



The Mississippi Link dedicates this
Back-to-School Issue
to the memory of the Queen of Soul – Aretha Franklin

The future is now

By Philip Calhoun
Incoming Vice President
Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant

As the 2018 school year begins, I want to offer best wishes for a great academic season. A new school year always brings a sense of anticipation from students and teachers as they prepare to face challenges and opportunities in the year ahead. My hope is that as this next chapter begins, we all have an eye toward the future and the best path for our students. For the faculty and students of Mississippi schools, the future is now.

Whether this is your first year of kindergarten or your final year of high school, one thing is equally true: your future is yours to command. It begins in the classroom, where a tremendous amount of learning and growing takes place every day. .

Wherever you are in school, this a good time to pause, reflect and consider where you want to be next week, next year or ten years from now. That’s because where you are tomorrow is greatly impacted by the lessons



Calhoun

you learn and the choices you make today. Always be aware and open-minded and take advantage of all of the opportunities available to you. The world is in your hands.

As someone who manages one of the most sophisticated manufacturing plants in the country, I am constantly searching for talented people to join our team. I can tell you what kind of people companies like Nissan need today. We are seeking out the curious, the conscientious and the committed.

Nissan
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Jackson Hinds Library Systems offers innovative services for children going back to school

The Mississippi Link Newswire

While you are out around town purchasing last-minute school supplies, you may want to plan a stop at one of the 14 local Jackson Hinds Library branches.

The library system is offering some new services that can help children, aged 5-11, have a better chance to succeed in school this year. Among the latest offerings is the brand-new Fine-Free Kid’s Card, which is now available at all 14 JHLS libraries throughout Jackson and Hinds County.

The innovative card allows a child to check out books without requiring parents to pay overdue fines or fees. How does the new card work? Any child aged 5-11 that lives in Hinds County can enroll in the new program for free. No ID is necessary as long as the child is enrolled in school in Hinds County. Once the child has the new Fine-Free Kid’s Card in hand, they can check out 2 (two) books each time they visit the library from the picture book, juvenile fiction or juvenile non-fiction sections. Participat-

ing children will also be given a colorful plastic tote bag to carry the books back and forth to the library. The books will have an initial three week check-out period, and they can be renewed for three additional weeks. Even if the books are kept out longer than the six week program, no fine will accrue. As long as the books are returned within three months of the original check-out date, the child can continue to return to the library and check out the two books. If the items are not returned at the three month mark, the child’s account will be frozen, and the child will need to return the books or pay a lost book fee to reactivate the card again.

Who can register a child for the program? Library Director Patty Furr said, “We are inviting parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, teachers, church or youth group leaders to sponsor a child for the Fine-Free Library Card as long as they can bring their children at least once every three weeks.”

Library
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Aretha Franklin, the legendary singer called the ‘Queen of Soul’, will be buried August 31 in Detroit

By Frederick H. Lowe
TriceEdneyWire.com

Aretha Franklin, who died last week, will lie in repose August 28 and 29 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit. The public will be able to view her body in an open casket each of those days from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. A private funeral for family and friends will be held 10 a.m. August 31 at Greater Grace Temple, a 4,000-member church in Detroit.

The funerals for Rosa Parks and Levi Stubbs of the singing group the “Four Tops” were held at Greater Grace.

The undisputed “Queen of Soul,” whose recordings dominated the charts for 40 years, died August 16 at her home in Detroit from pancreatic cancer. Publicist Gwendolyn Quinn told The Associated Press that Franklin passed away Thursday at 9:50 a.m.

“Franklin’s official cause of death was due to advanced pancreatic cancer of the neuroendocrine type,” said her oncologist, Dr. Philip Phillips of Karmanos Cancer Institute” in Detroit.

She sang classics “I Say a Little Prayer,” “Respect,”



Franklin

“Think, I Never Loved a Man The Way I Loved You,” “Do Right Woman” and “Soul Serenade.” She won 18 Grammy Awards and in 1987, she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In 2009, Frank-

lin sang at President Barack Obama’s first inauguration.

Her death had been expected. She had canceled concerts and friends and relatives had visited her at home where she was undergoing hospice care. Pan-

creatic cancer is an aggressive form of cancer that develops in the tissues of the pancreas. Located in the abdomen behind the lower part of the stomach, the pancreas aids in digestion. Incidences of pancreatic cancer are higher among blacks compared to whites, but the cancer is misunderstood because of its high death rates, according to the book “Minorities and Cancer.” The Sol Goldman Pancreatic Cancer Research Center at Johns Hopkins Medicine reported the incidence rate for pancreatic cancer among blacks is 30 percent to 70 percent higher than other racial groups in America.

Not only is the incidence rate of pancreatic cancer higher among African Americans, they also have the poorest survival rates because their cancer is often diagnosed at more advanced stages. Cigarette smoking, growing older, diabetes and obesity increase the risk of pancreatic cancer. Some 37.1 percent of black men and 56.6 percent of black women are obese, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the nation’s largest public health philanthropy.

See pictures page 19.

Democrats that want to win in November must advertise in the Black Press

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

While there’s at least a perceived growing number of Democrats who say they want to replace California Rep. Nancy Pelosi as the Democratic leader in the House of Representatives, South Carolina Rep. Jim Clyburn has emerged as a favorite among his peers to become the first African American to hold that position.

In an exclusive interview with the NNPA Newswire, the 25-year congressman said that, while he’s ready for the challenge, Democrats currently have much bigger fish to fry.

“The first order of business is to win the [midterm] elections November 6,” Clyburn said. “That’s what I’ve been concentrating on.”

Clyburn and Congressional Black Caucus Chair Cedric Richmond each told the NNPA Newswire that they’ve identified 37 districts across the country they believe can be won by Democrats this year, which would wrest control of the House from Republicans.

“We feel, with the right kind of effort, we can win,” Clyburn said.

Clyburn listed three keys to success this November.

The first key, Clyburn said, is to prioritize



Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) says that President Trump has a deep-seated hatred for people of color that manifests itself every day. In this photo, ahead of the anniversary of the Affordable Care Act on March 23, 2012, House Democratic leaders held a press conference to highlight the benefits of the Affordable Care Act for America’s families and small businesses. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

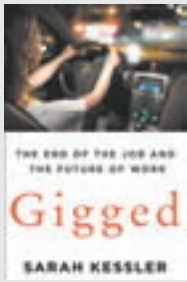
the black vote; Democrats can’t afford to take the African-American vote for granted.

Secondly, the Democrats shouldn’t rely on an anti-President Donald Trump wave to get out the vote.

Finally, Clyburn said that candidates must advertise in the Black Press, if they want to win in November.

“We are also talking about districts where Obama won twice and where Hillary Clinton also won, but these voters don’t turn out for the so-called ‘off-year elections,’” Clyburn said. “We can’t let these voters feel like we’re taking them for granted.”

Advertise
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David Marion, Ph.D.

Grand Basileus • Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Coverage of reception for Marion in next week's issue

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Dr. David Marion is owner of Marion Counseling Services, PLLC, a mental health clinic that specializes in providing individual, group, marital or couple and family counseling, psychological evaluations, psychiatric evaluations and employee assistance programs to organizations throughout the state of Mississippi. He has been in the counseling field since 1992 and in private practice since 1998. He holds a Ph.D. in counselor education with a minor in public administration and public policy from Mississippi State University, a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from Mississippi State University, and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Jackson State University.

Marion is a licensed professional counselor in the states of Alabama and Mississippi and a licensed marriage and family therapist in the state of Mississippi. He is nationally certified in counseling. He holds professional membership in the American Counseling Association and serves on the board of directors for the Clarity Foundation, the Friendship Foundation, Inc. and Three Undergraduates, Inc.

Marion served as Sire Archon (president) from 2015-2017 and Sire Archon Elect (vice president) from 2013-2015 of Beta Gamma Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Marion became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in 1979 through the Eta Xi Chapter in Starkville, MS. He has held the following positions: vice basileus – Eta Xi Chapter, basileus – Eta Xi Chapter, regional representative – North Region Mississippi, state scholarship chair, State Marshal, 1st vice state representative (Mississippi – 3 terms), state representative (Mississippi – 3 terms), Seventh District historian, Seventh District Rule, Recommendations and bylaws chairman, and 1st

Vice Seventh District Representative (3 terms).

As the 21st Seventh District representative, Marion successfully leveraged the tremendous platform of leading the largest district in Omega. During his tenure as district representative, chapters in the 7th District donated more than 1 million dollars in scholarships to college-bound high school seniors and fed more than 1600 families in Mississippi and Florida. By utilizing the talents of the brotherhood, the 7th District developed the first online district-wide meeting registration, dues payment and MSP candidate fee submission portal in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Other accomplishments include increasing district scholarships for undergraduate brothers to \$80,000; creating the first "Healthy Ques" newsletter focusing on health matters for black men and their families; and overseeing 7th district membership with approximately 5000 financial brothers in 147 chapters on the strength of reclamation efforts.

In July 2014, Marion was elected 1st Vice Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi during the grand conclave in Philadelphia. In this role, he was responsible for the formation and operation of all committees of Omega and the planning and execution of all national meetings of the fraternity. Marion was elected Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi in July 2018 at the grand conclave in New Orleans. He is the first Mississippian to be elected to a national seat for the fraternity.

Marion has been married to Joyce Coleman-Marion, a licensed clinical psychologist and co-owner of Marion Counseling Services, PLLC, for more than 18 years. He has two children, Dr. Chelsea Marion, a physician in Atlanta and Chloe Marion, a ten-year-old boss of many.



Marion gives remarks after receiving resolution for becoming Grand Basileus, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Looking on are Councilman Aaron Banks, Constable Jerry Moore and Lee Bernard, Omega Psi Phi.



Councilman Aaron Banks, Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba, David Marion, Lee Bernard and Jerry Moore

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Positive not punitive: HCCSD integrates and executes two best practices

A New Education Era, Holmes Co., Pt. 2

The Mississippi Link Newswire

When the news broke last month that the Board of Trustees of the Holmes County Consolidated School District (HCCSD) voted to ban corporal punishment, echoes of “What?” were heard around the county.

Although the action may have been surprising, there has been a trend to outlaw such punitive measures in U.S. schools since the mid 1970’s. According to the National Education Association’s *neaToday*, between 1974 and 1994, 25 states banned the practice, “recognizing that it was an ineffective and inappropriate school discipline measure.”

HCCSD’s Superintendent of Schools, James L. Henderson, concurs. “Research has proven that corporal punishment can be emotionally harmful to children,” he stressed.

Unfortunately, since the mid-1990s, only five more states have outlawed it, leaving 19 that currently have not. Mississippi is still one of them.

Nevertheless, the new era in public education in Holmes County is connecting for students’ success by integrating and executing more positive, research-based measures – not punitive ones. HCCSD educators are being trained in Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) and Restorative Practice. Henderson stated that PBIS was already in place in the district, “but not always executed with fidelity.”

That is a reason why one of HCCSD’s workshops during its professional development conference, Aug. 1-2, was “Integrating Two Best Practices – PBIS and Restorative Practice,” conducted by Gaye Lang.

Lang has a reputation of “instilling confidence, inspiring and motivating educators to act in the best interest of students.” The passionate champion for students lived up to that reputation in Holmes County.

“We call it a ‘three-legged stool,’” she said as she briefly summarized the nature of Restorative Practice. Leg One is considered community-building, or, establishing the classroom circle in which



Gaye Lang (right) introduced the three-legged stool approach to Restorative Practice.

you have trust, value and voice. “Voice gives students a sense of belonging and ownership,” she stressed. “A voice in the circle helps build relationships.”

Leg Two is the Respect Agreement. Early on in education Lang pointed out that “We used to have a list of rules in our classroom for our students, and the first thing they would do is break them.” Respect agreement in layman’s terms allows both the student and teacher to come to a mutual understanding of how to respect each other. “The student respects the teacher and the teacher respects the student,” she explained. The use of words such as “thank you, please, and excuse me” are practiced when engaging in the Respect Agreement process.

Leg Three is the Affective Statements often referred to synonymously as “I Statements.” Here is where everyone involved is allowed to express their feelings about a certain behavior. Affective statements actually use “I” declarations, and each statement is centered on modifying a behavior – either positive or negative – and not the individual. “I cannot use the word don’t. I will stay in the positive and keep the negative out,” she said.

Lang, who has 46 years of experience in education, conducted her session over a two-day period and included PBIS to show how both can be integrated to achieve even greater classroom management results. “No, it does not hap-

pen overnight,” she was quick to stress in a recent telephone interview. She said firmly, “It takes practice: 30 times or more.”

Asked about the success of such measures, “she responded: “All you have to do is Google it.” She pointed out that school systems across the country from New York to California are benefiting from such best practices.

Holmes County Central High School’s Intervention Specialist Kawanna Horton said she thoroughly enjoyed and benefited from Lang’s session “because the delivery and presentation were practical.”

“As the school’s intervention specialist, I have spoken with a few students in reference to their chosen behavior at the moment,” said Horton. “I am more aware of not jumping to the corrective actions I once did,” she said. Now, I am more apt to say, ‘Why didn’t you think before you did that?’ This will allow students an opportunity to first realize that the system is not out to get them, but that there is a system in place that will teach them the expected behaviors.”

“Dr. Lang had an interactive training where we engaged in an activity demonstrating how to implement restorative practices and positive behavior interventions and support (PBIS) in a group setting,” said school counselor Rashunda Archer. She appreciated the approach.

The HCCSD Professional Develop-

ment provider list was packed with highly-skilled educator trainers who imparted a wealth of resources: information, tools, strategies and networking opportunities.

“I attended Eric Cork’s training,” said HCCHS Algebra I Teacher Heather Clark. Cork’s session was titled, “Write Now – Celebrating English Language Arts and the Nuts and Bolts of Writing.” “He was very energetic and kept us engaged the entire time. He shared some very good ideas for using correct grammar and writing in the classroom,” Clark said.

English Teacher Tony Rhynes, in his 10th year of teaching, also participated in Cork’s session. He participated in several others as well: Deborah Carr Saldana’s session on “Differentiating Instruction Using True Colors Personality Profiles,” Tyrone Tanner’s seminar on “Creating Responsive Classrooms,” and Jaime Kyles’ class on “Using Formative Assessments to Improve Outcomes.” He said he benefitted from them all.

“Dr. Saldana’s training made me think about something I had not thought about previously: the role a student’s personality plays in education. With group assignments, I can group students with the same or different personalities based on the outcome I want,” he explained.

Eric Cork’s session gave Rhynes tools to utilize when teaching the writing process to students, and Tanner’s session made him realize that a culturally responsive classroom is not just for schools that are racially diverse.

“I attended Dr. Dora Washington’s ‘Trauma and Its Effect on Classroom Learning,’” shared Xavier Black, an 11-year social studies teacher. “The information obtained from the trauma training was so overwhelmingly relevant that I decided to create a PowerPoint on trauma and present it to the students,” Black said. He is grateful that district leaders saw the need for teachers to become aware of the phenomena because “we have to deal with students suffering from trauma. Now that we are armed

with this valuable information, we can make better decisions when dealing with students who display less than desirable behavior,” he concluded.

“These were definitely some of the best professional development trainings we have ever had at the beginning of the year, and I have worked in the district going on 13 years,” Clark commented. “They were very engaging and the content was very beneficial to us as teachers.”

The tone for the opening of the school year was set by the dynamic superintendent who coordinated, with the help of various partners, a unique inaugural Back-to-School Convocation featuring the Former U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige (the first and only African American to hold the office) and national gospel recording artist and songwriter, Kathy Taylor.

Most educators, students and community members say the mood in the district is moving along a positive path with high expectations. “Overall, I have extremely positive feelings about the future success of the newly created district,” said veteran educator Carolyn Love. “I have been an educator in the district for over 34 years and I have seen Holmes County Central High School (HCCHS) go through four name changes.”

A Lexington resident, she is a graduate of the formerly named Lexington Attendance Center (LAC) now, HCCHS. Love said that although there are still some who have fears, uncertainties, a lack of knowledge and resistance to change, she tries every opportunity to inform people on the things that are positive and true. “I realize that we need to prepare our students for the global economy,” she said.

“I have seen many students exit HCCHS adjust and excel in many avenues across the country, but I have also seen many who have not. I feel that that is not acceptable.”

Horton strongly concurs that “Holmes County was due for a change ... this fresh start will benefit the entire county,” she expressed.

Advertise

Continued from page 1

Clyburn, 78, said he was recently taken aback by one candidate, who said that he could win the black vote by running on an anti-Trump platform.

“Wait one second,” Clyburn said that he told the individual. “We can’t just go around being ‘Republican-light.’ We have to be out there putting forth an alternative message, for our base, and we have to reach out to black voters and let them know we’re not taking them or any of our base for granted.”

To that end, Clyburn said advertising campaigns must largely include the Black Press.

“It’s very, very important...Chairman Richmond and I have had candidates in and we’ve been telling them that one of the best ways to demonstrate that you’re not taking the black vote for granted is to advertise in the Black Press,” Clyburn said.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) is the oldest and largest trade group representing the Black Press, comprised of more than 200 black-owned newspapers operating in the the United States.

“I’ve been in [the Black Press]. My daughter and I ran a newspaper down south, so I know that candidates tend to take black media for granted,” Clyburn said. “They tend to judge black media the same way they do other media and you just can’t do that, because the business model is totally different.”

Each Sunday after attending Morris Brown A.M.E. Church in Charleston, S.C., Clyburn said he and other churchgoers habitually pick up the local black-owned newspaper.

“People tend to pay attention to the headlines, the stories and the ads in the Black Press so it’s vitally important that candidates know this,” Clyburn said.

A former history teacher, Clyburn said Trump’s obsession with dismantling Obama’s legacy is reminiscent of tactics employed by Andrew Johnson to demean his predecessor, Abraham Lincoln.

Johnson, who was impeached by the House, had a vision of America as a white man’s government, according to historians.

“If you remember, it’s the same kind of reaction Johnson had to Lincoln and I

remember sitting alone once in the Oval Office with Obama and I told him that this would be the kind of reaction he could expect,” Clyburn said.

“[Obama] was never going to get the kind of respect for his presidency that was shown to presidents before him,” Clyburn said. “The narrative that exists in this country is that there are certain things that black folks are not supposed to do and one of those things is becoming the president of the United States and [President Trump] and his administration, feel they have to do whatever they can to wipe out any semblance that Barack Obama was ever president of the United States.”

Clyburn continued: “[Trump] has a deep-seated hatred for people of color and it manifests itself every day.”

Though he doesn’t support or agree politically with former Trump aide Omarosa Manigault Newman, Clyburn said he was deeply troubled when Trump referred to her as a “low life” and a “dog.”

“I’m the father of three daughters and I’m deeply insulted by the president of the United States referring to an African-American women the way he referred to her,” he said. “Politics aside, I’m insulted that the president of the United States would denigrate the office in this way.”

Clyburn continued: “The president asked an important question when he was running, ‘What do we have to lose?’ Well, we have lost dignity and the respect of the presidency, because of his coarseness in the office. When you lose respect, you’ve lost about everything there is to lose.”

While he still supports Pelosi, Clyburn said that if the Democrats take back the House, he’s up for the job as speaker.

“I have always supported her, but I have always remembered a sermon I heard my father give a number of times,” Clyburn said. “That sermon stayed with me, ‘Keep your lamps trimmed and burning to be ready when the bridegroom comes.’ My point is, I’ve never forgotten that sermon so I keep my lamp burning; so I’m ready.”

Stacy Brown is an NNPA Newswire contributor and co-author of “Michael Jackson: The Man Behind the Mask: An Insider’s Story of the King of Pop.” Follow Stacy on Twitter @stacybrownmedia.

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Commissioner of Higher Education to visit MVSU

Mississippi Link Newswire

Commissioner of Higher Education Al Rankins Jr. is spending his first hundred days in office touring the campuses to gain insights and perspectives on the university system from students, faculty, staff, elected officials and community leaders.

The tour will include a stop at Mississippi Valley State University Friday, Aug. 24. During the visit, Rankins will have intimate conversations with various MVSU focus groups, including administration, faculty, staff and students. The visit will conclude with an open reception for MVSU alumni and community leaders.

“My objective is to listen and glean insight and information that will inform my work as commissioner and ensure that we are facilitating progress on each campus,” said Rankins, in a prepared statement. “On each visit, I hope to meet with small groups of students, faculty and staff to have productive roundtable discussions, along with open forums and time to meet with alumni, community leaders and elected officials.”



Rankins’ visit to MVSU will kick-off Friday morning with sessions with MVSU President Jerryl Briggs and administration.

An open forum will be hosted from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. in the Cliff E. Williams Auditorium of MVSU’s Business Education Building.

Following the forum, Rankins will meet with MVSU student leaders, faculty and staff members.

The visit will conclude with an Alumni and Community Leaders Reception from 4:35 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Business Education Building Foyer.

Rankins’ prior campus visits included the University of Mississippi, Jackson State University and Delta State University.

His tour will continue with visits to the University of Southern Mississippi Aug. 30-31; Mississippi University for Women Sept. 26; Mississippi State University Sept. 27-28; and Alcorn State University Oct. 10-11.

Named Commissioner of Higher Education on March 23, 2018, Rankins began serving in this role July 1, 2018. As commissioner, Rankins provides leadership to the university system, including all eight public universities in Mississippi.

Prior to being named Commissioner of Higher Education, Rankins served as the 19th president of Alcorn State University, the nation’s oldest public land-grant HBCU. During

his four years as president of his alma mater, Rankins provided leadership that helped the university enroll its largest freshman class in its history and increased the average ACT scores of entering freshmen for three consecutive years. The university achieved its highest ever ranking by College Consensus as the #7 best HBCU and #1 best public HBCU in the nation. The university has established new academic programs and made important discoveries through its research.

He was named president of Alcorn State University March 4, 2014. Prior to that, Rankins served as deputy commissioner for the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL). While serving as deputy commissioner, Rankins also served as acting president of Mississippi Valley State University.

Prior to his appointment at IHL, Rankins served on the faculty at Mississippi State University (MSU), where he was a tenured associate professor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and extension specialist with the MSU Extension Service.



Using data, staffing and instructional programs for student gain

By Kristen Dechert & Carl Smith
Special to The Mississippi Link

Each year, public schools *in* the state of Mississippi receive an accountability rating from the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, schools that earned a rating of F were engaged in an interview process led by the MDE Office of School Improvement (OSI) that provided schools with a platform to conduct a needs assessment. Using information from this assessment, schools developed improvement plans that addressed high-leverage areas of leadership, curriculum and instruction, professional development, climate and safety and assessment.

This interview process and plan development is a proven strategy for improvement, according to the Council of Chief State School Officers, and it is an integral part to the overall guidance schools receive from the OSI. However, each school is different – therefore the plans developed are unique and targeted for individual needs.

But what does it take to move the needle and raise a school’s accountability ranking? We sat down with some of these schools who began the 2016-2017 school year with an accountability rating of F, but by the conclusion of the school year had demonstrated improvement that resulted in significantly moving the needle.

Identify, Track, Follow Through and Follow Up

O’Bannon Elementary School, Greenville

First among the six values O’Bannon Elementary School touts on its website is “All children can and will learn,” followed by “Higher expectations result in higher achievement.” These student-centered values set a tone for the school that success is not only important but inevitable if the right expectations are set.

In 2016, O’Bannon Elementary, part of the Western Line School District in Greenville, was rated F on the statewide accountability system. Just one year later, the school received an A rating – a dramatic improvement by any standard but not necessarily a shocking one to the district itself.

When asked about how O’Bannon Elementary moved from an F to an A rating in one school year, superintendent Larry Green pointed to three key areas: coaching, progress monitoring and quality staff.

Like many elementary schools across the state, O’Bannon benefited from a concentrated, statewide effort to deploy literacy coaches into schools to support the goals of the Literacy Based Promotion Act, which mandates that students must be reading on grade level by the third grade in order to advance to fourth grade. This literacy coach was “instrumental” to O’Bannon’s improved accountability rating, said Green.

Strategies Continued on page 7



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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

Engaging-Empowering-Ensuring-Excellence

HCSD Superintendent Gives Empowering Message to Students and Parents!

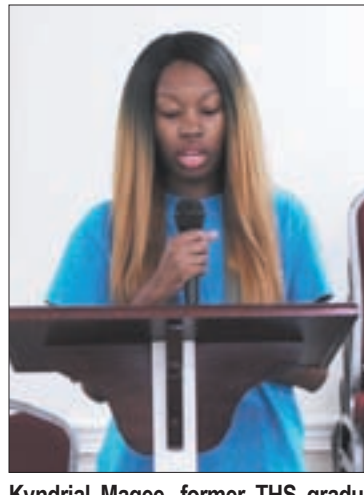
On Saturday, August 18, 2018, Superintendent Delesicia Martin served as the guest speaker at Salem MB Church for its Back to School Prayer Breakfast. The theme for the event was "POP the Power of Prayer." Her message addressed: how teaching and learning has changed due to social media and technology; the importance of parents; high expectations for student success; and empowering students to be college and career ready.



Dr. Delesicia Martin, Superintendent of Education



Camia White, 10th grade student at THS, delivering prayer.



Kyndrial Magee, former THS graduate and Hinds CC student gives the welcome.



Special guests



Students



Bonnie Gatlin, BMS Teacher and THS graduate, speaks to youth



Minister Timothy Plummer prays for all educational personnel



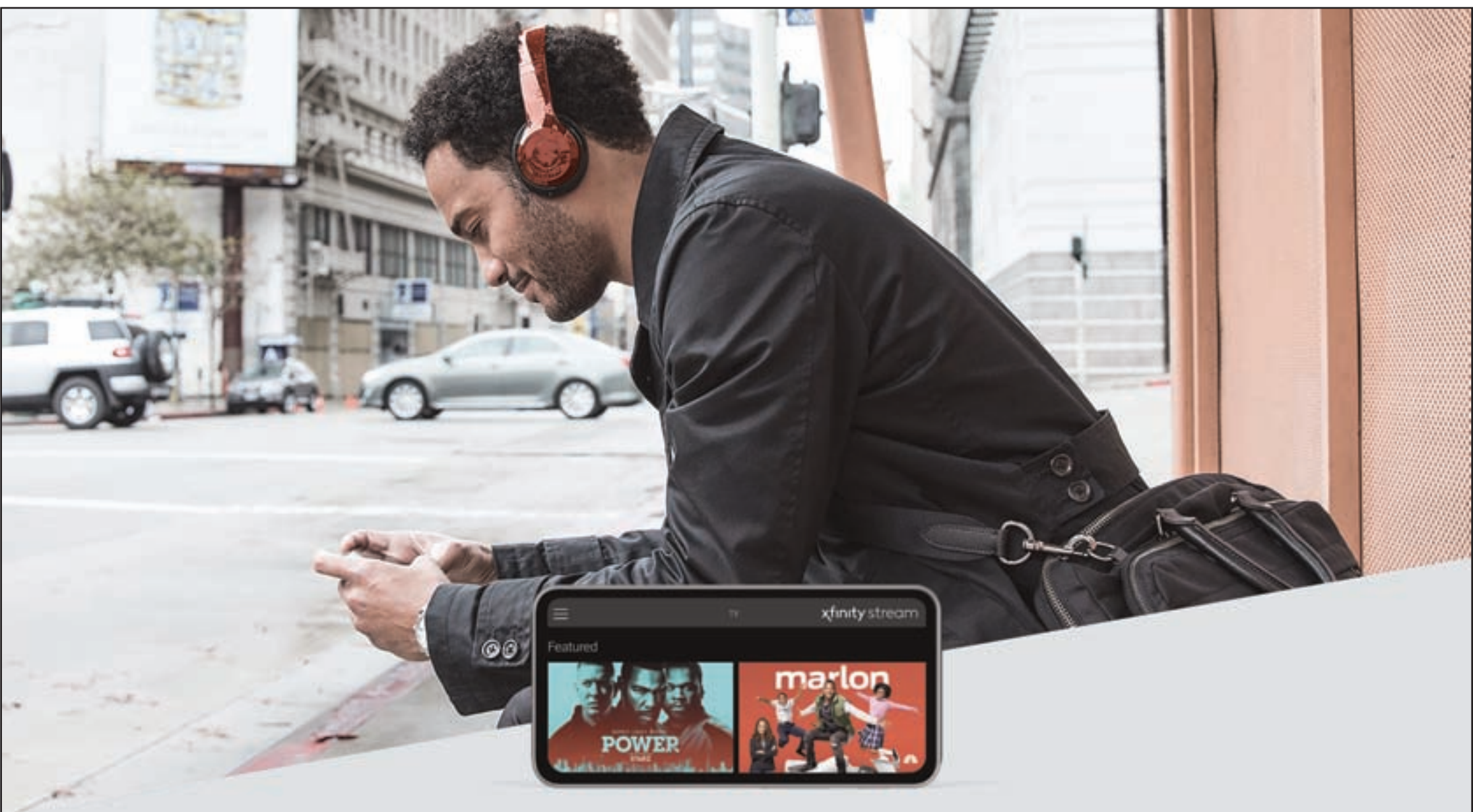
Sgt. Clayton Johnson, from Jackson Police Department, speaks to youth



Students



Students



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Minority male educators discuss role in impacting student outcomes

Mississippi Link Newswire

LaJeremy Hughes, a 3rd grade English language arts teacher at Della Davidson Elementary in the Oxford School District, knew his career path the first day he stepped into a classroom.

“I immediately connected to school and all it could offer. Over the past four years, the reason for teaching has changed. I look at teaching now as an opportunity to promote change. It’s more than just the dissemination of information, but it’s a chance to empower and ignite a fire,” he said.

Hughes is among the 6 percent of Mississippi’s teachers that are minority men, and efforts are underway to increase the number of minority men in the teaching profession at a time when Mississippi and other states across the nation grapple with a teacher shortage.

To that end, the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) Office of Educator Talent Acquisition and Effectiveness, in partnership with the Mississippi Association of Educators, the Mississippi Professional Educators and Tougaloo College Division of Education, will host a one-day convening of minority male educators. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 25, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Bennie G. Thompson Academic Center on the campus of Tougaloo College.

“I commend MDE for taking a stance and seeing the importance of having minority male educators in the classroom,” said Thea H. Williams-Black, dean of the Division of Education, Supervision and Instruction at Tougaloo College. “I like the fact that it was a call for educators across the state, so you’re getting perspectives from educators from various regions and that’s the real way you can see change.”

The partnership will bring together 75 minority male educators from across Mississippi to seek strategies to grow the pipeline of minority male educators, reduce the number of minority male educators exiting schools and classrooms, and strengthen educator preparation programs that prepare minority male educators. The goal is to grow the event in the future and to encourage more minority males to enter the teaching profession.

“I look forward to participating in this event. This effort is one piece of a comprehensive plan the MDE is implementing to address the teacher shortage,” said Carey Wright, state superintendent of education. “Research has shown the positive influence that minority teachers have on minority students, and as the state continues to focus on improving outcomes for student groups that have been traditionally underserved, I believe that recruiting and retaining minority male teachers will be important to this work.”

MDE has set a goal of increasing the number of minority teachers to 32 percent of the workforce by 2021, up from the current 27 percent of teachers. In the 2017-18 school year, 48.5 percent of students in Mississippi’s public schools were African-American and 51 percent of students were male.

“It is only fair that students see a well-balanced teaching staff, which consists of more males in the classroom and not just coaching. Recruitment and retention of male educators should be a primary focus to help with creating more diversity in our schools,” said Contrell Terrell, a special education teacher in the Hattiesburg Public School District.

A John Hopkins University study showed that low-income black students who have at least

one black teacher in elementary school are significantly more likely to graduate high school and consider attending college. Also, having at least one

black teacher in 3rd through 5th grades reduced a black student’s probability of dropping out of school by 29 percent. For very low-income black boys, the re-

sults are even greater – their chance of dropping out fell 39 percent.

Outcomes

Continued on page 17



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Education: it gives us the tools to understand the world, succeed in life and shape the future.

At Nissan Canton, we want all students to embrace their full potential and be excited about learning. As we celebrate our 15th anniversary in Mississippi, we remain committed to preparing today’s students for tomorrow’s opportunities.

Mississippi students, as you head back to school, our team wishes you great success and lots of fun this school year!

NissanCanton15.com



Strategies

Continued from page 1

Progress monitoring, a strategy with which many schools are familiar, was another tactic for moving the school up in the rankings. At O’Bannon, however, simply monitoring was not enough. Rather, the monitoring was used to guide improvement strategies and remediation, particularly for students in the lowest quartile.

“One of the most helpful things was [progress monitoring] every nine weeks,” said Green. “If we find [students] in the lower 25 percent, we bring in the assistant teachers and others to help them. That is vital – identifying, tracking, follow-through and follow-up.”

Finally, Green attributed quality staff as a major component to school improvement. This focus on teacher quality is common in improvement conversations; however, when Green describes quality he means more than teaching ability. Certainly, teaching matters, but Green explained other characteristics of teachers are important to school improvement as well.

“You can’t [make improvements] without good staff, and they were absolutely not going to take another F, and that shows a lot of pride in the staff and determination. It really did make a difference with that school and the parents because they were excited about [the improved letter rating.]”

Redefining Academic Excellence
Viola E. Lake Elementary School, Jackson

Moving from an F in 2016 to a B in 2017, Viola E. Lake Elementary School of Jackson Public Schools also focused on data use in its improvement strategy, but using data strategically isn’t as easy as it sounds.

“We had a vision of academic excellence for all children, but we had to determine what academic excellence looks like,” said LaKeisha Sutton, principal.

Often when educators and leaders discuss data-driven decisionmaking, they are referencing student performance on state tests or progress-monitoring testing platforms. Although these data were a part of Lake Elementary’s strategy, Sutton decided on a broader definition of data to drive a more well-rounded improvement plan. To tackle the difficult task of moving up in school ranking, Sutton and her leadership team collected and analyzed a host of data, including teacher-evaluation ratings, academic areas of strength and deficit for individual students, percentages of students scoring at least proficient on state tests, and more.

This holistic view of data led to more conversations among teachers and staff about how to truly drive improvement.

“When we looked at [the state] standards, and staff began to look at lesson plans, and we began discussing how we could do things differently – that’s how the change began. Then we began having regular conversations about data, regular conversations about children, regular conversations about specific needs of students and attacking those needs with differentiated instruction,” said Sutton.

She also decided students needed buy-in to their academic success, so teachers and students worked together to set individualized growth goals. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, teachers met with students, and together they developed a plan for meeting or exceeding their goals, a process Sutton said gave students ownership of their performance and made them feel more

involved in their improvement.

“We make a big deal when we see students moving forward. We know every child may not be proficient, but as long as they are showing significant growth, we are excited and celebrate those successes,” Sutton said.

To drive school improvement, Sutton, who became principal in 2016, also made substantial operational changes at Lake Elementary by extending the school day and reorganizing the staff.

Extending the school day to 5 p.m. allowed teachers and administrators to address individual needs more fully. Through this extended learning, over half of the school’s students received an additional two hours of education on a daily basis, which led to increased instructional time and allowed more individualized attention.

The staff reorganization better aligned teachers to their interests and areas of strength and developed a school leadership team as a decision-making body for the school.

Jannifer Frank, who teaches fourth and fifth-grade math at the school, credits the staff reorganization as an integral part of the school’s improvement thus far: “It was exciting to see the new administrator come in and reorganize our staff and to be departmentalized based on our strengths, which impacted the children as well because the teachers were teaching the subjects they really loved.”

These organizational shifts, Sutton said, allowed her to capitalize on an existing, strong teaching force and help answer that initial question: What does academic excellence look like?

“When you see an F rating you have a certain perception. You think you have a group of teachers who are ineffective, you think about a culture of students who can’t learn, or that the school is out of control, or you have a lack of community support, and none of that was evident at Lake,” she said. “When I came in...I saw a group of teachers who were invested in the school, who are committed to the school, and who are committed to the children at Lake, so doing the work wasn’t hard. We just had to redefine what the work looked like and make a few instructional shifts to get to where we are.”

Addressing the Whole Child
Earl Travillion Attendance Center, Hattiesburg

Earl Travillion Attendance Center of Forrest County School District in Hattiesburg serves students in prekindergarten through eighth grade, so the challenges and opportunities vary across the grades and ages of students.

Despite this variance, principal Kristina Pollard can point to two major changes that have brought her school success: an extended-learning program and increased opportunity for collaboration for teachers.

In the 2015-2016 school year, Earl Travillion was one of the lowest F schools in the state, said Pollard, who quickly implemented a new program called Tiger Time, which allotted 30-45 minutes every day for individualized tutoring on deficit areas. The school then transitioned to a schoolwide extended-learning program that adds “two hours

Thank You Message to the Communtiy

On August 7, 2018 a tremendous, resounding, and illuminative measure of support was rendered to the Jackson Public School District.

Today, on behalf of the Campaign Committee, the JPS Board of Trustees, the entire staff, the teachers and most important of all: our Children: WE SAY THANK YOU!!!!



Your investment in the youth will reap dividends in the form of measured growth through an improved work environment. Ever so Often, we as adults in this community are challenged to reach beyond our grasp and place value where there appeared to be no hope.

However, with over 85% of the voting populace; our school district can now forge ahead, and, address some of the standards as Disclosed in the Mississippi Department of Education’s Audit. We can safely say with confidence that our children matter; and, the Message was delivered loud and clear that “An Education in Jackson, Mississippi is a shared responsibility”.

Now that this Bond Referendum is solidly endorsed by the voters; the job of accountability and oversight shall be realized as Resolved by the Trustees of JPS.

Thank You Jackson, Mississippi for touching lives and making a difference in the youth of our community. Please stay engaged; And tuned in; for, our word is our bond; and we all expect “excellence without any excuses”.

Respectfully,

LeRoy Walker, Jr.

Servant

a day three times a week every week of the school year.” In total, students get about 300 additional instructional hours over the course of a school year.

You might expect a longer school day to result in restless students and increased discipline referrals, but Pollard and her staff have built in provisions, such as additional physical education time and a snack to divert unwanted behavior. They also implemented mindfulness, relaxation, art and other activities to give the students a variety of ways to cope with a longer school day.

“If you want them to have that sharp attention, you’ve got to feed that brain with energy and keep that blood pumping,” said Pollard.

As with any new program, buy-in was an initial challenge for Pollard and her team, so she planned an aggressive public relations campaign early on to convince faculty and parents of the benefits of an extended-learning program.

“In the beginning, it was scary for

some, but once we kicked the program off, we had 100 percent participation from our staff,” said Pollard.

To get this buy-in from teachers, Pollard provides them two hours every Wednesday to work in collaborative teams to discuss and address student and school needs – and this time is paid. Pollard noted teachers are often asked to tutor after school or take their work home for no compensation, but with additional funds, she can pay them for the extra hours and added work. This additional time to focus on addressing school needs means teachers have a little extra money in their pockets and students receive benefits of a teaching staff that has more time to work together professionally and to collaboratively plan learning goals.

To convince parents, Pollard showed the monetary and peace-of-mind benefits they would reap from having their children at school longer.

“For one, [the program] saved par-

ents money because they had decreased costs in after-school programs or for a babysitter; they were able to keep that money in their home. If they were concerned about their teenagers being out in the community and doing things they shouldn’t be, they knew their children were with us until at least 5:30 p.m., if you include the bus route home,” said Pollard.

After implementing Tiger Time, the school moved up to a D rating, and Pollard expect it will improve even more this year with the full extended-learning program in place.

“School improvement does not occur in a vacuum. It is collaborative, strategic, data-informed work at every level of the educational system. It is about implementing effective practices that foster systems for teaching and learning that can be sustained over time. It’s not easy work, but it is meaningful work,” said Sonja Robertson, director of the OSI.

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Hinds CC students begin first week of classes

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds Community College began fall classes Aug. 13. Students were able to register for the 16-week fall term or eight-week term through Aug. 17.

Hinds offers more than 450 academic courses guaranteed to transfer to universities, plus more than 70 career and technical program options. Students can take classes day or night at any of our six locations, or take online classes from the convenience of their own home.

Hinds also offers many different starting points, so students can begin college when they are ready.

On-campus classes:

- 16-week (full term) classes – Aug. 13
- Eight-week classes – Aug. 13 and Oct. 4
- Six-week classes – Sept. 4 and Oct. 15
- Four-week classes – Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 9 and Nov. 5

Online classes

- 15-week (full term) classes – Aug. 20
- Eight-week classes – Aug. 20 and Oct. 15
- 4-week classes – Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15 and Nov. 12

“Hinds Community College takes pride in its mission of providing a quality, affordable education that fits the life needs of our students,” said Raymond Campus Dean of Academics Ben Cloyd.

As Mississippi’s largest community college, Hinds Community College is a comprehensive institution offering quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career and technical programs teaching job-ready skills. With six locations in central Mississippi, Hinds enrolls about 12,000 students each fall semester.

To learn more, visit www.hindscc.edu or call 1.800.HindsCC.

For more information on programs of study and scheduling, see www.hindscc.edu.



Students at Hinds Community College's Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center buy books and supplies the first week of school. Pictured are, from left, book store employee Jerrica Murray and students Sarah Brown and Michel Davis, all Jackson residents.



Hinds Community College Medical Data Technology instructor Angela Garrett of Monticello, standing left, gets class started at Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center. Students are, seated from left, Chavet Bryant of Jackson, Pakendra Hall of Jackson, Eboni Galtney of Clinton and Anastasia Ellis of Jackson.



Campus police Lt. Maurice Winford makes IDs for Hinds Community College students Sonya Watson of Canton, Alexis Jones of Jackson, Mayia Horton of Jackson and Katlyn Stokes of Jackson at Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center.

Alcorn State University preparing campus for upcoming academic year

The Mississippi Link Newswire

With the start of the fall 2018 semester around the corner, Alcorn State University has been busily preparing the campus for the return of students and faculty.

Throughout the summer, campus maintenance crews and contractors have been working progressively towards ensuring all dormitories are ready for the new academic year. The university is tackling everything from cleaning carpets, waxing floors, painting, replacing broken faucets and replacing light bulbs and more.

Over the last few years, the university has again chosen to target resources towards improving one of the older student residence halls on the Lorman campus. This year the Facilities Management Unit identified Revels Hall men’s dormitory shower facilities for renovations. The newly revamped showers will feature new floors with urethane coatings, new plumbing fixtures and



soap dishes and towel holders.

Interim president Donzell Lee is pleased to see the increased focus on campus improvements and beautification considering expected enrollment growth.

“Alcorn is our students home away from home, and we want to be intentional in our efforts to provide the most comfortable and positive living and learning experience for

them,” stated Lee. “The university will continue to be mission-driven in its focus on strengthening our customer service delivery towards increased student satisfaction.”

Jeff Posey, associate vice president for Facilities Management, added, “Last year we renovated the showers in Burrus Hall, one of our classic women’s dormitories and this year we wanted to devote energy on

a similar project.” Posey concluded, “We believe our residents in Revels will be extremely pleased and appreciate these new improvements.”

On the opening day of New and Transfer Student Orientation Weekend of Welcome, Aug. 17, the Facilities Management office staffed four helpdesks at various locations to assist parents and students with addressing maintenance issues. The helpdesks were located at the Honors Residence Hall Lobby, Medgar Evers Heritage Village Building C Lobby, Burrus Hall Lobby, and Revels Hall Lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Additionally, the helpdesks provided complimentary shower curtain sets to all students who had a need.

A crew of trades and custodial technicians were also available over the weekend to assist with any urgent matters.

Large-scale repair projects will need to be requested and scheduled through the residence life work order system.

State test scores bring good news

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Students showed improvement in every grade and subject area, with more students scoring in the top three proficiency levels and fewer scoring in levels one and two. Perhaps the best news of all is that school districts that were rated F in 2017 showed considerable improvement. Every traditional public school district that was rated F last year increased the percent of students who scored proficient and advanced.

Overall:

- in English/Language Arts, 40 school districts had more than 45 percent of their students score proficient or advanced – compared to just 22 districts in 2017 and 14 districts in 2016
- in mathematics, 52 school districts had more than 45 percent of their students score proficient or advanced in mathematics – compared to just 32 districts in 2017 and 15 in 2016.

Fewer students met the new, higher proficiency benchmark for the English II exam, and English teachers are crying foul. The score required for a student to be considered proficient in English II was raised by seven points for the 2017-2018 test. This is a significant change that masks some of the academic growth that students and teachers worked so hard to achieve, and it is likely to have at least some impact on high schools’ accountability ratings. Some states set a three-point cap on the degree to which a raw score requirement can be raised from one year to the next.

“I’ve done a little digging through the data for all grades and subjects, and I am astounded by the impressive gains being made in so many of our school districts. Teachers and students, your hard work is paying off. We are proud of you,” said Nancy Loomer, executive director of Parent’s Campaign.

Alcorn releases plans for addressing student housing challenge

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Alcorn State University leaders are leaving no stone unturned in its efforts to make sure the institution can meet the student housing demand for the fall semester. With an increased demand for on-campus housing, all available beds on both the Lorman and Natchez campuses have been filled.

Similar to last year, the university has devised appropriate alternatives to ensure that all registered students are accommodated with university housing for the fall semester. With all the Natchez campus residences assigned, the university plans to offer a daily shuttle bus service to transport students to and from Natchez. Each student will also receive the full meal plan to use on the Lorman campus.

Alcorn’s interim president Donzell Lee reported that the school has recently received approval from the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning to contract with the Days Inn hotel in Natchez to meet any additional housing needs for a continually growing student body.

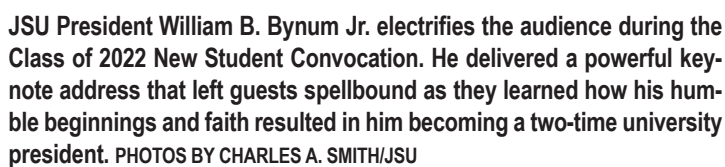
Lee explained, “Alcorn desires to see all students housed on our Lorman campus. Unfortunately, our available housing stock does not currently afford us this opportunity. The university has been actively exploring all options and alternatives possible to help us adequately address our growing housing challenge. Thankfully, this arrangement gives us an opportunity to house students as needed temporarily.”

Tracy Cook, interim vice president for Student Affairs added, “Alcorn’s goal is to accommodate every student who requests with a comfortable environment to live and learn on our campus. The hotel has amenities identical to on-campus dormitories – including move-in ready furniture – that should offer students a fairly similar experience. We have also begun steps to overhaul our housing process to ensure we have a more efficient application and assignment system in place in the future.”

Campus police will be partnering with local law enforcement to ensure a safe environment is maintained in our Natchez housing. Facility maintenance services for the Natchez campus residence halls will continue. Throughout the fall semester, the temporary housing solutions will be re-evaluated and students will be transitioned to the Lorman campus based on availability.

By L.A. Warren
jsumsnews.com

“My parents separated while I was in kindergarten. My mother raised eight of us: five girls and three boys. When God Almighty delivers you from that environment and makes you a two-time university president, He deserves some praise.”



Meanwhile, in continuing his message to the entire audience, Bynum humor-

She said it was the first college that accepted Caleb even though he submitted applications to other colleges and was accepted. However, the final decision



Other incoming students were equally

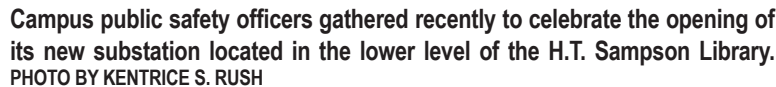
Bynum then recited his standard admonition to the audience to help out whenever it needs a compass for guidance.

By L.A. Warren
isumsnews.com

"Officers work really hard and perform a lot of overtime. This is one of the ways that I can show them that I appreciate their efforts. Oftentimes, people get called into the office to handle a lot of negative incidents. With this expansion, I just wanted to put a

Also, Samuel said, “While the main sta-

“We’re even considering forming an intramural basketball team to play alongside students. Also, there will be more presentations in residence halls to interact with students about public safety and other matters. In general, we’re moving toward more community policing,” Albright said.



GPSD partners with MVSU to Launch the early college program

Mississippi Link Newswire

Greenville Public School District is partnering with Mississippi Valley State University to launch a new program, Early College High School, in the Greenville Public School District. Students' first school day on MVSU's campus was August 20. Freshmen students in the Early College will earn college credit hours as they work to complete their high school diploma.

MVSU is the first four-year Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning to participate in an early college program. MVSU has graciously provided classroom space to house GPSD Early College students. Students will spend their days on the campus of MVSU completing high school and college courses. Professors from MVSU will teach the college courses while GPSD teachers will provide high school instruction. Greenville Public School District, in conjunction with a MVSU agreement, will provide transportation to Itta Bena, MS, where MVSU is located.

The early college program is another opportunity that the Greenville Public School District provides for students to be successful. Participating in an early college program while still in high school is a positive way to

make sure students are on a clear path towards obtaining a college degree. Competition for jobs is intense, so the district has provided various pathways to ensure all students are college and career ready.

"Early college high school places students who desire to go to college on the college path at a faster pace. The intent is to give them the coursework, college exposure and confidence to be successful in completing high school and college. This early college high school partnership with Mississippi Valley State University is definitely a positive pathway towards student success." Janice Page, superintendent of Greenville Public School District

"We are excited to partner with the Greenville Public School District for the early college high school initiative. This is a great opportunity for GPSD students to gain hands-on experience and develop habits that will help prepare them for the rigors of college life and coursework. In addition, these students will have the opportunity to earn college credits while completing their high school diploma, which puts them in a great position to obtain a college degree," said Constance Bland, MVSU vice president of Academic Affairs

About Our District: The mission of the Greenville Public School District is to provide the opportunity for all to achieve success. For more information about our district, please visit our website at www.gvillepublicschoolsdistrict.com.

MVSU: Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU), as a Carnegie Classified Master's university, provides comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs in education, the arts and sciences, and professional studies. The university is driven by its commitment to excellence in teaching, learning, service and research – a commitment resulting in a learner-centered environment that prepares critical thinkers, exceptional communicators and service-oriented, engaged and productive citizens. MVSU is fundamentally committed to positively impacting the quality of life and creating extraordinary educational opportunities for the Mississippi Delta and beyond.

District hosts Founder's Day

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District hosted Founders Day in commemoration of the district's 145 years of service to the nation. This event celebrates the founding of the Vicksburg District by Capt. William Henry Harrison Benyaurd August 18, 1879. The Corps of Engineers has maintained a continuous presence in Vicksburg ever since and remains Vicksburg's second oldest business.

Vicksburg District Commander Col. Michael C. Derosier opened the ceremony with remarks about the district and its team members. "Today is a day of celebration, appreciation, remembrance and anticipation. Today we are celebrating 145 years of district history."

The Vicksburg District recognized team members with 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service.

Among team members recognized for their length of service

were Norma Walker, Billy Williams Jr., Jimmie Kirkwood and James Darnell for serving the district for 40 years.

The Vicksburg District also recognized graduates of its Leadership Development Program.

The ceremony concluded with a cake cutting with a saber, held by Col. Michael C. Derosier, the senior serving member Norma Walker and newest serving member Janice Darby.

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

To learn more about the Vicksburg District, visit our website, www.mvk.usace.army.mil.

Thompson announces \$73,685 awarded to Water Valley

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Recently, United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) announced The United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development/ Rural Business Development Program has awarded \$73,685 to the City of Water Valley for Valley Lumber and Hardware and Sartains Home & Auto, Inc.

This Rural Development investment in the amount of \$41,300 will be used to purchase a Clark Model C-40

Diesel Forklift for Valley Lumber & Hardware in Water Valley, Mississippi. The remaining \$32,385 will be used to purchase a Toyota Model #8FGCU25 Forklift and a Heftee 2000-H Workstation for Sartains Home & Auto, Inc. in Water Valley.

The new equipment will allow the businesses to meet the new production capacity needed by their customers.

For additional information contact Donald Gray at 662-473-2431.



Thompson

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Former Hinds County Asst. Public Defender
- Former Hinds County Asst. District Attorney
- Former Hinds County District Attorney
- Owner of The Peterson Group LLC
- Owner of FC & H Realty
- Family Master Hinds County Chancery Court

- Volunteer CLE Trainer for CABA, MAJ, MVLP, MWLA, and the University of Mississippi School of Law
- Former Board Member Hinds County Human Resource Agency
- Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc, Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter

- B.S. Physics Jackson State University
- J.D. Mississippi College School of Law
- Member of Cade Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Usher Board and Circle of Temperance Missionary Group

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APPROVED BY E. FAYE PETERSON CANDIDATE

Choosing your destiny

PART 3

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



Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

My friend, there is going to be a judgment when this thing is all over. The devil does not want you to believe it. He wants you

to scoff and make fun at it, but there will be a judgment.

You do not have to wait until the end to know that God’s promised judgment will come just as He has said it will. In Genesis, we read that God said that man became so wicked that He was going to destroy man whom He had created. He said He was going to send a flood and take away life from every man, but “Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.” (Genesis 6:8)

You need to fear God, and you need to pass the time of your sojourning here in fear. We are

here only a little while, and then we will be gone. The devil will work to cause you to waste your life and to spend your life in sin. The devil wants you to live it up through life; that is the reason he keeps you so busy. He will keep your mind all wrapped up in the things of this old world. He does not want you to get away where it is peaceful and quiet and for you to really think about your life, to think about what you are doing or to think about what is happening to you.

The devil does not want you to read this message. He does not like to be uncovered. He

is the one that has you drunk on the wine of the world and wrapped up in the things of the world. Unless you can get hold of yourself by the help of God and take the exit that God is making for you, you are going to be lost eternally.

You need to get an experience with God. You can dig down and get all the rubbish out of the way and really get on the Rock, Christ Jesus. You need to get everything settled in your heart and mind. My friend, you can dig right down and get an experience with God that will last you from now until you leave

this world. You do not have to be up and down in your Christian experience. You can get the goods and press your way right on, and then one day you will hear Him say, “Well done, My good and faithful servant.”

The devil does not want you to get saved. He does not even want the saints of God to read this message. He will work this way and that way to try to distract you. He is an enemy, and he does not get too alarmed because you choose to go to a church service, but whenever you really shut out everything else and begin to heed the mes-

sage and let it sink down into your heart, you will find that the devil does not like it. He will try to get your mind on what you are planning to do tomorrow or what you have done today. He does not like it when the Word of God reaches the heart and captivates the mind.

Next week, “Choosing your Destiny” – Part IV

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.

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PRESERVED

Future Faith

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Even though it’s only August, some people are already thinking ahead to 2019. They are thinking about plans for New Year’s Eve and even Valentine’s Day. The rest of us may just be trying to make it to the next weekend.


There is a great benefit to looking and planning ahead: you can better strategize when things don’t necessarily go as you planned. Plus, you don’t get so easily distracted by issues like family and job drama because you are focused on the future.

It’s kind of like your senior year of high school when you have a full-blown case of senioritis. Nothing that a teacher does really matters because you are focused on life after graduation.

The best way I can describe it is to say – follow God into the victories of 2019 and do not be distracted by the battles or disappointments of 2018.

What many of us do out of habit (or maybe I’m just speaking of myself) is focus so much on God meeting our needs for our current battles that we forget he’s an omnipresent God and can take care of both your current and future needs at the same time.

Over a decade ago, I was blessed to join the Anointed Authors Writing and Book Ministry Tour Group that reminded me of just that kind of timeless faith. We planned our ground-breaking tour of 7 African-American Christian female authors in late 2005 and early 2006. We all come from different parts of the country and prayed about every aspect of the tour from



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Omarosa is Not Your Dog, Trump!

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



I am no fan of Omarosa Manigault Newman, the mononymous diva who dominates the airwaves whenever she wants to. Her new book, *Unhinged*, which I won't read, is billed as a tell-all on 45's White House and its shenanigans.

In making the rounds, Omierosie (my nickname for her) has played tapes that seem to corroborate at least some of her allegations about 45. More importantly, her tapes are evidence that the game captured the hunter. In other words, Omierosie took a page from 45's book and trusted fewer people than even 45 did.

Now the 45-defense machine, led by Sarah Huckabee Sanders, has gone out of its way to paint her as all kinds of liars. Surprise, surprise. And folks have run to the airwaves to suggest that the People's House on 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is inhabited entirely by liars.

If you elect a clown, expect a circus, but this is more than a spectacle now. It is the systematic denigration of black people that must be repudiated and rejected. The dehumanization of black people allowed whites to enslave us and then justify enslavement. The defeminization of black women allowed white men to use us sexually, and shielded them, after enslavement, from any consequences. Legally, it was almost impossible, until recently, to convict a white man of raping a black woman. Recy Taylor's rapists got away with it, and white women stood by them. Omierosie may be an integrity-challenged lowlife (that didn't start with this book), but she is not a dog.

Calling Omarosa a dog is a sly way of 45 trying to call her an *itch, or a female dog. She is, as we all are, a terribly flawed human being. In naming her a dog, as in calling Congresswoman Maxine Waters "low IQ" is casting aspersions on all black women. The civil rights activist Ruby Sales addressed this on a Facebook post that bears sharing.

Trump called Omarosa a dog. For younger folk, let me break it down. His slander is laden with white supremacist historical slander of black women in a culture of white male rape and a reign of terror. Their assault against black women extends back to captivity and enslavement in sites of terror in a strange land where we were hostages to the sexual whims of white men. Moreover, these men were also pedophiles who raped young black girls. To justify their perverse behavior, desires and the colonization and invasion of the lives and body territory of black girls and women, they slandered us as whores and immoral sexual predators whose sexual appetites know no limits.

So, when you sit quietly and allow Trump – no matter what you think about Omarosa – to call her a dog, you give him a pass to raise up the white smear of us that your older sisters went to the mat placing our lives on the line to end this culture. Omarosa isn't the only former White House aide who has written about the dysfunctional White House. Sean Spicer did the same thing, yet he has not been called a dog. Instead, he was feted in Washington with a book party that actually charged an admission fee.

No shade and no disparagement from the White House. Censure seems only to come when a black woman is speaking her truth. It is an interesting time to be an African-American woman. On the one hand, during this September month, we see eleven black women gracing the covers of magazines. Beyoncé is on the cover of *Vogue*, Rihanna on the cover of *British Vogue*, Tracy Ellis Ross on the cover of *Elle*, Zendaya on the cover of *Marie Claire*. Issa Ray graces the cover of *Ebony*, actress and comedian Tiffany Haddish is on the cover of *Glamour*, Lupita Nyong'o is on the cover of *Porte* and there are others who show up on smaller publications.

In total, writes Joy Sewing, African-American women graced eleven magazine covers in the all-important September issues, the issues that often attract the most advertising and also set trends for the fall and the rest of the year. The Beyoncé cover on *Vogue* is especially impactful because Beyoncé used her influence and editorial direction to bring a young black man in as her photographer. It was the first time that an African American was the cover photographer for *Vogue* magazine in its history.

On the one hand we are being celebrated, and on the other hand, we are being slammed. Commercial sensibilities are out of sync with the bigotry of this president, but can these commercial sensibilities be used to topple 45's bigotry? Beyoncé brought a black cover photographer to *Vogue* Magazine. Can her Bey-hive bring change to prevailing racist attitudes? Will the women who pick up these magazine covers send a strong message to the woman-hating, genital grabbing president?

Omarosa may be a lot of things, Chump, but she is not your dog, and neither are the rest of us.

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 book- ing, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianne-malveaux.com.

Remembering Ron Dellums and his radical devotion to people over politics

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



"If being an advocate of peace, justice and humanity toward all human beings is radical, then I'm glad to be called radical." — Ron Dellums, *American Activist & Politician*, (November 24, 1935 – July 30, 2018)

From the outside looking in, my interest in public service may appear preordained. I grew up during the height of the civil rights movement. I was as familiar with the names and achievements of civil rights heroes as sports fans are of their favorite teams and players. I was raised by activists. My father, Ernest "Dutch" Morial, who served as the first African-American mayor of New Orleans, and my mother, Sybil Morial, an author and unflagging advocate for justice, made sure to teach and instill progressive social values in our home. And then I met Ron Dellums.

I was 13 years old when I first saw Dellums speak at the Bright Hope Baptist Church in Philadelphia. From that day on, he became a role model to me, and as I am sure many would attest, Dellums became – and will remain – a role model for many up and coming elected officials. He was a larger than life figure – a former Marine who unwaveringly championed peace. Dellums was infamously relentless in his pursuit of justice and was respected by his colleagues and constituents alike for that powerful combination of passion and principles that guided his decades-long advocacy work.



Dellums

Ronald Vernie Dellums was born in Oakland, California, and like me, he was raised in a family that was no stranger to social justice. His father, Terry Dellums, once worked as a sleeping car porter before he became a longshoreman. His uncle was an organizer for the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, a labor organization founded by civil rights activist A. Philip Randolph.

After joining the Marine Corps., and later obtaining his master's in social work, Dellums began working in the Bay Area's poorest neighborhoods, becoming well-versed in the daily and systemic injustices born from racism and neglect. This experience prepared him for a political career that would span four decades. During that time, he would earn a place on President Richard Nixon's

"enemies list," he would play a critical role in the establishment of the Congressional Black Caucus, and he would witness the dismantling of the brutal regime of apartheid in South Africa.

A successful run for a seat on the Berkeley City Council set the stage for his next campaign. Dellums was recruited by anti-Vietnam war activists to run for the House of Representatives. It was during this campaign that Nixon's White House branded Dellums "an out and out radical" – a badge he wore with honor. Presidential animus aside, Dellums won and served in his seat for an uninterrupted twenty-seven years, making history as northern California's first black congressman. During his thirteen consecutive terms, Dellums chaired the House Committee on the District

of Columbia and despite being a well-known pacifist, he chaired the Armed Services Committee, becoming the first African-American and anti-war activist to hold the position.

Dellums' campaign against oppression and his fight for racial justice extended to the plight of black and brown people abroad. As a leader in the Free South Africa movement, he wrote and sponsored legislation for the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, which called for economic sanctions and trade embargoes against the apartheid regime in South Africa. The legislation passed despite a veto from President Ronald Reagan, and South Africa repealed its apartheid laws in 1991.

In 1998, Dellums retired from Congress. He ran a lobbying firm after retirement but returned to politics in 2006. The native-born son of Oakland returned to serve as his beloved city's mayor, serving from 2007 to 2011.

Dellums' public service was guided by a simple philosophy. Senator Barbara Lee, who interned for Dellums and later succeeded him after his retirement from Congress, recalled that when it came time to make any decision, "He would say that the only question we should ask when we made decisions about anything is: 'Is this the right thing to do?' Don't ask about political expedience."

Dellums was a fighter. In his autobiography he recalls a day he fought another student for calling him a slur. He took that fighting spirit and his distaste for injustice to the corridors of power in Congress and City Hall and now may he rest in power.

Omarosa out trumped Trump

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



Isn't it a pity that Americans don't even have to ask if there's anything else that can be just as bad as what we already knew? If

Trump would throw his own son under the bus, why should we be surprised about anything else he says or does? What he does with his family is his business, but when he trashes black people, he has gone too far.

Not many people in the black community were happy with Omarosa supporting Trump, and we often gagged when she defended him, but no matter what, we never called her names.

Trump doesn't get a pass calling any woman a dog or a crazed, crying lowlife – especially not when he's used her to advance his gross agenda. His comments about her were racist and sexist. Those terms are more descriptive of how he acts. I don't have to agree with everything Omarosa or

anybody says, but when you call a sister who has taken so much heat for you a low life dog, you've once again shown who you really are. When you add up all the gross, silly, hurtful, harmful, unlawful things he's done to our country and to all Americans, the title fits Trump a whole lot better than it fits any woman, including Omarosa.

Trump has a history that is longer than Omarosa's, but let's just look at his recent history. He began his campaign disrespecting President Barack Obama by insisting he was not born in the U.S. – and he never apologized for that lie or as it was known "the birther conspiracy."

He and his chief of staff, John Kelly, insulted Congresswoman Fredericka Wilson who was working with Sgt. LaDavia Johnson's family during the sergeant's brutal death. We know Kelly and Trump were lying, but neither ever apologized to Wilson.

Trump seems to have Congresswoman Maxine Waters on the brain. Until recently, she was

his favorite whipping person. He called her a low I.Q. person and we all know she is far from that. He threatened her with "Be careful what you wish for."

Trump has berated Colin Kaepernick and NFL players for protesting police brutality and racism. He's called for firing them in vulgar terms just for exercising their Constitutional rights.

Trump was crazy enough to try to demean the King – LeBron James – after he announced a school and scholarships for at risk students in his hometown of Akron, Ohio – something normally thought to be great – but not in Trump's world. Even LeBron's governor and Trump's wife had to agree that what LeBron did was a good thing. Don Lemon of CNN interviewed LeBron and Trump labeled both men dumb. It seems that Trump enjoys trying to demean people of color. We've heard him do similar things to Mexican Americans, Muslims and immigrants.

We can agree that his crude remarks against Haiti, African na-

tions and El Salvador were racist while he was discussing immigrants from those places. When he expressed a desire to increase immigrants from places like Norway, his message was clearly racist.

Whatever Omarosa's faults may be, she has proof of what she's saying these days. I don't blame her one bit for finally seeing and expressing with evidence what we always knew about Trump. There's no way I can feel sorry for him when he cries about "fake news" and "witch hunts." If he were a normal person, he could've taken issue with the news or with Omarosa without the crude personal disparagement – and maybe we would've listened. It's obvious he can train a street fighter, but can't stand it when she uses some of the tactics she learned from him. Brilliant move Omarosa. You have out trumped Trump!

E. Faye Williams is president of the National Congress of Black Women, and host of WPFW-FM 89.3's "Wake Up and Stay Woke." www.nationalcongressbw.org

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Children on the frontlines

By Marian Wright Edelman
President, Children's Defense Fund

"I can make a difference!" Every July thousands of students from Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom Schools® sites across the country participate in the CDF Freedom Schools National Day of Social Action. This year's action focused on the need to vote for children and the fact that every vote matters. Though children and teenagers in Freedom Schools are too young to vote themselves, they held rallies and marches urging adults to get registered and vote for leaders this election cycle and in every election who will stand for children. Young people are refusing to sit on the sidelines as they see even children's most basic needs under assault by many in the Trump Administration and Congress.

I am so proud of the Freedom Schools scholars who have learned they are following in the footsteps of children and youths who were the foot soldiers and infantry of the Civil Rights Movement. Some of their stories from the Movement are well known: six-year-old Ruby Bridges in New Orleans walked through white mobs to attend school – even praying for those jeering at her; the Little Rock Nine; the four little girls killed in the bombing of Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church. Thousands of children were on the frontlines of history. Whether sung or unsung heroes, we owe all of them a debt of gratitude. For example, in April 1951, black students at Robert Russa Moton High School in Prince Edward County, Virginia – led by 16-year-old Barbara Rose Johns – walked out of class to protest conditions at their segregated school. Moton was built for 180 students but had 450. Some classes were held in old farm buildings. Students lacked all the basics such as science labs, a gym or a cafeteria found at all-white Farmville High, just a few blocks away. When Johns complained how unfair this was a teacher told her she should do something about it. She did, leading her fellow students in a strike. As she later said, "It was time that Negroes were treated equally with whites, time that they had a decent school, time for the students themselves to do something about it. There wasn't any fear. I just thought – this is your moment. Seize it!" That strike was a critical push in the start of America's desegregation movement. The Moton students' demonstrations resulted in a court case ultimately bundled with four others before



Marian Wright Edelman says that we owe all of the children who have fought for civil rights a debt of gratitude. In this photo, Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, speaks during the Children's Defense Fund Gala Awards at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA

the U.S. Supreme Court as Brown v. Board of Education. The Brown case was named for lead plaintiff Oliver Brown, whose nine-year-old daughter Linda in 1950 was barred from attending all-white Sumner Elementary School near their Topeka, Kansas home with her white neighborhood playmates, and instead forced to enroll in an all-black school miles away. The landmark victory in Brown overturned the "separate, but equal" doctrine established under Plessy v. Ferguson. Years later Linda Brown, who died in March of this year, engaged as a parent in a follow up suit in Topeka because the city's schools were still not fully integrated. She knew her case had sparked transforming change in our nation, but real change is slow. For children in Prince Edward County, the Brown victory was shamefully delayed. The county eventually took Virginia's policy of "massive resistance" to school desegregation to its full extreme. In 1959 it closed its entire public school system and created private schools to educate the county's white children using tuition grants from the state and tax credits from the county. No provision was made for educating the county's black children, forcing them to move in with relatives in nearby communities or study in makeshift schools in church basements. Prince Edward public schools remained closed for five years while legal challenges bounced between courts, and about 1,700 black and lower-income white students struggled to find schooling elsewhere or stayed home. It took another U.S. Supreme Court ruling to force Prince Edward's schools to

finally reopen. Remembering these past struggles and the price of progress to get non-white children an equal education makes recent threats and actions by the Trump Administration simply evil – as they seek to halt or reverse course on civil rights, education and juvenile justice protections; school desegregation; housing discrimination; and affirmative action. On July 3, the Department of Justice announced it was repealing 24 federal guidance documents that all sought to clarify basic federal civil rights protections for children, older youths and young adults and the Department of Education announced it would delay, for two years, a requirement that states identify and address racial disparities in special education, including disparities in the ways children of color are disciplined. What a mean unjust slap in the face of our most vulnerable children. We must continue to support and praise the action by today's children and youths standing up against injustice, gun violence, child poverty, and unequal education and let them know we stand with them, are determined not to go backwards, and will step forward with them on the front lines seeking justice. Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund whose *Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.*

Aretha Franklin – Perhaps the greatest singer ever

By Harry C. Alford
NNPA News Wire Columnist



The first time I learned that there was a singer by the name of Aretha Franklin was uneventful. My high school sweetheart, Brenda, showed me the Columbia album cover with this 16-year-old girl they claimed to be "The Next Nancy Wilson." Big deal. Did we really need another Nancy Wilson when the one we have was just beginning her long career? The problem was that Columbia restricted this young talent. They thought her destiny would be "Pop" music. Her manager was responsible for discovering Billie Holiday and he was trying to replicate that through a young Aretha. It turned out to be a "pipe dream." Aretha personally had the blues. It would be in that genre where her true talent would be found. Her upbringing was gospel. Her father, C.L. Franklin, was a very popular minister. His congregation was in Memphis, Tennessee. Her father was known for philandering and when Aretha was nine years old her mother left the family and moved to New York. Aretha would be raised by the church, basically by choir members. Gospel star Clara Ward had a strong influence on her. Before long and after the untimely death of her mother, Reverend Franklin moved his ministry to Detroit.

At the age of twelve Aretha gave birth to her first child. It is still a mystery as to whom was the father. Many believed it could have been her own father whose name she gave to the child. The only response Aretha would give about the question was, "It must have been one of the boys at school." This was a pattern that would last. Aretha never had a long – lasting relationship with any man. Her first relationship with a husband was with Ted White. White was a notorious Detroit pimp. He recognized the talent in Aretha and became her manager. It was his idea to have Aretha leave Columbia and find a label conducive to her gospel/rhythm and blues roots. He cut a deal with Atlantic records and funded the costs with profits from his street hustles. It was at Atlantic that she met Jerry Wexler and he took her to his recording studio – Fame Records in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. The supporting band would be members of the "Memphis Horns" who help build the Stax Records empire. It was there that Aretha found her voice. The first album was entitled "I Never Loved a Man" and it was certainly alle-

gorical. White was abusing her. One day she showed up at the studio with a black eye. The guys of the Memphis Horns had become very attached to Aretha. They approached White and warned him that if Aretha ever shows up with another mark on her body they would kill him and disappear his body into the Alabama swamps. He would eventually leave Aretha. Apparently, he still lives at the age of 91. "I Never Loved a Man" turned out to be one of the greatest albums ever recorded. One of the singles on the album was "Respect." It was a remake of an Otis Redding hit. It took off and remains a favorite to music fans around the world regardless of the genre. As Otis Redding remarked to Wexler, "That gal done took my song!" When Aretha would record a previously released song, people would remember her version and forget the other versions. Great songs like Dionne Warwick's "I Say a Little Prayer" would soon be remembered mostly for Aretha's version. Even the deep blues song of B.B. King, "The Thrill is Gone," would be taken to another level when Aretha recorded it. I first heard her version on a Detroit radio station in 1971. I spent decades trying to get a copy of it, but it was so elusive. Thankfully, with all the remembrances of Aretha, YouTube has put it into their catalogue along with dozens of long ago Aretha tunes. I cried when I heard it again after all these years. It's like what Otis Redding said – she took a song from B.B. King. Jazz, blues, rhythm and blues, soul and everything else. Oh, you wonder about gospel? Her live gospel album entitled "Amazing Grace" is the greatest selling gospel album ever recorded. The song "Ain't No Way" was the best song you could use to dance with a pretty lady. She would seem to melt into your arms as the words of the song were played. Aretha was indeed the greatest. Sadly, she could not find a long-lasting love. She had four children who loved her dearly. Her second husband, actor Glynn Turman, seemed rather promising. But one day she would come home and find him in bed with another person – allegedly her oldest son. She died single but was loved dearly by the entire world. Thanks for all the memories and rest in peace my beautiful sister. St. Peter had a fantastic moment when you showed up at the "Pearly Gates." Harry Alford is the co-founder, president/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce ®. Website: www.nationalbcc.org Email: halford@nationalbcc.org

Let's join the Open Arms mission to talk about HIV in Mississippi

By Deja Abdul-Haqq
Columnist

Open Arms Healthcare Center Chief Operating Officer Dr. Sandra Melvin recently addressed a room of approximately 100 people at The Westin Jackson during a science-driven symposium for public health professionals, students, and interns. Despite Emory University reporting two years ago that 4 out of 10 gay or bisexual men in Jackson, MS have HIV and the Mississippi Department of Health reporting Hinds County as having the highest incident rates of HIV in Mississippi as well as Jackson, MS holding a national ranking of 4th highest rate of HIV among U.S. metropolitan areas according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the room went agasp as Melvin presented the group with current HIV and STI statistics. When she shared that African Americans account for a higher proportion of new HIV diagnoses, those living with HIV, and those who have ever received an AIDS diagnosis, compared to other races/ethnicities, a grunt-filled the air in the room. Several people moaned when she said African Americans accounted for 44 percent of HIV diagnoses, though they comprise 12 percent of the U.S. population. Then, Melvin presented the group with color-coded maps that reflected STIs across America. A deep, exhausted sigh was released in the back of the room as she explained how rates of



Rates of adults and adolescents living with diagnosed HIV infection Year-end 2015 – United States and 6 dependent areas (CDC)

chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis had increased across the county – especially in the South. In fact, according to reports, Mississippi's syphilis rates currently double national averages. Though the facts regarding HIV, STIs and the prevalence in Jackson, MS are a matter of public record on repeat, the idea that the Capitol City is experiencing an endemic is still foreign to far too many. And considering what is happening in the field of HIV on the world stage, optimism drowns in heavy statistics. During the 22nd International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam last month, researchers and scientists concluded in unison that HIV is positioned to actually add to its global death toll based on data-driven projections. A couple of the major causes: few effective health policies and fewer resources. Subsequently,

millions of people are unaware of their HIV status, not interested in receiving an HIV test, and are not using preventative measures like condoms. If the global experts are discussing a possible emergence of a second AIDS pandemic due to a "dangerous complacency," Jackson may need to consider what it will do when the current number of HIV infected persons – 37 million – increases by 37 percent in 2030, based on the current rate trajectory. If our bold, little city is holding the #4 spot now – with few effective health policies, fewer resources, low HIV status awareness, high HIV testing complacency and less than desirable condom usage, imagine our projected circumstances. Or, do more than imagine. Talk. Let's start fostering discussions about HIV/STI status awareness, HIV/STI

prevention, LGBTQ stigma, medical discrimination, sexual and reproductive health, health literacy and how our youth are engaging in risky sexual behavior for fun and for funds. Our silence is slowly and surely fueling the epidemic when data-driven dialogue can do just the opposite. And in honor of the the recent National Community Health Center Week celebration, I want to congratulate Dr. Melvin and her clinical and social services staff at Open Arms Healthcare Center where a multi-dimensional team of case managers, patient navigators, nurses, physicians and outreach crews remain well versed in the scientific truth about comprehensive wellness and they share and encourage that truth every day. As a part of the Open Arms mission to increase access to quality, state-of-the-science, culturally-appropriate care for all Mississippians – especially underserved, overlooked communities including the LGBTQ community, PLWHA, women, at-risk youth, food insecure families and under-employed households, the staff values the opportunity to discuss the global idea that resonates with population health champions: if you have no options, there is no choice. Thus, creating a culture of wellness is catapulted by creating healthier environments with options. Smoke-free spaces. Walkable communities with walking trails and sidewalks. Farmers markets offering local fresh fruits and vegetables. Quality, culturally-appro-

priate health care in our neighborhoods. Condoms everywhere. And adequate transportation to get to all of these options. And stigma-free cities and towns that don't scrutinize a woman's interest in family planning methods or a young person's interest in dental dams. And we should be able to talk about safer sex like we talk about celery – in the spirit of wellness. In the end, the only new ideas we will consider are the ones that we share. Discussions about disparity rates, causes and solutions is the only way for us to forge through the stigma to unearth a Jackson that looks and feels like a great place to live, work, play, pray...and stay. Sounds of sighs will not "get Jackson to zero" like other cities that have experienced drastic reductions in new HIV cases. Actual discussions in our schools, pulpits, beauty shops and state capitol about how and why Jacksonians have sex and how we all perceive sexual and reproductive health can. One day, I imagine Dr. Melvin addressing an even larger crowd as she makes a formal announcement that using prevention models including HIV testing, medical adherence for persons living with HIV and PrEP, Jackson has witnessed a generation free of HIV. I imagine a standing ovation. Instead of moans, cheers. Instead of sighs of exhaust, sighs of relief. Or I can do more than imagine. We all can. Let's talk about it.

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The City of Jackson is accepting Contractor Applications for all City of Jackson funded Housing Rehabilitation and Lead Hazard Control Programs, until 12:00 PM, CDT on Thursday, September 6, 2018 in the Office of Housing and Community Development, 218 South President Street, 2nd Floor, Jackson, MS, 39201.

Applications are available in the Office of Housing and Community Development, located at 218 S. President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, MS 39201, and on the City's website at www.jacksonms.gov. The application must be filled out in its entirety and all required documentation must be attached at the time of submission. The City of Jackson reserves the right to approve and terminate contractors for all Housing Rehabilitation and Lead Hazard Control Programs at any time.

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Trump’s hateful public demeanor continues - even after private White House meeting with black pastors

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

Only two days after President Donald Trump met with nearly two dozen predominately black pastors, he tweeted yet another racially charged message calling CNN news anchor Don Lemon the “dumbest man on television.” In that same tweet, he insulted the intelligence of basketball star LeBron James, saying Lemon “made Labron look smart, which isn’t easy to do.”

In yet another angry tweet days later, he called his former White House assistant Omarosa Manigault Newman a “crazed, crying low life” and a “dog” amidst her release of taped White House conversations as promotion for her new book.

This most recent public vitriole – despite private meetings with clergy and advisors – have added to a long list of equally unsavory tweets the president has unleashed – many of which appear to be racist at the core. What’s more, First Lady Melania Trump has unveiled a platform, “Be Best,” which in part, campaigns against cyberbullying.

He has also verbally or electronically portrayed the media as the enemy of the people, African nations as “shithole” countries; NFL players as sons of bitches; Congresswoman Maxine Waters as a person with a “very low IQ” and President Obama as establishing “stupid” policies.

These racial stereotypes – attempting to denigrate the intellect of black people – and other obscenities and absurdities are among the reasons that Bishop Reginald T. Jackson, president of the Council of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), is organizing an ecumenical “Call to Conscience: Day of Action,” set for Lafayette Park across from the White House at 10 a.m. Sept 6.

“We are calling pastors, congregants and citizens from across the country to join us in Washington D.C. September 5 and 6, as we call the nation to conscience. Additionally, Sunday, September 2, is designated as ‘Social Justice Sunday.’ We are asking every pastor to preach a sermon related to ‘social Justice,’” Jackson says in a statement. “There are some who think the black church is weak and has little strength or influence. This thinking is incorrect. We are at war and we call all soldiers to active duty.”

The demonstration was largely inspired by the news that almost two dozen black pastors, led by Trump’s spiritual advisor, Paula White, met with Trump at the White House Aug. 1, saying they had been invited to discuss criminal justice issues, including prison reform and other urban issues. But the meeting appeared to be little more than a photo op.

Bishop Harry Jackson, pastor of the Hope Christian Church in Beltsville, Md., was among those who attended the meeting. But, he says much of what was reported about the meeting was all wrong.

The White House only released an approximately 30 minute video from the meeting, showing the pastors introducing themselves and praising the president as if his vitriolic public behavior did not exist. But Jackson said there was a substantive meeting after the introductions. That meeting, he said, lasted approximately two



Bishop Reginald Jackson



Bishop Harry Jackson



Pastor Jamal-Harrison Bryant

and a half hours with Trump remaining in the meeting for as much as 90 minutes.

“It went on for at least two hours with others – the criminal justice reform people, the outreach people, and his staffers in the room with us. And we’re planning to have some ongoing dialog,” Jackson said. He said he has maintained ongoing communications with the president about his urban agenda.

“I’ve been talking with the president for 15 months and with Jared Kushner about prison reform. So, the presupposition that this was just a photo op and you just ushered these black guys in was not true,” he said.

But he conceded that no one in the Aug. 1 meeting brought up the destructiveness of Trump’s public conduct.

“So, yes. I think the concern is valid. Is anybody say-

ing anything to the president?” Jackson answered that question by noting that although he has not publicly criticized the president, that doesn’t mean he has not spoken to him behind closed doors.

Also, when violence broke out in Charlottesville last year and Trump went on television calling white supremacists “very fine people,” Jackson said he and others did pull Trump’s coat.

“I personally talked with the president a few days after Charlottesville – about race – along with 15 religious leaders, and about how he could project himself better.”

Yet, a year later, some might argue that the daily tweets still coming from the president might need to be screened for suitability for children – and some adults.

“My question to Harry Jackson would be whatever you

told him privately, how has it transformed him publicly?” asked the Rev. Jamal-Harrison Bryant, pastor of the Empowerment Temple AME Church in Baltimore, also an organizer of the Sept. 6 Call to Conscience. “Because whatever he said to him privately, he called [Don Lemon] the dumbest man ... What is their prophetic impact? They don’t have any prophetic impact. The Bible says, ‘By their fruits shall you know them.’ So with all of that access and insight, we have seen no transformation?”

Both Bryant and Bishop Harry Jackson acknowledged that they were planning to sit down and meet with each other this week as a video of Bryant strongly criticizing the pastors is still circulating on social media.

Bryant says he has great respect for Bishop Harry Jackson as a committed Republican.

“He asked if we can get together. We are supposed to be meeting next week, but the meeting is his. I think we need some black Republicans to give us a larger world view so that we’re not myopic because in many ways the Democratic Party has taken us for granted and has not delivered. So, I think that we need somebody on the other side of the aisle,” Bryant said. “If nothing else; then we need to talk, have dialogue and discussion.”

But the rising up of the black church to publicly speak truth to power is crucial, Bryant said. “I just want to underscore the importance of clergy coming Sept. 6. It’s not just an AME call but all of us who are conscience of what’s taking place in our community and want their voices heard and felt. It’s not just for clergy but for all of us, including our congregants. And I think it’s a critical moment for the black church.”

As he prepares to lead the “Call to Conscience – Day of Action,” Bishop Reginald Jackson says the White House and the black pastors’ failure to report any substantive part of the meeting was a disservice to the community.

“My only concern is the ones who went to the White House, in fact, when they came out of the meeting, why didn’t they say to us that we discussed this or raised our objections to this or disputed him on that?” Jackson questioned.

A release on the “Call to Conscience” concludes:

“Today the black church is again called to be ‘the conscience of the nation.’ To speak to the nation about the rightness or wrongness of its policies and behavior. This is particularly important when the so called ‘Evangelical Christians’ appear to be the dominant voice for people of faith in this nation, supporting the nation’s leader who spouts racism, sexism and repeatedly lies to the nation. They appear to be the dominant voice of people of faith in the nation, because the black church has largely been silent.

“It is time for the black church to speak, our congregations and the nation need to hear us. Therefore, black denominational and faith leaders have scheduled a ‘Call to Conscience - Day of Action’ for September 5 and 6 in Washington D.C. It is not only time for us to say something, we must do something. We must fight against, “spiritual wickedness in high places.”

First African to lead the U.N. fought for developing world causes



Annan

TriceEdneyWire.com

Kofi Atta Annan, former Secretary General of the U.N., is being remembered for his leadership over ten tumultuous years when the world faced a crisis of poverty, injustice and disease. Annan passed away this month at age 80.

Annan, a polished diplomat from Ghana and later the leader of the U.N., was considered a champion of developing world causes but encountered resistance from the U.S.

“He had the bad luck to be secretary general when Washington was run by a band of ideologues,” Brian Urquhart, a former undersecretary general who is the dean of U.N. commentators, said in an interview with the Washington Post.

Annan saw it as a top priority for the U.N. to focus constructively on the elimination of poverty in the developing world. He called on rich nations to provide the funding and poor nations to affect the necessary reforms to “make poverty history.”

When the world’s top finance ministers voted to cancel the staggering debt of some developing countries, Annan called it “very encouraging,” adding “This will offer a chance to finally overcome the resource shortfalls that have kept so many millions of people mired in squalor.”

A combination of self-assurance, self-control and unpretentiousness enabled him to make the most of opportunities to act as an honest broker. He was by nature a “diplomat’s diplomat.” But he also stuck to his guns even when powerful U.N. members urged retreat.

A notable example was his intervention in Baghdad in 1998 to defuse a crisis over U.N. arms inspections in Iraq,

going ahead with negotiations against strong pressure from Washington to stay away; and he spoke out against the U.S. invasion of 2003, deploring the American failure “to solve this problem by collective decision.”

Afterward, he called the invasion “illegal,” infuriating the White House.

In his farewell address at the Truman Library, Annan unleashed his frustration with the U.S. “No nation can make itself secure by seeking supremacy over all others,” he said. World institutions could not accomplish much “when the U.S. remains aloof.”

Of the crises he oversaw, one in particular created deep distress. As undersecretary general for peacekeeping, he received a cable Jan. 11, 1994, from the U.N. force commander in Rwanda asking for reinforcements to prevent an impending genocide in which 800,000 mostly Tutsis would be massacred.

A later U.N. investigation found that Annan failed to act urgently on the request although the U.N. charter prohibits the U.N. from interfering in a nation’s internal affairs. “Guilt” over Rwanda has led Annan to now back military intervention to stop genocide.

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Campus departments, units explain their roles to Class of 2022 during Resource Fair

By L.A. Warren
jsumsnews.com

JSU’s Division of Student Affairs, along with its new Freshman Ambassador Program, helped introduce first-time enrollees to various campus departments during Welcome Week’s Campus Resource Fair.

The event was held Wednesday in the Student Center Ballroom to inform freshmen about the functions and services of numerous divisions, departments and auxiliaries.

Kendrick Spencer, director of the Center for Student Engagement and Leadership for Student Affairs, said, “We want to make sure that we intentionally provide an opportunity for new students to be exposed to various departments throughout the campus and better inform them about what’s going on at Jackson State University.”

Spencer said a number of freshmen visited the fair and they spoke to numerous faculty and staff. “They seemed excited and eager to learn about the various units.”

He also commended the “amazing work” of the new Freshmen Ambassador Program made up of upperclassmen. Its mission is to make sure new students attend Welcome Week events.

- Among the vendors:
- Admissions
 - Career Services Center
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 - Financial Aid
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 - Information Technology
 - JSU Army ROTC
 - JSU Global
 - Latasha Norman Center for Counseling Services
 - Student Affairs
 - Student Center
 - Student Employment Center/Payroll
 - Sodexo Magic
 - Title IX
 - University Health Center

All vendors appeared impressed with the crowd of students who sought information about their roles on campus.

Rodney Hall, recruiting operations officer/leadership enrollment officer in the Department of Military Science, said his area focused on the following tasks while engaging with students:

Make incoming students aware of what JSU Army ROTC offers and inform them of scholarships and leadership opportunities

Let them know they can take ROTC at no cost

View the military as a career objective and, after graduation, they become second lieutenants in the U.S. Army

“The U.S. Army has great opportunities,” Hall said. “We have more than 20 different career fields, ranging from administration to business and from technology to combat arms. There is an array of opportunities working for the government.”

In addition, Hall touted its CULP (Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency) program that allows students to travel abroad for three weeks and interact with other cultures.

He also discussed internship camps: a basic camp and advanced camp in which students receive \$1,000 as they spend time at Fort Knox, Kentucky and compete for ROTC scholarships.

Hall said new students at the resource fair learned that JSU Army ROTC recently celebrated its 50th-year anniversary with the help of former JSU President John Peoples, who, in 1967, initiated and petitioned the federal government to establish an Army ROTC program. He also boasted that the Tiger Battalion has commissioned more than 700 cadets to second lieutenants – four of whom have become General officers.

Aside from ROTC, the University Health Center was another vendor.



The Division of Student Affairs, along with student supporters, presents information about its many services and shirts to members of the Class of 2022. PHOTOS BY CHARLES A. SMITH/JSU



JSU Army ROTC informs students that it offers scholarships and leadership opportunities.

Victoria Coleman, a staff nurse at the center, said her facility handles “pretty much everything,” including any acute illness.

Don’t have insurance? No worry, Coleman said. “You don’t need that to be seen at the Health Center.”

She reeled off a list of other services: women’s reproductive issues, pre-testing for students and health promotion, including providing care to student-athletes.

The Health Center also provides referrals and collaborates with other areas on campus such as the Latasha Norman Center for Counseling Services as well as Disability Services.

The staff also provides information on inoculations and injections.

“When incoming students come in they need to send immunizations to us. We make sure they comply with the immunization series (MMR – measles, mumps and rubella). We don’t do them in the clinic, but we make sure they have completed them.”

Coleman said the center offers free STD screenings that include HIV. “We’ve had this free program for the past five years. Students can come in without having to see the doctor,” she said.

While it also inoculates against the flu, she said the center’s vaccines are limited. The cost is \$25 for students and employees. However, Coleman recommends getting a free injection at a pharmacy for those who have insurance.

Meanwhile, the Latasha Norman Center for Counseling Services provided a wealth of information.

Antonio Horton is project coordinator for the One S.A.F.E. JSU Initiative and a counselor at the Latasha Norman Center. He said he wants students to know about available resources, especially since suicide, for example, is the second leading cause of death among college students.

He also wants to help young people deal with the stigma of mental health and familiarize themselves with the center’s many other services beyond

domestic violence counseling.

“We deal with issues surrounding depression, anxiety, bipolar and schizophrenia. We also handle concerns on a milder scale such as adjusting to college, procrastination and time-management. We just want to make sure students matriculate through college successfully and that nothing gets in the way of their success.”

Interestingly, he said, “Our students may know what’s going on with them but may be unaware of the space to disclose their personal challenges. They need assurances about security when addressing concerns about gender-based violence, for example, and mental health. A sense of protection makes their experience even greater at Jackson State.”

Finally, Information Technology was among dozens of vendors helping to round out the fair.

Kedra Taylor, a systems integration analyst, works primarily with academic technology to aid teaching and learning in the classroom and online.

“As for the students, we’re talking to them about how to access email and to make sure they use it as a significant means of communication with whomever they’re dealing with at the university. We also talk to them about wireless accessibility and make sure they activate their NetID for access to our online library resource in the computer lab. We also provide information on Canvas as a classroom teaching and learning tool,” Taylor said.

Furthermore, she said, “Another important thing to know is that JSU offers Microsoft Office Space 365 for free to all enrolled students as well as faculty and staff. We make sure they know ahead of time that this service is available so they won’t spend their money on software the university provides for free.”

Taylor also introduced freshmen to the JSU Mobile app, urging them to download it so they can keep in touch and know about what’s going on at the university.

Library

Continued from page 1

The card will only be effective in improving reading skills if the child can come to the library on a regular basis. Teachers within walking distance of the library can get a Fine-Free Kid’s Card for their students as long as they are willing and able to bring their class to the library at least once every three weeks. Library visits by school classes must be scheduled in advance with the branch manager.

Furr comments, “We want to thank the Institute for Library and Museum Services and the Mississippi Library Commission for allowing us to use these federal funds for such an innovative program. This particular grant will allow the Jackson Hinds Library System to offer exciting computer coding activities for elementary-aged children using iPads, programmable robots and simple computers.” Furr adds, “This grant is going to be so much fun for the kids who will be participating, as they will be using iPads to guide robots through an obstacle course. They will also learn how to create and control a “bot” on a computer screen and control its movements. All these activities are a fun way to learn introductory computer programming skills, which in turn could interest a child in a future career in the computer coding industry.” Computer coding is a skill that is currently in great demand throughout the state, as analysts predict that Mississippi will need about 30,000 computer coders in the next ten years to meet the demands of high-tech industries in the state.

The Jackson Hinds Library System has partnered in the past with the Mississippi Coding Academy. Furr explains, “We allowed the Mississippi Coding Academy to use the Technology Teaching Lab at Welty Library for the first three months of the eleven month-long course. Developing these kinds of coding skills over an eleven month period can qualify graduates of the program to find a lucrative career after just an eleven month-long training course. This program can help high school graduates qualify for careers with Mississippi employers that pay over \$50,000-\$60,000 a year. Hosting the coding program made our library staff aware of the importance of developing an interest in coding at an early age.”

Furr continues, “Our elementary coding program, which is the first of its kind in the state, will help children experience how much fun it is to control computers and robots using coding.”

The program will start in November at several of our city libraries and the program will travel to county libraries in the future.

The Jackson Hinds Library System is funded by the Hinds County Board of Supervisors and the City of Jackson.

For more information, parents can access the library website at www.jhlibrary.org for details of the program as the fall progresses.

Outcomes

Continued from page 6

Hughes said that while the study highlights one part of the minority population, it shows the impact of minority teachers on minority students.

“I also feel that minority teachers bring a unique set of values and experiences to the classroom. It allows them to understand the daily experiences of their minority students and offers an opportunity to empower them to be more than what their current situation is offering to them. I think those values and experiences coupled with their educational expertise will reap huge benefits for students in high-minority, high-poverty districts,” he said.

Terrell said he became a teacher because he wanted a first-hand opportunity to shape the learning and growth for students, especially those with mild to moderate disabilities.

“Teaching has always been a passion in my life and I could not see my life any differently,” Terrell said.

Nissan

Continued from page 1

These character traits are critical to one’s success as they speak to who you are and your connection with the world around you.

More practically, we are looking for people with an interest in STEM—science, technology, engineering and math. The jobs of tomorrow will require a much different set of skills, and it is important that students are preparing for future success. Understanding the principles of learning presented through STEM will get you there.

Nissan Canton is like a city. While we have engineers and vehicle assembly technicians, we also have nurses, athletic trainers, data analysts, programmers and just about any other job you can imagine, all under one roof. It is an active and contributing part of your community, and I want you to be prepared to take advantage of it.

To our teachers: thank you for your dedication to educating our young minds. Because of your experience and commitment, you have a better appreciation than most for what lies ahead for each soul in your care. Nissan is committed to being a strong education partner in our community, and we stand with you in meeting your mission every day.

Mississippi schools have the charge of building strong minds and strong character within the young men and women who pass through schoolhouse doors every day. In my opinion, there is no more important mission – nor one more noble – than the one you have accepted.

Superintendent

Continued from page 23

As Head of School at the Arts and Technology Academy in the nation’s capital, Greene helped improve reading and math scores 20 percentage points and cut school suspensions in half. With family roots in Mississippi, Greene is excited to join the Jackson Public Schools community in service to our students and families.

“I look forward to working closely with Dr. Greene toward improving the academic achievement of our students across the District,” said Interim Superintendent Fredrick Murray.

Greene completed his undergraduate studies at Howard University in political science and obtained master’s degrees in education administration and policy from Howard University and Trinity University. Most recently, he earned his doctorate in education leadership from the University of Pennsylvania.

Following the appointment resolution passed by the Board, Greene’s credentials will be sent to the Mississippi Department of Education for the issuance of a Mississippi Administrator license. Once the license is issued, the JPS Board of Trustees will move forward with the approval of Greene’s contract with an expected start date on or before October 1, 2018. These character traits are critical to one’s success as they speak to who you are and your connection with the world around you.

More practically, we are looking for people with an interest in STEM – science, technology, engineering and math. The jobs of tomorrow will require a much different set of skills, and it is important that students are preparing for your future success. Understanding the principles of learning presented through STEM will get you there.

Jackson Tractor Supply hosting animal adoptions, pet supplies drive

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Tractor Supply Company in Jackson is hosting pet adoptions, a pet supplies drive and more Saturday, Aug. 25, as part of Out Here With Animals, its month-long event for animals of all kinds and the people who care for them.

On Aug. 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., community members and their dogs, cats, pigs, goats and more are invited to make their way to the Jackson Tractor Supply to support local pet adoptions. “Our team members believe that animals of all kinds are worth celebrating,” said Bobbie Emery, manager of the Jackson Tractor Supply. “Out Here With Animals allows us to do just that by providing us with opportunities to do our part in supporting local animal rescue groups.”

Participating local organizations include:

Jackson County Humane Society
On site 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Additionally, customers can support the local animal shelter community by participating in Tractor Supply’s pet supplies drive. Happening all month long as part of Out Here With Animals, the retailer is accepting new sealed food, toys, cleaning supplies and other essential pet accessories such as beds, scratching posts, leashes and bowls to be donated to Jackson rescues and shelters.

“The supplies drive is an important component to Out Here With Animals because it allows our customers who don’t have the ability to adopt to still give back in a much needed way,” said Emery.

Along with events that celebrate and support Jackson pets, Out Here With Animals will feature a sale on premium products for pets, small animals and livestock, including items necessary for their health, care, growth and containment. Beginning Wednesday, Aug. 22 through Sunday, Aug. 26, customers – and their animals – can enjoy deals on premium brands like Blue Buffalo, Purina Feed, 4health, Wholesomes and more.

The Jackson community and their leashed, friendly animals are invited

to check out Tractor Supply’s month-long Out Here With Animals events and deals at 3350 E. Michigan Avenue. Contact the store at 517-788-6884 for more information or details about participating in the Aug. 25 pet adoption.

For expert advice on raising pets and other animals, visit TractorSupply.com/KnowHow and follow Tractor Supply on Facebook and Instagram. To receive deals and rewards on pet and livestock products, sign up for the Tractor Supply Neighbor’s Club at NeighborsClub.com.

About Tractor Supply Company

Tractor Supply Company (NASDAQ: TSCO) is in its 80th year of operation and, since being founded in 1938, has grown to become the largest rural lifestyle retail store chain in the United States. With more than 28,000 team members, over 1,725 stores in 49 states and an e-commerce website, Tractor Supply is passionate about serving its unique niche, as a one-stop shop for recreational farmers, ranchers and all those who enjoy living the rural lifestyle. Tractor Supply offers an extensive mix of products necessary to care for home, land, pets and animals with a focus on product localization, exclusive brands and legendary customer service that addresses the needs of the Out Here lifestyle. The Company leverages its physical store assets with digital capabilities to offer customers the convenience of purchasing products they need anytime, anywhere and any way they choose at the everyday prices they deserve. As of June 30, 2018, the company operated 1,725 Tractor Supply stores in 49 states and an e-commerce website at www.tractorsupply.com.

Tractor Supply Company also owns and operates Petsense, a small-box pet specialty supply retailer focused on meeting the needs of pet owners, primarily in small and mid-size communities, and offering a variety of pet products and services. As of June 30, 2018, the Company operated 174 Petsense stores in 27 states.

For more information on Petsense, visit www.petsense.com.

If it’s fall in Mississippi, it’s the season for sports-related injuries

The Mississippi Link Newswire

When athletes get hurt, there’s a fairly short list of common injuries that come into play. Chief among them: ankle sprains, muscle strains, concussions, shin splints and knee injuries such as anterior cruciate ligament tears and meniscal tears.

“The end of July going into August is when football cranks up, and there will be a lot of football-related injuries over the next three to four months,” said Dr. Jim Hurt, assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. “Soccer follows that, and then basketball. The majority of injuries in the younger population in those sports will be knee injuries.”

Although some student-athletes with traumatic injuries or broken bones are seen at UMMC’s Emergency Department, the most common thing Department of Orthopaedics and Emergency Medicine physicians treat is knee injuries, said Hurt, whose specialty is sports medicine. “It’s pretty epidemic among young people, and a lot of it (is) related to lower extremity weakness and muscular imbalance.”

Research shows about 70 percent of ACL tears occur in females, and most of them are non-contact injuries. An athlete who is running might stop suddenly or cut directions.

“But the knee continues to go, and the ACL can tear,” Hurt said.

Such tears can be traumatic and painful, he said.

“A student will feel a pop in their knee, and the knee basically dislocates. Most people know something

is wrong right away, and it tends to swell significantly.”

If an ACL tear is suspected, he said, a parent should ice the knee and bring his or her child to an orthopaedic or primary care doctor immediately during the workday or to an emergency department after hours.

“If you’re not sure about it, getting attention sooner than later is better,” he said.

Ankle sprains and muscle pulls also are common, Hurt said.

“We see a lot of kids whose ankle rolled or was stepped on,” he said. “Typically, if you can’t walk on it within a day or so, there’s a high risk that you broke something and need to seek medical attention.”

He suggests parents and students follow a “RICE” procedure: rest, ice, compression and elevation.

“If that doesn’t make it better in the next couple of days, you need to get it checked out and get X-rays to make sure there’s not a fracture.”

Many young athletes have muscular imbalance and lower extremity weakness. There are numerous exercise programs and ACL prevention programs that work to decrease their chance of injuries, Hurt said.

“They can increase your mind’s ability to know where your knees and lower extremities are in space, and they can decrease your muscle imbalance.”

If a child takes a hard hit to the head and reports blurry vision or ringing in his or her ears, it could be a concussion.

Story continued online www.mississippilink.com

Vaping: Clouded by controversy airs August 30 on MPB Television

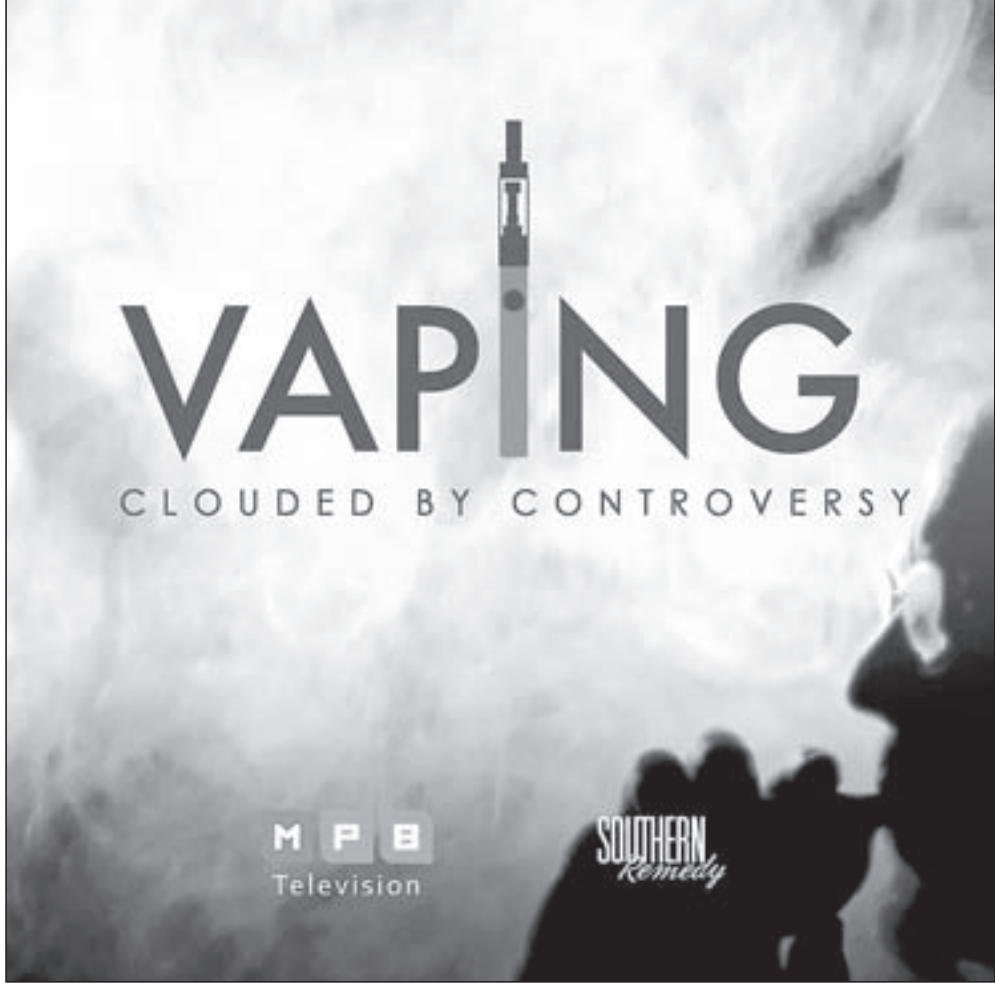
The Mississippi Link Newswire

In a new Southern Remedy documentary called Vaping: Clouded by Controversy, advocates and critics of e-cigarette use share how the trend is impacting lives in Mississippi. The premiere airs at 7 p.m. August 30 on MPB Television. Encore presentations will air at noon September 2 and 10 p.m. September 3.

Vaping is a \$2.5 billion industry only 15 years old. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that using e-cigarettes has the potential to benefit some people and harm others. Vaping involves using an electronic device or vape to heat flavored and nicotine liquids into a vape tool to puff. Some e-cigarettes look like regular cigarettes, cigars or pipes, while others resemble pens, USB sticks, and other everyday items, according to the CDC.

The Southern Remedy documentary includes interviews from former cigarette smokers who credit vaping for helping them quit, vape shop owners, healthcare professionals and current vape users, some of whom first tried vaping in their teens.

“As Mississippi Public Broadcasting’s flagship health and wellness initiative, Southern Remedy sets out to educate Mississippians about health issues,” said Kathryn Rodenmeyer, executive producer, Southern Remedy TV. “Vaping is a public health concern that touches the lives of Missis-



sippians, especially young people. We present a variety of perspectives on the issue, so the public can make informed decisions about their health.”

Viewers will hear from Mike Jefcoat, founder of Mississippi Vaping Advocacy Association and a vape shop owner. Jefcoat had smoked cigarettes for 37 years but after being introduced to vaping, he quit using tobacco altogether.

Dr. Thomas Payne, Ph.D., director of the ACT Center for Tobacco Treatment,

Education and Research at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, explains concerns medical professionals have about the safety of ingredients in vaping products. “What it started out as is not important. It’s what it ends up as is what’s most important,” said Payne, noting that ingredients can change once heated in a vape tool.

Few regulations exist to monitor the vaping industry. As a result, critics claim the industry is unfairly marketed to teenagers. And while

the products can possibly wean individuals from tobacco use, big tobacco companies are now selling vaping products as well.

Years of research will be needed to understand the long-term health effects of vaping.

Southern Remedy is underwritten by a grant from the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

For more information on MPB visit www.mpbonline.org. Find all MPB press releases here.

Newman treats young hematology, oncology patients at alma mater

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Pediatric hematologist and oncologist Dr. Laura Newman may be among new faculty members at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, but she’s a familiar face.

UMMC is the Greenville native’s medical alma mater, and it is where she completed her residency in 2015, and fellowship in 2018. She’s now treating patients with blood disorders as well as cancer in the Children’s Cancer Center at Batson Children’s Hospital.

“I love what I do,” she said. “As long as I can remember, I wanted to be a doctor. Both of my parents were nurses, so I was exposed to the medical field from an early age. Medicine was always my calling. It’s what God wants me to do.”

Newman specializes in treating patients with blood disorders such as sickle cell anemia, hemophilia and Von Willebrand’s disease as well as cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma and neuroblastoma. She is among 19 new pediatric faculty members joining UMMC this year, and one of eight hematologists seeing pediatric patients.

Newman has honed her skills through time spent during her UMMC fellowship working with hematologists who specialize in bleeding disorders at Children’s Medical Center of Dallas and at Children’s of Alabama in Birmingham.

“I am excited to be able to use what I’ve learned at other institutions and offer



Newman listens to the heartbeat of Children’s of Mississippi patient Olivia Newman of Clinton.

comprehensive care for Mississippi patients with bleeding disorders, such as hemophilia,” Newman said.

Treating hematology and oncology patients at Batson Children’s Hospital is exciting, she said. “There is lots of joy in my job, and I love taking care of these kids.”

Survival rates for certain types of pediatric leukemia at Batson, she said, are above 90 percent. “We get to cure a lot of kids, and we get to know the families so well.”

Batson Children’s Hospital is the only pediatric hospital in the state, which, she said, makes care there unique and specialized.

“There is no place in the state like Batson,” Newman said. “When you come here, everything is geared toward

children. All the physicians, nurses and technicians are experts in pediatric care. We offer the kind of care I would want for my own children.”

Dr. Anderson Collier, director of the Children’s Cancer Center, said Newman was a valued care team member during her fellowship in hematology and oncology.

“Dr. Newman’s insight and medical skills make her an excellent addition to our faculty,” said Collier, “and her caring and compassion make her the kind of doctor any family would want for their child. We’re happy to see her continue her medical career at UMMC.”

Dr. Mary Taylor, Suzan B. Thames chair, professor and chair of Pediatrics, also a UMMC alumna, said she

takes great pride in seeing School of Medicine graduates join the faculty.

“Seeing our students come back to UMMC to teach, conduct research and care for patients affirms our mission and confirms the quality of the medical instruction here,” Taylor said.

Newman and her husband Matt are parents to Charlotte, 4, and Callie, 2, and are expecting their third child this summer.

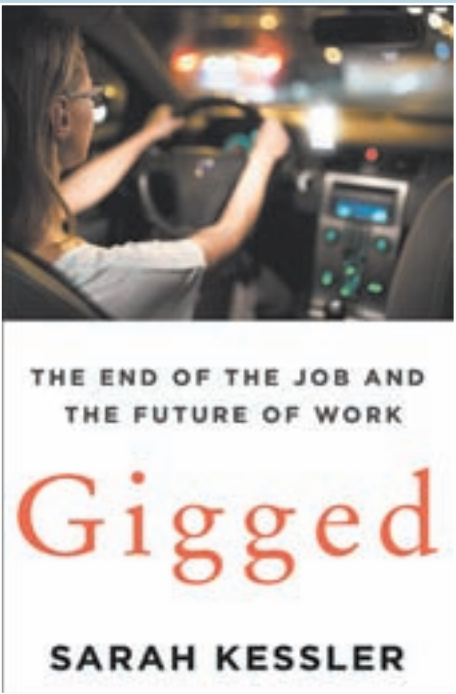
Being a parent, Newman said, changes how doctors practice pediatrics. “100 percent. Being a mother and a pediatric specialist are very different, but raising your own family changes how you relate to children and to parents. You don’t want to leave them until you have made that child better.”

PICTORIAL MEMORIUM

Aretha Franklin

March 25, 1942 - August 16, 2018





BOOK REVIEW: “GIGGED: THE END OF THE JOB AND THE FUTURE OF WORK”

BY SARAH KESSLER
C.2018, ST. MARTIN'S PRESS
\$25.99 / \$33.99 CANADA • 289 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Your allowance was never enough, as a kid. Oh, sure, it bought you what you needed but what you wanted, well, you had to figure that out yourself. A dime here, a dollar there, little chores-for-pay, tasks for grandma and you made it work. And as you’ll see in the new book, “Gigged” by Sarah Kessler, some things never change. Back in 2011, when she was a reporter for a tech blog, Sarah Kessler became aware of a new start-up that utilized

non-traditional workers in non-traditional ways. It was called Uber, and its business concept seemed unusual; having grown up in rural Wisconsin, Kessler had no frame of reference, and she paid it little heed. Eventually, though, she began to see that the model Uber was using – modified in so many ways – was being used for a lot of start-ups and could, potentially, benefit a lot of people. Was this gig economy really the way of the future? It had been around awhile: in the early 1970s, Kelly Girls were available for temp work;

becoming a Kelly Girl was advertised as a way to pay for life’s extras. But, no surprise, research showed then – as it does now – that temp working and gig economy jobs are taken more as a way to make ends meet. Intrigued, Kessler began following a few people who paid the bills with a string of non-traditional jobs they took for a variety of reasons. She followed an African-American man who tried to bring the gig economy to his impoverished and not-so-mobile town. Other profiles were of the young

and tech-savvy (or learning). Their backgrounds varied, as did their races; in other words, they fit in with the average gig worker, the numbers of which “grew 47-fold between 2012 and 2015.” While gig-working did, indeed, pay the bills for Kessler’s subjects, she also learned that it was not all good. Yes, there was “independence, flexibility and freedom” but at what price? For workers, it offered often-low pay, few-to-no benefits, and no safety net. For employers, it saved money, but the hassles were daunting

and “churn” could churn one’s stomach... So is this “what the future might look like,” as author Sarah Kessler says? In “Gigged,” she offers some tantalizing clues and more than one caveat. For anyone who’s stuffed envelopes for pennies, or wondered if there’s real cash to be made gigging, this book sets it straight: Kessler’s subjects made money but it was hard, hard work and none of them are still gig-economy workers. Recommendations are sparse. That says a lot.

For business owners, it’s more complicated: temp workers and small tasks seem to go hand-in-hand, but Kessler outlines many laws and rules that might make your head rotate like a spin mop. And, as it appears, further legislation is coming... Readers would be correct in assuming that we haven’t heard the final word on this subject. Change occurs frequently. In the meantime, “Gigged” is interesting, informative, and timely – and until the dust has settled, that’ll have to be enough.

Q1. What’s New for 2018-2019?

Let’s Talk!
We’ve made it even easier for you to share questions, comments, suggestions, concerns, and kudos with District leaders 24/7. Simply click Contact Us (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/ContactJPS) on our website, or download the Let’s Talk! app and enter our ID (JP1359) on your mobile device. You can remain anonymous or leave your contact information to continue the conversation.

Revised Bell Schedules

The regular bell schedules for middle and high schools were changed for the 2018-2019 school year.

School Event	Elementary	Middle	High
School Opens	7 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
Homeroom Block	7–7:45 a.m.	7:30–8 a.m.	8–8:40 a.m.
Instruction Begins	7:45 a.m.	8 a.m.	8:40 a.m.
Instruction Ends/ Dismissal Times	2:15 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	4 p.m.

New Early College High School Established for 2018-2019

Jackson Public Schools, in a partnership with Tougaloo College, will start the Early College High School program in 2018-2019. The inaugural class will consist of 49 ninth graders. New ninth graders will be added each year until the program includes grades 9-12. An ECHS is a small, independent high school located on a partnering college campus or a location other than a traditional high school campus. Students enter as high school freshmen, with a goal of earning both a high school diploma and an associate degree. Jackson Public School District’s Early College High School is located on the campus of Tougaloo College. Visit the Early College High School (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/ECHS) webpage to learn more about the program and the application timeline.

Q2. How do I find contact information for my child's school?

For a complete list of JPS schools with contact information, go to the School Directory page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory) on our website.

Q3. How do I find out what school my child will attend?

To determine your attendance zone school, contact Enrollment Services at (601) 960-8852 or the Transportation Department at (601) 960-8919.

Q4. What if my child was going to Brown, French, George or Woodville Heights?

If your child attended Brown, French, George, or Woodville Heights last year, here’s where they may be going to school this year:

- Brown Elementary:**
· Galloway Elementary, 186 Idlewild Street, Jackson, MS 39203
- French Elementary:**
· Lake Elementary, 472 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Jackson, MS 39209
· Raines Elementary, 156 Flag Chapel Road, Jackson, MS 39209
- George Elementary:**
· Isable Elementary, 1716 Isable Street, Jackson, MS 39204
· Casey Elementary, 2101 Lake Circle, Jackson, MS 39211
- Woodville Heights Elementary:**
· Bates Elementary, 3180 McDowell Road Ext., Jackson, MS 39204
· Oak Forest Elementary, 1831 Smallwood Drive, Jackson, MS 39212
· Timberlawn Elementary, 1980 North Siwell Road, Jackson, MS 39209

Q5. How do I register my child for school?

Beginning Tuesday, August 21, the Office of Enrollment Services will conduct registration for parents and legal guardians needing Shared Residency and Non-Parental Affidavits between the hours of 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Parents and Legal Guardians with two proofs of residency in their name will continue to report to the school to complete Traditional Enrollment during regular school hours. For information about registration, contact Enrollment Services (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Enrollment) at (601) 960-8852.

Q6. What documentation is required to register my child for school?

The following documentation is required by parents/guardians to complete registration

for all students enrolling in JPS schools for the 2018-2019 school year:

New Students

1. Valid photo ID. (No copies will be accepted.)
2. Certified copy of student's long form birth certificate.
3. State of Mississippi Certificate of Immunization Compliance (Form 121) or Certificate of Medical Exemption (Form 122).
4. Two Proofs of Residency documents. For a list of acceptable documents, visit the Registration Requirements page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Registration) or call (601) 960-8852.

Returning Students

1. Valid photo ID. (No copies will be accepted.)
 2. Two Proofs of Residency documents. For a list of acceptable documents, visit the Registration Requirements page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Registration) or call (601) 960-8852.
- For more information, contact Enrollment Services (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Enrollment) at (601) 960-8852.

Q7. Is summer reading a requirement?

Yes. All students are required to read at least three books and complete a log for each book they read. However, the District encourages students to read as many books as they can and complete logs for them. Students who read lots of books not only grow academically but may receive incentives at their school and at a communitywide celebration to be held at the Mississippi Children’s Museum in September. Visit the Summer Reading page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SummerReading) for more information.

Q8. How do I get my child to school?

JPS school buses provide transportation for students to their schools and homes. Buses also provide round-trip transportation for students attending special programs, such as the Academic and Performing Arts Complex, the three International Baccalaureate schools, and McWillie Montessori School. The Transportation Department sends bus schedules to parents by mail before the first day of school. Parents who do not receive their student’s bus schedule should contact the appropriate JPS Transportation center below.

- Transportation Central - (601) 960-8919
- Transportation North - (601) 987-3587
- Transportation South - (601) 960-5404

For additional information, contact Transportation (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Transportation) at (601) 960-8919.

Q9. How much do school meals cost?

JPS students receive breakfast and lunch meals at no cost as part of the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). It provides an alternative approach to offering school meals to local educational agencies and schools in low-income areas, instead of collecting individual applications for free and reduced-price meals. The CEP allows schools that predominantly serve low-income children to offer nutritious school meals at no cost to all students through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

Q10. How do I find out what schools are serving for breakfast and lunch?

Bookmark the Food Service Lunch Menus page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/Lunch-Menus) for breakfast and lunch menus by grade level. The menus are updated once a month throughout the school year. For more information, contact Food Service at (601) 960-8911.

Q11. What supplies will students need for school?

Elementary school supplies are listed by grade on our School Supplies page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolSupplies). Students will need pencils and paper every day. Students will also need a Library Card. School supply lists for middle and high school students must be obtained from the school the student will be attending. Get links to our school websites by visiting the School Directory page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory).

Q12. Is there a dress code for students?

JPS has a mandatory dress code policy for elementary and middle schools. The recommended dress code guidelines are on the Student Dress Code webpage (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/DressCode). Schools provide assistance to families that have a financial need to comply with uniforms. Parents should contact their child’s principal if



Jackson Public Schools

they need this assistance. High school students should refer to page 17 of the Student Code of Conduct and Handbook which can be downloaded from the Student Dress Code webpage.

Q13. How can I get involved at my child's school?
JPS parents can become involved in their child’s school through the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) or PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association). For contact information for JPS schools, visit the School Directory page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SchoolDirectory).

Q14. How do I view my child's grades?
ActiveParent is a web-based application that parents can use to keep track of students’ records throughout the school year. To learn more and create an account, go to the JPS Active Parent page (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/ActiveParentSupport).

Q15. When is the first day of school for students?
The first day of school for JPS students is Wednesday, August 8, 2018. The District Calendar At-A-Glance (www.jackson.k12.ms.us/DistrictCalendar) includes important dates for 2018-2019.

Q16. What days will schools be closed?
Schools will be closed on the days listed below in 2018-2019. Dates with an asterisk (*) may be used for inclement weather makeup days if needed.

DATE	EVENT
September 3, 2018	Labor Day (Districtwide Closure)
October 8, 2018	Fall Break (Districtwide Closure)*
October 22, 2018	Parent-Teacher Conference Day (No School for Students)*
November 19-23, 2018	Thanksgiving Break (Districtwide Closure)
December 21, 2018	Winter Break Begins (60% Day for Students)
Dec. 24, 2018-Jan. 4, 2019	Winter Break (Districtwide Closure)
January 21, 2019	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Districtwide Closure)
February 18, 2019	Parent-Teacher Conference Day (No School for Students)*
March 11-15, 2019	Spring Break (Districtwide Closure)
April 19 & 22, 2019	Easter Break (Districtwide Closure)*
May 27, 2019	Memorial Day (Districtwide Closure)

Q17. When are Parent-Teacher Conference Days?
There will be two Districtwide Parent-Teacher Conference Days—October 22, 2018, and February 18, 2019. Schools will be open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Parents may need to schedule a time to meet with teachers. Check with your child’s school for procedures.

Q18. How do I stay informed about District and school news?
We share news, announcements, and alerts on our website, social media channels, and notification systems.



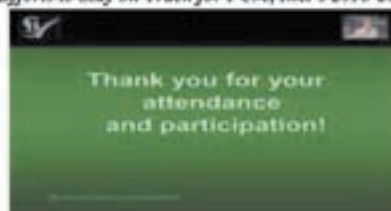
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Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: (July & August 2018)

To: FCM, Inc. Board of Directors' Members
FCM, Inc. Policy Council Members

Continuing our Efforts to Stay on Track for FCM, Inc.'s 2018-2019 Operation Year



STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHALLENGING TIMES

"Creating a Culture of Compliance"

GODS NEWS! **GRATEFUL** For your continued patience, time, presence, involvement and participation in Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc. HS/EHS Program.

* **FCM, INC. COLA AND NFS WAIVER NOTIFICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED AS OF THURSDAY, 8/16/2018.** (See Attachment "1" in Folder)

I. Programmatic Update: Items Received and Discussed with Board of Directors and Policy Council Members

Regular mail out on 8/17/2018 to Board and Policy Council Members: Notification and Impact Reports by Content Areas for June 2018:

1. PDM – Information Technology Services
2. FCE – Eligibility-Recruitment-Selection-Enrollment & Attendance (ERSEA)
3. ECDHS –Education/Disability/Health/Nutrition/Mental Health/CACFP
4. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/Narratives/Program Accounts
5. IN-KIND (Non-Federal Share) May & June 2018
6. Facilities and Grounds (July) (Will be in Folder)
7. Executive Director's Report (July & August 2018) along with ATTACHMENT '1'/Good News and an ADDENDUM/Transportation Update) (Will be in Folder)

(Note: Notification was also mailed out indicated to members to bring the contents of their brown envelopes with them to the 8/25/2018 sessions).

II. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, REVIEW, APPROVED AND/OR DISAPPROVED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS and POLICY COUNCIL:

1. FCM, Inc. 2018-2019 Program Year Budget Refunding Application Process for submission to Regional Office (Office of Head Start).
2. FCM, Inc. Cola and NFS Waiver Notification approved from the Regional Office (OHS), Mr. Dewayne Frederick on 8/16/2018.

III. ITEMS FOR A MOTION OF APPROVAL AND/OR DISAPPROVAL

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1. FCM, Inc. 2018-2019 Program Year Budget Refunding Application Process for submission to Regional Office (Office of Head Start).
2. FCM, Inc. Cola and NFS Waiver Notification approved from the Regional Office (OHS), Mr. Dewayne Frederick on 8/16/2018
3. FCM, Inc. Impact Reports by Content Areas; (Item #1 thru 7)

Financials: (There is a continued need to stress the importance of the agency's Non-Federal Share (In-Kind) matching funds for this agency). **AN ALL OUT EFFORT IS NEEDED IN ORDER FOR US TO SECURE THESE MATCHING FUNDS:**

To be able to meet approximately \$6,180,784.00 in non-federal share at the 20% rate of the total grant.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS ARE NEEDED IN OUR COMMUNITIES TO GENERATE AND ASSIST US WITH THESE MATCHING FUNDS AS LISTED ABOVE.

A CONTINUED REQUEST AND APPEAL IN '2018': In an effort to institute **A Community of Hope by Building and Improving Partnership/Relationships within our communities that we serve.**

We really need your involvement and participation for a monthly session to be held with Board and Policy Council members to meet with your Parent Committees and/or Officers, community residents, local elected officials (mayors, board of supervisors/aldermen, etc.) of your respective center/county. Two (2) of our goals and there may be others are (a) to provide all of you with informative news as it relates to FCM, Inc. services and operation and how important their impact is for continued imagery and partnership/relationship building and (b) to provide more effective communication of what's transpiring in and around their local communities as it relates to FCM, Inc. HS/EHS Program. The session shouldn't last no more than (1 to 1 ½ hours).

ADVOCACY TRAINING FOR OUR PARENTS. Parents need to be **ENCOURAGED** and **MOTIVATED** to work (write out) their 'own' "personal" story. This will be their concise, organized story of the impact FCM, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start has had on their children, family and the community.

Continued Brief Overview of the Human Resource Report:

We're putting forth a continued effort and an all-out **BOOST** and/or **CAMPAIGN** to complete our repairs/renovations/etc. to our facilities. We need quality:

- a. Contractors
- b. Carpenters
- c. Roofers
- d. Etc.,

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES within FCM, Inc. We still have a number of vacancies in our 15-county operation that need to be filled. Please ask individuals who may be interested in a job in your respective center/county to visit our Website: www.friendsofchildren.org or visit one of our local HS/EHS centers and complete an application or contact our Human Resource Department, Ms. Precious Garner, HR Manager.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- At the consensus of both Board & Policy Council Chairpersons, the Board & Policy Council sessions were cancelled for the month of July 2018.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** This notification was sent to Mr. Dewayne Frederick, Program Specialist (OHS) notifying him about two (2) of Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc. Head Start Centers not opening as scheduled is due to unforeseen issues caused by termites.

Mt. Sinai Head Start Center (Hazlehurst, MS/Copiah County)

1. A structured engineer was on site Thursday, 8/16/2018 to evaluate and assess the situation. We awaiting the written report from him.
2. Meanwhile, we have identified a possible site to utilize – waiting on approval from the Mississippi Department of Health.
(We want to thank our Board Member and Mayor (Ms. Shirley Sandifer) of Hazlehurst, MS (Copiah County) for her untiring effort to assist us in finding a location of a possible facility to use).

Ripley Blackwell Head Start Center (Mayersville, MS/Issaquena/Sharkey Counties)

1. Repairs are being completed.
2. Anticipate opening Tuesday, September 4, 2018.
(We want to thank a former employee/Family Service Workers (Ms. Ruthie Kelly) for calling to offer her assistance for possible classroom space at her facility, (Cary Christian Center), if needed.

Action that we have taken: Phone calls to inform the staff and parents as well as letters were sent out this week to both centers informing them of the situations.

- FCM, Inc. Administrative Committee is exploring the IPADs for Governance Body members' usage for the upcoming Program Year (12/1/2018).
- Please continue to write or call your Congressional Delegation to thank them for their continued support of FCM, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start at the telephone numbers or addresses listed below (in blue under OTHER) or you can go to their website. Let them know in your own words and way that we're approaching '52' years of quality service in the State of Mississippi. **WE'RE PROUD OF OUR MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS!** (A NOTE OF THOUGHT:

From lessons learned and after 51 years and approaching "52" years- October 15, 2018), I want to make sure that our program (FCM, Inc.) can have the maximum positive impact on children, families and communities, that's possible!

Your thoughts and ideas can really make a difference! **PLEASE SHARE THEM WITH US!**
Again, thank you for your time and cooperation.

- On another special note: These are **questions** and **answers** for future discussion by both Board of Directors and Policy Council members:

1. Do Board and Policy Council have effective communication systems?
2. Are you putting forth efforts to build relationships with constituents in your county?
3. As a non-profit such as (FCM, Inc.) on the county level, are you interested in building partnership/relationships with other non-profits?

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As always, your questions, concerns or if clarity is needed in the aforementioned, please contact me.

This report is prepared on a non-discriminatory basis and is compiled and presented to the Governing Body (Board & Policy Council Members) of Friends of Children of Mississippi, Inc. on a monthly basis.

We extend an open-hand invitation  to ALL to join us in forming partnerships throughout the communities, outlining strategies to impact and improve the lives of children

to ALL to join us in forming partnerships throughout the develop innovative approaches/processes that positively and families in the State of Mississippi.

This is a friendly reminder and an old adage that I so often state..... "If you want something that you've never had; then you must do something that you've never done."

Your ideas, suggestions and/or comments are welcomed and appreciated. Please call me if you have further questions, concerns, ideas, suggestions, clarity, and/or recommendations on any aspect of this report. Dr. Marvin Hogan, Executive Director, FCM, Inc., 130 Riverview Dr. – Suite C, Flowood, MS 39232; Phone: (601) 321-0960; Fax: (601) 936-4350 or E-mail: fcmeagleee@fcmi-ms.us; Website: www.friendsofchildren.org

"Working together we can make a positive difference in the lives of children & families"

THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN IS IN OUR HANDS!!!



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JPS Board of Trustees announces selection of new superintendent

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Board of Trustees of Jackson Public Schools announced the appointment of Errick Greene to the position of Superintendent of Schools Tuesday, August 21. The appointment concludes the search for a permanent superintendent that engaged over 1,000 parents, students, community leaders, teachers, principals and district staff.

During the search process, school district stakeholders articulated a clear and consistent preference for a leader with deep experience working in urban school districts and a proven track record of courageous change and community engagement.

“Dr. Greene comes to Jackson Public School District with a wealth of experience providing leadership on some of the most challenging urban education reform assignments in the United States over the last decade,” said Jeanne M. Hairston, president of the JPS Board of Trustees. “His command of instruction and principal devel-



Greene

opment along with his ability to hear and connect the needs of the community to the work of the school district positions JPS to improve and excel well into the future.”

Greene currently serves as the chief of schools in Tulsa, Oklahoma, an urban school district with a 36,000 student population and demographics similar to JPS. As chief of schools, Greene launched the district’s transformation initiative and provided executive leadership across all areas of district operations and school supervision.

“Dr. Greene is a staunch advocate for children, a dedicated bridge-builder and talented instructional leader,” said Deborah Gist, Superintendent of Schools in Tulsa, Oklahoma. “While I am sad that he’ll be leaving Team Tulsa, I know Dr. Greene will do an amazing job serving as your superintendent and ensuring that all students and families are provided a quality education.”

Prior to his post in Tulsa, Greene served in public school districts in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Detroit and Inglewood, California. As special assistant to the Emergency Manager in Detroit, Greene led efforts to restructure the district central office. While in D.C. Public Schools, he served as an instructional superintendent where he supported the Chancellor addressing reform efforts and successfully led a team of principals to improve student achievement in some of the district’s most troubled schools.

Superintendent
Continued on page 17

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