

The Mississippi Link encourages everyone to get registered by Monday, Oct. 8, in order to participate in the upcoming November mid-term election.

#### Mississippi State Conference NAACP statement in response to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety announcement regarding recent national protests of police brutality



We are deeply disappointed by the recent statements and endorsements released by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (DPS) and Governor Phil Bryant regarding the inaccurate assessment of the national protest around police brutality.

The Mississippi State Conference NAACP (MS NAACP) stands firmly with those who actively oppose systemic injustice, and we do so with a strong network of members and partners who are or have family members who are police officers, military servicemen and women and employees of DPS.

We strongly believe that law enforcement officers and other citizens should not be perceived as unpatriotic for speaking out against police brutality, and these individuals also should not be reprimanded for freely and peacefully voicing their disdain for injustice.

We support individuals who exercise their constitutional rights to peacefully protest and speak out against prejudices, and we wholeheartedly advocate for the rights of those individuals to express themselves without fear of persecution.

Furthermore, we urge the Commissioner and Governor to ponder the principles embedded in our Constitution: "We hold these truths to be self-evident,

*NAACP* 

Continued on page 3

# NAACP ramps up Voter **Outreach Campaign on National Voter Registration Day**

Power of 5 campaign looks to translate personal networks into votes during midterm elections

The Mississippi Link Newswire

NAACP, the nation's foremost civil rights organization, is looking to mobilize personal networks, activists and supporters to energize its base ahead of the 2018 midterm elections November 6.

"Our lives are on the ballot this year, so it is absolutely crucial that African Americans as a whole participate in these midterm elections at rates that reflect our true voting power," said NAACP President & CEO Derrick Johnson. "Today on National Voter Registration Day, we're urging everyone to use their power to register and mobilize new voters and get involved in one of the most important election in our nation's history."

Johnson's statement echoes the urgency of the NAACP's message for voting this year. The increase of brutal #livingwhileblack incidents, the continuous stream of hateful rhetoric, disrespect and racist policies coming from the White House, all point to the notion that black lives, civil rights and the issues of communities of color matter less and less to the president and elected officials in our nation. The NAACP recognizes this threat and is engaging voters based on



new voters and get involved in one of the most important election in our nation's history." — NAACP President & CEO Derrick Johnson

lives depend on it."

At the very core of the campaign is a radical voter registration and mobilization tactic utilizing social media platforms and personal networks. Fiftyfive days out from election-day, the NAACP launched the Power of 5 challenge, asking people to tap into the concept of relational organizing. Enlisting the help of

the all too real idea of "Vote! Our top tier celebrities, civic lead- ual, said Jamal Watkins, NAACP ers, artists, elected officials and everyday heroes, the NAACP used a portrait and PSA series to task people to engage their own networks by registering 5 people to vote, volunteering for 5 days between now and the election, and sharing the message with 5

> "The most important player in this year's election is the individ

vice president of Civic Engagement. "Our recent poll showed a majority of voters of color and nearly all black women felt disrespected by President Trump. People of color also believed this president has set back race relations and these numbers will play a role in both how and why

Continued on page 3

#### Bill Cosby sentenced to 3 to 10 years in prison, files notice of appeal

By Stacy M. Brown

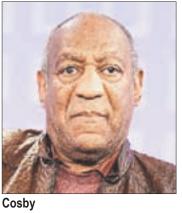
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Bill Cosby arrived at the Montgomery County, Pennsylvania courthouse in a black SUV surrounded by his publicists and attorneys. He left in a prison van, escorted by sheriff's deputies.

His lawyers immediately filed a notice of appeal.

Judge Steven T. O'Neill sentenced the fallen comic to as many as 10 years in state prison. Cosby, 81, could be released after serving a minimum of three years.

"You have no right to it," O'Neill told Cosby's attorney Joe Green, when asked that his client remain free on bail pending appeal. "This is a serious crime," said the judge, who earlier had designated Cosby a sexual violent



predator which means he'll have to undergo a lifetime of monthly counseling and report quarterly to

Because of the sexual violent predator designation, Cosby's name also will appear on a sexoffender registry sent to neighbors,

schools and victims.

Additionally, after having already paid the victim in the case, Andrea Constand, \$3.4 million in a civil settlement, the sexually violent predator designation can also be used against him in several defamation lawsuits that are pending against him.

Prosecutors had asked for a fiveto 10-year sentence.

Cosby's spokesman Andrew Wyatt told reporters that the sentence continues the "lynching of a legacy."

"This has been the most racist and sexist trial in the history of the United States," Wyatt said. "Dr. Cosby has been one of the greatest civil rights leaders in the United

> Cosby Continued on page 3

#### **Cosby/Kavanaugh: The story** yet to be told in front of our eyes

By Emmitt Hayes Jr.

Guest Columnist

Don't get me wrong, I loved, admired and modeled things that I saw and knew about Bill Cosby. It is easy for me to forgive him as I was not affected by any of his misdeeds personally. I know that what he offered black folk in America was the role of "America's Dad."

I do not defend his actions as he has confessed that he bought drugs with a specific purpose in mind and being an adult in the 70s, I understood our drug fueled society at the time. Many of you know what I mean.

I will point to Andrea Constand who was the lone voice, crying out about her being drugged and taken advantage

#### **COMMENTARY**

of by a person who was highly regarded and many people did not like her very much. But she was persistent. Sins of the past have come to light with justice prevailing for the accusers and victims.

Now another person, Judge Brett Kavanaugh, who is loved and admired, has been nominated to become a Supreme Court Justice, a lifetime appointment, whose sins of the past have also come to light. Christine Ford stepped forward with personal claims of sexual misconduct against Kavanaugh and immediately and figuratively she was sandblasted by men and women. Now, other accusers are coming

forward while the cry for an in-

There was no Senate leadership for Cosby but as for Kavanaugh, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said, 'you will be confirmed.'

vestigation is being ignored.

Well, Cosby victims, do you feel a sense of similarity here? You can't win because he is who he is and we are who we are and nothing you can say will change that. Oh, but it did change for Cosby but what about Kavanaugh? After all, are we not at the beginning of a situation that accuses the judge of taking advantage of women during alcohol fueled events, rendering them unable to defend themselves or

> Story Continued on page 3

**Rust College** Alumni Meet, Greet & Eat – a big success



#### So Tall Within



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# Wanda Collier-Wilson says goodbye to Visit Jackson

The Mississippi Link Newswire

"City with Soul"

Wanda Collier-Wilson, president & CEO of Visit Jackson, is retiring at the end of September after devoting 35 years to the agency. Collier-Wilson has dedicated her entire professional career to promoting the city and the industry she loves. She began her career with Visit Jackson, formerly known as the Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau, in 1983 during the organization's third month of operation.

Wilson started as the receptionist and has held almost every position within the agency for over three decades, serving as the marketing director for 12 years, before becoming president & CEO in 1998.

"It is always a sad day to lose a dedicated public servant like Wanda Wilson. During my tenure as board chair of Visit Jackson, Wanda was a great leader who served the City of Jackson with passion and professionalism. Wanda's thirty-five years with Visit Jackson, from receptionist to President/CEO, demonstrates her commitment to tourism and her expertise will be solely missed," said Robert Gibbs.

Throughout her career, Wilson has been recognized as an industry leader. JET magazine and Black Meetings & Tourism magazine produced features on Wilson. The Mississippi Tourism Association honored Wilson with an "Excellence in Tourism Award" in 2004. Under her leadership, the Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau was named "2005 Mississippi CVB of the Year" and won a Readers' Choice Award in 2006 from Convention South maga-



Collier-Wilson

zine as one of the South's top CVBs.

In 2006, Wilson was inducted into the Tourism Hall of Fame by the Mississippi Development Authority-Division of Tourism. She was also the recipient of the "Phenomenally She" award in the Business Leader category for The Dr. Jessie Bryant Mosley Award of Excellence Exhibit presented by Smith-Robertson Museum and Cultural Center and named one of Mississippi's "50 Leading Business Women" in 2006 by the Mississippi Business Journal.

She has worked diligently to promote tourism statewide, regionally, nationally and internationally. Wilson served as the president of the

Mississippi Tourism Association, created the Metro Jackson Attractions Association, served as a board member for the Southeast Tourism Society and Keep Jackson Beautiful. She also created the Hometown Hero & SUMITT Awards to recognize outstanding achievements in Jackson tourism. Additionally, Wilson played a major part in the passing of the legislation to build Jackson's convention center.

Today, she leaves a 17-member staff tasked with promoting the "City with Soul" as a bona fide destination and a first-choice for bringing major conventions and meetings.

# HCHRA Head Start posts exceptional gains in literacy for 2017-2018

The Mississippi Link Newswire

As three-and four-year-old students begin to return to Head Start classrooms for the new school year, HCHRA teachers are beaming with pride from last year's results. According to newly released HCHRA data from the 2017-18 Head Start school year, HCHRA students showed a 19 percent gain in Star Literacy test scores.

Star Literacy scores represent how well a student understands concepts and possesses specific skills that are important in the development of reading. These scores represent a snapshot of where the student currently stands as it relates to literacy.

At the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, data showed that HCHRA had an average student score of 400. A score of 300-487 places a child as an Early Emergent Reader. Students in this category are beginning to understand that reading involves printed words and sentences, and that print flows from left to right and from top to bottom of the page. They are also beginning to identify colors, shapes, numbers and letters.

To ensure that each student was ready for kindergarten, HCHRA's Head Start Program developed the "Early Literacy Race to 500" campaign. The goal of "Race to 500" was to ensure that HCHRA students transition from Early Emergent Reader to Late Emergent Reader. Late Emergent Readers score 488-674. Students in this category identify most of the letters of the alphabet and can match most of the letters to their sounds. Students are also beginning to read picture books and familiar words around the home.

By the end of the school year, test results showed that HCHRA reached an average score of 476 among all four-year-old students tested. "While short of our goal, I

am proud to say that our Head Start staff delivered high-quality instruction and provided an excellent learning environment to ensure we saw exceptional gains in our students," says Kenn Cockrell, president and CEO of HCHRA. "We had multiple centers to surpass the 500 mark, and a few students even scored over 800 – a remarkable accomplishment."

The gains came a year after HCHRA made curriculum changes and implemented evaluations that were better aligned with their curriculum. HCHRA also recognizes parents as the child's first and best teacher. To reinforce the learning that takes place in the classroom, HCHRA provides parents with at-home activities they can practice with their children to help them strengthen literacy skills until they return to the classroom.

Just last year, all Head Start programs across the state were wrongfully categorized as not having positive results in early literacy. "When you group all students together, without considering income or opportunity, data is not properly analyzed, inaccurate generalizations are espoused, and programs are not fairly evaluated apart from the others," said Cockrell.

Cockrell went on to explain that the teachers and staff at HCHRA are held to a high standard of accountability, which often surpasses federal requirements. "In addition to ensuring that our education tools and methods produce results, we utilize measurement systems that ensure accountability and clearly communicate results to funders, community members and leaders throughout Hinds County."

HCHRA operates 16 Head Start centers and satellite locations throughout Hinds County and has successfully run the Head Start program for more than 41 years.



they'll vote in the midterm elections."

The NAACP voter mobilization efforts

includes the activation of its over 2200

branches across the country and key on-

the-ground strategic initiatives in Florida,

Georgia, Ohio, Michigan, North Carolina

and Pennsylvania. It will engage faith

Vote

Continued from page 1

#### Cosby

States for over the last 50 years. He's also been one of the greatest educators of men and boys over the past 50 years.

"This wasn't pointed out in court to the jurors or allowed in because of the racist and sexist mass media attacking and denouncing Dr. Cosby whenever his lawyers even hinted that racism and sexism was present." Wyatt continued:

"All three psychologists that testified against Dr. Cosby were white women who make money off accusing black men of being sexual predators and it's no accident that Prosecutor Steele worked so closely with anti-black and anti-male activist groups who tried to extort \$100 million from Dr. Cosby in 2014."

Wyatt and Cosby's wife, Camille, also pointed to an NNPA Newswire exclusive story earlier this month that revealed that tapes used to help convict Cosby were doctored.

After reading the NNPA Newswire story, Cosby hired a forensic firm in Northern Virginia to review recordings of phone calls with Cosby provided by Constand's mother, Gianna. The recordings were used as evidence in both of Cosby's trials.

However, Wyatt and Camille Cosby said the firm found that the recordings were indeed doctored.

In a statement from Camille Cosby, read by publicist Ebonee Benson Tuesday, she said they also presented the findings to Montgomery County, Pennsylvania detectives who investigated Cosby.

"They found that they were unable to authenticate the tapes," Camille Cosby said in her statement.

Cosby said her husband's legal team would immediately file for relief on the basis that Steele used falsified evidence to win the conviction.

"The right to a fair trial is of utmost importance," Camille Cosby said.

"The prosecutor has the responsibility to protect the innocent......

Gianna Constand surreptitiously and illegally recorded a conversation with my husband, which the former District Attorney Bruce Castor said was illegal," she said.

"Steele used illegal recordings in both trials."

Wyatt called it a persecution. "I'm not saying Mr. Cosby is Jesus, but we know what this country has done to Black men for centuries," he

Cosby was found guilty in April of three counts of aggravated inde-

cent assault for the drugging and sexual assault of Constand, a former Temple University employee, at his in Montgomery County more than He was the first celebrity to be criminally convicted of sexual abuse

since the start of the #MeToo movement, the national movement that has resulted in numerous celebrities and powerful individuals, like former NBC "Today" host Matt Lauer, movie mogul Harvey Weinstein and many others, losing their careers.

President Donald Trump has also been accused of sexual misconduct and his Supreme Court pick, Brett Kavanaugh, is set to face at least one of his accusers when he appears before

a Senate committee Thursday.

Cosby, who declined to address the court during sentencing and also didn't testify during either of his trials, has vowed to continue to fight his convic-

His attorneys as well as many other legal experts have said there are numerous grounds for a higher court to consider overthrowing the verdicts against

Among O'Neill's rulings that Cosby's team believe are questionable is the contentious relationship the judge has had with former District Attorney Bruce Castor, who previously declined to file charges against Cosby because he said Constand wasn't credible and there wasn't evidence to support a pros-

Castor also made an agreement with Cosby in which the actor would waive his Fifth Amendment right and sit for a civil deposition. The then-District Attorney agreed that whatever Cosby said in the deposition would be sealed and could never be used to prosecute him.

Camille Cosby recently filed a request for a full investigation into O'Neill with the Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board at the state's capitol in Harrisburg.

"In light of Judge O'Neill's continuing unethical conduct, I have retained a former prosecutor based in Harrisburg, Brian W. Perry, to facilitate my efforts to uncover the truth regarding the longstanding and ongoing feud between Castor and the judge," Camille Cosby

said in a statement last week. "Mr. Perry will provide the Judicial Conduct Board with recent written communications from Mr. Castor that contradict the judge's claim that there is

no grudge," Camille Cosby said.

"For example, an email from Mr. Castor references Judge O'Neill as 'A judge with an enormous potential bias [who] did not disclose that possible bias to the lawyers to give them the option to seek a new judge," she said, specifically referencing an email Castor sent to the Washington Informer March 27.

Camille Cosby's statement contin-

ued:

"One week prior to my request for investigation, Bill Cosby filed a motion demanding that the judge provide a full accounting of his longstanding feud with and bias against Bruce Castor, the former DA of Montgomery County.

"The motion explained that Mr. Cosby retained a former FBI agent to investigate the relationship of Messrs. Castor and O'Neill after recently being tipped off about their feud in an unsourced tabloid [Radar Online] article. The former agent discovered that, in 1999, when Messrs. O'Neill and Castor were running against each other to become DA, Mr. Castor ordered a female prosecutor whom Mr. O'Neill had dated to visibly support Mr. Castor dur-

ing a key debate."

#### NAACP

Continued from page 1

that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

To that end, we ask that all Mississippians stand with the MS NAACP in combatting divisive rhetoric and agendas that fervently oppose equality. It is imperative that we identify the underlying causes for social and political activism and not be swayed by those that wish to hinder or impede the work of building a more equitable nation.

#### Story

Continued from page 1

are we at the end of a situation where the victims were heard and the defendant dealt with

Don't think the timing of the sentencing of Cosby with the latest allegations against Kavanaugh, has any thing to do with derailing his nomination. It is much bigger than that when events began to unfold.

My faith in God is strengthed whether we are talking catastrophic weather events, world turmoil or American politics. I am so glad my faith takes me beyond these things so I can watch the majesty of His work. Keep your eyes open people of God to be a witness.

I hate seeing the Republican Party taking the leading role in the destabilization of this democracy nevertheless, it appears but sinking sand. Be a witness and observe how America, Republicans and the White House deal with this the judge. We are not amused.

#### partners, community leaders and other social justice organizations, and will serve as a catalyst for the NAACP's fiveyear civic engagement plan. "This campaign is about the power of

our personal networks to mobilize voters and to ensure that no elected officials can feel comfortable in disrespecting our communities or taking our votes for granted," added Watkins.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities.

Nov. 6





"As your US Senator, I will be a tireless advocate for Mississippi, working to bolster our image nationally and globally. I believe in the dignity of all Mississippians, and I will strive to unify this state like no one before, so Mississippi is seen as an example of progress."

US Secretary of Agriculture (1993-1994) US Congressman - MS 2nd District (1987-1993)



Thursday, September 27, 2018

5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. **Jackson Convention Complex** 105 E. Pascagoula Street Jackson, MS 39201

Childcare will be provided

#### The Fall Parent and Family **Engagement Conference** is free for JPS Parents.

Make your reservation TODAY!!! Deadline is Friday, September 14, 2018 Pre-registration forms are available at: JPS Enochs Family Resource Center, Your child's school, or the Office of Federal Programs at 601-960-8945. You may also pre-register by visiting the JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us



Jackson Public Schools



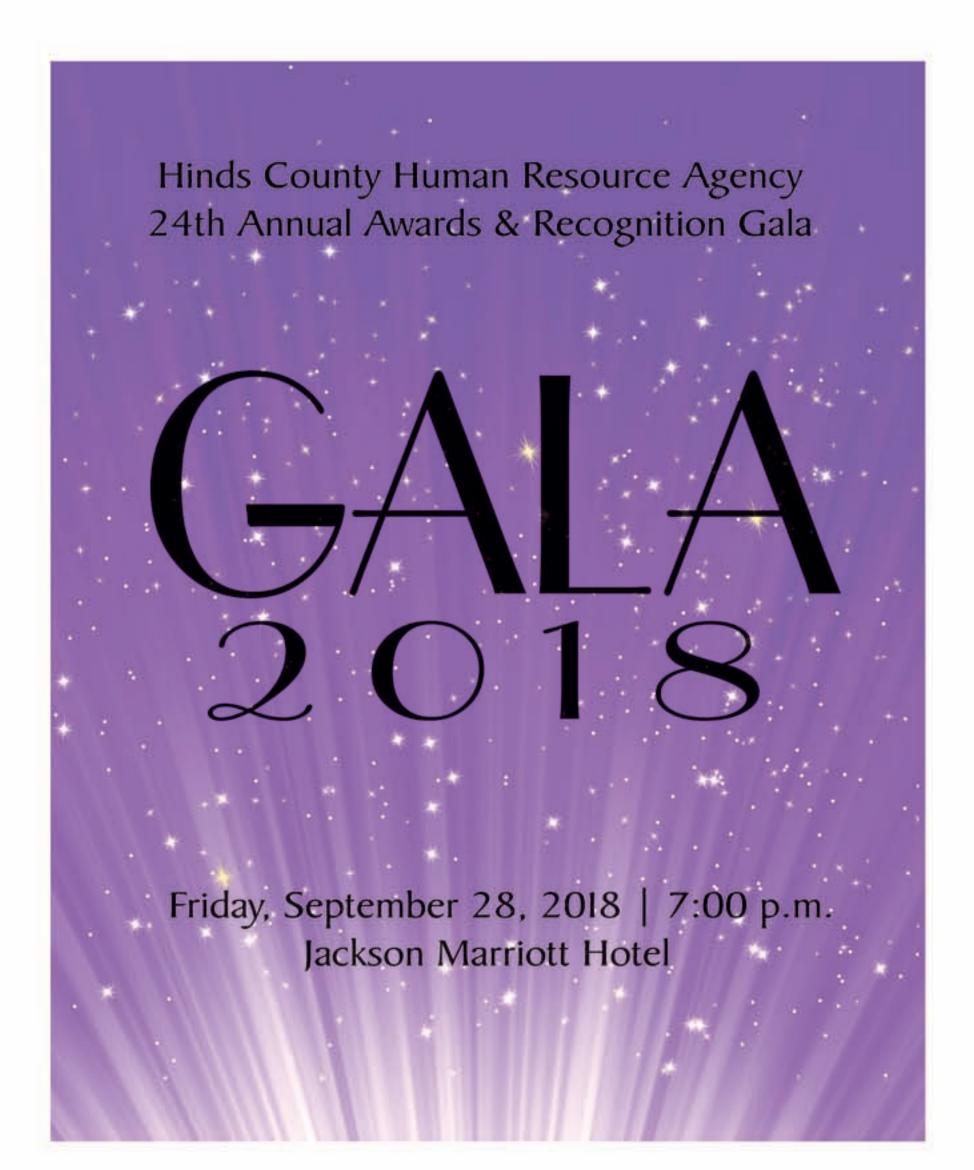
#### Conference Highlights:

Parent Sessions Information on JPS Student Services **Exhibitors** Food Door Prizes

#### INSPIRING MOTIVATIONAL **SPEAKER**



John Robinson, Sr.





Keynote Speaker:

Maggie Wade

News Anchor/Reporter

WLBT 3 On Your Side

& WDBD Fox40

At Hinds County Human Resource Agency, our goal is to help families and strengthen communities.

The Annual Awards and Recognition Gala is Hinds County Human Resource Agency's signature development event, which helps to provide critical matching funds for several services such as home-delivered meals, congregate meal sites, and Hinds County rural public transportation.

Maggie Wade, News Anchor/Reporter at WLBT 3 On Your Side & WDBD Fox40, will be featured as the keynote speaker for this year's Gala. Enjoy dinner, entertainment, and a fabulous silent auction. Cash and credit cards accepted. Tickets are \$50.

The Gala provides an important opportunity to create awareness about our programs and services; to celebrate our clients who have transitioned out of poverty to self-sufficiency; and to honor our volunteers and community partners who work with us throughout the year to help eradicate poverty and provided a better life for more than 49,000 low-income citizens throughout Hinds County.

Our progams and services would not be available without the invaluable support of our community and corporate partners.

To make a donation or for more information on tickets, ads, and sponsorships, call 601.923.1838.



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6 • THE MISSISSIPPI LINK SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3, 2018

# Newest JPS school-based clinic helps keep grade-schoolers well

Mississippi Link Newswire

After Jackson Public Schools made the tough decision in spring 2018 to close 193-student Brown Elementary due to low enrollment and aging facilities, the school's student body transferred this fall to Galloway Elementary.

And so did Brown's schoolbased health clinic staffed by the University of Mississippi School of Nursing.

"I had open arms," said Marvin Davis, principal of 470-student Galloway. "Any opportunity to improve our students' health is welcome."

The University of Mississippi Medical Center, School of Nursing and school district on Sept. 20 introduced the clinic to the community surrounding Galloway, a pre-K through 5th grade school and one of the district's 38 elementaries. The School of Nursing also staffs JPS-district clinics at Johnson Elementary, at 1339 Oak Park Drive; and Lanier High, at 833 W. Maple St.

School of Nursing administrators and the district worked quickly to establish the Galloway clinic. "The buy-in was real," said Dr. Anne Norwood, professor of nursing and a nurse practitioner who staffs and directs the clinic at Johnson, which opened in 1999. "To be able to come into Galloway and have a clinic that can see patients, assess health, diagnose, prescribe and refer out was a lot more beneficial and a lot more cost-effective for taxpayers."

The nursing staff sees a va-



wood, professor of nursing in the School of Nursing, how they breathe.

"headaches, sore throats, sinus Rhodes, both assistant professors and family nurse practitioners, also lend helping hands at Galloway. Cheryl Ervinjones serves as Galloway's patient services coordinator.

Also on clinic staff at 418-student Johnson Elementary is family nurse practitioner Dr. Molly Moore, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing. While the Lanier clinic has a

number of funding sources, the clinics at Galloway and Johnson are funded through the Mississippi Department of Education.

Tassica Stamps, whose daughter Raygan Pirtle is a Galloway student, said Raygan was seen at the Brown Elementary clinic last year. "I absolutely love it," she said of the school-based clinics, which offer both flu and strep testing.

crazy schedule, this is great," she said. "Raygan has had strep four or five times already. When she had strep last year and went to the Brown clinic, I was able to get her antibiotics and then pick her up. I didn't have to pick her up from school and then rush her somewhere else to be seen."

Not only do children receive care for acute illness, but they receive well-child checkups and education that promotes everyday wellness.

"Part of the well-child checkup is addressing things including nutrition, good choices, no tobacco use, gun safety, exercise and oral care. We teach them at an early age about college, making good grades and staying in school," Norwood said. "We even do depression screenings. It's a totally holistic approach to the child.

"We look to see if they're safe.

Who do they live with? Do they have running water?

Koscher Jackson, a family nurse practitioner at the Lanier High School Teen Well-

ness Clinic, checks Iverson Brown's ears. Brown is a student at Lanier.

Some kids don't have running water and some don't have food."

Families can take advantage of Galloway's food pantry stocked with donated non-perishables and fresh produce. "We teach them what foods are good for you and what's bad for you, and we talk to the parents as well," Norwood said.

The clinics also are a rich training ground for nursing, medical and nurse practitioner students and pediatric residents. During the 2017-18 school year alone, they logged more than 2,600 hours of clinical experience.

"They check in patients and do vital signs," Norwood said. "We are able not only to provide a community service, but we teach the students at UMMC what it's like to be in a child environment. It helps them to be more comfortable around them.

"A lot of the children will tell us things that they won't tell other people," she said. "The clinic is a safe place, and they get individualized attention. It's not just a clinic."

Lanier's Teen Wellness Clinic opened in October 2015 and teaches the 634 students how to adopt a healthier lifestyle in addition to delivering primary medical care.

It's staffed by clinic director Dr. Kate Fouquier, associate professor of nursing and a certified nurse midwife; nurse practitioners Koscher Jackson and John Farr; patient administrator and data manager Jasymin Shepherd; health education specialist Tori Jones and Dianne Mounger, a social worker with the Mississippi Department of Health.





infections and sinus drainage,

congestion and lots of rashes,"

said Lora Martin, a family nurse

practitioner with the School of

Nursing who staffs the Galloway

clinic. "I've seen some bones that

were broken, and I sent them to

the Medical Center's pediatric

It's a boon to working parents

and those with limited financial

resources for their children to be

seen in the school-based clinics.

Parents have the option of giv-

ing permission for their child

to be treated and designating a

pharmacy where prescriptions

can be called in by clinic staff.

Staff calls parents to update them

on any care delivered. If the par-

ent can't be reached, a note goes

home with the child detailing di-

agnosis and treatment.

emergency department."

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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

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

Member:

- 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

VOTE NOV. 6

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# Do better when you know better, keynoter tells M2M summit at Hinds CC

The Mississippi Link Newswire

College is a time for traditional-age students when decisions can make or break their lives for years - and the time for discipline is now, said the keynote speaker at the M2M Education Meets Excellence summit Sept. 13.

Antonio Robinson, director of Upward Bound Math and Science program at Trident Technical College in Charleston, S.C., told about 250 students of Hinds, high schools from the region and others his talk wasn't so much to preach, but to lay out the best life strategies for college and beyond.

His presentation was titled A Gentleman's Guide to Personal Development.

"When students spend a year with me, they will come out different," he said. "If they're the same person they were a year ago, then I've failed at my

"I call it the gentleman's guide because a gentleman doesn't force stuff on you," he said. "It's here for you to take with you. You know how you know what's right and you don't always do what's right? My mission in life is to close the gap between knowing and doing."

Robinson, who holds master's and bachelor's degrees in counseling from Charleston Southern University and has counseled in high schools and colleges for 20 years, spoke of the importance of making good decisions in all facets of life, starting in college. Examples ranged from how diligently to study for tests to their choices of friends.

"Your network will determine your net worth. Surround yourself with people who have a value of themselves. Hang out with people who force you to step it up. You're always one decision away from a totally different life."

Students from Jackson Public School, Hinds County School District and The Piney Woods School attended this fall's summit, held in the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus.

"I learned you have to be well-organized and be attentive," said Steven Little, a junior at Murrah High School.



Steven Little, a junior at Murrah High School, listens to a presentation during the M2M Leadership Summit held Sept. 12 at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus. PHOTOS BY HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE/APRIL GARON



From left, Ahmad Smith, Antonio Robinson, Dr. Aleisha Escobedo, Dwayne Jefferson, Colleen Hartfield and Keith Williams Jr.

"And have a good appearance, because people really do judge you on your appearance in

Breakout sessions were conducted by Oklahoma-based Paradigm Shift, a nonprofit group specializing in motivating youth.

"This summit provided an opportunity for our students to engage with their peers and serve as active leaders and forward thinkers," M2M director

Aleisha Escobedo said.

The grant-funded initiative on campus that has provided leadership training, career counseling and other services to help African Americans succeed in college is building on a \$1.6 million federal grant secured in 2016 under the Title III, Part A, Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI) Formula Program of the U.S. Department of Education. The two-year grant is \$2.1 million.

The funds will enable the college to improve its instructional program and emerging technologies, plus augment student support services.

The grant also provides innovative faculty and staff training efforts designed to close the achievement gap between African-American students and other student populations at the college.

The five-year grant ends in

## State Board delays consideration of school, district performance grades for 2017-18 school year until October

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE) voted recently to delay until October consideration of approval of letter grades for the 2017-18 school year for schools and districts based on Mississippi's A-F accountability system.

Statewide accountability data sent under embargo to school district superintendents and members of the media Sept. 17 are unofficial. However, because the SBE did not approve the grades, they are not the official grades of school and district performance. School districts and members of the media are advised to wait until October to report SBE-approved grades.

The SBE voted in August to establish a temporary rule to reset the baseline scores for establishing accountability grades for schools that have a 12th grade. The reset would address the lack of comparability to growth scores in prior years. The SBE will decide whether to make this temporary rule permanent.

The new Mississippi Succeeds Report Card, which was set to launch, will not be published until the SBE approves accountability grades.

Accountability grades are based, in part, on how well students perform and progress from year to year on the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP) tests for English language arts (ELA) and Mathematics. These tests are aligned to the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards and are administered annually to students in grades 3-8 and in high school. Overall, students showed statistically significant gains in both ELA and mathematics from 2016-17 to 2017-18.

The accountability system

places an emphasis on the progress students make in ELA and mathematics from year to year, particularly the lowest performing 25 percent of students, and factors in how well students perform on science tests in grades 5 and 8.

Accountability grades for high schools and districts include the four-year graduation rate, student performance on biology, U.S. history and ACT tests, and student participation and performance in advanced coursework such as Advanced Placement and dual credit/dual enrollment courses.

#### **MVSU** student named 2018 HBCU **Competitiveness Scholar**



Hampton

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities recently announced the names of 63 students from 54 HBCUs who have been selected as 2018 HBCU Competitiveness Scholars – the initiative's highest student recognition.

Among them were Mississippi Valley State University's Jamireia Hampton who was one of three Mississippi students to receive the recognition. Hezekiah Williams from Hinds Community College-Utica and Reagon Johnson of Tougaloo College were also recognized.

Hampton, a junior English major from Kemper, expressed how excited she was to be named a competitiveness scholar.

"I was astonished and in disbelief that I had been selected to be an HBCU Competitiveness Scholar," said Hampton.

"I am truly honored, and I hope this will help set my resume apart from other competitors when applying to graduate programs," she added.

An active and engaged student, Hampton is a member of the Alpha Lambda National Honors Society, National Council of Negro Women Collegiate Section, Gateway Leadership Ambassadors Program, Career Services Center Ambassadors, University Ambassadors and the Ronald E. McNair Achieve-Post-Bachelorette ment Program.

She is also a member of the Epsilon Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Although she currently majors in English, Hampton said she plans to pursue a doctoral degree in sociology.

Comprised of undergraduate, graduate and professional students, Competitiveness Scholars are recognized for successfully preparing to compete for top opportunities that improve long-term outcomes.

Each candidate was nominated and endorsed by their institution's president and was selected from among several

highly distinguished HBCU students chosen based on their academic achievement, campus and civic involvement and entrepreneurial ethos or "gogetter" spirit.

In the course of their oneyear term, Competitiveness Scholars will learn and share proven and promising practices that support individual and HBCU competitiveness, with the goal of strengthening prospects for career and life success.

Competitiveness Scholars assembled September 16-18 at the 2018 National HBCU Week Conference held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, in Washington, D.C.

During this national convening - themed "HBCU Competitiveness: Aligning Institutional Missions with America's Priorities" - the scholars participated in workshops designed to improve leadership, encourage ongoing personal and professional development and discover areas of innovation and entrepreneurship.

As the embodiment of unique competitive advantages HBCUs provide students, Competitiveness Scholars are afforded opportunities to highlight their exceptional contributions to institutions, ignite new passions and explore ideas critical to lifelong growth and development.

Competitiveness Scholars are recognized for the 2018-2019 academic school year. Throughout this period, the initiative will provide outreach and engagement activities, as well as information and resources that can be disseminated to fellow students. The students are expected to take advantage of the opportunities provided fully, engage with one another and showcase individual and collective talents across the HBCU spectrum.

Competitiveness Scholars received their recognition during the conference September 17, at the Initiative's Excellence in Innovation and Competitiveness Awards.

Mississippi Association of Educators will host a Praxis Core and Praxis II Preparation Workshop on the campus of Mississippi Valley State University. The workshops will be held in the O.P. Lowe Education Building from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6 (Praxis Core); Saturday, Nov. 3 (Praxis II, Elementary Ed. 4-6); and Saturday, Dec. 8 (Praxis Core and Praxis II Mathematics).

Registration fee is \$10 for MAE members and \$30 for Non-MAE members. Fees must be paid in cash or money order only on the date of attendance. For pre-registration, email Sheila Washington at swashington@maetoday.org.

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3, 2018

# 3-star Army General will help promote Tiger Battalion cadets to second lieutenants

By L.aToya Hentz-Moore

jsumsnews.com

Distinguished 3-star Army Lt. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford of the Pentagon will assist JSU's Department of Military Science in the commissioning of four JSU Tiger Battalion cadets to 2nd lieutenants at 3 p.m. Thursday.

The ceremony will be in the College of Liberal Arts with keynote speaker Crawford, who is chief information officer and principal adviser to the Secretary of the U.S. Army.

The 32-year veteran is a native of Columbia, South Carolina. He sets strategic direction and objectives for the Army network and supervises Army C4 functions that involve command, control, communications and computers. He also oversees Information Technology.

The four who will be com-



missioned represent three higher-learning institutions that are part of the JSU Tiger Battalion:

Alexander C. Cottone, Millsaps College

Nyshia R. Bolton-Gatlin, Tougaloo College

Bria L. Johnson, Millsaps

Roger L. Thompson, Jackson State University

Upon their commissioning, the new 2nd lieutenants will begin active duty in various geographical locations.



### Want to earn an 'A'? Tutors at CSET Scholars Academy can make your dreams come true

By L.A. Warren jsumsnews.com

CSET Scholars Academy may seem like JSU's best-kept secret, but the grant-funded program wants to be exposed for all the good it delivers – increased college retention and graduation rates, internship placement, free tutoring for JSU and high school students and ACT and GRE preparation classes.

Martha N. Tchounwou leads the three-year-old program by JSU's College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET). The academy is modeled after similar initiatives at other institutions of higher

Tchounwou manages the program as director of the CSET Scholars Academy/Student Support Services and LSMAMP (Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation). LSMAMP assists universities and colleges in diversifying the nation's STEM workforce, particularly among underrepresented minority populations.

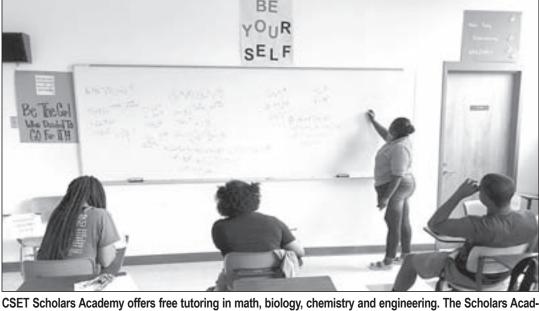
"Sadly, many people don't know what we do at the CSET Scholars Academy. We do a lot in helping retain students and helping them graduate," Tchounwou said. "Our retention and enrollment has gone up for three consecutive years except for a slight dip last year due to reductions in scholarships amid the university current finances."

The Scholars Academy relocated this fall semester inside the John A. Peoples Building, Room 237. Previously, it was in the Old Industrial Arts building. Tutoring is available in math, biology, chemistry and engineering. Also, computers are available for programming

The academy is funded by several corporate partners: Entergy, Nissan and Lockheed Martin. They provide resources for student stipends, tutors and essential supplies.

Tchounwou said, "The academy also has been good for outreach to surrounding public high schools," especially Provine and Jim Hill. She said JSU tutors visit these secondary institutions about twice a week to help with math, English, computer programming and ro-

Some parents of these stu-



emy relocated this fall semester inside the John A. Peoples Building, Room 237. PHOTO BY L.A. WARREN/JSU

dents bring their children to JSU for tutoring. Now, Tchounwou hopes the program will expand to Wingfield High School.

Meanwhile, at JSU, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Clinton explained how the program turned him from a "D" student to an "A" student.

Senefer Jackson initially visited the CSET Scholars Academy to earn community service and to seek tutoring.

After noticing how quickly he began to grasp the material, he visited the academy regularly and helped the main tutors assist others. Eventually, he became so adept that he is now a main tutor for Calculus I and college algebra.

Jackson, who has aided nearly 15 peers and watched them earn "As," said, "I like helping people improve because I was once in the same situation. Being able to give the help they need is fulfilling. I'm also able to learn more by tutoring them." He's already planning to pursue his master's degree after he earns his bachelor's.

Because of Jackson's success, Tchounwou can't contain her excitement about the CSET Scholars Academy.

"Sometimes in class, students are too nervous to ask questions. They'll say, 'I didn't want to ask questions in class because I was scared.' However, with our one-on-one approach, it's easier and more comfortable for them here," Tchounwou boasts.

"Ninety percent of students who come in for tutoring increase their performance by one

or two grades for an overall 'A.' Unfortunately, the other 10 percent fail to study, and the results are less promising. We've had a few students who come in expecting us to do their work for

In addition, Tchounwou said, "We work with and provide tutors for the Department of Athletics on campus and hope to continue working with them in providing tutors while they are

She said the academy is "a place for students to come in, feel comfortable and to get help." However, she cautions against waiting until the last minute for support.

"Some people come in only when they have an upcoming test, then you don't see them again until the next exam period. It's difficult for that type of student to get the complete knowledge under their belt, and this can be a little too late. There must be a constant commitment," Tchounwou said.

Furthermore, she said, "Those who come in and study regularly – even if not preparing for an upcoming test – end up with 'As.' I usually recommend that students come in once or twice a week. After all, it's free. I don't understand why some students won't come for a free service."

Tchounwou said success rates also extend to those studying for the ACT and GRE.

ACT prep is available once in the spring and fall. This summer, however, it was also offered during a new program called the Girls STEM Acad-

Preparation for the ACT is free but not for the GRE, which for the past couple years has been facilitated in September or October at JSU by the Kaplan Education Corporation.

The fee for the GRE prep class is about \$1,500; however, JSU students pay only \$600 for books and classes that can be waived if the individual is part of a program such as LSMAMP. The GRE class starts the first week of September and lasts six to eight weeks.

Tchounwou said, "Seventy percent of students who take the GRE class through our academy see their scores rise about 30 percent. If students' GRE scores don't rise, the class can be retaken only online but as often as necessary at no additional cost."

She advises student to take the GRE exam within two weeks after completing the prep class because they likely would retain the material and perform

Like many other areas of CSET, the Scholars Academy also has been instrumental in helping students earn summer internships. Of the 150 JSU students placed recently, several spent time in Arkansas, Indiana and Michigan.

Generally, tutors in the CSET Scholars Academy are available during the regular school year from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the campus community and public.

For questions about other times or more information about the academy, call 601-979-0783.

## JSU among four Mississippi universities to share \$20 million, five-year grant from NSF

Jackson State University

ACKSON STATE UNIVERSIT

A \$20 million, five-year grant from the National Science Foundation will spur creative discovery and economic opportunities through Mississippi's research universities.

With the grant funding, the state of Mississippi will establish the Center for Emergent Molecular Optoelectronics, an interdisciplinary, multi-institution materials research program. Mississippi State University (MSU) will serve as the project's administrative lead, and the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) will serve as the science lead.

Along with MSU and USM, Jackson State University (JSU) and the University of Mississippi (UM) will be a part of the new center, which will facilitate the development of research capabilities and educational opportunities in the growing optoelectronic, energy and biotechnology research fields.

The NSF grant comes through the organization's EPSCoR (Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) program, which enhances the research competitiveness of states and jurisdictions by strengthening STEM capacity and capability.

"This initiative will be a tremendous benefit to the people of Mississippi and to our research universities," MSU President Mark E. Keenum said. "Increasing our university research capabilities makes our state and our institutions more competitive, increases educational opportunities and keeps us at the forefront new center and its focus on organic semiconductors will make existing Mississippi industries more competitive and help the state attract new companies. I am proud that MSU is playing a lead role in this endeavor."

MSU Vice President for Research and Economic Development David Shaw is the principal investigator and project director for the grant. Sarah Morgan of USM is the science director. Coprincipal investigators include Jason Azoulay from USM, Jared Delcamp from UM and Glake Hill from JSU.

"I am so pleased that the National Science Foundation selected our faculty as the science lead for this important project," said University of Southern Mississippi President Rodney D. Bennett. "With USM's Center for Optoelectronic Materials and Devices serving as the mission center for this grant, our internationally-renowned polymer science and engineering experts look forward to partnering with Mississippi's other research institutions as they examine far more complicated processes than

ever before. I am confident their work will impact our communities positively for many years to

The Center for Emergent Molecular Optoelectronics will develop new, unified research methodologies on organic semiconductors, an area that is vital to the advancement of diverse areas such as technology, electronics and biomedicine. To facilitate the research, the center will establish state-of-the-art research instrumentation for common use across the state and support collaborative research among institutions. The new scientific infrastructure will fill a void for the state and facilitate advanced basic and applied re-

"The University of Mississippi is pleased to be a member of this dynamic, multi-institutional team for the Center for Emergent Molecular Optoelectronics and help develop pivotal research capabilities that will be benefit Mississippi, our nation and the world," said UM Chancellor Jeffrey S. Vitter. "This initiative will bolster collaborative research efforts and continue pioneering STEM workforce development, which is critical for attracting high tech industry to the state."

New optoelectronic functionality developed by center research will support the basic knowledge necessary to bring new technologies to reality, resulting in new intellectual property and potential job creation.

"Jackson State University of emerging technologies. This is elated to be a partner of this groundbreaking venture for the state of Mississippi and Historically Black Colleges and Universities," said William B. Bynum Jr., president of Jackson State. "It is my hope that we continue to expand on these opportunities to spur economic growth for Mississippi and enhance educational opportunities for our students."

> The new center will benefit from connections to national laboratories, NSF Top 100 research universities, state development officials and representatives from industry. The grant will also fund K-14 outreach efforts aimed at creating a stronger, more diverse pipeline of STEM students.

> "The grant from the National Science Foundation demonstrates the incredible capabilities housed within our research universities," said Alfred Rankins Jr., commissioner of Higher Education. "Working together, these capabilities are amplified. The research conducted through this grant will put Mississippi on the forefront of emerging technologies."



# Blue Cross & Blue Shield of MS sponsors Sanderson Farms Championship Youth Events

Mississippi Link Newswire

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi has recommitted as Presenting Sponsor of the 2018 Sanderson Farms Championship Youth Events. The Sanderson Farms Championship is set for October 22-28 at The Country Club of Jackson.

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi will sponsor Monday's Youth Clinic for Jackson Public Middle School students and the Kids' Zone venue, open Thursday-Sunday.

"Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi is proud to continue our support of the Sanderson Farms Championship events that highlight the importance of healthy and active lifestyles for our youth," said Bryan Lagg, senior vice president, Consumer Marketing and Sales. "These events introduce future generations of Mississippians to a sport that can be a lifelong part of living healthy."

#### About Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi is the state's health and wellness leader providing members with benefits, tools and resources to be healthy through staying active, eating healthy and having an annual

wellness visit with a primary care provider. We partner with Network Providers, employers and communities to create healthy places to live and work in our state, and Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi employees are helping to enrich communities through the Team Blue employee volunteer program. With Team Blue, employees are actively engaged in giving back to the community through thousands of hours of community service each year. Learn more at www.bcbsms.

#### About The Sanderson Farms Championship

The Sanderson Farms Championship is an annual stop on the PGA TOUR hosted by Century Club Charities, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote the game of golf for the benefit of charity. The tournament's primary beneficiary is Friends of Children's Hospital. The tournament has been part of the PGA TOUR schedule since 1968 and is now in its eighth year as a part of the FedExCup. Sanderson Farms (NASDAQ:SAFM), the nation's third largest poultry producer based in Laurel, Miss., is the title sponsor.

# JSU Development Foundation announces partnership with NIKE, BSN

Mississippi Link Newswire

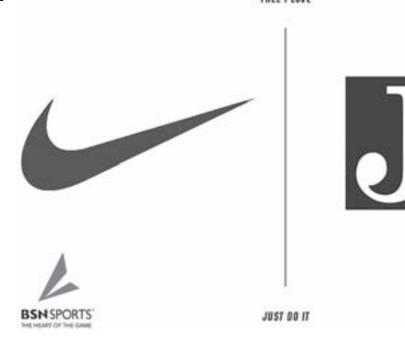
The world-famous Nike Swoosh is coming to Jackson State University.

JSU's Department of Athletics, along with the JSU Development Foundation, entered a five-year partnership with NIKE through BSN SPORTS for sports apparel and equipment Sept. 18.

The agreement includes numerous incentives in the form of discounts and rewards, along with incentives for on-field achievements and additional marketing and promotional opportunities.

The agreement, part of BSN SPORTS Collegiate Select program, aims to make BSN SPORTS a one-stop provider for all collegiate athletic and staff apparel and equipment for Jackson State.

"We are thrilled to officially announce our exciting partnership with BSN SPORTS, NIKE through the Jackson State University Foundation," said JSU Vice President and Director of Athletics Ashley Robinson. "Since its inception, Nike has continued to redefine innovation by always listening to the needs of the world's best athletes and helping them be the best they



can be. In partnering with this iconic brand, Jackson State University student-athletes will now wear the best apparel to help them achieve competitive greatness."

BSN SPORTS is excited to partner with Jackson State and NIKE as the Tigers continue to build on its tradition and blaze new trails.

"We are excited to partner with the Jackson State Univer-

sity and NIKE in elevating the performance and impact of their athletics program. This strategic partnership provides the finest apparel and athletic products to the Tiger athletic teams and benefits each student athlete representing the community on the athletic field or court," said Todd Northrop, vice president of Collegiate Select.

"We are proud to be their partner and pleased that we can el-

evate the student-athlete experience. Additionally, we can't wait to get to know all of the coaches associated with this great program and work to put time back into their day so they can spend more time impacting lives on the field of play."

BSN SPORTS will partner with the company's key vendors to provide apparel and equipment to colleges and universities throughout the country.

# Automotive service equipment manufacturer Hunter Engineering growing in Durant, Miss., creating 60 jobs

Mississippi Link Newswire

Automotive service equipment manufacturer Hunter Engineering is expanding operations in Durant, Miss. The project is an \$8 million corporate investment and creates 60 jobs.

"Hunter Engineering's expansion in Holmes County and creation of so many new jobs is a strong indicator that the efforts of our state, regional and local leaders to maintain a strong business environment continue to pay off for our corporate citizens and the citizens of Mississippi," Gov. Phil Bryant said.

Hunter Engineering is a leader in wheel alignment and wheel balancing systems, tire changers, brake service equipment, alignment lifts and inspection lanes. The company's expansion includes an addition of approximately 85,000 square feet to accommodate increased manufacturing, painting and shipping operations. The expansion also includes a 500-square-foot workforce training area to support continuous employee development.

"The state of Mississippi has been a great partner throughout our decades of operation at multiple locations in the state. We appreciate Governor Bryant's leadership and the significant support from the Mississippi Development Authority, Delta Regional Authority and the city of Durant in making this expansion a reality. We will continue to produce industry leading products with our quality workforce and updated facilities, including new investment in state-of-the-art equipment resulting from this expansion,"

said Wayne Bowling, plant uip- manager at Hunter Engineernter ing's Durant facility.

The Mississippi Development Authority is providing assistance for the building expansion and building improvements to the existing publicly owned facility. The Delta Regional Authority is providing assistance to extend water lines, relocate city-owned electric utility poles and install new electrical equipment in the Hunter facility. DRA funds will cover the cost of new transformers, conductors, switchboards and distribution panels to ensure the manufacturing plant receives safe and

reliable power.

"Hunter Engineering's expansion in Durant creating dozens of new careers is a shining example of teamwork that wins bringing economic opportunity to the people of Holmes county," said MDA Executive Director Glenn McCullough Jr. "We salute the leadership of the Delta Regional Authority and the City of Durant for working with our MDA Team to bring this project to fruition."

"DRA is proud to invest in vital infrastructure improvements that will help create and retain jobs in Durant," said DRA Chairman Chris Caldwell. "Our goal is to support projects like this that promote economic development, help rural communities become more competitive and create new jobs for our workers while protecting and securing existing jobs."

Hunter Engineering employs approximately 590 workers in Mississippi, 192 of which are in Durant. The expansion is slated for completion by the end of 2020.

# Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi making childbirth safer for Central Mississippi women

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The United States has the highest maternal death rate among the world's developed nations and an even higher rate of harm to mothers with more than 50,000 childbirth-related injuries each year.

Since 1990, the number of maternal deaths has risen to 26.4 per 100,000 live births. In Mississippi, that number is 20.8, but even one is one too many. According to a CDC Foundation study, 700 to 900 childbirth-related deaths each year are avoidable, and Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi (BCBSMS) is taking steps to make childbirth safer for Mississippi women.

Through its Maternity Quality Model, BCBSMS supports hospitals in delivering evidence-based, best-practice care to mothers and babies. The Maternity Quality Model is a statewide quality-improvement initiative in collaboration with Network

Hospitals and the Mississippi Perinatal Quality Collaborative (MSPQC) that engages hospitals to reduce maternal and infant harm and death.

As part of its Maternity Quality Model, BCBSMS partnered with the MSPQC to facilitate a series of Network Hospital team training sessions across the state for implementation of clinical best-practice guidelines, known as Maternal Safety Bundles, focused on obstetric hemorrhage (bleeding) and severe hypertension. These bundles were developed by the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM), a national data-driven maternal safety initiative, and are designed to improve the safety of childbirth with a goal of eliminating preventable harm and death.

The training sessions in Flowood, Oxford, Greenville and Hattiesburg brought healthcare professionals from BCBSMS Network Hospitals together to

engage in hands-on, simulationbased training scenarios focused on readiness, prevention, treatment and reporting related to obstetric hemorrhage.

"These safety bundles support the goals of reducing gaps in communication, eliminating delays in care and implementing effective treatment strategies through proven methods," said Dr. Sarah Broom, medical director, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi.

A study in the American Journal

A study in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology found hospitals that have adopted AIM's Obstetric Hemorrhage Safety Bundle lowered their rates of severe maternal complications due to hemorrhage by nearly 21 percent.

"We are working to improve maternal outcomes in Mississippi," said Dr. Charlene Collier, director, MSPQC and perinatal health consultant, Mississippi State Department of Health.

"These training sessions equip hospitals to ensure their care teams consistently take these evidence-based steps to identify dangerous situations, manage them and, ultimately, save women's lives."

As a result of the BCBSMS Maternity Quality Model, five hospitals in the state have achieved Baby-Friendly Hospital Designation and 91 percent of all hospitals in Mississippi that deliver babies are actively working toward achieving or maintaining this quality designation. Also, nearly all elective deliveries before 39 weeks of gestation have been eliminated, and breastfeeding rates have increased significantly from 49 percent in 2015 to 65 percent in 2018.

Learn more about Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi's Maternity Quality Model and Women's Health initiative at www.bcbsms.com/women-shealth.

# 'Vote In Honor of a Soldier' program launches as absentee voting begins, voter registration deadline approaches in Mississippi

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Secretary of State's "Vote in Honor of a Soldier" website, http://www.sos.ms.gov/Education-Publications/Pages/Vote-in-honor-of-a-soldier.aspx, is now live for voters who choose to dedicate their ballot to a soldier or veteran.

The "Vote in Honor" program, initiated in the early 2000s by a prior administration, launches several days in to absentee voting for the November 6, 2018 Election. UOCAVA absentee voting in Mississippi began September 22.

"During the Primary Election, little more than 13 percent of Mississippians turned out to cast a ballot," Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann said. "We have a second opportu-

nity November 6 to remember the 3,200 Mississippi National Guardsmen and women who are fighting overseas for us to have the opportunity to vote. We hope all Mississippians will take the time to honor their sacrifices and cast a ballot."

Voters interested in dedicating their vote can visit the website, provide their information, and post a tribute to a soldier or veteran in their lives. In turn, the Secretary of State's Office will send the voter a letter, Voter Information Guide, and Vote in Honor of a Soldier sticker to wear on election day.

Mississippians who are eligible to vote but remain unregistered are also urged to submit their voter registration applica-

tions as soon as possible. Mon-

day, October 8, marks Missis-

sippi's in-person registration deadline, with Circuit Clerks' offices open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mailed applications must be post-marked no later than Tuesday, October 9.

To register to vote in Mississippi, a downloadable registration application is accessible at Y'all Vote, www.yallvote.sos. ms.gov, the Secretary of State's online voter information center. The application should be delivered to the Circuit Clerk in the county in which the voter regides

An individual is eligible to register to vote if he or she is at least 18 years old, or will be 18 years old by November 6; is a Mississippi resident; has not been convicted in a Mississippi court of a disenfranchising crime; and has not been adjudi-

cated as mentally incompetent. Mississippi currently has more than 1.8 million active registered voters.

Citizens who have already registered to vote in Mississippi but moved since the last election or changed their name can update their information online at Y'all Vote. More than 2,000 voters in Mississippi have used the system to change their address or name since it was launched.

For more information about the Vote in Honor of a Soldier program, registering to vote for the first time in Mississippi, or changing an address or name as a previously-existing active registered Mississippi voter, visit the Secretary of State's website or call the Elections Division at (601) 576-2550.

# Government-supported race discrimination suppressing black home ownership

By Hazel Trice Edney TriceEdneyWire.com

Despite the fact that the Fair Housing Act was passed by Congress more than 50 years ago, evidence reveals that government-supported racial discrimination in home buying remains rampant across the U.S. – yet, with little legislative remedy or recourse.

This is the reason that members of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), a 71-year-old organization of black real estate professionals, are pushing for Congress to take action after a NAREB-issued report and a string of independent housing experts confirmed pervasive discrimination in homeownership.

"Trends leave us today with a black homeownership rate of 41.6 percent – merely the same as it was just two years after the signing of the Fair Housing Act of 1968. Yes, there are reasons," says NAREB President Jeffrey Hicks. "There has been decades of federal, state and local government supported discriminatory housing and housing finance policies, disparate lending patterns, redlining and exploitation, resulting in unimaginable losses of wealth."

Hicks was giving opening remarks to an audience of hundreds of people assembled at a two-hour NAREB forum during the recent Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference (CBCF-ALC) in Washington, D.C.

"Let me be clear. We are assembled in this room to begin down a road to solutions identifying the key areas where policy changes can have a measurable impact and create a space for true democracy in housing allowing all people of our nation to climb up the middle class ladder to build wealth through home ownership," Hicks continued. "NAREB believes it is possible and doable."

Following Hicks' remarks, a string of policy experts – including a member of Congress – who also addressed the forum, agreed that the matter is dire. Startling findings documented in the 2018 State of Housing in Black America (SHIBA) report, commissioned by NAREB, undergird their sentiments.

According to the SHIBA:

The gap in homeownership between blacks and non-Hispanic whites remained at 30 percentage points between 2015 and 2016, with homeownership rates of 42 percent and 72 percent respectively. This 30-percentage-point gap in homeownership is the highest it has been in the new millennium. Black homeownership is more than 7 percentage points below its peak, achieved in 2004, of just under 50 percent.

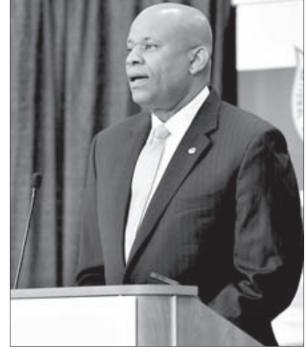
In the 10 cities with the largest black populations, segregation remains extremely high with dissimilarity rates ranging from a low of .60 in Detroit to a high of .83 in Chicago. Washington, D.C., stands at .70.

The dissimilarity index measures the extent to which blacks would have to move to different census tracts in order to achieve an even geographic distribution of households by race through-





James H. Carr, Roosevelt Institute Senior Fellow; co-author of the SHIBA report



NAREB President Jeff Hicks

out the city. Dissimilarity indices over .60 are generally considered high.

Since the peak year of black

Since the peak year of black homeownership in 2004, black gains have been eviscerated due largely to the failure of federal financial regulatory agencies to prohibit predatory loan products that were disproportionately peddled to affect black consumers, as well as insensitive federal policies that provide less assistance to black households facing foreclosure than to non-Hispanic white homeowners.

Federal housing regulators have aggressively pursued lending practices that make access to homeownership more challenging than necessary for lower- and moderate-income and black households.

More than twice as many of black applicants (50 percent) applied for FHA-insured loans in 2016 compared to white applicants (23 percent). Conversely, fewer black applicants (32 percent) sought conventional financing, half the rate of non-Hispanic white applicants (64 percent) seeking conventional financing.

U. S. Rep. Gregory W. Meeks (D-N.Y.), a member of the House Financial Services Committee, promised that black homeownership – viewed as a key vehicle for black wealth – will not be continually overlooked or purposely ignored by lawmakers. If Democrats win control of the House, Meeks hinted that the continued housing crisis in the black community will be high on the legislative agenda

tive agenda.
"It is still the basic and most

important and probably the biggest investment that people of color will ever make in their lifetime. And those of us in Congress learned our mistakes. We're going to fix it so that this will never happen again," said Meeks, whose congressional office sponsored the Sept. 13 forum.

The release of the SHIBA report coincided with a robust panel discussion. Experts not only expressed disdain for the status quo, but also outlined their views and policies that would remedy the racial discrimination in home buying.

Keynote speaker Richard Rothstein, senior research associate at the Economic Policy Institute, pointed out how Brown v. Board of Education abolished segregation in elementary and secondary school systems and gave rise to the civil rights movement with its marches and sit-ins to abolish civil rights violations in other areas of American life. He illustrated everything from buses to lunch counters to public accommodations to water fountains.

"Yet, having done all this, we've left untouched the biggest segregation of all," Rothstein said. "Today we have segregated neighborhoods all over the country and these segregated patterns create the most serious social problems this country faces; including the achievement gaps between black and white students, health disparities, and violence visited on African Americans by police."

This has continued largely because people have accepted the myth that so-called "de

facto" segregation is not because of government policies, Rothstein said. An example of "de facto" segregation would be white concentration in a particular school simply because the surrounding neighborhood is predominately white.

"It's a myth that – unlike all the other segregations I've described, segregation in housing wasn't created by government," he said. "And we tell ourselves that residential segregation will happen by accident; unlike the other kinds of segregations I've described."

Rothstein concluded, "There is no such thing as de facto segregation. What we have in this country is a government-sponsored, government-created system of residential segregation, the history about which we have entirely forgotten. Because we've forgotten this history, because we've forgotten this myth we feel powerless to do something about it."

The audience applauded enthusiastically when Rothstein concluded that the first step must be "to disabuse ourselves of this myth" and false historic teachings...We need to do something about that first to create the beginnings of a new civil rights movement in order to continue the unfinished work of the civil rights movement of the 20th century. Once we've done that we can begin to have the kinds of conversations that's necessary."

Roosevelt Institute Senior m Fellow James H. Carr, a coauthor of the SHIBA report, ti illustrated, in a nutshell, how o discrimination is embedded d

throughout the process by

Keynote speaker, Richard Rothstein, senior research associate, Economic Policy Institute

which most African Americans seek homeownership. solutions, he said. He outlined three primary policy principles

"If we've been racially discriminated against such that we don't have the wealth, then how can we all of sudden have the down payment of 15 and 20 percent? And if we don't have that down payment when we go for a loan, we then pay almost astronomical amounts of insurance and fees to compensate for the fact that we don't have the 20 percent down payment. Is that de facto or de sure? Is that disparate impact?" Carrauizzed

"Sounds like there's a problem. So the conclusion of sorts of the context for this year's report is simply this: Not only have we not put into place remedies that are as powerful as the negative forces that have driven Blacks into this precarious financial state, but we're still having federal policies and actions that further drive us into a financial abyss."

The panel also included Lisa Rice, president and CEO National Fair Housing Alliance; Mark Alston, owner, Skyway Realty and Alston & Associates Mortgage Co., chair, Public Affairs Committee NAREB; Maurice Jourdain-Earl; managing director and co-founder ComplianceTech and Alanna McCargo, vice president, Housing Finance Policy, Urban Institute.

Hicks concluded that NA-REB would be moving forward with a vigorous push for democracy in homeownership.

"We started this conversation by saying we do not see ourselves as just wallowing and discussing the problems and the history, but also talking about

solutions, he said. He outlined three primary policy principles that "we believe we want to help push forward in this country."

They are, in part:

• Promote homeownership as a high priority public policy with support for the mortgage interest tax deduction; creation of a tax-advantaged first-time homebuyer down payment savings vehicle and preservation of the affordable 30-year fixed rate mortgage.

• Create "loan level equality," or the absence of hereditary or arbitrary class distinctions; prevent biases or privileges in the mortgage origination process, and ensure consistent pricing and terms for similarly situated borrowers, with no penalties or higher prices based on neighborhoods, zip codes or census-

• Create a federal accountability structure for the expanding non-depository lender market that will monitor their origination, pricing and lending practices to ensure practices are fair, equitable and non-discrim-

Rothstein, also the author of the book, "The Color of Law, a Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America," concluded that any successful movement must take place with the inclusion of blacks and whites.

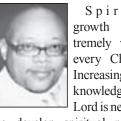
"We need allies. We can't progress in this area without a bi-racial movement, a new civil rights movement, which has always been bi-racial. And we need the bully pulpit of politicians like members of the Congressional Black Caucus." www.mississippilink.com

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THE MISSISSIPPI LINK • 11

# **Grow in grace**

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



Spiritual growth is extremely vital to every Christian. Increasing in the knowledge of the Lord is necessary to develop spiritual maturity. This enables the Christian to be

a more useful vessel to the Lord and His Kingdom. The more one knows about the Lord, His Word and His way, the better equipped he or she will be to overcome the The Apostle Paul admonished

the Colossians to walk worthily and to be fruitful. Peter, in his writings, instructed all to grow in grace and knowledge. God's plan for each of His children is to grow, mature and become more firmly established in the things

Spiritual maturity is accomplished through various means, and one such way is through faithfully enduring tests and trials. It is very important for God's people to look at these divine interruptions in the right way.

Never are trials sent to destroy souls, but rather to build them up and to enhance their usefulness for God. The old saying is, "One can shout when on the mountaintop, but real growth comes when in the valley." It is through the valley experiences that God helps the best in men and women to come forth. Humanity always desires the easy way, but the hard places cause one to pray, to dig, to search and to draw closer to the Master. Each soul is compared to a diamond in the rough. One's true beauty and luster do not shine until he or she has been cut, shaped and polished on God's refining wheel.

God permits hard trials and difficult circumstances to come across one's pathway to prove the individual's experience, to see if it is genuine. This process certainly proves the fidelity and loyalty of the one being tested. God often chooses to shine the light of the Gospel to the lost world through His children by sending them a trial. Adversity demonstrates the grace and the strength of God working in His child to the onlooker. People often witness God's power and ability to work through the one who is fully trusting in Him for help and deliverance. God only knows the number of souls who have been redeemed because of the faithfulness of one who endured severe trials and came forth victoriously.

Another means of spiritual growth is by the pruning of a person through the Word of God. Jesus said in John 15:2, "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." Purging brings about a separation: that which is not good is taken away so the good that remains may bring forth fruit more bountifully.

The Word of God is sent to uncover and expose anything that may be working in the lives of His children that is not beneficial to them or to the Lord. That which is proving to be a hindrance to spiritual growth must be cut off and destroyed.

When the Lord begins the pruning process on the heart of His child, it may cause pain and suffering at the time. It is extremely important for that individual to hold steady and allow the Lord to do His perfect work. Fully yielding to God's will and His way produces greater stability in the life of one who is being pruned. Resistance to the pruning will only prolong the discomfort.

People might have been taught many ideas and traditions

regarding the Word of God, but these must be pruned and removed. It takes the straight, anointed preaching of the truth to uncover false ideas, false teachings and false theories that have been allowed to grow in the minds of individuals.

Jesus became deeply stirred at religious people who rejected His words as He tried to teach them the true way. Christ's way will lead men and women to peace, joy, happiness and more abundant life. Unfortunately, too many people prefer their own ways instead of seeking God's way.

Are you growing in grace and walking worthy of the Lord, as would be pleasing to Him? Is your life bearing the fruit of righteousness? Are you increasing in knowledge and in His most holy way? God desires perfection in His people, but perfection comes by continually crucifying your ways, your ideas and your will and by accepting His way and His will.

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,

# **Falling in love** with laughter

By Shewanda Riley Columnist



Before I could stop it from happening, I was already on my side on the floor and unable to move for a few minutes. It

was actually probably just a few seconds, but the stunned looks on my students' faces made it seem much longer. I left like a California Redwood tree as I was falling and like I should have been yelling, "Timber!" What was the "it?" I fell on my side in front of a class that I was teaching.

Because I fell on my left side, I couldn't easily maneuver my body so I could sit up. And because the loose strings on my boots kept my feet twisted together, I couldn't even attempt to stand up. Because my skirt was so long, they didn't know that I couldn't stand up since they couldn't see my legs. My students didn't know if they should help me or if they would get in trouble if they laughed at me. So, they did neither and kept staring at me as I struggled to roll over and

One student got over her shock and quickly assisted me in getting up; she even offered me a chair so I could finish teaching class without hurting myself. My now wounded body and pride wouldn't let me sit in the chair. By the time class was over, I regretted hastily pushing the chair back into the corner since both my upper arm and back were starting to throb with pain.

From that point until the end of class, every time I moved during the lecture, I could feel the students watching to make sure I didn't fall again.

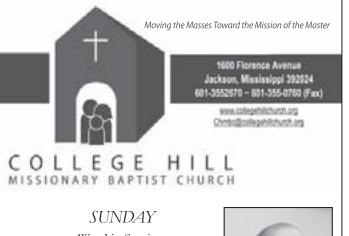
It was a little awkward in the classroom as I tried to finish teaching about learning from examples in our everyday lives. I ended up telling them that it was okay for them laugh and we took a quick 2-minute laugh break which we all

Finally, we were able to finish class but not before the topic of my fall came up a few more times. As they filed out of the room when the class was over, a few jokingly told me to be careful going home; one male student even apologized for laughing at me.

If there was a deeper spiritual lesson, I may have missed it. Maybe I should learn to be more graceful; I've been working on that one since I was a child...obviously without much success. Rather than get angry or more embarrassed, I made the connection to the lecture topic of learning from real-life examples. Without trying, it seems like I'd given them a real-life example of trying to learn how not to die of embarrassment.

As I've gotten older, I have also learned to laugh more at myself and my many failings. Proverbs 17:22 teaches an important lesson that laughter is sometimes the best medicine when it says, "A cheerful heart is good medicine...."

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



Worship Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 8:45 a.m.

*MONDAY* Intercessory Prayer 9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Michael T. Williams Pastor

Prayer Service 6:30 p.m. Classes: Children • Youth • Adult - 7:00p.m.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Green Pastures Baptist Church, at 2239 Flag Chapel Road, in-

vites you to share with us in our Family and Friends Day worship

service. How true are the sacred words where it is written. "I was

glad when they said to me let us go to the house of the Lord."

Our special guest preacher for this service is Dr. Manuel Scott Jr.,

of Los Angeles, CA. Dr. Scott is a full time national evangelist of

the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., and a truly anointed

preacher of the gospel. This service will be held October 14, 2018 at the 10:45 a.m. morning worship hour. This special service is sponsored by our building fund committee ministry. Your presence



and support are most appreciated.

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Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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Live Radio Broadcast WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



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#### The Criminalization of Poverty: Cash bail for non-violent misdemeanors perpetuates unequal treatment under the law

By Marc H. Morial President and CEO National Urban League



"The rich man and the poor man do not receive equal justice in our courts. And in no area is this more evident than in the matter of bail. The man who must wait in jail before trial often will lose his job. He will lose his freedom to help prepare his own defense. And he will lose his self-

respect. He is treated, in almost every jurisdiction, just like the convicted criminal. Even though he may finally be found innocent and released, he is tagged, nonetheless, as a jailbird." – Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, 1964

Kalief Browder, a teenager who spent three harrowing years in a New York City jail on charges that were eventually dropped, took his own life as a result of the trauma he suffered.

Sandra Bland, an activist who spoke out against police brutality, died in a jail cell in Texas, arrested after a traffic stop for changing lanes without

Jeffrey Pendleton, arrested on a misdemeanor marijuana possession, died after five days in a New Hampshire jail cell.

Our nation's racially-discriminatory cash bail system has left hundreds of non-violent misdemeanor suspects to die in jail while awaiting trial, simply because they are poor. A 2015 study identified more than 800 deaths in local jails and lockups; more than 75 percent of those in local jails have not been convicted, and 70 percent of those awaiting trial are detained for non-violent

The unfair cash bail system destroys lives in other ways. Flozell Daniels Jr. CEO and president of Foundation for Louisiana, recently told the story of Nicole, a New Orleans mom who was arrested after forgetting to pay a ticket for failure to wear a seatbelt. She spent a month in Orleans Parish jail, separated from her children, losing her job and costing the taxpayers thousands of dollars. There are hundreds of parents, accused of non-violent misdemeanors like Nicole, in Louisiana alone; thousands across the nation.

A report Daniels co-authored, From Bondage to Bail Bonds: Putting a Price on Freedom in New Orleans, found that the money bail system takes \$6.4 million from New Orleans families each year - 85 percent of it paid by black people, many of whom are accused of non-violent misdemeanors. Daniels and his co-authors wrote:

"Money bail ensnares people in a system in which one's freedom hangs on the ability to pay and removes people who are important to their families and communities. The money paid to secure a person's freedom is not available for other essentials, thus over-burdening family and community support structures. Those who can't pay, or stay in jail even a few days before they can gather the money, are put at increased risk of losing their employment and housing and of being re-arrested than if they had not been detained. They are subject to the degradation, violence and trauma ... Indeed, even when people purchase their freedom through a commercial bail bond they live in fear because the bondsman has the power to seize and surrender them at will."

It doesn't have to be this way. Weeks ago, California became the first state to end cash bail. Washington, D.C., has a cashless bail system.

Socially-conscious innovators are finding technology-based solutions to help people navigate the cash bail system. Jay-Z, who celebrated Father's Day last year by posting bail for dads, has invested in Promise, an app provides clients with financial assistance with bail costs along with other services to get people out of jail. Another app, Help Bond Me, allows detainees to crowdfund their bail.

These efforts should be applauded, but we look forward to the day when they are no longer needed. Jailing non-violent misdemeanor suspects who can't afford bail doesn't make our communities safer; it just exacerbates inequality and burdens taxpayers.

We need to live up to the American ideal of equality under the law for rich and poor alike, as enshrined in the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Debtors' prisons were abolished in 1833, but 185 years later the criminalization of poverty persists.

# The pernicious power of patriarchy

By Julianne Malveaux NNPA News Wire Columnist



Our nation, these United States, are founded on the principles of racism and patriarchy. They are reflected in our very constitution, where

enslaved persons were counted as a fraction of a person, and only men of property were allowed the right to vote. The filthy inequality at the foundation of this nation has now bubbled up and boiled over, now polluting every aspect of our lives.

Patriarchy places men at the center of life, and women at the periphery. It suggests that women do not matter. It allows for the subjugation of women when they attempt to enter public spaces that have previously been earmarked as "male" spaces. Thus, there were no restrooms for women legislators in the US House or Senate, even as women entered those spaces. They were only created when women demanded them. Of course, restrooms are just a minor manifestation of the hegemonic patriarchy that rules our nation.

A great picture of our nation's racist patriarchy was the visual of doughy and dissipated white men interrogating the amazingly composed Anita Hill as she reviewed her experiences with now Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Though Hill was persuasive, she was attacked in the vilest of terms, accused of nonsense like "erotomania," and

even recently harassed by Thomas' unhinged spouse who was still seeking apology after two decades.

Note to Thomas, take the phone from your wife when her meds are not working. In any case, Thomas is on the Supreme Court because white men chose to disregard the word of a black woman, a decision that then-Senator Joe Biden says he now regrets. Thomas was confirmed by the narrowest margin in history 52-48.

Here we go again. By the time this is published the matter of 45's Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh is resolved, but the issue of pernicious patriarchy will not be.

Regarding Kavanaugh, he has been accused by Christine Blasey Ford of sexual assault more than 35 years ago, when both were teens.

She disclosed her accusations in a letter that California Senator Dianne Feinstein received in July, but did not share with the FBI until later, mainly because Ford asked for confidentiality. Ford has requested that the FBI investigate her assertions, and the Senate Judiciary Committee is still fast-tracking the Kavanaugh vote. The outcome, while necessary, is not the bottom line. The issue is the way that racist patriarchy makes some offensive and illegal behavior

Privileged white male culture allows and encourages excessive drinking and obnoxious behavior toward women. It is excused because "boys will be boys." But what boys? Black boys, even accused of "reckless eyeballin," are fair game for lynching.

White boys on rampages are excused for assault, rape and attempted rape. Can I call the name of Recy Taylor, the young black woman who was walking home from church and raped by a gaggle of white men who thought her body their right? Can I remind us of the Texas gubernatorial candidate, Clayton Williams, who said that if rape was inevitable, a woman should "lay back and enjoy it?" Ann Richards beat him, but that wasn't quite the point. The point was that some man thought that rape was inevitable enough to "enjoy."

Privileged white male culture allows a man who should not have been elected president to denigrate women on a regular basis. We are "fat" "dogs" and "liars." He bragged about grabbing women's genitals, and our society is so poached in pernicious patriarchy that 52 percent of all women still voted for him.

They thought he was joking because, for too many women, patriarchy has so seeped into our consciousness that the abuse of women is a joke. If we women were honest, we would say that we have all cosigned patriarchy in the interest of keeping it moving. We have deflected the sexist comments that come our way, even as we cringe from

We smile at men that we abhor because they may have decision making power in their hands. We dress up or dress down depending on the occasion and the way we have to play the game. We know the system is slanted against us, we know we still have to play, and we decide when we choose to blow the whistle, a whistle we could blow every single day. #MeToo is the tip of the iceberg because it fails to deal with race systematically, but also because it manages the evident and personal, not the institutional.

In addition to being #MeToo women, we are mothers, sisters, daughters and wives (hello Julie Chen Moonves), so some of us want to justify patriarchy for "our" men. Our sons, husbands, cousins, brothers "didn't mean it" and could not be that bad. Wake up call – if they violated a woman, they were THAT bad. If they raped a black woman and you turned away from the accusation, you are wrong, you are horribly and complicity wrong.

Tearing down the walls of pernicious patriarchy means attacking the very foundation of our nation. When we attack patriarchy, we also attack the racism that is also part of our

Many have lined up to support Ford. How many are equally willing to attack the pernicious racist patriarchial roots of our nation?

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

# Is this Anita Hill #2

By E. Faye Williams Trice Edney Newswire



I'm saddened by what I'm seeing re-Christine garding Blasey Ford. We're seeing many of the same elderly white men who brutalized

Anita Hill years ago doing the same thing to Ford. Hill was a very credible accuser against Judge Clarence Thomas; yet, she faced brutal attacks from both parties, and yes, at least one Democrat. Joe Biden later apologized, and did a lot in support of women since that time. That's evidence of change that we've not seen from folks like Senators Orrin Hatch, Charles Grassley and others.

The attacks on Ford are already heading in a direction to discredit her as were the efforts to discredit Hill. Ford has been harassed and getting death threats. Hatch says "This woman, whoever she is, is 'mixed

Ford was right to want an investigation before telling her story in a Senate Hearing. Isn't that the way Kavanaugh's case being rushed through to confirmation when serious conduct is alleged? We're talking about the possibility of having a lifetime appointment where he's given us every reason to believe he's waiting to take away the few rights women have.

It is strongly believed that #45 has struck a deal with him to do a lot of his dirty work, including keeping him from being convicted of some very serious crimes - some of which are against women. #45 is undermining our democracy and getting away with things for which others would already have been sent to prison.

Ford's life has been seriously disrupted. All she asked was for the FBI to gather evidence in her case before she goes into the snake pit for a hearing before the Senate. She has a right to be evaluated fairly rather than

having a bunch of mean men grilling her as though she's the accused instead of the victim. Her life and Ford did not show up when she was our laws work? Why is Judge Brett her reputation are in jeopardy. She's received ferocious attacks and had to move from her home.

> Many white women have agreed they betrayed black women in voting for #45 in 2016; however, many also admit they've had it and feel they have an obligation to undo what they helped to do in the last Presidential

#45 thought that Kavanaugh would be the judge to save him and that he would be confirmed without a real contest. Now #45 seems to be deserting Kavanaugh. He says we need to hear both sides. That's such a deviation. Normally to him, there is only one side and that's his side. Now, he thinks both sides should be heard. Do you think he said that out of fear he could be next?

The investigation into Ford's allegation about Kavanaugh is essential if the Senate is truly seeking jus-

tice. Listening to all of the Senators threats about going ahead to a vote it told to do so was so sexist, so dictatorial when they had given her so little time to leave California, consult a lawyer and come across country to Washington, D.C.

The spectacle of so many men ordering a woman to bend to their will thinking she would not come is so sad. Maybe these men have a way out if Ford does not attend the hearing. Maybe she'll pack up and come to Washington despite the injustice of the way she was treated. We can be sure Ford will face a gigantic effort to discredit her, but fortunately there're enough fair-minded people in the Senate to overrule them this time and avoid Anita Hill #2.

E. Faye Williams is president of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. She is also host of the WPFW-FM 89.3 program called "Wake Up and Stay Woke." www.nationalcongressbw.org. 202/678-6788.

## Trump loves the anthem and flag, hates the Constitution

By Dr. Wilmer J. Leon, III TriceEdneyWire.com



"You have to stand proudly for the National Anthem. You shouldn't be playing, you shouldn't there. Maybe they (NFL Players)

shouldn't be in the country... We're proud of our country and we're proud of our flag...Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say 'get that son of a b\*\*\*\* off the field right now – he's fired..." – President Donald Trump

Donald Trump, the American President and Commander in Chief loves the National Anthem of the United States and the flag. He believes that team owners should eject players that "disrespect" the flag by taking a knee and cut them from the team. He urges fans to express their disapproval by leaving the stadium.

According to Trump, "But you know what's hurting the game more than that? When people like yourselves turn on television and you see those people taking the knee when they are playing our great national anthem... if you see it...leave the stadium, I guarantee things will stop..."

Trump loves the symbolism, the pomp and circumstance. He loves the marketing behind the anthem and flag but hates what the symbols actually represent in their nationalistic context. I say nationalistic because there is huge difference between what they mean to most Americans versus the global imperial hegemon they represent in their international

Steve Bannon, the mastermind behind Donald Trump's nationalist ideology, was very clear about what Trump's campaign for president and mission as president would be. The entire Trump agenda is based upon the premise of deconstructing the American administrative state.

At the 2017 CPAC conference Bannon was very clear, "I think if you look at the lines of work, I kind of break it up into three verticals of three buckets... national security and sovereignty...economic nationalism...(and the) deconstruction of the administrative state."

What is "the administrative state"? According to The Guardian, "The administrative state, a pillar of modern American government, is tasked with making and enforcing

> Trump Continued on page 13

Editorials and Letters to the Editor may be e-mailed to editor@mississippilink.com or mailed to 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. The views and opinions expressed on the Op/Ed pages are not necessarily the views and opinions of The Mississippi Link. The Mississippi Link also reserves the right to edit all material for length and accuracy.

#### SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3, 2018

### **Pediatric Fast Track to** pair right level of care with each patient

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Janiya Pate had a sore throat on a recent

The Jackson 2-year-old wasn't her usual happy, playful self, so her mother, Michelle Dean, left work, picked her up from day care and took her to the closest health provider, the Pediatric Emergency Department at Batson Children's Hospi-

There, they were among the first to be referred to the new Pediatric Fast Track. Available from 8 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday and noon to midnight on weekends, the Pediatric Fast Track is designed to pair low-acuity patients with the care they need in the shortest amount

Patients in the Col. Harland Sanders Children's Emergency Department whose conditions fit the Fast Track criteria can be triaged to the area, located adjacent to the emergency department, freeing ED space for more complex cases.

The result, said Dr. Benjamin Dillard, chief of pediatric emergency medicine at Batson, could be a saving of time and possibly money for families and a more efficient emergency department.

"Fast Track covers urgent care needs for pediatric patients," he said. "This allows those needs to be met quickly while freeing space for patients with the most acute needs."

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends emergency care for children affected by a severe injury or illness. These symptoms can include seizures, trouble breathing, pain, injuries and loss of consciousness or vomiting after a head

Other conditions, such as possible influenza, strep throat, rashes, viruses or infections, might not be as serious but can be concerning enough to parents that they want to see their children treated as soon as possible.

However, parents do not get to select the Fast Track as their child's care provider. The ED's medical team determines which patients are eligible for the transfer. Transfer depends on resources available, the acuity of the child and hours of opera-

The Fast Track plan moves young patients who are not seriously ill or injured and who require a shorter amount of care to a separate area. When a patient and family enter the ED at Batson, medical team members evaluate the patient's condition through a triage process, assigning each condition a number on a scale from one to five, with one being the most critical.

"The conditions that would be ranked as triage five and possibly four could be treated in the Fast Track area," said Jennifer Stephen, director of nursing services at Batson. "These could include fever, rashes, strep, flu or diarrhea, conditions that parents would want to see treated quickly."

For Dean and Janiya, that's what happened. They were in and out of the ED in less than an hour. "Everyone was so nice," Dean said, "and the visit did not last long."

The Fast Track area adds three treatment rooms to the existing 23 treatment rooms of the state's only pediatric emergency department. Currently, the department cares for about 48,000 patients each

## Forrest General's Hospice receives Strategic Healthcare Programs' **Best Superior Performer Award**



Left to right, First Row: Elizabeth Guice, Debbie Davis, Melita Miller, director, Becky Pardue, assistant director, Nadia Clark, Meg Paul Second row: Riccara Keyes, Dorinda Ralston, Jo Ann Thompson, Vanessa Hartfield, Stacey James Paige Pattie, Jennifer Keyes, Freda Martin, Marry Moss, Vicki Delk, Nicole Rayburn, Andrea Butler, Jadee Hall, Sherry Amacker Third row: Matt Martin, Ken Roberts, Bonny Bounds and Marilyn Laird

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Forrest General's Hospice received the Strategic Healthcare Programs' (SHP) Best Superior Performer Award.

The award recognizes the hospital for achieving an overall score that ranked within the top 20 percent in the SHP national Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Hospice benchmark and above the SHP national average for each CAHPS hospice quality measure in the 2017 calendar year.

"Our team works hard to provide high quality care to our patients and their loved ones. It is a huge honor to be recognized by such a prestigious organization and confirms that we are offering the best possible care and compassion for our patients," said Melita Miller, director, Forrest General Home Care, Hospice and Asbury Hospice House.

This annual program acknowledges home health and hospice providers who have proven to provide high quality care to their patients. The CAHPS surveys are given to caregivers who score the care their loved one has received; this data is then compared to national quality standards and ranked next to other

According to the SHP website, "With the largest HHCAHPS benchmark in the nation, SHP is in a unique position to identify and recognize organizations that have made patient satisfaction a priority and have been rewarded for their efforts with high marks on the HHCAHPS sur-

#### Trump

Continued from page 12

economic and environmental regulations, designing and running social welfare programs, fighting crime and corruption, providing for the national defense and so much more." At the base of all of these tasks, what enables or empowers the government; aka the administrative state to function is the Constitution of the United States of America.

In order for Trump to succeed, he has to weaken, deconstruct and or undermine The Constitution. That is why he attacks the First Amendment. His attacks on the press and on the NFL players is a direct assault upon the "...freedom of speech, ... the press; ...(and) the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances..."

In 1823 Thomas Jefferson, principal author of the Declaration of Independence, contributor to the Constitution and third president of the United States wrote to General Lafayatte, "The only security of all is in a free press. The force of public opinion cannot be resisted when permitted freely to be expressed. The agitation it produces must be submitted to. It is necessary, to keep the waters pure."

Trump calls the news media "the enemy of the American people." He (or one of his handlers) created the term "fake news." "The fake news hates me saying that they are the enemy of the people only because they know it's true." His key senior advisor Kellynne Conway introduced the concept of "alternative facts" into the American lexicon in order to counter the accurate reporting of Trump's disinformation campaign and outright lying to the American people.

Free-agent NFL quarterback Colin Kapernick along with some current players' peaceful public protests against the killing of unarmed African Americans by the police is more American and constitutional than Trump's tweeting and rants, urging action against them. It's a matter of speech and the freedom of the people to peaceably assemble in order to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Abraham Lincoln once called "the right of peaceable assembly" part of "the Constitutional substitute for revolution."

Trump loves the visual and the marketing of America that standing for the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance represent, but a president cannot be true to America and its principals and precepts if he or she tries to have one without the other. As Frederick Douglas said, "Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are people who want crops without ploughing the ground;

they want rain without thunder and lightning; they want the ocean without the roar of its many waters..."

It is also important to understand the history of the Star Spangled Banner. It's author, Francis Scott Key supported the deportation of free Africans in America back to Africa. He was an aristocrat who supported slavery and opposed its abolition. As he saw Africans in America fighting with the British during the battle of Fort McHenry in Baltimore Sept. 13. 1814, he wrote the Star Spangled Banner. In it he included the line, "Their blood has wash'd out their foul footstep's pollution. No refuge could save the hireling and slave, From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave..." This means, that the blood of all the former "hirelings" or slaves on the battlefield will wash away the pollution of the British invaders. This is the song that is sung at all sporting events and the president expects all American's, especially African American's to stand for and salute?

Protest is American. The country was formed from the fire, bullets and blood of protest. After the landmark decision in Somerset v. Stewart in England in 1772 holding that "a master could not seize a slave in England and detain him preparatory to sending him out of the realm to be sold" and that habeas corpus was a constitutional right available to slaves to forestall such seizure, deportation and sale because they were not chattel, or mere property, they were servants and thus persons invested with certain (but certainly limited) constitutional protections." The slave holding and merchant class in the American colonies feared that slavery would be outlawed here and thus, the American Revolution was born.

Despite the unfounded ranting of President Trump, peaceful protest and the right to assemble are protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution. The press is not the "enemy of the people". Au contraire, "The only security of all is in a free press." They go a long way towards making America, America.

Trump loves the fanfare, the hype, the pomp and circumstance of the flag and the National Anthem but hates and is attacking The Constitution.

Wilmer Leon is the producer/host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio program "Inside the Issues with Wilmer Leon," on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to www.wilmerleon.com or email: wjl3us@gmail.com. www.twitter. com/drwleon and Dr. Leon's Prescription at Facebook.comx

### The connection between mental illness and substance abuse

By Glenn Ellis TriceEdneyWire.com



There's clearly a connection between substance abuse and mental health disor-

The National Bureau

of Economic Research (NBER) reports that there is a "definite connection between mental illness and the use of addictive substances" and that mental health disorder patients are responsible for the consumption of: 38 percent of alcohol; 44 percent of cocaine; and 40 percent of

Often, certain drugs can create problems that trigger mental health symptoms. In other cases, substances can create mental health symptoms like paranoia, delusions or depression while the person is under the influence of the drug. When these symptoms last after the drugs wear off, then it can indicate a co-occurring mental health disorder.

Doctors say they are increasingly seeing patients from all walks of life who suffer from a combination of substance abuse and mental health problems. Experts estimate that at least 60 percent of people battling one of these conditions are battling both.

Mental health problems are common in the U.S. An estimated 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. suffers from a diagnosable mental disorder, according to the National Institute of Mental Health.

When there is a biological or genetic vulnerability to any type of mental health problem, regardless of how big or small, substance use often triggers the onset of that problem. The substance is not really causing the mental health problem, but it can be a precipitating factor that causes the condition to manifest.

Whether the mental health problem or the drug use – came first, doctors say that good mental health can't prevail until both problems are treated.

Dual diagnosis (also referred to as co-occurring disorders) is a term for when someone experiences a mental illness and a substance use disorder simultaneously. Either disorder substance use or mental illness - can develop first. People experiencing a mental health condition may turn to alcohol or other drugs as a form of

self-medication to improve the mental health symptoms they experience. However, research shows that alcohol and other drugs worsen the symptoms of mental illnesses.

still considered somewhat specialized, and frequently only available in pricey private hospitals. The next best thing, say experts, is to integrate patient care among the professionals dealing with each part of the illness.

The best treatment for dual diagnosis is integrated intervention, when a person receives care for both their diagnosed mental illness and substance abuse. The idea that "I cannot treat your depression because you are also drinking" is outdated - current thinking requires both issues be addressed.

It can be difficult to diagnose a substance abuse problem and a cooccurring mental health disorder. It takes time to tease out what might be a mental disorder and what might be a drug or alcohol problem. The signs and symptoms also vary depending upon both the mental health problem and the type of drug being abused. For example, the signs of depression and marijuana abuse could look very different from the signs of schizophrenia and alcohol abuse. However, there are some general warning signs that you may have a co-occurring disorder.

Complicating a dual diagnosis is denial. Denial is common in substance abuse. It's often hard to admit how dependent you are on alcohol or drugs or how much they affect your life. Denial frequently occurs in mental disorders as well. The symptoms of depression or anxiety can be frightening, so you may ignore them and hope they go away. Or you may be ashamed or afraid of being viewed as weak if you admit you have a problem. But substance abuse and mental health issues can happen to any of us. And admitting you have a problem and seeking help is the first step on the road to re-

When you have both a substance abuse problem and a mental health issue such as depression, bipolar disorder, or anxiety, it is called a cooccurring disorder or dual diagnosis. Dealing with substance abuse, alcoholism or drug addiction is never easy, and it's even more difficult when you're also struggling with mental

health problems. But there is hope. There are plenty of treatments and steps you can take to help you on the road to recovery. With the right support, self-help and treatment, you can Unfortunately, the dual approach is overcome a co-occurring disorder, reclaim your sense of self and get your life back on track.

Make sure that the program is appropriately licensed and accredited, the treatment methods are backed by research and there is an aftercare program to prevent relapse. Additionally, you should make sure that the program has experience with your particular mental health issue.

Veterans deal with additional challenges when it comes to co-occurring disorders. The pressures of deployment or combat can exacerbate underlying mental disorders, and substance abuse is a common way of coping with unpleasant feelings or memories. Often, these problems take a while to show up after a vet returns home and may be initially mistaken for readjust-

The same applies to inner-city youth who experience or witness gun violence, resulting in PTSD. Rates in this population is often higher than in veterans. Untreated co-occurring disorders can lead to major problems at home and work and in your daily life, so it's important to seek help.

Remember, I'm not a doctor. I just sound like one. Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible!

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. The reader should always consult his or her healthcare provider to determine the appropriateness of the information for their own situation or if they have any questions regarding a medical condition or treatment

Glenn Ellis, is a Health Advocacy Communications Specialist. He is the author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. He is a health columnist and radio commentator who lectures, nationally and internationally on health related topics. For more good health information listen to Glenn, on radio in Philadelphia; Boston; Shreveport; Los Angeles; and Birmingham., or visit: www.

#### **LEGAL**

Request for Proposal (RFP) #2018-2 Management and Operations for Fixed Route and Non-Fixed Route ADA Paratransit Services

The City of Jackson is soliciting Request for Proposals (RFPs) from qualified firms to provide on-going Management and Operations for the the City of Jackson's Fixed Route and Non-Fixed Route ADA Paratransit Services.

Interested firms may obtain a copy of a detailed Request for Proposals, and any proposal addenda from the City's website at http://www.jacksonms.gov/bids.aspx. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Please reference RFP#2018-2.

A Pre-Proposal Conference and Site Visit will be held on Monday, September 10, 2018, at 9:00 am Central Standard Time (CST), located at 1785 Highway 80 West, Jackson, MS 39204.

Six copies of the offeror's Proposal together with a PDF file of the Proposal on a flash drive shall be deposited with the City of Jackson, Office of City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until Friday, October 5, 2018 by 3:30 pm CST. Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at HYPERLINK "http://www.centralbidding.com" www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Submittals received after the speficied date and time shall not

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City As a pre-condition to selection, each proposer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan with the proposal submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a proposer from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the City of Jackson's Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications, and a copy of the program are available at the following location: 200 South President Street, Room 223, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City of Jackson encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City of Jackson, as well as those who seek to contract with the City of Jackson on various projects and/or conduct business in Jackson to assist the City of Jackson in achieving its goal by strongly considering City of Jackson residents for employment opportunities.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

Mukesh Kumar, PhD
Director of Planning & Development

8/30/2018, 9/6/2018, 09/27/18

#### LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS
ART CENTER OF MISSISSIPPI ADA RENOVATIONS,
CITY PROJECT NO. 17B7003.701

The City of Jackson intends to employ an Architectural/Engineering (A/E) consulting firm for ADA Renovations at the Art Center of Mississippi, 201 East Pascagoula St., Jackson, MS. Renovations to include approximately 485 sq ft of reworking restrooms on first floor for better ADA compliance and approximately 140 sq ft on the second floor to create an accessible path.. Statement of Qualifications will be accepted by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 p.m., Tuesday October 23, 2018. The proposed contract will include complete Architectual/Engineering services required for this renovation.

Official bid Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Architectural/Engineering (A/E) firms interested in providing these services may so indicate by furnishing the City of Jackson seven (7) copies of a Statement of Qualification, which should consist of the following:

• A cover letter specifying the complete project name, ART CENTER OF MISSIS-SIPPI ADA RENOVATIONS, CITY PROJECT, No. 17B7003.701, the name of the project manager, and the location and address of the office to be assigned the majority of the work.

• A resume for each principal member, the project manager, and employee(s) of the firm anticipated to be assigned to the project including consulting engineers. Also, provide an organizational chart and list each person's experience and qualifications, including proof that the Project Manager is licensed as a Mississippi Professional Architect/Engineer and that the firm has met state licensure and certification requirements. Include a business recovery plan in the event of a disaster.

• Knowledge of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) procurement processes, Section 3 requirements, certified payroll, Davis-Bacon Act; and other re-

 A description of similar type work completed during the past five (5) years which qualifies the consultant for this work; the cost and schedule completion (or actual completion) of this work with project owners reference contact information.

porting requirements of CDBG funded projects.

 In addition to the information requested above complete Part II of the Standard Form (SF) 330, Architect-Engineer Qualifications. This Form can be obtained at (http://www.gsa.gov/portal/forms/download/116486).

The City will evaluate the Statements of Qualification based on the following factors listed in their relative order of importance:

• Experience of the firm in performing specific services and experience in preparing architectural/engineering design and construction projects funded by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

- Qualifications and experience of staff and consultants to be assigned to the project based on requested scope of services.
- Size of the firm's professional and technical staff with respect to the services required.
- Resume of the firm's current and completed projects of a similar nature.
- Local presence of the firm within the Jackson Metro Area.
- Equal Business Opportunity participation plan submitted with the Statement of Qualification package.

The City reserves the right to select one (1) consultant or select a short list of consultants from whom more information will be required. The City reserves the right to reject any and all Statements of Qualification, discontinue Contract execution, and/or request additional information with any party at any time prior to final Contract execution. For any Statement of Qualification questions, contact Lloyd Keller, Jr. at 601-960-1657, lkeller@city.jackson.ms.us.

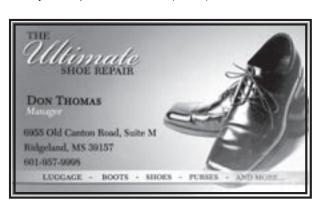
The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each proposer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan with the proposal submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a proposer from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the City of Jackson's Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications, and a copy of the program are available at the following location: 200 South President Street, Room 223, Jackson, Mississippi; or can be accessed on City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity webpage.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all proposers that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4, that all proposers will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex, in consideration for an award.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City of Jackson encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City of Jackson, as well as those who seek to contract with the City of Jackson on various projects and/or conduct business in Jackson to assist the City of Jackson in achieving its goal by strongly considering city of Jackson residents for employment opportunities.

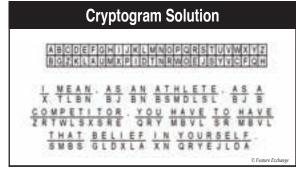
Robert K. Miller Director Public Works Vanessa Henderson Deputy Director Housing & Community Development

9/20/2018, 09/27/18



Sudoku Solution

3 9 5 8 6 7 4 1 2
1 8 2 4 9 3 6 7 5
7 6 4 1 2 5 8 3 9
9 4 1 7 5 2 3 8 6
8 5 7 6 3 4 2 9 1
6 2 3 9 1 8 5 4 7
4 7 6 2 8 9 1 5 3
5 1 8 3 7 6 9 2 4
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#### **LEGAL**

**REQUEST FOR** PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF THE **JACKSON ZOOLOGICAL PARK** 

The City of Jackson, Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking assistance from management firms or individuals desiring to provide professional management services at a City of Jackson facility, known as Jackson Zoological Park, located at 2918 West Capitol Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Professional management firms or individuals that may be interested in contracting with the City of Jackson for such services are hereby invited to submit a response to this request in accordance with the requirements

Sealed Professional Management Service packets will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at the Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205, until 3:30 p.m., local time, November 13, 2018.

The bid advertises August 29, 2018 through November 1, 2018; however, bids will be accepted, and are to be stamped by the City Clerk, prior to the November 13, 2018, 3:30 p.m. deadline. Bid Opening Date: November

This Request For Professional Management Services is also being posted on the Central Bidding website at: https://www.centralauctionhouse.com/ main.php. You may submit your bids electronically through this provider. Packets may also be secured from the Department of Parks and Recreation, 1000 Metro Center, Suite 104, Jackson, Mississippi, 39209, telephone number (601) 960-0471.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on September 5, 2018, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., local time, in the City of Jackson Metro Conference Room, located at 1000 Metro Center, Suite 104, Jackson, MS 39209. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

Professional Management Service packets shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk prior to the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all Professional Management Service packets and to waive any and all informalities.

Ison B. Harris, Jr., Director Department of Parks and Recreation

Dr. Robert Blaine, Chief Administrative

Officer (CAO)

Office of the Mayor

8/30/2018, 9/6/2018, 9/13/2018, 9/20/2018, 9/27/2018, 10/4/2018, 10/11/2018, 10/18/2018, 10/25/2018, 11/1/2018

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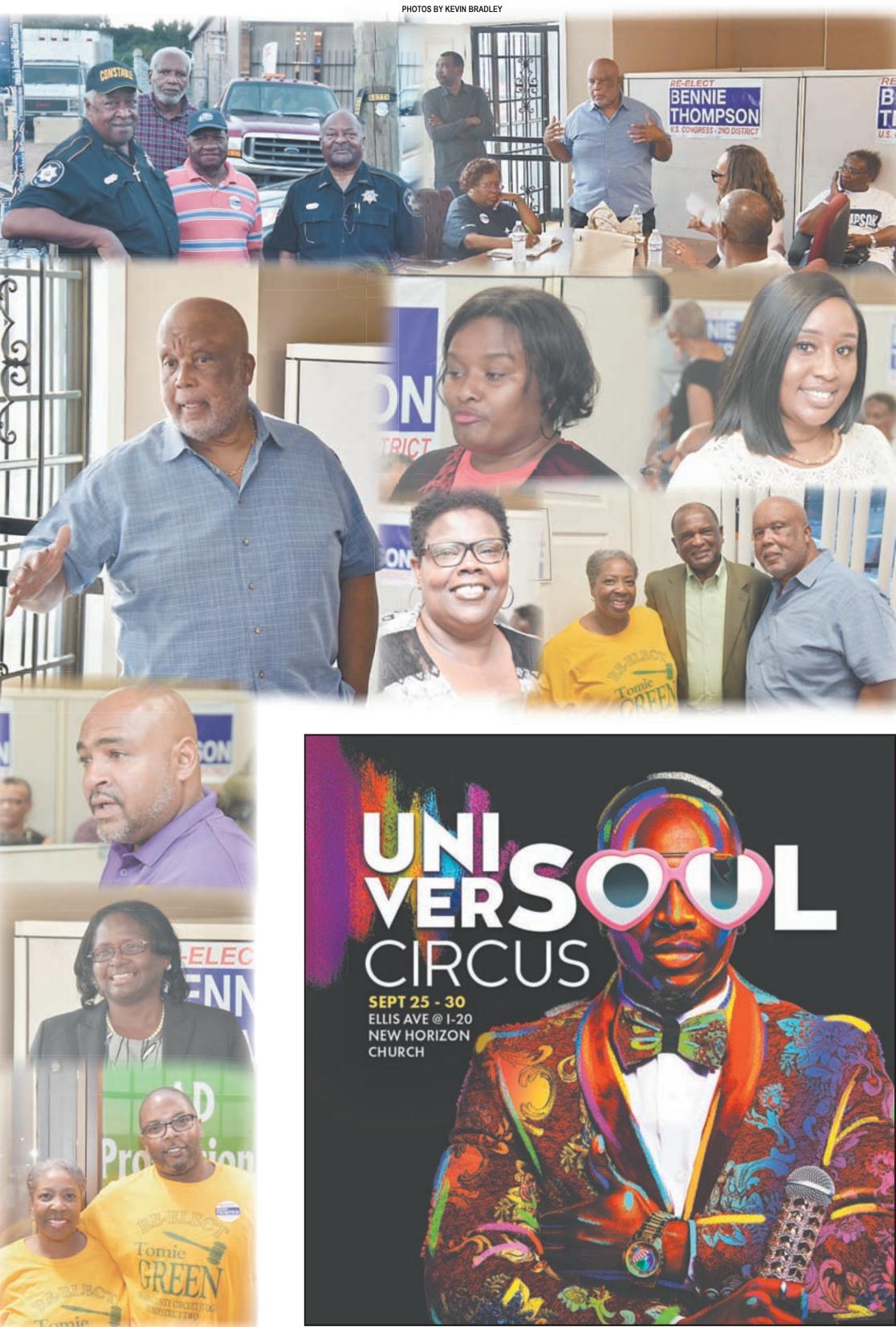
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# **WORLD WAR II POW RETURNS TO U.S. WITH PTSD IN FAITH-BASED SEQUEL**

By Kam Williams Columnist

Unbroken (2014) was a tale of survival chronicling the ordeal of Olympian/Air Force bombardier Louis Zamperini in a Japanese POW camp during World War II. Directed by Angelina Jolie, the hit biopic was adapted to the screen by the Coen brothers, from Laura Hillenbrand's (Seabiscuit) best seller of the same name. Unbroken: Path to Redemption is also

based on Hillenbrand's book, but doesn't have a creative team with as impressive a pedigree. The cast has been totally overhauled, too, with Samuel Hunt now starring as Louie.

Unbroken 2 picks up where the first film left off. The original closed with a liberated Louie's kissing the ground upon landing back in the states, implying a pat, happily ever after ending.

Yes, he does meet and marry the girl of

his dreams, Cynthia Applewhite (Merritt Patterson). The two settle in California and start a family. However, Louie remains haunted by flashbacks to his torture at the hands of Corporal Mutsuhiro "The Bird" Watanabe (David Sakurai), a sadistic guard at Sugamo prison.

Despite being celebrated as a war hero, Louie's suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder prevents him from being a good husband and provider. He becomes an angry, abusive alcoholic before a desperate Cynthia drags him to a Billy Graham (played by his grandson, Reverend Will Graham) Christian revival being staged in a tent.

The charismatic Baptist preacher's plea to "Just reach out and take the hand of Jesus, and every problem will be washed away," resonates with Louie. When the sinner sinks to his knees, you know salvation can't be far behind.

Need proof of the miracle? Stick around for the closing credits' highlight reel of the two subsequently sharing the stage on the evangelical circuit.

Very Good (2.5 stars)

Rated PG-13 for mature themes and disturbing images

Running time: 98 minutes

Production Studio: Universal 1440 Entertainment / Matt Baer Films

Studio: Pure Flix Entertainment

## Kam's Kapsules

#### Weekly previews that make choosing a film fun

By Kam Williams Columnist

For movies opening September 21, 2018

Wide Releases

Hell Fest (R for violence, profanity and sexual references) Slasher flick about a masked serial killer wreaking havoc at a horror-themed amusement park. Co-starring Amy Forsyth, Reign Edwards and Tony Todd.

Little Women (PG-13 for mature themes and teen drinking) A modern retelling of Louisa May Alcott's coming-of-age classic about four sisters' unbreakable bond and optimism in the face of life's challenges. Cast includes Elise Jones, Melanie Stone, Sarah Davenport and Allie Jennings.

Night School (PG-13 for profanity, drug references, violence and pervasive crude sexuality) Kevin Hart and Tiffany Haddish co-star in this madcap comedy revolving around a bunch of misfits forced to attend classes to get their GED. With Rob Riggle, Taran Killam and Romany Malmor, mature themes and action) Animated comedy about a veti (Channing Tatum) who is convinced that elusive creatures called humans actually exist. Voice cast includes James Corden, LeBron James, Danny De-Vito, Common and Zendaya.

Independent & Foreign

All about Nina (R for pervasive profanity, graphic sexuality, nudity and brief drug use) Mary Elizabeth Winstead plays the title character in this romantic dramedy as a troubled stand-up comic, new to L.A., who turns her life around with the help of a new friend (Common). With Beau Bridges, Camryn Manheim and Jay Mohr.

Bad Reputation (R for profanity, sexual references, drug use and brief nudity) Reverential rockumentary revisiting the career of punk icon Joan Jett. Featuring commentary by Miley Cyrus, Debbie Harry and Michael J. Fox.

Free Solo (Unrated) Rock climbing documentary follow-

become the first person to scale Yosemite's 3,000-foot tall, El Capitan Wall solo, with no ropes or safety gear.

Monsters and Men (R for profanity) Crime thriller, set in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn, revolving around an eyewitness (Anthony Ramos) who is torn about whether to release his cellphone video of a police shooting of an unarmed black man. With Nicole Beharie, Chante' Adams and Giuseppe Ardizzone.

The Old Man & the Gun (PG-13 for brief profanity) Robert Redford portrays Forrest Tucker in this biopic recounting the career criminal's audacious escape from San Quentin and series of bank heists at the age of 70. With Casey Affleck, Sissy Spacek, Danny Glover, Tom Waits and Tika Sumpter.

The Padre (R for profanity and violence) Cat-and-mouse crime caper about a con artist (Tim Roth) on the run from a cop (Luis Guzman) and a U.S. Court Justice (Nick Nolte). Cast includes Marie Paquim, Hailey



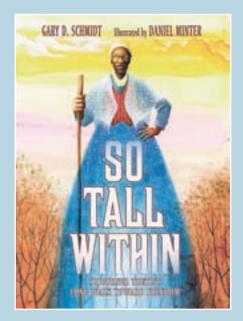
(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

#### Cryptogram A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting th actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of th puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help A LE JEJOMER NE CE NEJT X ZRTWLSXSRE QRY MBVL SR MBVL TT E E XN QRYEJLDA





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# **BOOK REVIEW:** ILLUSTRATED BY DANIEL MINTE C.2018, ROARING BROOK PRESS \$18.99 / \$24.99 CANADA • 48 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer Columnist

You can walk.

That's what Mom said when you wanted her to take you somewhere this summer. What's wrong with your feet, she asked, are your shoes broken? So you hoofed it everywhere, and that's what changed your summer. In the new book "So Tall Within" by Gary D. Schmidt, illustrated by Daniel Minter, walking changed the world.

When Isabella was small, her mother, Mau-mau Bett, took her outside to see the stars and

that what Isabella saw in the sky were the same things her brothers and sisters could see and that comforted Isabella. She couldn't remember her brothers and sisters. There were "ten or twelve" of them, and they'd been sold as slaves when she was just a baby.

At nine years old, Isabella was sold away from Mau-mau Bett, along with a small flock of sheep. She had the stars and the moon to comfort her but, though it hurt to be away from her mother, Isabella was kept

the moon. Mau-mau Bett said so busy that she scarcely had a chance to think about it. She worked first for this family, then for that man, and another until she was forced to marry a slave named Thomas and have children of her own.

> they, and their children would also be slaves someday. Once, she'd asked God if that was And then came the day when

She sometimes wondered if

a promise was broken and Isabella had enough. She grabbed her baby daughter and she "seized Freedom with her own

hands," escaping to the home of two people who wouldn't let her down. They helped Isabella stand up to her owner, and the courage to stand tall, to take a former slave owner to court, and to get her young son back from where he'd been sold down South.

She never forgot her brothers and sisters. She found some of them and lost others, which helped her decide that she had a "sojourn" ahead of her. And so, Isabella changed her name to Sojourner Truth, and she began to walk...

Sometimes, in searching for a really good children's book, you may find one that seems almost like a gift to the parent

That's what you'll get in "So Tall Within."

Beautifully written with words that are partial poetry and part storytime, this book offers kids an easy-to-love biography of a woman they may have heard about, but just not enough.

Author Gary D. Schmidt tells the saga of Sojourner Truth, her resolve, and her work - sometimes brutally, sometimes with fist-pumping joy, and always with beautiful artwork by Daniel Minter. While story plus art are, indeed, in a children's book, both are where the gift for parents lies: pay close attention to left-page words and the illustrations; they are breathtakingly

haunting and absolutely perfect. For 5-to-8-year-olds who love a good story, or for parents who cherish a good read-aloud session and appreciate back-ofbook biographical information, here it is. Your kids won't walk for "So Tall Within" - they'll run for it.

# 35TH ANNUAL W D I S D S 1 2018

THREE EVENTS ON THREE DAYS

# WellsFest Saturday, September 29 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Jamie Fowler Boyll Park **Lakeland Drive in Jackson** 

8 am: 5K Run & Walk / 1 Mile Fun Run 9:30 am: Pet Parade Non-Stop Music on Two Stages Huge Kids' Play Area Food & Drinks / Coffeehouse Arts & Crafts and much more



Free admission, free parking

JACKSON'S ORIGINAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

## Kenyan runner sets new world record

TriceEdneyWire.com

The fastest man in the world - Kenyan track star Eliud Kipchoge - not only held onto his title but broke his own record at the Marathon held this week in Berlin.

President Uhuru Kenyatta led Kenyans in congratulating compatriots Eliud Kipchoge and Gladys Cherono who retained their respective Mara-

"Congratulations my friend Eliud Kipchoge for breaking the World Marathon Record. Proud of you brother," Harambee Stars captain Victor Wanyama tweeted.

Kipchoge smashed the previous world record by compatriot Dennis Kimetto by a massive one minutes and 16 seconds, clocking 2 hours, 01 minute and 39 seconds, setting a new world record and cutting his own personal best by well over a minute. The 33-year-old had won twice before in Berlin.

For a man who has the world at his feet, wrote the Kenyan paper Standard Media, Eliud Kipchoge is not your ordinary celebrity.

At his Kapsisiywa village in Nandi County, Kipchoge loves herding cattle. He also likes joining in the banter at the shopping center when he is not at the training camp.

He is also frequently seen in Eldoret, where he lives at the upmarket Elgon View Estate, and his humility is noticeable.

He said he did not see why money should change the character of an athlete who has won half a million dollars. "An athlete with that much in his bank account can brag, but the uneducated farmer who uses the same amount to plant wheat in



E. Kipchoge, center

one season is not even noticed as he walks in town," he said.

At the training camp in Kaptagat, Kipchoge joins fellow athletes - some of them lowprofile runners – in the daily cleaning routine, including toilets.

"It was a performance so far superior to anything we've seen before that comparing it to another marathon feels inadequate," the running-news website LetsRun.com said of Kipchoge's new record. "This was Wilt Chamberlain's 100-point game in basketball, Usain Bolt's 9.58 in the 100-meter dash."

"Kipchoge's run was so remarkable it's hard to give it its proper due," said LetsRun. com. "In today's age of hyperbole, this run deserves every accolade said about it. The lower the world record gets, the harder it is to be broken, and the less it should be broken by. Yet Eliud Kipchoge just broke the world record by more than any man in the last 41 years, and he ran the last 10 miles by himself."

In a recent profile in The New York Times, Scott Cacciola called Kipchoge a "philosopher-king of marathons" who has been quoted to say: 'Only the disciplined ones in life are free. If you are undisciplined, you are a slave to your moods and your passions.' And: 'It's not about the legs; it's about the heart and the mind.'

And: "The best time to plant a tree was 25 years ago. The second-best time to plant a tree is today."

Kipchoge said modestly: "I am really grateful, happy to smash the world record."

Kipchoge will receive \$139,614 for his performance Sunday, which includes a bonus for keeping his time below two hours and four minutes.

He holds a diploma in human resource management and plans to join university. He is a dairy and tea farmer as well as a real estate investor.

Global Information Network creates and distributes news and feature articles on current affairs in Africa to media outlets, scholars, students and activists in the U.S. and Canada. Our goal is to introduce important new voices on topics relevant to Americans, to increase the perspectives available to readers in North America and to bring into their view information about global issues that are overlooked or underreported by mainstream media.

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# Rust College Alumni Meet, Greet & Eat – a big success



Jackson-Hinds Alums

By Juno Leggette Jacobs

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson-Hinds Chapter of the Rust College Alumni Association hosted its 5th Annual Meet, Green and Eat September 24, 2018 at Anderson United Methodist Church

The annual event was held in part as a membership mixer for local alums to gather and fellowship, learn new updates from college administrators, meet Miss/Mr. Rust College/SGA president, and for local chapter president to share "The Chapter Year in Review."

With the great financial support of Jackson-Hinds local members and other supporters, the chapter contributed over \$10,000 for the 2017-18 academic year. They have set a goal of \$20,000 for 2018-19.

The evening was also a time to honor an alum that has gone above and beyond for the oldest Historically Black College in the State of MS. This year Dr. George Mitchell, '67, received recognition for

his great work. He has dedicated many years to the Jackson-Hinds chapter.

Networking and fellowship along with great food were also a part of this festive occasion.

The chapter meets the Monday after the fourth Sunday October -May at New Hope Baptist Church from 6-7 p.m.

For additional information about the chapter, please text Chapter President Juno Leggette Jacobs at 601-966-5653.



Dr. George Mitchell - "Going Above and Beyond" honoree

## **Hinds County School District Weekly Update**

#### **ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE**

#### **Hinds County School District host Ninth Annual Teen Summit**

The summit was hosted by the HCSD Dropout Prevention Team in collaboration with BankPlus-Jackson; United Way-Jackson Area; Star Services, Inc.; Dollar Tree-Byram and Pennington and Trim Alarm Services. The theme for this year's summit was "Embrace Your Power-Explore the Future."



Students sign the banner to graduate.



Students from all across the district engaged with the speakers.



Supt. Delesicia Martin welcomed and addressed teens about the importance of graduation.



Shantay Griffith, program officer of Educational Initiatives with the United Way of the Capital Area spoke to students about being college/career ready.



Daniela Griffin, assistant director and college counselors with Get2college addressed students on How to Plan, Prepare and Pay for College.



**THS Army JROTC Color Guard** 



Demarco Fomby, motivational speaker, talked with students about INfluence



Stg. Otis Clark and team from the **Hinds County Sheriff's Department** address students on Fatal Vision-Driving under the Influence!

#### **Local Support Organizations**



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Beta Delta Omega Chapter - Voter Registration Drive



**MDOT Survive Your Drive** 



**Holmes Community College** 



**Hinds Community College Utica Campus** 

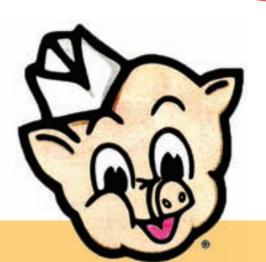


**United States Navy** 



Hinds Community College Nursing/Allied Health Center / Tiffany Johnson

September 26 - October 2, 2018



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**FRESH** 

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**RED RIPE** TOMATOES

**NEW CROP** 

RUSSET **POTATOES** 

**DAIRY & FROZEN DEPARTMENTS** 

**COUNTRY CROCK** 

**SPREAD** 

**PILLSBURY** 

**GRANDS BISCUITS** 

**SHREDDED** 

**PIGGLY WIGGLY** 

**ORANGE** 

HALF GAL. PLASTIC .....

**PIGGLY WIGGLY SELECT** 

**FROZEN** 

**VEGETABLES** 

**BANQUET** 

CLASSIC

**ASSORTED** 

**HOT**