



In musical tribute to moms, JSU meteorology student may discover ‘star’dom

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Just in time for Mother’s Day, JSU meteorology major and singer/drummer Keon Gibson may soon experience galactic success if his debut single skyrockets to fame.

Indiana native Gibson, 22, recently released “Dear Momma Tender Love.” It pays tribute to all mothers who have impacted their children’s lives. “That type of love can never be compared to anything else,” he said.

“In this day with a lot of rap music being so negative, I want to present a deeper subject that everyone can relate to. Most artists nowadays won’t talk about personal feelings or love for their mothers,” Gibson said, “I made this my debut single because everyone has a mother and can relate. Unfortunately, no one from my generation is rapping about mothers.”

Life hasn’t always been easy for Gibson despite successfully juggling music and studying meteorology in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET). While growing up, he had to overcome challenges that made his grades suffer. This made getting into college tough, with JSU as the only school giving him a chance to prove himself.

His world was complicated further because of an ongoing battle with ulcerative colitis, a chronic inflammatory disease



of the large intestine that triggers tiny open sores. As a result, he experienced a dramatic weight loss. Today, he’s managing the illness with medication.

As a meteorology student, Gibson earned the only perfect score in 2017 among 160 entries nationwide during a research presentation at the American Meteorological Society conference. During Wyoming’s full solar eclipse in August, he traveled west to perform research funded by the National Science Foundation on the sun’s heat-packing solar corona.

His résumé will expand even

further because he’s already accepted a job with the U.S. Department of Defense as an oceanographer after he graduates in December.

Despite all the labor, including as an artist for the famous online Mega Drum Shed, he talks to JSU about his projects. He discusses his new single, meteorology, his health and his faith, which he credits for all his successes.

JSU: Tell us about your journey to JSU from Indiana?

KG: Once I graduated from high school, I applied to various colleges and every one of them declined me because of low high school grades and

ACT scores. At the time, I started to get discouraged and then I got a letter from JSU stating that it had accepted me. JSU went out on a limb, believing that I could become a successful student. So, I came to JSU to be in the band and study meteorology.

JSU: Describe life growing up.

KG: My family is the source of my motivation. As a child, each one believed in my dreams and pushed me to pursue my goals. I salute my mother for raising me after the death of my father. One of the best things she taught me was how to put my faith in God and trust him through good and bad times.

JSU: Any other particular hurdles that tested your faith or drew you closer to it?

KG: The person that I’ve become today came from my faith being tested. Those tests helped me become stronger mentally, emotionally, spiritually and physically. For example, when I first got diagnosed with ulcerative colitis, I was so afraid I was going to lose my life. But, I couldn’t live in fear. I was being tested to put my trust in God. Thus, once I did that, he blessed me and healed my body through medication. Now, I believe he’ll heal me without medicine soon.

JSU: How long have you been performing music, and

what’s your favorite instrument?

KG: I’ve been in sync with music for 20 years. I started playing drums when I was two years old and started singing in church around seven. Recently, within the past couple months, I learned how to play guitar. As I’ve gotten older, I’ve perfected my craft and my gifts opened up more platforms than I would have ever imagined.

JSU: Between music and science, which is your favorite?

KG: They both feed on each other. Meteorology has taught me how to research and apply what I’ve learned to various weather events. I take that same research approach and apply it to music because I can get as creative as I want. Certain situations call for deep research to understand how some music software work or how specific genres are performed.

JSU: Instruments have been your form of musical expression. Now, you’re spotlighting your singing abilities. Tell us about your pursuit of vocals?

KG: I’ve been singing background this whole time. When I play drums with bands, artists or at church I learn lyrics and melodies so that I can sing along. Now, I’m beginning to sing publicly as a solo artist.

JSU: Explain the title and the inspiration for your first single, “Dear Momma Tender Love.”

KG: The inspiration for this song came from a conversation between my producer (Larry Jones) and me. We were in the studio talking about our mothers’ significant roles in our lives. From there, we came up with the title. There’s nothing more special than a mother’s love.

JSU: Describe your music, and tell us whether your style mirrors that of any current successful commercial artists.

KG: My music is a mel-low, soothing type of vibe. It could be described as Jonathan McReynolds and The Weeknd meets Chance the Rapper. I deliver inspirational messages. I don’t want the sound just to be good or to have a dope beat. I want listeners to relate to the music. Comparatively, I like Chance’s musical collaborations, The Weeknd’s vocal style and McReynolds’ gospel/inspiration.

JSU: How can people purchase the single?

KG: The single is produced by Mirralex Music. It’s currently available on all major streaming platforms: iTunes, Spotify, Google Play and Amazon.

JSU: Where are you in the social media sphere?

KG: People can follow me on Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat @keongibson and on Facebook at Keon Gibson. My webiste is keongibson.com.



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Health

Continued from page 1

nals are sent to the brain that tell the body and mind how to respond to the messages sent by the neuropeptides. The question then is “What triggers the neuropeptides to begin the transmission of a signal?” The answer quite simply is your thoughts. The way you think about your body gets transmitted to the neuropeptides who then tell each other that a certain signal needs to be sent to the brain or body to tell it how to react to a certain condition.

So, if you are telling your friendly little proteins to be worried about the current state of your kidneys, your body and brain will receive that message and manifest it as stress which has been proven to have a negative effect on your health, potentially creating a disease state such as kidney failure. Then you unfortunately end up on dialysis because of how you thought about your body in the first place.

Now this is a very simplistic way of looking at a very complex network of physiological activity. But, imagine for a moment that a deciding factor between whether or not you live disease free or have to be tied to a dialysis machine for the rest of your life, is whether or not you decide to change your mind about your health. Wouldn’t you rather just change your mind? Doesn’t that sound much simpler?

That is our goal at Prolific Health and Wellness as well as the goal of this column...to get you to change your mind about the way you view your health. As my pastor says, “I’ll get naked so you can.” That just means I’ll share my struggle so that you benefit and will then be able to share yours.

I have been overweight most of my life. However, I did not lose almost 50 pounds, and keep it off, until I changed my mind about my weight. And I found the best source to use in order to change my mind was the Bible. But that is what worked for me. There are many wonderful, positive books you can read and audio recordings you can listen to while riding in your car pertaining to health, wellness, peace, joy, love and the list goes on.

This will help you have a more positive approach to living. Viewing those sources of inspiration (i.e. the Bible, podcasts, self-help books) as part of your medical treatment plan along with applying the recommendations of your doctor will not only help you achieve good health, but will help you become whole and WELL in the process. This is why at Prolific Health and Wellness we practice medicine with our minds and our hearts.

Be Well.

LEFLEUR’S BLUFF CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED - NEW OFFICERS



Listed from foreground to back (right to left) are:
Rica Lewis-Payton - President
Linda Smith - Vice President
Lurlene Irvin - Recording Secretary
Tina King Clay - Treasurer
Danielle Joyner - Financial Secretary
Mona Arnold - Corresponding Secretary
Michelle Gibson-Thompson - Assistant Recording Secretary



from left to right are:
New president Rica Lewis-Payton receiving the gavel from outgoing president Bettye Graves

Starbucks

Continued from page 1

missioner Richard Ross, who is black, at first defended his officers’ conduct, but days later issued a televised apology for the way the Starbucks call was handled.

Robinson and Nelson, who grew up in an economically depressed section of the city, said the settlements are a good start, aimed at trans-

forming their community and creating the types of opportunities that did not exist when they were younger.

Nelson said he considers the Starbucks incident a case of being at “the wrong place at the right time because of the outcome that can come out of it.”

Wells Fargo

Continued from page 1

make up our neighborhoods and our communities and are a stabilizing force for families, making homeownership a key driver of our nation’s economic and cultural well-being.”

With that understanding, bank officials know that their commitment and helpful information to those interested in becoming homeowners must be communicated to the African-American community.

To that end, sharing news through the Black Press is also important for Wells Fargo, Battles said.

“Being present in the communities we serve is one of our key strategies for reaching our goals and African-American newspapers are a trusted vehicle for news and information in those communities,” Battles said. “So, having information about being a homeowner and sustaining homeownership is critical to reaching the goals of the commitment and helping more African-American families become homeowners.”

Housing experts have said that it’s important for aspiring homeowners to have as much knowledge as possible about the homeownership process; that information helps to dispel myths that many African Americans have about homeownership.

“There are many myths that cause a lot of potential African-American homebuyers to assume that getting a home mortgage is something beyond their reach. But many times, this is completely untrue, and that message needs to get out,” Battles said. “African Americans need to have the confidence and knowledge to recognize that they can be homeowners, and that a lender, like Wells Fargo, truly wants to help them meet their home-financing needs. The Black Press, and other media for that matter, helps us share these messages to those who desire to obtain and sustain homeownership.”

Battles noted that it’s also important to remember that Wells Fargo’s African-American homeownership commitment is not a separate loan program, but an effort by the company to increase homeowners in the community. Any of the programs, products and services that Wells Fargo offers are available to all customers who qualify.

She said it’s not really about what the bank is doing differently for African Americans, but more about how Wells Fargo is showing up for them.

“It’s more about getting the messages to them, meeting them where, when and how they want to interact with us so that we can leverage all that we have to offer. It’s about education, counseling and being present in their communities,” Battles said.

Wells Fargo’s commitment to the African-American community extends beyond the homeownership commitment. In 2016, the company committed to offering \$75 million in grants and lending to help diverse-owned small businesses access capital and technical assistance by the end of 2020.

“In fact, by the end of 2016, the Wells Fargo Works for Small Business: Diverse Community Capital program had distributed \$38 million in grants and lending capital to 30 Community Development Financial Institutions serving diverse, small businesses, placing us more than halfway to our goal,” Battles said.

Battles said that even though the goals of the homeownership commitment are challenging, Wells Fargo is committed to doing what it takes to help increase African-American homeowners.

“This commitment is not a sprint, but a long journey that will require the focus of our team and collaboration with industry influencers, nonprofits and other organizations,” Battles said. “If this were just a public relations campaign, we would not have made the goals so lofty.”

“Making this commitment holds us accountable to ourselves, our customers, our communities and the organizations that joined us in this effort; by pushing ourselves, stretching ourselves and then delivering on our commitments in a responsible manner, we are ensuring true meaningful progress for African-American homeownership across America.”

This article was originally published in The Washington Informer, a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.

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HEAD START

Hinds County Human Resource Agency Project Head Start
is currently accepting applications
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"Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP)

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- 6) IEP or IFSP (if applicable)
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For more information about Head Start, call (601) 923-3940. To apply, call HCHRA's 24-hour automated appointment line at (601) 962-5935.

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“There has been a lot of good information about upcoming projects, and I’m looking forward to hearing more about how small businesses, women and minority businesses get involved.”

- Shelton Russell | American DEE 2017

“This is my second year at Aviation Day and I really love the setup. The exhibitors still get to be a part of everything, and we don’t miss any information by the presenters. It’s really effective.”

- Robert Creek | EIES Incorporated 2017

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Nissan HBCU STEM Event

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See story page 16

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NISSAN



Ayanna Lynn, a process engineer at Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant and civil engineering master's degree student at Jackson State University, extends her thanks to Nissan for supporting her and historically black colleges and universities.



Rodney Francis, director, Human Resources, Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, Nissan North America, Inc., and Jeffrey Webster, director, Diversity and Inclusion, Nissan North America, Inc., present \$250,000 amongst seven Mississippi historically black colleges and universities.



Mississippi Valley State University President Jerryl Briggs is joined by members of the Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant leadership team and university alumni.



This year's donation of \$250,000 was presented to seven Mississippi historically black colleges and universities – Alcorn State University, Coahoma Community College, Hinds Community College – Utica Campus, Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust College and Tougaloo College. Nissan has donated nearly \$2 million to HBCUs in Mississippi since 2003.



Tougaloo College President Beverly Wade Hogan is joined by members of the Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant leadership team and college alumni.



Philip Calhoun, senior director of Operations, Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, Nissan North America, Inc., updates attendees on the plant's progress over the last year.



Steve Marsh, vice president, Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant, Nissan North America, Inc., welcomes representatives and students from historically black colleges and universities across Mississippi.



Jackson State University President William Bynum Jr. is joined by members of the Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant leadership team and university alumni.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

BMS Bus Driver Kenosha Smith Recognized as Bus Driver of the Month for April 2018!



Pictured L-R: Curtis Washington, Director of Transportation; Kenosha Smith, Bus Driver of the Month; and Bill Elkins, Board Vice President - District 4

RHS Substitute Latavia Barnes Recognized as Substitute Teachers as of the Month for April 2018!




Pictured L-R: Lorenzo Grimes, Principal/RHS: Latavia Barnes, Substitute Teacher of the Month; and Bill Elkins, Board Vice President - District 4

Margaret Brown, Technology Resource Specialist at Central Office Recognized as Employee of the Month for April 2018!



Pictured L-R: Lisa Jones, Director of Technology; Margaret Brown, Employee of the Month; and Bill Elkins, Board Vice President - District 4



ZACK WALLACE
Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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Two Murrah High students win state championship in speech and debate

Mississippi Link Newswire

Two students from Murrah High School were named State Champions in the MH-SAA State Speech and Debate Tournament. The event was hosted by Madison Central High School April 20-21.

Senior Justin Bell won the 2018 MHSAA Championship in Lincoln-Douglas Debate with a 7-1 record. Bell defeated opponents from Madison Central, St. Andrew's, Hattiesburg and Oak Grove. He also out-debated some of his teammates from Murrah on his way to winning the final round against Sacred Heart.

Y'Sonni Pressley won the 2018 MHSAA Championship in Storytelling. She earned top ranks in three rounds of competition. The freshman beat out speakers from Germantown, Madison Central, Murrah, Oak Grove and Sacred Heart.

Bell argued both sides of the national March/April topic, Resolved: The United States Ought to Provide a Universal Basic Income. In Storytelling, Pressley performed a five-minute re-telling of "The Nightmare Before Christmas."

Bell and Pressley are only the third and fourth students in Murrah's history to win at the MHSAA State Tournament. Murrah's previous state champions were Jose Navas and Lauren Allen who placed first in Policy Debate in 2016.

Other Murrah award-winners at the MHSAA Championship include:

Alton Chambers, senior (Quarterfinalist in Lincoln-Douglas Debate)

Sophia Bowley, senior (Finalist in Original Oratory)

Maggie Jefferis and Zeke Morgan, juniors (Quarterfinalists in Policy Debate)

Mackenzie Williams and Jeffrey Caliedo, sophomores (Finalists in Duet Acting)

Colby Hunter, sophomore (Finalist in Storytelling)

Nine Murrah students will represent Jackson at the National Catholic Forensic League National Speech and Debate Tournament. The tournament will take place in Washington, D.C. over the Memorial Day weekend. Participating from Murrah will be:



Justin Bell, MHSAA Champion in Lincoln-Douglas Debate



Y'Sonni Pressley, MHSAA Champion in Storytelling

icipating from Murrah will be:

Y'Sonni Pressley
Sophia Bowley
Maggie Jefferis
Jeffrey Caliedo
Karsen Cowan
Mikayla Faulkner
Maisie Brown
Matthew Araujo
Chyna Stewart.

The team's Booster Club is raising money to send these students to nationals. Donations may be sent to the Murrah Debate Quiz Bowl Boosters at 4318 Council Circle, Jackson, 39206. Donations can also be made online at Murrah's Speech and Debate page hosted by EdCo. All donations are tax-deductible. The Murrah Debate Quiz Bowl Boosters is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

The Murrah Speech & Debate team is coached by Erin Mauffray, Javier Peraza and Micah Everson.

Students Helping Others Planet-wide hosts community showcase

Mississippi Link Newswire

JPS Open Doors students participated in the Students Helping Others Planet-wide (S.H.O.P.) Community Showcase. The students, in fourth through sixth grade, shared how their S.H.O.P. service learning projects have impacted the community. The event was hosted by Tougaloo College April 20.

The theme of this year's showcase was "I Am Jackson – Destination Graduation."

Students learned that they can inspire others to make Jackson a greater place to live.

Casey Elementary Open Doors classes focused on improving the environment. These students cleaned up trash in parts of Jackson. Weighing what they had collected was eye-opening according to their teacher, Rosalind McCreary.

"We weighed the trash that we cleaned," said McCreary. "It helped our children understand



Participating in the Open Doors S.H.O.P. Community Showcase were (from left) Freddrick Murray, JPS Interim Superintendent; Councilman Melvin Priester Jr.; Shanell Kidd, Gifted Education contact teacher; Casey students Regan Huddleston and Elijah Dortch; Thea Williams-Black, dean of Education for Tougaloo College; Vicki Davidson, executive director of Advanced Learning Programs; and Cassio Batteast of KINGS Leadership Institute, Inc.

that everything that we throw away, if it can be recycled and reused, we should do it."

Students heard from dynamic speakers like City Councilman Melvin Priester Jr. They also toured the campus and inter-

viewed professors and students.

Students Helping Others Planet-wide is a way for JPS Open Doors scholars to touch the hearts of people. Their outreach efforts can be in their own communities, around the

state or across the world.

S.H.O.P. encourages lifelong civic engagement and strengthens communities. Service projects address the environment, health, education and social awareness.

Giant floor map of North America helps Isable students learn geography

Mississippi Link Newswire

Students at Isable Elementary School are exploring North America in a big way. The school has one of the world's largest maps of the continent for students to use. The map was made by National Geographic and measures 20 feet by 26 feet. It gives student explorers a fun, interactive learning experience in geography. The Mississippi Geographic Alliance (MGA) delivered the map to the school this spring.

The map has bright colors and

a smooth vinyl surface. It illustrates North America's oceans, seas, rivers, mountains, countries and capitals. Designed for grades K-8, it comes with interactive games and geography adventures.

Students can see the physical characteristics of the continent as well as learn about its rich history and varied cultures.

One of the activities included is "A Tale of Twenty Cities." In it, students explore the physical and economic reasons behind the locations of North American cities.



Isable Elementary students enjoying a geography lesson on their new, giant floor map of North America.

2018 Middle School Track & Field championship

Mississippi Link Newswire

Congratulations to the Northwest Lady Wolverines and the Blackburn Jaguars on winning the 2018 JPS Middle School Track & Field Championship. The Meet was held April 11.

The coach of the Lady Wolverines is Juan Smith. The Jaguars' head coach is Harold Stanfield.

In addition to winning the championship, Northwest had something else to celebrate. The girls 100-meter relay team broke the state middle school record, running the race in 51.11 seconds. Relay team members, Raylin Dixon, Jada Cavette, McKinley Washington and Mylani Galbreath, are all in the eighth grade.



Northwest Lady Wolverines – Middle School Girls Track Champs. The head coach of the Lady Wolverines is Juan Smith (center)



Blackburn Jaguars – Middle School Boys Track champs. The head coach of the Jaguars is Harold Stanfield (right) and assistant coach is Dabrodrick Walton (left).

The Mississippi Link™

Volume 24 • Number 28

May 3 - 9, 2018

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The Mississippi Link [USPS 017224] is published weekly by The Mississippi Link, Inc. Offices located at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. Mailing address is P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307 or e-mail us at: editor@mississippilink.com; Please visit our website at: www.mississippilink.com. Phone: (601) 896-0084, Fax 896-0091, out of state 1-800-748-9747. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Jackson, MS.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Subscriptions are \$32 per year; \$64 for two years or \$96 for three years.

Postmaster:
Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.

Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

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MVSU, Hinds CC sign agreement ensuring seamless transfer

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds Community College (Hinds CC) recently signed a 2 Plus 2 agreement with Mississippi Valley State University to offer junior and senior level courses for students pursuing a bachelor's degree in environmental health, biology or chemistry.

Representatives from both institutions gathered April 27, at Hinds CC-Raymond Campus for a signing ceremony to formalize the new partnership, designed to better serve students and to promote successful undergraduate educational experiences for students who wish to attend both institutions.

Before signing the agreements, Hinds CC President Clyde Muse and MVSU President Jerryl Briggs Sr. discussed the benefits of the partnership for both institutions.

"This is a good opportunity that we have to come together as institutions to confirm our relationship and to have the opportunity to further it with this agreement," said Muse. With this agreement, we have made the process of transfer much simpler, and that's an advantage for the student."

During his remarks, Briggs stated that higher education is not just about providing students with a degree, but rather an education.

"I think that this partnership will speak to that – our students receiving an education from both institutions and moving on to build and grow their lives," he said.

According to Briggs, the agreement serves as an example of both institutions moving forward.

"One thing that we've established at Valley is that vision of 'ONE GOAL. ONE TEAM. ONE VALLEY.' and now that's '...In Motion'. It means that we're moving in the right direction, and this is the right direc-



Pictured, from left, MVSU President Jerry Briggs and Hinds CC President Clyde Muse sign a 2 Plus 2 agreement April 27, providing Hinds CC students looking to pursue a bachelor's degrees in natural science and environmental health at MVSU with a seamless transfer.



Representatives from MVSU and Hinds CC at the signing ceremony, initiating the first 2 Plus 2 agreement between the two institutions.

tion, I think, for both institutions," he said.

Alluding to her own start as a community college STEM major, MVSU Vice President of Academic Affairs Constance Bland reiterated how vital it is for community colleges and 4-year institutions to work together.

"Fifty percent of graduates from 4-year institutions get their start at community colleges, so it's very important for us to embrace those community college students and make a pathway as large as we possibly can...I'm just really excited about this from an academic

perspective," she said.

Bland added that she's excited to see the partnership expand to include other majors.

"It's wonderful that we're starting out with our STEM departments, and we'd like to fan this opportunity out to any majors that want to matriculate and make that pathway on to Mississippi Valley State University."

As part of the agreement, MVSU will accept all Hinds CC courses outlined in the articulation agreement, providing students pursuing bachelor's degrees in natural science and environmental health with a

seamless transfer.

In addition, MVSU has agreed to provide junior/senior and graduate level courses on Hinds' campus. It will also offer two transfer scholarships to Hinds CC graduates with a 3.5 grade point average or higher.

Hinds CC has agreed to provide MVSU access to its campus for classes, registration, recruiting and support services.

According to MVSU Assistant Vice President for Online and Distance Education Kenneth Done, MVSU will begin offering courses on Hinds' campus as early as the Fall 2018 semester.

Former CIA Director Michael Hayden discusses global hot spots



Mississippi College School of Business Dean Marcelo Eduardo asked questions of former CIA Director Michael Hayden during his visit to the Clinton campus April 24.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Former CIA director Michael Hayden knows the world's trouble spots and their leaders. From North Korea to Syria and Iran, he touched on volatile issues impacting the United States as the guest speaker at Mississippi College's Spring Scholarship Banquet. This year's program raised a record \$470,400 for MC students.

Before Tuesday evening's event was over, Hayden left hundreds in the audience with a much better understanding of what's at stake for the American people. Earlier in the day, the former National Security Agency director discussed threats posed by cybersecurity issues as he spoke to MC students on the Clinton campus.

The signature event at the Baptist-affiliated university has raised more than \$3.6 million for students since it began a decade ago. It represents the final one for retiring President Lee Royce, who received a standing ovation from MC supporters at Anderson Hall before introducing General Hayden.

As fresh as this morning's headlines, Hayden's message on the Clinton campus proved timely as the world stage continues to experience rapid upheaval. The United States, Britain and France recently joined forces for air strikes on Syria after Syrian President Bashar al-Assad used chemical weapons against civilians outside Damascus killing 42 adults and children.

Later this year, President Donald Trump plans meetings at a neutral site with North Korean President Kim Jong-un, perhaps in a country like Mongolia. "The stakes are high with North Korea's nuclear capabilities a threat to Japan, the USA and other nations. Trump is hopeful the meetings will produce "worldwide success," Hayden said.

But Hayden, who served as head of the nation's premier intelligence agencies during the Bush and Obama administrations, expresses the need for caution.

"The United States trying to take away North Korea's nuclear capabilities appears to be "more dangerous" than allowing the country to keep the weapons of mass destruction," he stated.

A retired four-star Air Force general, Hayden is the author of his memoir "Playing to the Edge: American Intelligence in the Age of Terror," that was a New York Times best-seller in 2016. He was featured on the HBO documentary "Manhunt"

that looked at espionage in the eyes of people who led the war against Osama bin Laden.

Despite the spread of ISIS and other global terrorist groups, Hayden says, "We are actually pretty safe" in the United States. Threat levels diminished the past few years. We are in a reasonably safe place."

The last terror attack in New York City October 31, 2017 killed eight people in the shadow of the World Trade Center.

Meeting earlier with hundreds of students at Self Hall in the School of Business, Hayden spoke about cybersecurity concerns involving threats of stealing personal information on social media. At one point, he drew laughs when saying students might direct their questions to Mark Zuckerberg, the Facebook CEO.

On USA involvement in the war in Afghanistan that's been pushing 18 years, Hayden sees it as a condition that needs to be managed and is not to be solved.

"We are there to manage the risk. The Trump administration amped up our presence there," Hayden said.

In demand as a network commentator on global issues, Hayden serves as a distinguished visiting professor at George Mason University in Virginia.

MC Spring Scholarship Banquet founder Bill Sonnes, a Brookhaven banker, announced the Christian university's latest gift to honor President Royce and his wife, Rhoda. It's the newly created Lee and Rhoda Royce endowed scholarship.

There was an initial amount of about \$200,000 raised to fund the scholarship. The Royces will retire June 30 and move to Northern Virginia to live closer to their son Mark Royce, a college political science instructor.

Royce thanked key leaders for their generous support of the program, including its presenting sponsor, retired Mississippi businessman Dr. J.L. Holmway. Other major sponsors recognized were Drs. Sharon Martin and Bobby Graham, the Parker LifeShare Foundation of Mississippi as well as longtime MC supporters Fred Hahn and Dr. Robert Watson.

"Dr. Royce deserves a great deal of thanks for his many achievements – from boosting enrollment and new academic programs to strengthening the school's finances. Since arriving at Mississippi College in July 2002, he's "provided extraordinary leadership," Sonnes said.

Nissan continues its support of MVSU STEM programs



Computer Science major Freronica Frizell of Durant, Miss. shared how Nissan's continued support has impacted her learning experience at MVSU during Thursday's presentation.



MVSU President Jerryl Briggs (third, from left) joined representatives from other Mississippi HBCUs for a \$250,000 check presentation from Nissan Thursday in Canton.

million in local HBCUs since its Canton facility opened in 2003 – with more than half directed toward STEM-specific curriculums.

"Our continued commitment to HBCUs, specifically in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, is vital to fostering the minds of the next George Washington Carver or Mae Jemison," said Jeffrey Webster, director of Diversity and Inclusion for Nissan North America, Inc. These institutions have implemented proven practices to assist students in STEM fields, and we are proud to help make their students' career dreams a reality."

Past donations have helped MVSU's Engineering Technology Department

to purchase material for three concentrations: electronics technology, architectural construction management and computer aided drafting and design (CADD).

During Thursday's presentation, MVSU computer science major Freronica Frizell of Durant, Miss. shared how the company's continued support has impacted her learning experience at The Valley.

Frizell, a graduating senior, said that many of the expensive computer programs she used during her various internships were made available to her at MVSU through donations from Nissan.

"I didn't know who was contributing the donations to my school, and when I learned it came from Nissan I was re-

ally surprised," Frizell said. To know that Nissan cares so much for my school and my education really means a lot."

A 2016 report from the National Science Foundation showed that HBCUs make up 21 of the top 50 institutions for educating African-American graduates who go on to receive their doctorates in science and engineering. While HBCUs make up just 3 percent of colleges and universities, they produce 27 percent of African-American students with bachelor's degrees in STEM fields.

Nissan was recently recognized by US Black Engineer & Information Technology Magazine as a 2018 Top Supporter of HBCU Engineering Schools.

Museum memorializing black lynching victims opens in Montgomery, Alabama

By Frederick H. Lowe
TriceEdneyWire.com

The National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum has opened to teach American history never published in textbooks.

The museum is a memorial to the documented 4,400 African Americans murdered in terrorist lynchings, which included beatings, drownings and being burned at the stake by whites between 1877 and 1950 in 12 Southern States including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

Their names are engraved on duplicate sets of columns, two for each county where a lynching was documented. Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) initially reported that 3,959 African Americans were victims of terrorist lynchings in the 12 states but added to the number as more victims became known.

The lynchings forced blacks to flee in terror from the South to the North.

“Black people living in Oakland, California, Chicago and New York are refugees from terror. They fled the South to escape lynching,” said Bryan Stevenson, executive director of the Equal Justice Initiative, which had the museum constructed to pull the wraps off an untold story of America’s history. The story will make some blacks as well as whites uncomfortable and even angry.

Historically, however, lynchings entertained some whites. Some made a day of it, attending with picnic baskets.

The museum, which is located in Montgomery, Alabama, the state’s capital and one-time seat of the Confederacy, was founded by The Equal Justice Initiative, a non-profit advocacy organization based in Montgomery. EJI published “Lynching in America: Confronting the Legacy of Racial Terror.”

Since the report’s release, EJI has supplemented its original research by documenting racial terror lynchings in states outside the Deep South. Lynchings, for example, occurred in Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia and Nebraska.

On June 15, 1920, a mob dragged Elias Clayton, Elmer



National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum in Montgomery, Alabama



The names of lynching victims and the counties where they were murdered

Jackson and Isaac McGhie, employees of the John Robinson Circus, from their jail cells and lynched them for allegedly raping Irene Tusken, a 19-year-old, although Dr. David Graham’s examination of Tusken found no evidence of sexual assault.

That information did not prevent newspapers from publishing numerous stories about the alleged rape. The story about the lynchings is told in the 1979 book “The Lynchings in Duluth,” by Michael Fedo. A photo of the three men who had been lynched was made into postcards at the time and shown throughout Duluth.

Bob Dylan’s song “Desolation Row” recalls the lynching. Dylan was born in Duluth but grew up in Hibbing, Minnesota.

Future Academy Award winning actor Henry Fonda witnessed the 1919 lynching of Will Brown in his hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, when he was a boy. Fonda was born in 1905. White terrorists burned Brown, a 40-year-old meat-packing worker, at the stake for allegedly raping a white woman.

“It was the most horrendous sight I’d ever seen... My

hands were wet and there were tears in my eyes. All I could think of was that young black man dangling at the end of a rope,” Fonda said.

EJI also released a study about black military veterans targeted for lynching. The report’s title is “Lynching in America: Targeting Black Veterans.” It builds on EJI’s 2015 report, “Lynching in America: Confronting the Legacy of Racial Terror.”

More than 90 percent of terrorist lynching victims were black men, and some of the victims were boys as young as 12 and 13, Stevenson told NorthStar News Today.com and BlackmansStreet.Today in 2015.

The study noted that at least 800 more African Americans were murdered in lynchings than had been previously reported. The report focuses on racial terrorist lynching, which whites, including the police, elected officials, ordinary citizens and federal bureaucrats participated in the murders or condoned them to enforce Jim Crow laws and racial segregation.

Terror victims were murdered without being accused of any crime; they were killed

for minor social transgressions, including bumping a white person, wearing their military uniforms after World War I and not using the appropriate title to address a white person.

For example, General Lee, a black man, was lynched in 1904 by a white mob in Reevesville, Ga., for knocking on the door of a white woman’s home. In 1919, a white mob in Blakely, Ga., lynched William Little, a soldier returning from World War I, for refusing to take off his uniform. And in 1916, white men lynched Jeff Brown in Cedarbluff, Miss., for accidentally bumping into a white girl as he ran to catch a train.

Thousands of volunteers for EJI have collected soil from over 300 lynching sites as part of the organization’s Community Remembrance Project. The jars of soil are exhibited at EJI. Each jar bears the name of a man, woman or child lynched in America, as well as the date and location of the lynching.

Work on the memorial began in 2010 when EJI staff began investigating thousands of racial-terror lynchings in the South, many of which had never been documented. This research ultimately produced the first report.

During the museum’s opening week, speakers will include Michelle Alexander, author of the book “The New Jim Crow,” former Vice President Al Gore, U.S. Senator Cory Booker (D. NJ) and Ray Hinton, who spent nearly 30 years on Alabama’s death row for a crime he did not commit.

The museum also is hosting a concert featuring Common and Usher.

There is an admission fee and fees to attend other museum events.

Nigerian President Buhari receives military war chest at meeting with U. S. President



TriceEdneyWire.com

At a long-awaited meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, the U.S. president announced the delivery of new war planes to Nigeria, formerly prohibited by ex-President Barack Obama.

Chiding his counterpart on the proliferation of violence throughout that country, Trump said: “We are deeply concerned by the religious violence in Nigeria including the burning of churches and killing of Christians.”

Buhari responded that efforts were being made to ensure a reduction in the killings in the country, which he blamed on militia trained by the late former Libyan president, Muammar Gaddafi.

“We are grateful to the United States for agreeing to give us the aircraft that we asked for. We are even more grateful for the physical presence of the United States military officials in Nigeria,” Buhari said. “The commitment of the United States to get rid of terrorism across the world, we have fast earned experience from that and we are grateful for it.”

Agreements appear to have been made during a closed-door session for the purchase or gifting of aircraft and other weapons to aid Nigeria’s war on Boko Haram.

“We are also helping our Nigerian partners by facilitating intelligence, co-operation and providing training and military equipment to Nigerian forces,” the president disclosed. “For example, we recently sold Nigeria 12 US A29 Super Tucano war planes. This is the first ever sale of the American military weapon to Nigeria. This new aircraft will help Nigeria to target terrorists and protect civilians.”

The sale of the planes, long sought by the Nigerians, had been held up by the Obama administration over human rights abuses by Nigeria’s military.

Trump turned to the scourge of human trafficking which he claimed was greater than any time in history.

“To protect Americans from these menaces,” he continued, “I have called on the Congress to close deadly immigration loopholes that are exploited by terrorists, traffickers and criminals. Our borders are obsolete, weak and pathetic and there is no country that has laws as we do.”

Buhari, for his part, congratulated Trump for the “impressive” performance of the American economy and credited him for playing a statesmanly role with North Korea that has led to discussions on denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula.

Not everyone gave the encounter such over-the-top praise. The Muslim Students’ Society of Nigeria faulted the U.S. leader’s comments which, they said, signaled his hatred for Muslims and Islam in Nigeria.

“One would wonder if Trump is not aware or deliberately ignored the murder of several Muslims in a mosque at the University of Maiduguri or those killed in mosques in Yobe and Zamfara; and many other parts of the country. Trump’s offer of assistance at this point in time is ‘divisive, ‘unafican’ and insincere,” said Saheed Ashafa, president of the student group.

Ashafa urged world leaders to ignore insinuations that Muslims are not against terrorism, adding that it would be more beneficial to tackle insurgency with utmost neutrality.

“Let me reiterate that as Muslims we condemn and reject all forms of terrorism, insurgency and oppression in whatever name being perpetrated. We should also remember that in Nigeria, most families are composed of Christians and Muslims alike, just as we also have other faithful. Trump’s call for separatism when the world is advocating for collectivism is not a healthy offer,” said Ashafa.

Amidst black homeownership crisis, a mortgage leader rises up to teach

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

As America commemorates the 50th year of the Fair Housing Act, the unfortunate numbers have been repeated often: “The gap between white and black homeownership is wider now than it was in 1960,” PBS reported earlier this year.

The reasons vary. In a nutshell, redlining, credit issues and plain old race discrimination have been blamed for the homeownership disparity that partially results in the median net worth of white American families being 10 times greater than black Americans, according to the New York Times.

But America does not lack those who, not only monitor such statistics, but those who feel a charge to bring fairness and equality to the unjust situation that the numbers reveal.

Lois Johnson, founder/CEO of United Security Financial Corp, is one of those people who recognizes the crisis in black homeownership and are deter-



Lois Johnson speaks on homeownership during the recent Stateswomen for Justice Luncheon at the National Press Club. PHOTO: ROY LEWIS/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE

mined to do her part to rectify it.

The former real estate sales agent and full time accountant for the United Parcel Service believes a deficiency in financial education is a large part of the problem. She came to this conclusion after she found she could not acquire loans for people to whom she had sold a house without having to “put up a fight.” And on top of that, she couldn’t get a loan for her own church.

“I was a member of Faith Temple Pentecostal Church in Salt Lake City, Utah and I was the business manager for the church. We ran into a problem just trying to get a commercial loan for the church. I said that’s it. I think I’ll just try doing this myself. I became a loan officer. I got really good at it. And I was able to get more people loans so I just took it from there and here I am today.”

More than 30 years later, Johnson is among the leading independent home mortgage lenders in the nation. Licensed to operate in 49 states, she is the country’s only African-American Ginnie Mae lender and is also an issuer of Fannie Mae, which is a conventional lender. But even after working in the homeownership industry for 38 years, she still sees a plethora of problems.

In her decades of experience, she has come to believe the black homeownership crisis is still existent due to information about homebuying and mortgage lend-

ing being withheld from African Americans. And she’s decided to do something about it. In the following conversation with the Trice Edney News Wire, Johnson answers key questions about issues that hinder home ownership:

Trice Edney: Why should homeownership be the centerpiece for a strategy to build legacy wealth in the African-American community?

Lois Johnson: Because a house is usually the largest item that will create wealth. Just think about it. If you buy a house and you stay in that house for a period of time, that house is going to become worth a lot more than what you paid for it. If you keep that house long enough the value of your home will grow. Then you can pull cash from your home and buy another home and still have value in it. On the other hand, big ticket items such as cars and boats depreciate and sometimes can’t be resold or can only be sold for a lot less. But when you sell a

house, you might get two, three or more times as much as you bought it for.

TE: What is the minimum credit score (or FICO score) required to purchase a home?

LJ: The FHA [Federal Housing Administration] will take it at maybe 540. Most lenders won’t go any less than 620. That’s about the lowest FICO that the average lenders will take – including Ginnie Mae and Fannie Mae lenders. If we get too many low FICO scores it could cause our ratings to go down which could cause us to lose our Ginnie Mae licenses. That’s why Ginnie Mae issuers and Fannie Mae issuers don’t like to take low FICO scores. They’re putting themselves in jeopardy. Now, on the flip side of that, there are ways in which you can increase your FICO (credit) score.

TE: What is the best way to repair and increase one’s credit score?

LJ: You may go to a credit repair agency or your lender can

also tell you what to do. Then there are things that you can do on your own. For example, if you have a charge card and your limit is \$1,000, your balance should never be any higher than 75 percent. In other words, you should never charge over \$750. That will maintain your FICO score. Also, there may be collection items on your credit report that may be removed with a vendor settlement. That will increase your FICO Score as well.

TE: What are some of the greatest obstacles to increasing your credit score and what can be done about them?

LJ: Child support. Communicate with the child support recipient to make sure the amount on your credit report is accurate. If it is not, the recipient can draft a letter correcting the information that’s in the bureau. The agency then has to correct the information that’s been reported. This will increase your FICO score.

Johnson

Continued on page 1

Quitman County to celebrate 50th anniversary of Mule Train March with “Rebuild The Dream” Symposium

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In 1968 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., walked and marched down Highway 3 in Marks, Mississippi. Few would have imagined then that decades later the same main thoroughfare would bear his name. Dr. King’s three visits to Marks and Quitman County in the 1960s were during the peak of the Civil Rights Movement that highlighted social and political discontent and led to cataclysmic changes in our nation.

While in Marks, Dr. King visited schools and homes of local leaders and spoke at several churches, rallying support from ministers, community leaders, and volunteers to help launch the second War on Poverty.

One of his lasting legacies, among many, is that of the Mule Train from Marks to Washington, D.C., as the centerpiece of the Poor People’s Campaign. This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of these significant events, and organizers have planned a commemoration to honor all those who participated and their sacrifices. The four-day “Rebuild the Dream” symposium, scheduled for May 10-13, 2018, is designed to memorialize and celebrate those efforts.

Dr. King chose Marks as the



starting point for the Poor People’s Campaign after witnessing heart-breaking poverty on a trip to the Mississippi Delta with the Reverend Ralph David Abernathy. The idea of the campaign to help fight the systemic poverty in the Delta had been suggested to Dr. King in the fall of 1967 by Marian Wright, director of Mississippi’s NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. This came after Wright, a 27-year-old Yale Law School graduate, convinced Senator Robert F. Kennedy and other lawmakers to travel to Mississippi as part of the Senate subcommittee’s look at War on Poverty programs. Their shocking findings of hunger in the population were well publicized throughout the country and deeply affected Kennedy, which eventually helped bring the issue of food insecurity to light.

It was Kennedy’s idea to pressure Congress to act on food assistance programs, and Wright passed the suggestion on to Dr. King to mobilize a mass of poor people to come to Washington and stay until their voices were heard. Dr. King’s goal was for 2,000 people in dire economic situations to meet with government officials in the nation’s capital to help find solutions for the lack of jobs, fair wages and equitable education opportunities that was pervasive in many places around the nation, but particularly in the Delta.

The march on Washington, D.C., was scheduled to take place in May of 1968, even though many thought the goal was too ambitious. After Dr. King was assassinated in April, Abernathy was determined to continue plans for the march. The first group of approxi-

mately 350 demonstrators left in early May by bus, and the second group left May 13, in a caravan of more than fifteen mule-drawn wagons. By this time, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) had taken the lead, using the opportunity to take their message throughout the South on the way to Washington. When they finally arrived, they met more than 50,000 others who cared enough about this cause to join in the demonstration.

Key commemorative activities that are part of the “Rebuild the Dream” anniversary include a community-wide prayer breakfast and evening reception followed by a banquet; a re-enactment of the students/teachers march by the Madison S. Palmer High School drama class; workshops and panel discussions on confronting per-

sistent poverty, healthcare disparities, civil and human rights issues and racial and economic equity. Other activities planned are tours along the Marks Mule Train Trail and the mule-wagon rides re-enactment featuring iconic Civil Rights speakers as well as a picnic in the historic Marks Roadside Park. The culminating event for the four-day symposium will take place Mother’s Day, May 13, with a gospel concert featuring the GRAMMY®-winning Mighty Clouds of Joy.

The organizers of “Rebuild the Dream” symposium are partnering with Charles Steele, the national president/CEO of Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and extending invitations to the SCLC leaders and activists who were in Marks during spring of 1968 to help organize the Marks Mule Train and the Poor People’s Campaign. Some of the well-known activists who participated were Ambassador Andrew Young; Reverend Jesse Jackson; Dr. Bernard Lafayette, Jr.; Sidney Poitier and Harry Belafonte, Marian Wright, who eventually married one of Senator Kennedy’s aides, Peter Edelman, should also be recognized for her trips to the Delta as well as her tenacity in keeping the is-

ssues from fading away.

Hilliard L. Lackey III, historian, author and professor at Jackson State University is leading the organizers of the event. He has been a champion of promoting this history for the past forty-nine years. Part of his life-long mission has been to “Rebuild the Dream” to make sure this piece of civil rights history is remembered. Lackey said, “King’s visits to Marks were not hollow. The seeds he planted fifty years ago in the poverty-stricken Mississippi Delta have germinated.” He sees Dr. King’s dream as composed of teachable layers of tribulation that are not only unfolding, but intensifying the vision of King’s dream.

Tickets to the Mighty Clouds of Joy concert are \$15, but all other events are free and open to the public. A special invitation is issued to those who took part or witnessed this occasion to participate in planned key events and help commemorate this era of civil rights that impacted millions of Americans through the educational, nutritional, healthcare and housing programs that took root as a result of the 1968 Marks Mule Train and Dr. Martin Luther King’s Poor People’s Campaign.

Public meeting with the National Park Service

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (MS-02) announces public meeting with the National Park Service. The purpose of the meetings is to support the preservation of African-American civil rights sites and the legacy of civil rights leaders.

The National Park Service (NPS) will be in the district on May 7 and 8 hosting public meetings to get your feedback/input, hear your concerns, discuss civil rights sites in the district, answer your questions, tell you about this Special Resource Study and more.

Currently, the sites being considered under this study are the Medgar and Myrlie Evers home in Jackson, the Tallahatchie County Courthouse in Sumner, and Bryant’s Store in Money. There are other sites that should



Thompson

be considered for a National Park designation.

Join us and help preserve African-American Civil Rights sites and history by attending any or all the meetings to submit your comments via the Internet at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/MSCR_SRS.

What: Public Meeting with the

National Park Service

When/Where:

• Monday, May 7, 2018, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area

Delta State University, Jacob Conference Center, Ewing Hall Highway 8 West Cleveland, Mississippi 38733

• Monday, May 7, 2018, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Tallahatchie County Courthouse, 401 West Court Street Sumner, Mississippi 38957

• Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Two Mississippi Museums Auditorium, 222 North Street Jackson, Mississippi 39201

• Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Medgar Evers Library, 4215 Medgar Evers Boulevard, Jackson, Mississippi 39213

Thomas & Friends™: Explore the Rails visiting exhibit back by popular demand at Mississippi Children’s Museum

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The world’s most beloved #1 blue engine rolls back into the Mississippi Children’s Museum (MCM) this summer. Thomas & Friends™: Explore the Rails, an interactive exhibit created by Minnesota Children’s Museum and inspired by the popular children’s series will steam into the Gertrude C. Ford Exhibition Hall from May 26 through September 9, 2018. This exhibit is locally sponsored by Trustmark Bank and Atmos Energy.

Featuring the favorite engines and destinations from Thomas & Friends™, the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) -focused exhibit seeks to engage children, ages 2 through 7 years, and families in foundational skills that foster STEM literacy through playful learning experiences.

The exhibit incorporates foundational STEM practices that encourage thinking mathematically, making comparisons, experimenting to solve problems using a variety of methods and tools, thinking creatively and reflecting on actions and results.

“The skills and proficiencies children learn and refine through play in the early years set the stage for future learning and success from the kindergarten classroom to the workplace,” said Dianne Krizan, president of Minnesota Children’s Museum. “Thomas & Friends™: Explore the Rails will deliver high-quality playful learning experiences rooted in science, technology, engineering and math for millions of children across the continent.”

Visitors to the 1,500 square foot exhibit will be delighted as they find themselves surrounded by the Island of



Sodor’s iconic locations:

Knapford Station, Sodor Steamworks, and much more.

In the exhibit, children help Thomas and his friends solve a variety of challenges, from a simple sorting and shape identification activity to more complex engineering obstacles, such as completing a train track using track pieces with different levels of elevation. As children confront new challenges and test their abilities, the smiling faces of Thomas, Percy, Victor and others are there to offer encouragement and remind children how “really useful” they all are.

The Thomas & Friends™: Explore the Rails exhibit was designed and developed by Minnesota Children’s Museum in partnership with HIT Entertainment, a subsidiary of Mattel, Inc. Fisher-Price, the #1 Infant/Preschool Toys manufacturer, is the presenting sponsor for the exhibit. 3M is the national tour sponsor.

Inside the Exhibit:

Climb into Thomas’ cab and explore the engine’s inner workings. Flip levers and investigate other moveable parts that trigger train noises such as braking, whistles and

steam.

Fix Percy’s wobbly wheel by removing and replacing parts and experimenting to find a combination of wheels, rods and bolts that work.

Explore the favorite Island of Sodor destinations including: Tidmouth Sheds, Brendam Docks and the Sodor Search & Rescue Station on an over-sized Thomas Wooden Railway train table.

Work with old and new friends loading luggage, livestock and other freight into the coaches of two train cars.

Collaborate with others to get Percy moving by loading coal into his coal box and filling his tank with water from a water tower.

Suit up as the conductor to exchange money and sell tickets to other visitors taking a ride on the train.

Wander through a Thomas & Friends™ retrospective featuring model engines from the original live action series produced in London, copies of the original drawings and manuscripts from the Rev. W. Awdry, the creator of Thomas & Friends™ and a collection of memorabilia documenting the history and evolution of Thomas & Friends™ through books, television, and toys.

Mississippi’s 2018–19 waterfowl hunting seasons announced

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks considered dates for the 2018–2019 waterfowl hunting seasons during their April meeting. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service releases all migratory game bird frameworks in early spring each year, providing a “window” of dates from which states may select specific season dates.

“Waterfowl breeding population estimates in 2017 remained high, and this will again allow states the opportunity to select a liberal hunting season of 60 days with a six-duck daily bag limit,” said Houston Havens, Waterfowl program coordinator.

Waterfowl hunting season dates for 2018–19 are listed in the table provided.

The duck daily bag limit will be a total of six ducks, including no more than four mallards (no

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION
Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots	Nov. 23, 2018–Nov. 25, 2018 AND Nov. 30, 2018–Dec. 2, 2018 AND Dec. 5, 2018–Jan. 27, 2019 AND Nov. 9, 2018–Nov. 25, 2018 AND Nov. 30, 2018–Dec. 2, 2018 AND Dec. 5, 2018–Jan. 27, 2019	See Below	See Below
Geese: Canada, White-fronted, Snow, Blue, Ross’s, and Brant	Nov. 17, 2018–Jan. 27, 2019	Canada Geese: 3 Snow, Blue, and Ross’s: 20 White-fronted: 3 Brant: 1	Canada Geese: 9 Snow, Blue, and Ross’s: None White-fronted: 9 Brant: 3
Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 2, 2019–Oct. 1, 2018–Nov. 8, 2018 AND Jan. 28, 2019–Feb. 1, 2019 AND Feb. 3, 2019–Mar. 31, 2019	Same as Regular Season	Same as Regular Season
Light Goose Conservation Order		No Limit	No Limit

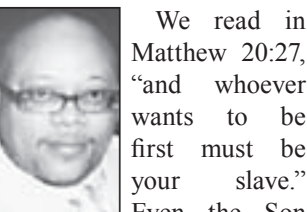
more than two of which may be females), three wood ducks, three scaup, two redheads, two canvasbacks, two black ducks, two pintails and one mottled duck. The merganser daily bag limit will be a total of five mergansers, only two of which may be hooded mergansers. Coots will have a 15 bird daily bag limit. The possession limit

is three times the daily bag limit for ducks, mergansers, and coots.

For more information regarding waterfowl in Mississippi, visit our website at www.mdwfp.com/waterfowl or call us at (601) 432-2199. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdwfp or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MD-WFPonline.

The distinguishing feature of Christ's disciples

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



We read in Matthew 20:27, “and whoever wants to be first must be your slave.” Even the Son of Man came to serve. Friend, no doubt, you know what the character of a faithful servant or a faithful slave implies. It is devotion to his master’s interest, thoughtful study and care to please his master, delight in his prosperity, honor and happiness. Greatness is not found in possessions, power or prestige. It is discovered in goodness, humility, service and character. Humility was taught by Christ. The sons of Zebedee asked Jesus if they could sit on His right hand and on His left hand. They wanted to sit in the highest place in the Kingdom. Jesus said that was not for

Him to give but that the Father would give it to those for whom it had been prepared. They should not have looked for it and they should not have asked for it. Their thought ought to have been concerning the baptism of humiliation. My friend, meekness and lowliness of heart should be the distinguishing feature of His disciples just as it was the Master. It should be that way of you and me. How much of the meek and lowly Lamb of God do others see in you? The Apostle Paul was a great man of God. Peter spoke of him in II Peter 3:16 when he said that he wrote some things hard to be understood. Paul wrote of some spiritual truths. Next to Jesus Christ, the Apostle Paul was the greatest man in the Bible. What made him great? He had the same spirit of humility that his Master had. I want you to notice what

Paul wrote in I Corinthians 15:9-10; “9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” Just as his Savior, Paul learned a lesson that Jesus taught in Matthew 11:29, “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart...” Paul said in II Corinthians 12:11, “I have become a fool in boasting; you have compelled me. For I ought to have been commended by you; for in nothing was I behind the most eminent apostles, though I am nothing.” Let us look at Paul’s life. In Ephesians 3:8, Paul said, “To me, who am less than the least

of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.” If we are not careful, pride will creep in when you testify and then before you know it, you will begin to let everybody know what you have been doing instead of giving glory to God. Jesus did not do that and the Apostle Paul did not do that. He felt that he was nothing. God’s grace saved Paul and He remembered his sins no more. Paul could not forget how terribly he had sinned against God. Though he was once a sinner, he had been taken up in the arms of Jesus and crowned with His love. 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.

When God answers your prayer

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



There are more tears shed over answered prayers than over unanswered prayers. — Teresa of Avila.

We know what to do when God hasn’t answered our prayers. First, we repent. Then, we seek out another more “spiritual” prayer partner. We may go on an extended fast. We might even start going to both Sunday worship services. Some of us believe that by showing God how spiritual we are that he will suddenly then decide to answer our prayers. Others may become bitter or angry that their prayers have not been answered. James 4:3 says, “When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” In addition, there are countless books that claim to have strategies on what to do to get your prayers answered. I admit that I’ve read some of them and put into practice the strategies with mixed results. Sometimes, we give more attention to prayers left unanswered than to the prayers that have been answered by God. When we have unanswered prayers, often we focus on how God in his sovereignty chooses to answers prayers when he wants to, how he wants to and for whom he wants. Waiting on prayers to be answered teaches us how to have faith and, most importantly, develop patience. But what do you do when God answers your prayers? As strange

as it sounds, knowing how to respond to God when he answers your prayer is just as important as knowing how to respond when you are waiting on your prayer to get answered. Hannah from the Old Testament shows there is more to it than just being grateful when your prayer is answered. The Bible shows us in I Samuel 1 how Hannah prayed to the Lord for a child for many years. In verse 10 of that chapter, she made a vow to the Lord that if he blessed her to have a son, she would give the child back to him. Eventually, the Lord answered her prayers and she had a son she named Samuel. Verses 27- 28 say, “I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD.” I Samuel 2 shows that she didn’t brag about her prayer being answered; instead she expressed thankfulness to God. It takes humility to do like Hannah and give back to God what he has given to us. In looking at Hannah’s story, we see the wisdom of her response. When our prayers get answered, we have to learn how to graciously accept God’s favor. More importantly, answered prayers can teach us how to be humble and then encourage others who may be waiting on God to answer their prayers. 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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How do you mend a broken heart - the Cosby I know and the man who was convicted

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



I used to love me some Bill Cosby. Not only because he was America's Big Daddy, but also because he was fun and funny. Most of the times that I was around him, I felt lifted. He had that deep, heh heh heh laugh, and that sweet smile, and then he loved some HBCUs, so what could you say?

Yeah, there was that irascible thing; that pull up your pants and don't steal the cake preachy conversation. But there was the \$20 million that he and Camille gave to Spelman College and the fraction of which I was able to wangle from him for Bennett College. We had this conversation, once upon a time, when he said that he loved me, and I replied, as much as you love Dr. Cole, and he said yeah. So I said, "Where is my \$20 million?" If you love me even ten percent as much I get 2 million. He laughed. I laughed. He spent a day at Bennett talking to my students.

Now he has been convicted as a sexual predator, and while there will be an appeal, the fact that more than 60 women have made accusations is daunting. Even if half of them are piling on, enough of them have made the case that a man who has been an amazing philanthropist has also been an awful sexual predator. How do I mend my broken heart?

Indeed, my heart is broken. It started breaking with the first allegation. It continued to break as the accusations piled up. How could I, how could we, reconcile the image of a man whose humor and dadliness engaged a generation with a man who, by his own admission, drugged women so he could have nonconsensual sex with them. What is real, what is fake and how do we begin to enjoy powerful episodes of the Cosby Show without thinking of the man who was just convicted?

So do we throw the art out? Do we decide that the engaging body of work is now worthless because the creator is horribly flawed? Do we decide that Fat Albert wasn't really fat and funny, that Theo and Rudy weren't amazing kids, that I Spy didn't spy, that the Cosby body of work is useless?

I will make no excuses for a man who has been convicted as a sexual predator, even as I confess my affection for him. But I wonder if we can separate the art from its creator, especially when we consider the fact that Cosby broke so many barriers as he created his art. And while he deserves more than a wink and a nod or a slap on the wrist, I think it also important to consider context. Who taught this man to be a sexual predator? Was this the norm in Hollywood at that time? Cosby was raised well enough to know the difference between right and wrong, and he was not only wrong but also butt wrong to drug women to have sex with them. One could be a misunderstanding. Sixty is an epidemic. Even if half of them are making it up, thirty, twenty, ten, or even one is more than enough.

So my heart breaks for our culture, and for that which many will throw away. Meaning, do Cosby's crimes invalidate his art? Will all eight seasons of the Cosby show be kicked to the curb because its creator is an extraordinarily flawed man? Will a moment in history, a moment when the ensemble depiction of a dynamic black middle-class family entertained a nation, be obliterated by the judgment of one man?

I am not sure of the answer. I am certain, though, that my heart is broken. Cosby will appeal and he may prevail. Or, he may not. But I am among those who cherish the memories of the Cosby show, the Cosby philanthropist, the funny and irascible man who came to my campus, talked good sense to my students and cared. Cheers to him for lifting up black colleges. Shame on him for violating women. How can I reconcile these images? How can I mend my broken heart?

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

Johnson

Continued from page 9

Also, always pay your bills on time. Some people think, well, if I pay it a day late, then that's not bad credit. But that's a late payment. As long as you pay that bill before the next payment is due, that company will not report you as late.

Finally, if you have student loans and every last one of them are late, that pulls your credit score down. Whatever agency you're paying for the student loan, have them combine them into one loan. Then have them make an adjustment on the payments. This will lower your debt ratio and enable you to make your payments on time. This will certainly increase your FICO score.

TE: What are the psychological impediments to homeownership?

LJ: You shouldn't listen to everything that people say. For example, it is said that you must have at least a 20 percent down payment to purchase a home. That's just hearsay; in fact, you

may purchase a home for as little as 3.5 percent down payment on an FHA loan or 0 percent down on a VA loan. And you may pay 3 percent or 5 percent down on a conventional loan. Also, there are many lenders who offer down payment assistance, such as United Security Financial (for more information, call 1-800-373-4186).

TE: What are some of the special mortgage programs for people who are buying their homes for the first time?

LJ: There are down payment assistance programs as we indicated above. Then, there are lower down payment programs such as FHA, VA and Fannie Mae loan programs. There are also state financing programs available to first time home buyers.

TE: How long should a person wait to apply for a mortgage loan after bankruptcy?

LJ: That depends on whether you're applying for a Federal

Trump gives peace a chance with deciding to meet with North Korea's leader

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



President Donald Trump's decision to meet with North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un opens new possibilities.

Trump's critics suggest Trump has given Kim a major concession – the recognition that would come from a first meeting with a U.S. president – in exchange for nothing. But talking is far preferable to issuing threats and insults; exchanging proposals for peace far better than exchanging bombs in war.

This diplomatic initiative began when South Korea invited the North to take part in the winter Olympics. This week, Kim and the South Korean president will meet in an inter-Korean summit.

They already announced the installation of the first-ever hotline between the two leaders. There are even beginning discussions, pushed by South Korean President Moon Jae-in, toward a treaty to finally bring the Korean

War (which ended in an armistice agreement in 1953) to a formal close. Kim has also made unilateral gestures – what diplomats call "trust-building measures" – toward the U.S. He's announced that North Korea would no longer insist on the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the Korean Peninsula as part of any settlement. (The U.S. considers the troop presence not negotiable). He's announced the end to all nuclear and missile testing and pledged to close the country's nuclear test site "to guarantee transparency in suspending nuclear tests." He pledged that North Korea would never "use nuclear weapons nor transfer nuclear weapons or nuclear technology under any circumstances unless there are nuclear threat and nuclear provocation against the DPRK."

In a tweet, Trump hailed this as "very good news for North Korea and the World – big progress!"

Some suggest that this opening is simply a ruse. The harsh economic sanctions enforced on North Korea by the United Nations are starting to hurt. China has cooperated, reducing its trade

with North Korea dramatically (about 90 percent of North Korean trade goes through China). Kim, they argue, is maneuvering in order to reduce the pressure, hoping to get food and other aid. Economic sanctions may be a factor pushing Kim to negotiate.

But we should understand that harsh economic sanctions have limits. Neither China nor the international community will enforce starvation on the North Korean people simply because of the folly of their dictator. Trump is right to seize on the possibility of negotiation.

If the Trump-Kim summit does take place, the discussions will be immensely difficult. Kim considers himself the head of a nuclear power, with a tested arsenal, sitting down to negotiate as a peer with the United States. North Korea could end testing because, he stated, they have successfully achieved their goals. Trump, on the other hand, acts as if Kim has already agreed to surrender and unilaterally give up his nuclear arsenal in exchange for lifting sanctions and better relations with the U.S.

The problem here is trust.

American hawks see the Korean nuclear arsenal as an existential threat that must be eliminated. Deterrence is not sufficient. Korean officials will have good reason to doubt U.S. promises. Iran has adhered to the nuclear weapons deal it made with the U.S. and its allies, but now Trump says he plans to tear it up.

The danger of a failed summit is that Trump's "war cabinet" – the hawks like national security adviser John Bolton – would use a failure to goad Trump into confrontation, even war against North Korea.

Lowering expectations publicly, while remaining open to new possibilities privately, is the best course, but one Trump seems simply unable to follow.

Surely it is time to give peace a chance. The summit this week between Kim and Moon will set the stage. A later meeting between Trump and Kim could help lower tensions, even if it doesn't produce a dramatic resolution.

War on the Korean peninsula would be catastrophic. Finding a way out peacefully is surely worth both time and effort.

Honor the memory of Nashville victims by voting for leaders who support gun reforms

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



"From 1986 to 1996, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sponsored high-quality, peer-reviewed research into the underlying causes of gun violence.

People who kept guns in their homes did not – despite their hopes – gain protection ... Instead, residents in homes with a gun faced a 2.7-fold greater risk of homicide and a 4.8-fold greater risk of suicide. The National Rifle Association moved to suppress the dissemination of these results and to block funding of future government research into the causes of firearm injuries. ... As a consequence, U.S. scientists cannot answer the most basic question: What works to prevent firearm injuries?" – Mark Rosenberg, former director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC and former U.S. Rep. Jay Dickey, who

sponsored (to his later regret) the amendment that blocks the CDC from funding gun injury prevention research.

The tragedy at a Nashville-area Waffle House brings the nation's gun-death toll for 2018 to 4,422, and the number of mass-shooting victims to 69.

The relentless pace of gun violence in America threatens to dull our outrage and focus on the perpetrators threatens to bury the memory of the victims and the heroism of those who showed grace under pressure. The Nashville shooter snuffed out the lives of four young people: Taurean Sanderlin, 29, Joe Perez, 20, DeEbony Groves, 21 and Akilah DaSilva, 23.

Known as "T" by his friends, Taurean had worked at the Waffle House as a cook for about five years. Joe worked as a subcontractor for a moving company. DeEbony, a former standout high school basketball player, had made Dean's List at Belmont University. Akilah, who went by the nickname Natrix, studied musical engineering at Middle Ten-

nessee State University.

From this tragedy has emerged a hero: not only did James Shaw Jr. tackle the gunman and wrest away his AR-15 assault rifle – severely burning his hands in the process – but he also set up a memorial fund for the victims, raising nearly \$100,000. In interviews, Shaw has said he wants his 4-year-old daughter to grow up in a less-violent world.

"I hope we can bring violence in all facets – not just gun violence, but all facets of violence – to an end," he said.

Admirers have created a college fund for Shaw's daughter.

Law enforcement has not identified a motive for the shootings, but the gunman's history of mental health issues and delusions is well-documented. It's beyond question the man shouldn't have had access to firearms. His guns had, in fact, been confiscated and his license to carry them revoked in Illinois. The guns were released to the shooter's father, who returned them to the shooter when he moved to Tennessee.

Federal law allows for weap-

ons to be seized when someone is convicted of a felony or involuntarily committed for mental health treatment. But Illinois is one of only a few states where firearms can be seized if someone's behavior constitutes a "clear and present danger" but does not necessarily rise to a felony conviction or involuntary commitment.

It's unclear whether the shooter's father violated federal law by returning the guns, but there is no law in Tennessee that would have barred him from possessing them.

As if the nation needed another reminder, we must reinstate the federal ban on assault weapons and impose a limit on magazine capacity. It is only because the Waffle House shooter paused to reload that James Shaw Jr. had the opportunity to disarm him and save countless lives.

The most important way we can honor the memory of Sanderlin, Perez, Groves and DaSilva, and fulfill the vision of James Shaw Jr., is to vote for leaders who will heed the demands of the majority of Americans and enact sensible gun reforms.

ership crisis still lingering in the black community?

LJ: The number one thing is lack of knowledge. But, it's people of all backgrounds who have this lack of knowledge – not just African Americans. I'm in a lot of states and I'm finding out that it's more African Americans who don't own homes than it is other nationalities. I'm available to all people. The problem with our people is that we often don't have all the information we need. Yet, the lenders and the bankers they go to are more willing to give others what they need to help them.

TE: Any final advice for obtaining a home?

LJ: Yes. Make sure you go to a good experienced person. And even if they turn you down, go to another one. Go to housing counseling like HomeFree-USA, let them give you advice and get you prepared for home ownership because you're going to run into obstacles.

Black voters must “Takeover The Polls” this midterm election season

By Jeffrey L. Boney
NNPA Newswire Contributor

If there ever was a time that black people needed to fully understand the power of their black dollar, as well as the need to emphasize the importance of putting their money where their true influence is, that time is now. The upcoming November 2018 elections are by far one of the most important election cycles in the history of the United States. More importantly, it is one that the black community can’t afford to ignore.

African Americans make up roughly 13 percent of the overall population in the U.S., and have a buying power so strong that it can’t be overlooked. While having a strong and consistent buying power in itself is a powerful asset for any group to have, turning that asset into a long-term money maker and wealth generation tool is the only thing that will strengthen the overall position and status of African Americans in this country, especially in the area of politics.

With this November election right around the corner, it is a prime opportunity for black people to realize their true collective power by joining in with one another to create one of the most important movements of this era. It is time for black people to “Takeover The Polls” in every local, county, state and federal election in this country.

Yes! It is time for black people to “Takeover The Polls” by any means necessary. This can only be accomplished by championing a concerted effort to register black non-voters and by encouraging existing, registered black voters to get out and vote.

One of the leading voices in the black community is aggressively mounting a push towards registering new voters and increasing voter turnout in the black community, beginning with the midterm elections and establishing a solid foundation that goes well beyond November.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), which is a trade group that represents over 200 black-owned media companies across the U.S., recently launched an initiative to register five million new, black voters before the midterm elections. This effort is a bold step that is sure to make a profound impact come November.

Benjamin Chavis Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA, is championing this



Jeffrey Boney says that the Democratic Party must do more, at every level, to cultivate and show appreciation for their loyal base of black voters. JEFFREY BONEY

COMMENTARY

bold initiative on behalf of a storied organization that is the largest and most influential black-owned media resource in America, reaching more than 20 million readers, combined, in print and online, every week.

In addition to working with the publications within the NNPA, the campaign initiative will focus on an aggressive voter registration drive, community-level education on important issues, and a mobilization effort, which are all designed to reach young, black eligible voters, particularly in battleground states, like Texas and North Carolina.

“This coming November, the 2018 midterm elections will be one of the most important elections for American Americans in our lifetime,” Chavis said. “This is about voting rights and the enormous suffering and bloodshed that our people have experienced to make American democracy real and fair. Yet, this is also about responsibility.”

Chavis and the NNPA have also partnered with organizations like the NAACP, in order to accomplish the goal of registering these five million new, black voters.

“I am proud that the NNPA is encouraging and mobilizing the black community to get five million more African Americans registered to vote across the nation,” Chavis continued. “We have to takeover and overwhelm our political adversaries at the voting polls in 2018. This is a payback year. Now is the time!”

In order for African Americans to “Takeover The Polls” effectively before November, however, there are several

things that must be done to make it work and get the results needed to make a significant impact.

First and foremost, education about the importance of voting is critical in order to get as many black people registered to vote as possible, as well as help them truly understand what’s at stake.

Secondly, political candidates must ensure that black people become more familiar with who they are, which can only be done by effectively advertising in black media outlets, like the black newspapers, in their respective geographic locations.

Lastly, more accountability must be placed on the Democratic Party. The Democratic Party must do more, at every level, to cultivate and show appreciation for their loyal base of black voters, if they want to truly see change during the midterm elections.

According to the Pew Research Center, 87 percent of black voters identify with the Democratic Party or lean Democratic, compared with just seven percent who identify as Republican or lean Republican.

Black women are a driving force behind this high percentage of black registered voters, and when they turnout, they make a huge difference.

Take the recent Alabama Senate race for example.

When Alabama Democrat Doug Jones faced a challenging, uphill battle against controversial Republican candidate Roy Moore in their special Senate election, it was black voter turnout that made the difference. As a matter of fact, “black voters turned out for the special election [in Alabama] at

a higher level than their share of the electorate when Obama was on the ballot in 2008 and 2012,” according to CNN.com.

After getting reports that 96 percent of black voters backed Jones and 98 percent of black women voters supporting Jones, Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chair Tom Perez tweeted, “Let me be clear: We won in Alabama and Virginia because #Black-Women led us to victory. Black women are the backbone of the Democratic Party, and we can’t take that for granted. Period.”

Strong, but true words from the DNC chair, but will those words translate into true appreciation for the power of the black vote leading up to the November midterm elections and beyond?

The need for groups like the NNPA to work collaboratively with the DNC, community leaders and others committed to creating a political revolution, is paramount and necessary. The revolution must start now. However, it must go beyond the midterm elections and trickle down to the local, county and state races in a major way, as well.

This is just one election cycle, and while it may be one of the most important election cycles in our lifetime, the black community must start today by aggressively educating, equipping and empowering black youth, voting age adults and senior citizens, through information sharing and voter registration efforts to ensure their voices are heard loud and clear at the polls.

It is time for the African American community to “Takeover The Polls” this November, and beyond, by joining in with the NNPA to help register five million new, black voters.

This commentary was originally published at BlackPressUSA.com.

Jeffrey L. Boney serves as associate editor and is an award-winning journalist for the Houston Forward Times newspaper. Boney has been a frequent contributor on “The Nancy Grace Show” and “Crime & Justice with Ashleigh Banfield.”

Boney is a radio personality and a dynamic, international speaker, experienced entrepreneur, business development strategist and founder/CEO of the Texas Business Alliance.

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NNPA ESSA EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT

Tiffany G. Tyler and CIS help students succeed

By Lynette Monroe
Program Assistant,
NNPA ESSA Public Awareness Campaign

Tiffany G. Tyler is the president and CEO of Communities in Schools (CIS) Nevada. CIS creates school-based strategies for improving the academic outcomes of students by addressing their basic needs. This work centers on helping school leaders understand the needs of their school populations apart from oversimplified ethnic and income categories.

As a former high school dropout, Tyler used the motivation from the birth of her first son (she said she didn’t want her son to “have a dropout as a mom.”) to propel her to the highest levels of academia, as an education psychologist.

While studying for her dissertation, she happened upon a report detailing circumstances that contribute to student dropouts, as well as preventative practices that retain enrollment. She uses her experiences as a former beneficiary of many of the services she now provides to inform her role as chief advocate.

“Having the benefit of people, over the course of my return to school, who not only encouraged me to continue my education, but helped in many ways, I now have the opportunity to pay it forward every day,” Tyler said, speaking of her daily motivation to make a difference.

Tyler said that her primary responsibility is to shepherd the vision and mission of the organization: to provide children with the resources and support they need to not only graduate, but to lead a successful life.

CIS operates in South Nevada, encompassing 50 schools in the Las Vegas metropolitan area, Marshall County and Elko County. An impressive 66,720 K-12 students benefit from the integrated services provided by CIS, yet the need still outweighs access to resources.

Tyler believes in the power of the work, but also in the power of action. In order to really move the needle on reducing dropout rates she believes we need everyone at the table; not only to discuss the challenges faced, but to also develop a course of action for moving forward.

Tyler is consistently looking to partner with stakeholders and other like-minded organizations to bring more assets to schools. She serves as the co-chair of the



Tyler

Juvenile Justice Services Citizens Advisory Committee in Clark County and maintains board memberships on a number of organizations in the community.

The Every Student Succeeds Act, memorializes integrated support services as a successful practice and allows federal use of resources to be leveraged to provide more resources to communities. For the first time in federal education policy, integrated support services are explicitly noted as an allowable intervention for funding and noted as a strategy that districts and states can employ or use to turn around underperforming schools.

ESSA recognizes that family and student support play a key role in improving academic outcomes for students.

Tyler encourages educators to uphold principles like equity, social justice and community that transcend any one administration. Principles such as these are at the core of legislation like ESSA. Furthermore, parent engagement is a crucial part in ensuring student success.

Parents should see themselves as partners. Parents should show up and share their vision for their children; what they see as their child’s strengths and how they would like to partner in assisting with their challenges. Parents should advocate for what they perceive are their needs.

Tyler charges parents to get informed about the policies that directly impact their household and remain consistent in their engagement to ensure staff accountability.

Learn more about the Every Student Succeeds Act at www.nnpa.org/essa.

Lynette Monroe is the program assistant for the NNPA’s Every Student Succeeds Act Public Awareness Campaign and a master’s student at Howard University. Her research areas are public policy and national development. Follow Lynette on Twitter @[monroedoctrine](https://twitter.com/monroedoctrine).

Bill Cosby found guilty on all charges in sex assault trial, remains free on \$1 million bail

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Convicted comedian Bill Cosby will remain on house arrest until he’s sentenced this summer following his conviction on three counts of aggravated indecent sexual assault.

Judge Steven T. O’Neill ordered Cosby to get written permission from adult probation officials, if he wants to leave his Philadelphia area home to visit his doctor or to meet with lawyers.

Those are the only movements he’s allowed, and they must be within a five-county radius of Montgomery County. Cosby has been fitted with a tracking device, so that court officials can monitor him.

“This was a man who had evaded this moment for far too long,” Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele



A Norristown jury found comedian Bill Cosby on three counts of aggravated indecent sexual assault. Some legal experts said that Cosby might get another trial. POOL PHOTO

said after the verdict.

Steele said that Cosby had “shown his true colors,” when the legendary actor called the prosecutor an “a--hole” after Steele argued that he should im-

mediately be locked up following the verdict.

O’Neill ruled that Cosby could remain free on the same \$1 million bail he posted when he was arraigned in December

of 2015.

“We still believe that Mr. Cosby is innocent of these charges,” lead defense attorney Tom Mesereau said. “The fight isn’t over.”

About an hour after the verdict and before Cosby left the courthouse, several of his defense team members huddled, including attorneys Jaya Gupta and Rachael Robinson, both sobbing.

An emotional Andrew Wyatt, Cosby’s chief spokesman, said the trial was reminiscent of Emmett Till, the 14-year-old Mississippi African American whose lynching after he was accused of whistling at a White woman, ignited the Civil Rights Movement.

“This became a public lynching,” Wyatt said. “What Gloria Allred was able to do, she took a salt and pepper shaker. She

[shook] out a lot of salt and sprinkled in a little black pepper and the South came east.”

Ebonee Benson, who joined Wyatt on morning television shows after the verdict, said the comparison to Emmett Till is real.

“We can take a look at Emmett Till,” she said. “Since when are all women honest?”

Several television analysts questioned the verdict.

Lawyer and famed CNN legal analyst Joey Jackson, who before the verdict said the case should have been declared a mistrial, said after the decision that Cosby’s team has “many grounds for appeal.” He said he was stunned by the verdict as well as the swiftness in which the jury delivered it.

“Certainly, the prosecution put up a vigorous case ... but I thought the defense did a signifi-

cant job of discrediting Andrea Constand giving the jury an indication that there was a number of lies she told over a period of time,” Jackson said.

Jackson continued: “The first trial took them 52 hours and they were hung. This time it took 15 hours and they convict, so here we go. I think the most significant grounds were the five accusers. In the first trial, there was one and when you have five, they just have such prejudicial value and I think it just overwhelmed the jury. That’s probably the biggest point in attempting to get Bill Cosby a new trial.”

Jackson called the issue “significant” and one that might allow Cosby, whose facing 30 years in prison, to remain free through the appeal process.

This article was originally published on BlackPressUSA.com.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

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

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RE: GS# 350-022 Hail Damage (PH II - Woolfolk)
Office of Capitol Facilities
(Department of Finance and Administration)
RFx Number: 3160002247

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

Professional: Shafer & Associates, PLLC
Address: 510 University Drive
Starkville, Mississippi 39759
Phone: 662-323-1628
Email: s-a@shafer-architecture.com

A deposit of \$200.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

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

5/3/2018, 5/10/2018

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BOBBIE MCCLAIN, DECEASED

CAUSE #:17-428

BY: Veronica Holden

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF BOBBIE MCCLAIN, DECEASED

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Veronica Holden, Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Bobbie McClain.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 9:30 o'clock a.m., on the 19th day of June, 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 19th day of April, 2018.

Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi EDDIE JEAN CARR, CHANCERY CLERK

4/26/2018, 5/3/2018, 5/10/2018

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.

2014 VOLK TRS - WVGBV3AXXEW546375
Registered to Matts Pilar
Ally Financial. Lienholder
Date of Sale: May 4, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

4/19/2018, 4/26/2018, 05/3/2018

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.

2007 Chev M/T – Vin: 2G1WK15K079254370
Registered to Angie and Timothy Crogier
Credit Acceptance Corp., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: May 18, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

5/3/2018, 5/10/2018, 5/17/2018

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.

2013 Chry 2TR – Vin: 1C3CCBBB8DN570226
Registered to Michael J. Williams
Global Lending Service, Lien Holder
Date of Sale: May 18, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.,
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

5/3/2018, 5/10/2018, 5/17/2018

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.

2009 Niss MSV 1N4AA51E19C813289
Registered to Hicks Chelsey and/or Cros by Pam
Bridgecrest Acceptance Corp., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: May 18, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

5/3/2018, 5/10/2018, 5/17/2018

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.

2011 Chev EQU – Vin #2CNLF59B6205346
Registered to Alfredia Dionna Arman
Magnolia Car Max Business Services LLC, Lien Holder
Date of Sale: May 18, 2018
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.,
Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

5/3/2018, 5/10/2018, 5/17/2018

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Sudoku Solution

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

© Feature Exchange

Cryptogram Solution

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
JEOXIZNHLWCTVMADKYPOURBFSG

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED
L HJRI JTBJSP EIIM ZJPLMJQIX
WITH THOSE WHO TRY TO LOOK
BLOH OHAPI BHA OYS OA TAAC
OVER THE HORIZON AND SEE THINGS
ARIY OHI HAYLGAM JMX PIT OHLMNP
THAT ARE COMING AT US
OHJO JYT QAVLMN JO UP

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Is currently identifying vendors for the following services during an emergency:

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- Transmission Line Construction

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5/10/2018, 5/17/2018, 5/24/2018

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid

Bid 3074 Produce

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) May 10, 2018, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing pagreen@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

4/26/2018, 05/3/2018

Some say the "face of music" has been changed completely by technology...

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Nissan invests additional \$250,000 to Mississippi HBCU STEM Programs



This year's donation of \$250,000 was presented to seven Mississippi historically black colleges and universities – Alcorn State University, Coahoma Community College, Hinds Community College – Utica Campus, Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust College and Tougaloo College. Nissan has donated nearly \$2 million to HBCUs in Mississippi since 2003.

Mississippi Link Newswire

Nissan has made a \$250,000 investment in seven Mississippi historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) to support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs.

With this contribution, Nissan has invested nearly \$2 million in local HBCUs since its Canton facility opened in 2003 – with more than half directed toward STEM-specific curriculums. The company recently was recognized by US Black Engineer & Information Technology Magazine as a 2018 Top Supporter of HBCU Engineering Schools.

The donations were presented to Alcorn State University, Coahoma Community College, Hinds Community College – Utica Campus, Jackson State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust College and Tougaloo College. Resources provided to each institution will be used to promote a range of STEM-related programs and departments, including applied sciences, engineering, math, and computer and information science.

“Our continued commitment to HBCUs, specifically in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, is vital to fostering the minds of the next George Washington Carver or Mae Jemison,” said Jeffrey Webster, director, Diversity and Inclusion, Nissan North America, Inc. “These institutions have implemented proven practices to assist students in STEM fields, and we are proud to help make their

students’ career dreams a reality.”

A 2016 report from the National Science Foundation showed that HBCUs make up 21 of the top 50 institutions for educating African-American graduates who go on to receive their doctorates in science and engineering. And while HBCUs make up just three percent of colleges and universities, they produce 27 percent of African-American students with bachelor’s degrees in STEM fields.

Ayanna Lynn, a civil engineering master’s student at Jackson State University, and process engineer at Nissan Canton, said, “I am grateful and proud to work for a company that supports HBCUs. The company is fully committed to their success.”

About Nissan North America

In North America, Nissan’s operations include automotive styling, engineering, consumer and corporate financing, sales and marketing, distribution and manufacturing. Nissan is dedicated to improving the environment under the Nissan Green Program and has been recognized annually by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as an ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year since 2010. More information on Nissan in North America and the complete line of Nissan and INFINITI vehicles can be found online at www.nissanusa.com and www.infinitiusa.com, or visit the U.S. media sites nissannews.com and infinitinews.com.



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TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY MAY 18, 2018

ON-SITE REGISTRATION
EAGLE RIDGE GOLF COURSE

PRACTICE ROUND
(CART FEE ONLY)

SATURDAY MAY 19, 2018

FIRST ROUND OF PLAY
9:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START

LUNCH AT THE GOLF COURSE
IMMEDIATELY AFTER PLAY

\$20.00 OPEN SKIN GAME
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SUNDAY MAY 20, 2018

FINAL ROUND OF PLAY
9:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START

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By Kam Williams
Columnist

On March 3, 1991, five LAPD officers were caught on camera beating an unarmed black man who had led them on a high-speed chase instead of pulling over as directed. That driver, Rodney King, suffered a broken ankle, a broken cheekbone and numerous skull fractures and chipped teeth in the assault by billy clubs.

A year later, riots broke out all over South Central L.A. after a jury acquitted all the officers involved in the arrest. By the time the dust had settled a

half-dozen days later, 63 people had died and thousands of businesses had been looted and burned to the ground, resulting in over a billion dollars in damages.

What was it like in the midst of the chaos and conflagration? That was the challenge accepted by Deniz Gamze Erguven in mounting *Kings*, a surreal saga chronicling a foster-mom’s frantic search for her missing kids at the height of the Rodney King riots.

You may remember that the talented Turkish writer/director made a spectacular debut a

couple of years ago with *Mustang*, a female-centric, coming-of-age adventure which landed an Oscar nomination in the Best Foreign Film category. So, *Kings* is just Erguven’s second feature-length movie, and her first in English.

While the ambitious offering earns an A for the convincing way in which it recreates pandemonium, it only gets a C for coherency. For, the film unfolds less like a traditional narrative than a series of loosely-connected, impressionistic vignettes.

It stars Academy Award-win-

ner Halle Berry (for *Monster’s Ball*) as Millie Dunbar, an overworked single-mom with eight foster kids. When civil unrest breaks out, she embarks on a quest to round them up with the help of her agoraphobic next-door neighbor, Obie, the last white guy living in the ‘hood. The hunky shut-in, played by Daniel “007” Craig, summons up the courage to get out of the house for the sake of Millie’s missing brood.

The plot thickens when the two are mistaken for looters by a gruff cop (Kirk Baltz) too overwhelmed by the situation to

listen to any explanations. Millie and Obie end up handcuffed to each other which might not be entirely bad, since the close quarters affords them an opportunity to get better acquainted. So who knows, the old maid might even find a man in the midst of the mayhem.

This otherwise grim period piece arrives blessed with a retro soundtrack featuring James Brown’s African-American anthem “Say It Loud, I’m Black & I’m Proud,” Bill Withers’ haunting, R&B classic “City of the Angels” and Nina Simone’s searing rendition of “Ooh

Child.” Nevertheless, consider *Kings* a harrowing descent into depravity that makes *The Florida Project* look like *Leave It to Beaver*.

Very Good (3 stars)

Rated R for violence, sexuality, nudity and pervasive profanity

Running time: 92 minutes

Production Studios: Bliss Media/ CG Cinema / Maven Pictures

Distributor: The Orchard Company

To see a trailer for *Kings*, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSjkrVUnLuA>

Film Review: Bad Samaritan

Burglar discovers psychopath’s lair in riveting suspense thriller

By Kam Williams
Columnist

As an adolescent, Sean (Robert Sheehan) was dragged by his mom from Ireland to Portland, Oregon so that his step-dad could take a construction job that ended up lasting only a few weeks. Seven years later, Sean’s now an aspiring artist who ekes out a living parking cars at a trendy restaurant.

Against his better judgment, he and a fellow valet, Derek (Carlito Olivero), hatch a plan to burglarize homes of well-to-do customers while they’re dining. The scheme seems easy as pie, since most people hand over all their keys when checking their

vehicles.

But what the partners in crime didn’t bank on was that they might break into a house owned by a homicidal maniac in the midst of a killing spree. That’s precisely what transpires the night they decide to rob Cale Erendreich (David Tennant), a condescending snob whose multimillion-dollar mansion is located just minutes away from the bistro.

As soon as the filthy-rich heir enters the establishment, Sean drives off in his Maserati, leaving Derek behind to serve as lookout.

While ransacking the place for valuables, he’s shocked to find a young woman (Kerry Condon) bound and gagged in a well-for-

tified, soundproof room. But before he has a chance to help her, he gets an urgent call from Derek letting him know that Erendreich has finished his meal and is impatiently asking for his automobile. So, instead of freeing the captive, Sean simply leaves without taking anything. Trouble is, it doesn’t take Erendreich long to figure out who has trespassed on his property.

That is the intriguing point of departure of *Bad Samaritan*, a riveting thriller reminiscent of such suspense classics as *Psycho* (1960) and *Silence of the Lambs* (1991). Directed by Dean Devlin (*Geostorm*), the pulse-pounding film features a talented cast which

has expertly executed a captivating script guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat from start to finish.

An old-fashioned cat-and-mouse thriller with a frightening villain certain to haunt you long after you’ve left the theater.

Excellent (4 stars)

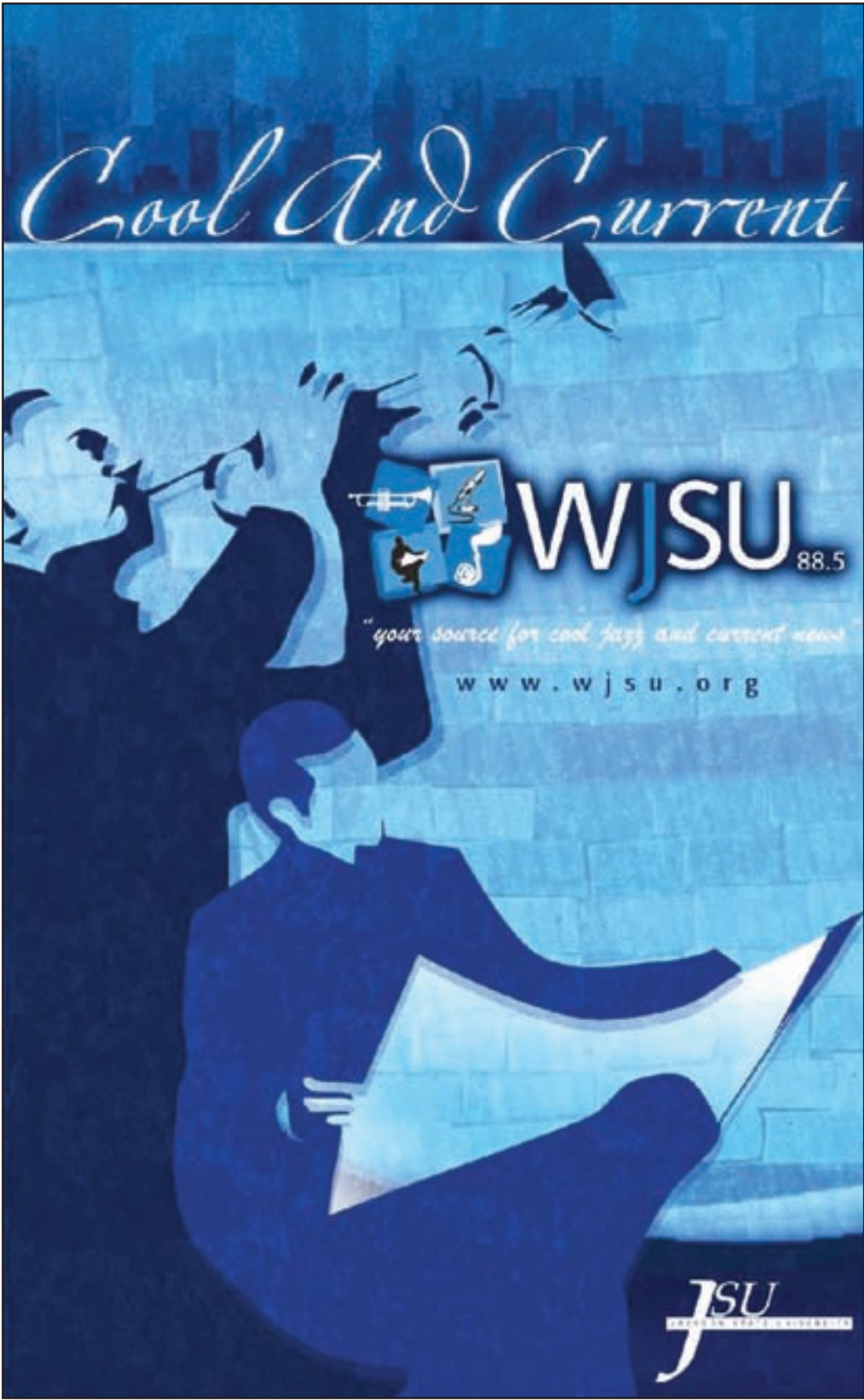
Rated R for violence, drug use, pervasive profanity and brief nudity

Running time: 111 minutes

Production Studios: Electric Entertainment

Distributor: Electric Entertainment

To see a trailer for *Bad Samaritan*, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yyuRdsik_P0



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 Al Gore

ATBHQDEPFSHTPIRLWQSDPQREBENWVAFVF
7

T HJNT JYBZNF EITM ZJFPLMJOTX
BLOH GHAFI BHA OYE OA YAAC
XRTV OHT HAYLGAM JUX PTT OHEUNF
OHJO JYT GAVLMN JO UF

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

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

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

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BOOK REVIEW:
“HEADS OF THE COLORED
PEOPLE: STORIES”
BY NAFISSA THOMPSON-SPIRES
C.2018, 37INK
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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

So what do you think?
For sure, you’ve got opinions. You know what you like and what you don’t like. You have ideas and choices, attractions and things you’d just as soon avoid. And sometimes, as in “Heads of the Colored People” by Nafissa Thompson-Spires, you just don’t know what to think.
For weeks – ever since he found a used paperback by James McCune Smith – Kevan Peterson had been thinking about a project. He was an artist, knew a lot of artists, and he wanted to do

a book based on Smith’s words. He thought about it when he spent time with his little daughter and again when he saw an online newsfeed, complete with “chalk outlines.” But there was more to that story...
Lucinda Johnston hoped her daughter, Fatima, might make friends easier at the private school Lucinda paid for. There was one other black girl at the academy, and Lucinda thought friendship might happen naturally, but that girl was a bully whose mother denied her awful misbehavior.
In “Belles Lettres,” the two

women square off in writing, though money talks loud. In “The Body’s Defenses Against Itself,” there’s proof that the girls’ friendship wouldn’t have happen as their mothers had hoped. In “Fatima, the Biloquist: A Transformation Story,” you’ll think you know why.
Jilly, on the other hand, couldn’t think of anything but herself.
In “Suicide, Watch,” she couldn’t decide: posting suicidal hints didn’t get enough LIKES on social media, so maybe it was time to step up her game. She didn’t want to be sick or any-

thing – not like that girl, Fatima, she knew in high school – but she did want more attention. How she was going to get it, well, that was a good question.
And Alma? Alma always thought she’d be a good mother. She was willing to go to great lengths to have a child, but in “Wash Clean the Bones,” worry could get the best of her – and of her son.
You may not know what to think when you first start “Heads of the Colored People.” This collection of short stories initially seems a bit odd, as life meets literature in its

opening story and author Nafissa Thompson-Spires pays homage to Smith’s book from the mid-1800s. Indeed, her overall work here is similarly titled to his but the difference between the two is like earth and sky.
These stories glitter, every one of them.
Granted now, some don’t seem to be much more than slice-of-life tales that stop for no apparent reason but that they were done. Fear not: they circle

around, and you may meet characters again in a layered manner, like building a sandwich. They’ll make you gasp, and put the book down a minute to catch your breath.
Even so, these stories aren’t for everybody. If you like your fiction tied up neat with a bow, take a pass on “Heads of the Colored People.” If you enjoy tales that play with your head a little bit, though, it’s a book you’ll think is perfect.

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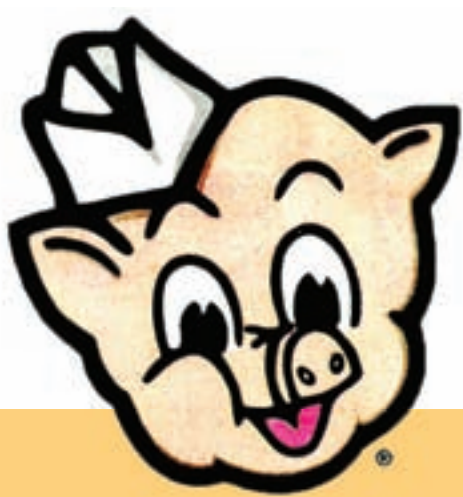
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