABLES**

20 - 24 OZ.

\$2⁹⁹

TJ FARMS

**FROZEN
POTATOES**

5 LB. BAG

\$3⁵⁹

ASSORTED

**PIGGLY WIGGLY
ICE CREAM**

56 OZ.

\$2⁹⁹