

# The doom of a special election

By Othor Cain  
Editor

Some white Mississippians voted for hate Tuesday while most black Mississippians voted for hope. The special election for U.S. Senate in the magnolia state clearly boiled down to deciding between the future or the past, between coming together or dividing a state even more.

There was a clear difference in the candidates on the ballot this week. Mississippians, over the course of the last three weeks of the campaign, got a glimpse of the real Cindy Hyde-Smith, who was appointed to replace Thad Cochran when he resigned for health reasons.

On Nov. 2, after a supporter praised her, she said, “If he invited me to a public hanging, I’d be on the front row.” Her Facebook page shows a photo of her wearing a Confederate soldier cap while holding a musket, with a caption: “Mississippi history at its best.” She was also caught on video saying, “There’s a lot of liberal folks in those other schools who maybe we don’t want to vote. Maybe we want to make it just a little more difficult. And I think that’s a great idea.”

After being outed, she said she was joking. Some local pastors also said she was joking. No, those comments weren’t a joke, not in Mississippi with its history of lynching and violent voter suppression; they are blatant racial appeals. For you biblical scholars, one only has to read the gospel



Espy



Hyde-Smith

## COMMENTARY

according to Matthew; there in Chapter 12 verse 34, “You brood of vipers! How can you speak good things, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”

This is who Hyde-Smith is. Her comments were so hateful that Walmart, Major League Baseball, Union Pacific, Pfizer, Amgen, AT&T and others asked for the return of donations they made to her campaign. Though symbolic in gesture, they made for good headlines.

Jesse Jackson wrote: “Mis-

issippi has been notorious for its racial divisions. “Everybody knows about Mississippi Goddam,” Nina Simone used to sing. This is where lynching was used to intimidate African Americans in opposition to the emancipation of the slaves. This is where civil rights activists were murdered for the crime of simply trying to register people to vote.”

This is the choice that Mississippi made Tuesday.

However, I contend that the best choice, the clear choice was Mike Espy, the first black Mississippian to be elected to Congress since Reconstruction and the first

black Secretary of Agriculture, appointed by Bill Clinton.

Espy vowed on the campaign trail that he would work to increase paid family leave and the minimum wage and he supported expanding Medicaid funding. His campaign was a call for Mississippi to move forward.

The majority of the people in Mississippi did not have the courage to move forward. Clearly the hate was too massive to overcome; the fear far too crippling. Poor white Mississippians voted against their own interest and now we will all suffer as a result.

See photos page 18.

# DIA vice president will serve as keynote speaker for National Council of Negro Women luncheon



By LaToya Henz-Moore  
jsumsnews.com

Veronica Cohen, vice president for Institutional Advancement and External Affairs, is the keynote speaker for the annual Mother’s and Daughters luncheon Saturday, Dec. 1 at 11 am. This yearly event is hosted by the Ways and Means committee of the Dorothy I. Height Quad Counties Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

“Initially, I was afraid. My relationship that I shared with my mother was very strong and sacred. I loved her to my core, and I wasn’t sure how I would combine all



Cohen

Cohen

Continued on page 3

# Mississippians support a \$1.50 cigarette tax increase



Khalil Jackson, Youth Advocacy Board

PHOTOS BY JACKIE HAMPTON AND KEVIN BRADLEY



Katherine Bryant, American Heart Association

By Jackie Hampton  
Publisher

In a press conference November 28 at the Mississippi State Capitol, supporters from ‘Invest in a Healthier Future Coalition’ called on lawmakers to increase the state cigarette tax to \$1.50 per pack. According to recently released data, an overwhelming majority of Mississippians agree.

The polling results released Wednesday show that 70 percent of voters in the state support the

measure.

Invest in a Healthier Future is a broad-based coalition of more than 30 organizations leading the effort to reduce the preventable death and chronic disease of tobacco use in Mississippi. Its’ vision for the future is a healthier Mississippi with fewer children starting to smoke, more people who smoke quitting and increased revenue for the state. The coalition believes they can save lives, improve the health of citizens and

support the economy through this increase in the state cigarette tax.

Katherine Bryant, director of government relations for the American Heart Association, is one of the 30 partners. She said this move can help young people not begin to smoke. “Tobacco-related illnesses are expensive and harmful for all of us,” she said. “Yet, in Mississippi, tobacco remains the No. 1 cause of preventable death.”

Bryant said tobacco is an ad-

dictive and deadly product and higher cigarette taxes are proven to help people quit and help young people never start.

St. Andrew High School senior Khalil Jackson, a member of the Youth Advocacy Board, said, “With me being from the latest generation of my family, it is my responsibility to make a decision that will have a lasting effect on myself and others.”

Jackson shared the story of tobacco and cigarette users in his

family. He said his great, great grandfather used Prince Albert Tobacco, and later contracted lung cancer which ultimately lead to his death. He said his grandfather smoked Winston cigarettes and became dependent on its use. He told of other family members who experienced weakness and weight loss and emphysema all due to tobacco use.

Jackson, who turned 18 Tuesday, said, “Years ago, I made the personal decision to make my

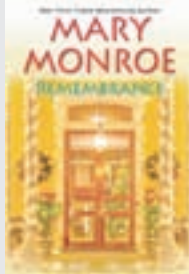
generation the first in my family to be tobacco free.”

Bryant said, “Jackson is the healthy future we are so desperately seeking.”

Mississippi’s cigarette tax is 68 cents per pack, ranking it 40th in the nation, contributing to the state’s very high adult smoking rate and low life expectancy. The average state cigarette tax is \$1.78 per pack. It has been nearly

Tax

Continued on page 3





# Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter celebrates eighty years of service with a High Tea



Seated together are Charles and Lavern Gentry, Jay Johnson, Tjuana Carter and Margera Harris.



Sorors Keisha Milton, Jean Lee, Patricia Anderson, Inez Johnson, Melody Dykes

PHOTOS BY ANITA YOUNG

## Mississippi Link Newswire

On October 14, 1938, at 723 Rose Street, Jackson, MS, a graduate chapter, Alpha Delta Zeta, of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated was chartered in the State of Mississippi. It is the first Zeta graduate chapter to be chartered in the state. That was 80 years ago.

On Sunday, November 18, the members of Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter gathered at the Mississippi Museum of Art for a "High Tea" to celebrate 80 years of service to the Metro-Jackson area.

The occasion was fashioned with members and guests adorning hats and gloves. Each table carefully showcased a collection

of tea cups and tea pots wrapped in pearls and variations of royal blue and pure white.

Mississippi State Director of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, Mark Young and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated Mississippi State Director Kenya Washington were there to lead in best wishes to Alpha Delta Zeta followed by a proclamation from the mayor, the Honorable Chokwe Lumumba, honoring Alpha Delta Zeta for its legacy of leadership and service to the City of Jackson. It was truly a "royal" blue and white occasion.

Members and guests were guided through an entertaining

program by Vera Perry along with special musical salutes by Valerie Tatum.

The program included a historical perspective of the chapter, recognition of life members, past presidents and Zeta Doves. A bouquet of white roses was presented to Dr. Inez Morris Chambers, a Zeta Dove, in recognition of her "Most Senior" status in the chapter.

Lorenzo Grimes, president of Mu Sigma Chapter, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, presented a toast to Alpha Delta Zeta for its past, present and continued service to the community. All who were present lifted their "teacups" in salute.

The celebration was concluded with the release of a single white dove (denoting the chapter's journey) by Chapter President Lucille Green and Mississippi State Director Kenya Washington.

The White Dove, a national symbol of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, carried a special message of love and hope for the chapter's future.

Special thanks to Jean Lee and the Charter Day Planning Committee for a royal celebration.

With over 150 members, Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter is the largest Chapter in the State of Mississippi. It is located at 4410 Hanging Moss Road, Jackson

Mississippi. The chapter owns a tutorial complex, operates a Stork's Nest in the Jackson Medical Mall, sponsors four auxiliary groups (Amicae, Archonettes, Amicettes and Pearllettes) and oversees two undergraduate chapters (Lambda Beta Chapter at Jackson State University and Nu Beta Chapter at Tougaloo College).

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington D.C. January 16, 1920. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's purpose is to promote the cause of education by encouraging the highest standards of scholarship through scientific, literary, cul-

tural and educational programs; promoting charitable projects on college campuses and within the community; fostering the spirit of sisterly love and promoting the ideals of Finer Womanhood. These ideals are reflected in the sorority's national programs to fund scholarships, support charities and promote legislation for social and civic change. Among its many programs, ZHOPE (Zetas Helping Others to Excel) is the umbrella that gives focus to the service activities of the organization.

For more information, visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.adz-1938.org"](http://www.adz-1938.org) [www.adz-1938.org](http://www.adz-1938.org) or like us on Facebook.

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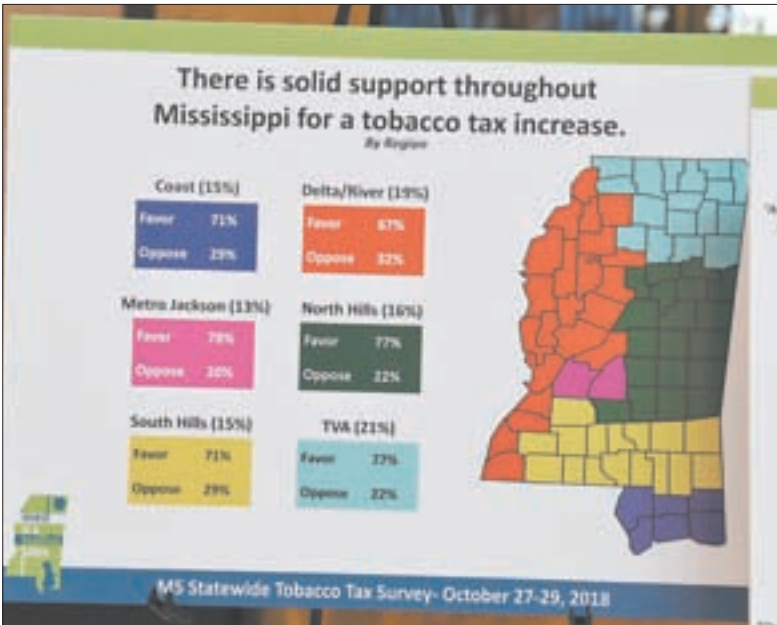
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## Tax

Continued from page 1



10 years since Mississippi raised its cigarette tax, with the state missing opportunities to improve the health of its citizens.

Results from the poll conducted by Public Opinion Strategies showed solid support throughout Mississippi for the tobacco tax increase. Mississippians across party lines, with 69 percent of independents, 71 percent of Republicans and 80 percent of Democrats in favor of the measure.

Additional speakers tackling tobacco use in Mississippi included Angela Ladner, executive director, Mississippi Psychiatric Association and Mississippi Oncology Society, Dr. Michael Mansour, MD, president, Mississippi State Medical Association and Glen Bolger, partner, Public Opinion Strategies.

## Cohen

Continued from page 1

of those powerful memories in front of an audience without falling apart,” Cohen said.

The National Council of Negro Women, Inc. is a coalition comprised of 200 community-based sections in 32 states and 38 national organizational affiliates that work to enlighten and inspire more than 3,000,000 women and men. Its mission is to lead, advocate for and empower women of African descent, their families and communities.

“I am very honored to be the keynote speaker for this event. Organizations like NCNW are needed because it allows us to feel empowered and expressive within our own race,” says Cohen. “When we love each other and connect as one, we can grow and teach others how to be powerful African-American women.”

The theme of this year’s event is “To celebrate the powerful relationship between the mother and daughter.”

Cohen plans to deliver an astounding message to the mothers and daughters attending Saturday’s event by “retrieving the memories of her mother and combining them into one beautiful story.”

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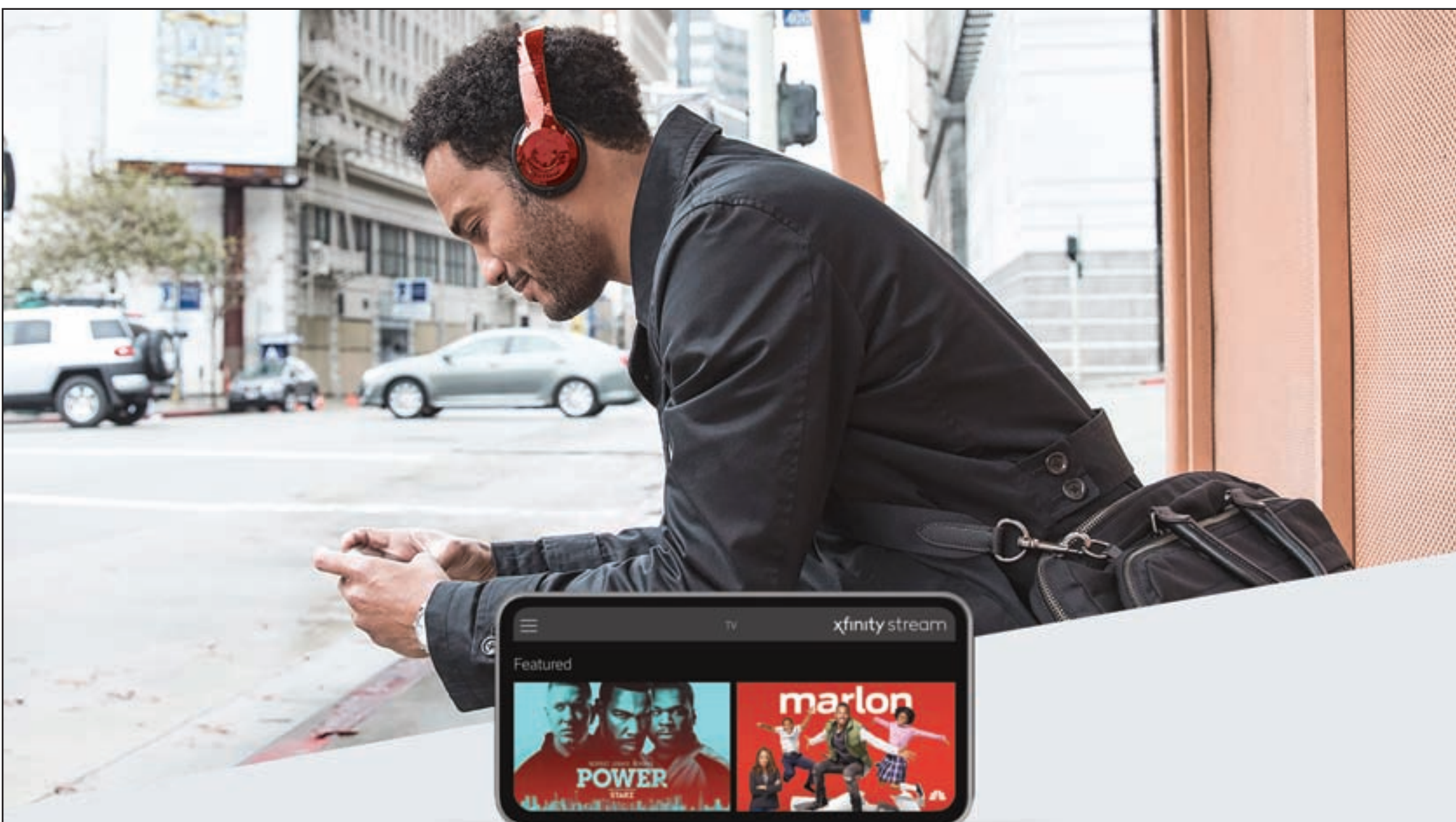
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# 23rd Annual Christmas by Candlelight Tour



Santa, live music and holiday treats at the twenty-third annual Christmas by Candlelight Tour, Friday, December 7, 2018.

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

On Friday, December 7, enjoy free live music, holiday decorations, and traditional treats at the twenty-third annual Christmas by Candlelight Tour. Seven sites will be open and sporting holiday decorations – the State Capitol, Mississippi Governor’s Mansion, Old Capitol Museum, Manship House Museum, and Eudora Welty House and Garden, plus the new Museum of Mississippi History and Mississippi Civil Rights Museum.

Park and take advantage of the shuttle buses running between sites or drive your own vehicle. The event begins at 4:30 p.m. and lasts until 8:30 p.m.

Joining the Candlelight Tour for the first time are the Two Mississippi Museums – the Museum of Mississippi History and Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. The model trains of Possum Ridge will be on the second floor.

Museum staff will serve cake in honor of the site’s one year anniversary.

Performing will be Baker Elementary School Choir at 4:30 p.m., Jerry Jenkins/The African Ensemble at 5 p.m., Ballet Magnificat at 6:30 p.m., Anderson United Methodist Church Choir at 7 p.m., Society Ridge Baptist Church Choir at 7:30 p.m. and Cade Chapel M. B. Church Choir at 8 p.m.

The Mississippi Museum Store will be open and has a wide selection of Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa items for sale, along with local pottery, choctaw baskets and jewelry, signed books and other

Mississippi gift ideas. The museums will be open throughout the evening with regular ticketed admission.

Governor Phil Bryant and First Lady Deborah Bryant will welcome visitors to the Mississippi Governor’s Mansion, which will be decorated with seasonal greenery and a twelve-foot Christmas tree. A very special guest from the North Pole will be available in the East Garden for family pictures. Miss Mississippi Asya Branch and Miss Mississippi Teen USA Kaylee Brooke McCollum will also be at the mansion to greet guests. Homemade gingerbread and sugar cookies prepared by mansion executive chef Jamie Patrick will be served along with hot chocolate. Christmas piano music will be performed inside the mansion from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Mississippi State Capitol will be decorated with three lighted Christmas trees on the first- and second-floor rotundas. Garlands will adorn the rotunda’s balustrades and Mississippi- grown poinsettias will line the grand staircase.

Visitors are invited to take photographs with Santa Claus. The Mustard Seed’s Bells of Faith will perform at 4:30 p.m., followed by Sessions Jazz Ensemble, led by senate staff attorney Bob Davidson. On the third floor, visit the chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives and the ceremonial office of the governor.

The Old Capitol will suspend garlands from the rotunda railing on the second floor and the stairwells and decorate the

exterior of the building with wreaths. A fourteen-foot-tall Christmas tree will stand in the Chancery Court room. Performing will be the Power APAC Choir at 4:30 p.m.; Pearl High School Choir at 5 p.m.; Hinds Harmony at 5:30 p.m.; Mississippi Girlchoir at 6 p.m.; Germantown High School Choir at 6:30 p.m.; and St. Andrew’s Episcopal Upper School Choir at 7 p.m. The Hinds Community College Brass Ensemble will perform between the choir sets.

The historic Manship House Museum will sport period holiday decorations. Musical performances will include the Figgy Pudding Singers of St. Philip’s Episcopal Church, 5–6 p.m., and the Bonnie Blue Band singing songs of the Civil War era from 6 to 8 p.m. Saint Nicholas will make a special appearance, and reenactors portraying members of the Manship family will welcome visitors to the site. The Hinds Community College School of Culinary Arts will provide treats made from nineteenth-century recipes.

Visitors to the Eudora Welty House and Garden will tour the first floor of Welty’s house and see holiday photographs and a selection of greeting cards from some of Welty’s closest friends. Children may make an ornament, and adults may use a manual typewriter to make a retro holiday card. Enjoy refreshments while keyboardist Sergio Fernandez plays jazz standards.

*For more information about the Christmas by Candlelight Tour call 601-576-6850 or email [info@mdah.ms.gov](mailto:info@mdah.ms.gov).*

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

# Zeta Phi Beta High Tea 80 Years of Service



PHOTO BY JAY JOHNSON

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# JPS athletes named to Clarion Ledger Basketball Dandy Dozen

## Mississippi Link Newswire

Several JPS student-athletes have been named to the 2018-2019 Clarion Ledger Basketball Dandy Dozen. Their selections were based on their high school athletic performances and discussions with coaches and other specialists in Mississippi high school basketball.

Keshuna Luckett of Lanier High School was the lone girl player from JPS. However, there were four JPS boys players selected for the statewide honor – Marc Evans and Keondre Montgomery of Forest Hill, Daeshun Ruffin of Callaway and Earl Smith of Lanier.



Keshuna Luckett, Lanier guard, 5-8, senior



Marc Evans, Forest Hill guard, 6-4, senior



Keondre Montgomery, Forest Hill forward, 6-7, junior



Daeshun Ruffin, Callaway guard, 5-9, sophomore



Earl Smith, Lanier guard, 6-3, senior



Smith COURTESY OF CHRIS TODD, CLARION LEDGER

## Hardwood Hero Of The Week for November 19

### Mississippi Link Newswire

Earl Smith of Lanier High School is the Hardwood Hero of the Week for November 19. Smith is a 6-3 senior guard for the Lanier Bulldogs. He scored 30 points and made 8 rebounds in a win over Provine.

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

## JPS Teacher Job Fair

### Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Public Schools is hosting a Job Fair for teachers Saturday, December 8, from 9 a.m.–12 p.m. at Kirksey Middle School located at 5677 Highland Drive. Teachers must be certified and assigned to teach in a qualifying subject area.

The following teacher positions are available:

- Pre-K
- Elementary Education (K-5)
- Mathematics
- Science (Biology, Chemistry,

- Physics)
- English
- Librarian
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- To apply for vacancies, visit our Online Application.
- For more information, contact the Office of Human Resources at (601) 960-8745.

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For more information, contact Tommy Nalls, Jr. (Recruiter) in the Office of Human Resources at 601-960-8745 or visit our website at [www.jackson.k12.ms.us](http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us).

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## Hardwood Hero of The Week For November 12

### Mississippi Link Newswire

Keshuna Luckett of Lanier High School is the Hardwood Hero of the Week for November 12. Luckett is a 5-9 senior guard for the Lady Bulldogs. In two games the week of November 5, she averaged 31 points and 11 rebounds. She scored 35 points against Meridian and 28 points against Forest Hill.

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



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# Mississippi College graduations set for December 14

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Mississippi College leaders will salute the Class of 2018 at three graduation programs on the Clinton campus December 14.

The first event is set for 11 a.m. that Friday for the School of Nursing at Swor Auditorium. Seventy nursing grads will receive their diplomas at ceremonies inside Nelson Hall.

School of Nursing Dean Kimberly Sharp will serve as the commencement speaker. Dr. Sharp brought 30 years of professional experience and innovative leadership when named dean at MC in May 2015. Originally from Canada, she's a former dean of the Louisiana College School of Nursing and Allied Health.

Two other Mississippi College graduations will occur later in the day.

Commencement begins 2 p.m. that Friday for the School of

Christian Studies & the Arts, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the School of Science & Mathematics. The ceremony will be at the A.E. Wood Coliseum.

John Travis, chair of the MC Mathematics Department, will serve as the keynote speaker. An MC graduate, Travis is the university's 2018 distinguished professor of the year. He's the author of the new online text "Essentials of Mathematical Probability and Statistics."

A Clinton resident, Travis is active with the Mathematical Association of America, including a term as chair of the Louisiana/Mississippi Section.

Graduation for MC Law School, the School of Education and School of Business will be at 7 p.m. that Friday evening. The event will also be held at the A.E. Wood Coliseum. Travis will be the keynote speaker.



President Blake Thompson will join other leaders at the Baptist-affiliated university attending all three ceremonies.

# From refugee camp to medical school via Cape Town, London and Paris



Raut

**By Samixchha Raut**  
*Rochester Institute of Technology*

Eight years ago, I lived in Goldhap, a refugee camp in Nepal, where more than 7,000 people reside in just over 1200 households, without running water or electricity. Today, I'm 22, a senior at Rochester Institute of Technology, majoring in biomedical science and on a path to achieve my dream of becoming a doctor. I am studying for the MCAT exam to apply for medical school. It has been a long journey for me and my family.

My dad, a native of Bhutan, fled the homeland with his family. He settled in Goldhap, where he did construction work in a surrounding town, and later started repairing bicycles. He met my mother; they married, had me and my two younger brothers. But there was barely enough food to go around.

In 2010 my family was able to immigrate to the United States, where we settled in Raleigh, North Carolina. I studied hard and earned a full scholarship to Rochester Institute of Technology. In the spring of 2018, I participated in a study abroad program with the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE). I spent six weeks in each of three locations – studying HIV/Aids policy & politics in Cape Town, media, gender & identity in London and family and child develop-

ment in Paris. The experience reinforced my commitment to be a doctor.

As a child I was stricken with jaundice, and it wasn't sure that I would survive. My parents worked extra hard and were finally able to purchase the medicine that made me better. Once I recuperated, I decided I wanted to be a doctor to help others.

While studying in South Africa, my class visited a township village, Zwelethemba. I felt like I was back in the refugee camp. The people were living in severe poverty. But you could see and feel the camaraderie and love among the villagers. Every child was being raised by the entire village. I pictured myself in them.

It took me back to our camp, and to our struggles. I spent 13 years of my life in a refugee camp, living just like these people, and then suddenly there I was among them as a scholar. It reaffirmed that I am on the right path. It's important for me to become a doctor and pursue my passion of helping underserved people by providing them with adequate health care.

The study abroad experience was so valuable because I know if I'm to become a doctor and work with a diverse population of people, then I need to experience diversity. This exposure has boosted my motivation to work hard and give back to the community.

# After the Game: Walker's new book helps student-athletes transition

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

From the time she first picked up a basketball to her current position as Mississippi Valley State University's athletic academic counselor, Joi Walker has nurtured a deep connection with athletics. And while Walker loves sports, she has never been 100 percent defined by what occurs between the lines but by what happens outside of them as well.

Walker's desire to help athletes take the lessons they learned from sports and apply them to life inspired her to start "Sets for Life," a life-skills company dedicated to training, equipping and empowering student-athletes for life after sports.

In addition, Walker recently released a book entitled, "The Sweet Spot: Finding Purpose in Life after Sports."

"This book is really about my journey," said Walker. "As athletes, we spend the first 20-plus years of our lives dedicated to our sport. We all know that the ball will stop bouncing at one point, and we are well aware of the fact that less than two-percent of collegiate student-athletes will play professional sports. However, many athletes fail to properly prepare for the day that their playing career will come to an end," she explained.



Walker

Walker came to MVSU in 2017 as an assistant women's basketball coach, but the 30-year-old St. Louis native felt led to move into another area that would allow her to help more athletes.

She credits her time at The Valley with helping her to discover her purpose.

"MVSU is an exceptional place, and I truly enjoy working with the student-athletes here. My current position gives me the opportunity to help student-athletes think about their long-term goals outside of sports and put a plan in place to help them achieve those aspirations," she explained.

Walker obtained her bachelor's degree in accounting from South Carolina State University where she was a member of the women's basketball team. She received her master's degree in accounting from Clark Atlanta University.

She has had the privilege to play and coach at the Division I level. She worked in corporate America for several years before returning to collegiate athletics.

Upon her return to sports, she was able to see the gaps that existed for student-athletes who are incredibly gifted but often lack the resources that would allow them to see themselves as

more than just athletes and successfully transition out of collegiate athletics into the workforce.

"I struggled to figure out what I would do once I was no longer a basketball player. Once I got into coaching, I saw that I was not alone and that the cycle repeats itself. I saw that my players would need help as they transitioned from student-athletes to young professionals. I wrote this book because I believe it is the missing manual for all student-athletes," Walker said.

Ultimately, Walker hopes her book and what she strives to teach every day encourages student-athletes to see themselves as more than just an individual who runs, jumps, tackles, hurdles or catches a ball.

"I want athletes to understand that they have more than just one gift," said Walker. "I want them to understand that all of the lessons they learned through basketball, football, volleyball, etc. will serve them well as they navigate life after sports. "I want athletes to understand what it takes to redefine them considering that for years they have only been viewed as athletes."

"My ultimate goal is to provide athletes with hope during what is often a challenging transition."

# Alcorn track and field named after sports legend, Mildrette Netter White

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

The track and field at Alcorn State University have been named in honor of one of the university's most celebrated sports legends.

The Mildrette Netter White Track and Field naming ceremony was held Nov. 16 on the green space between the S.A.F.E. Center and McGowan Field.

White, who earned a bachelor's degree from Alcorn in 1978 and a master's degree in 1981, won the gold medal in the 4X100 meter relay in the 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City, Mexico, where she held the third-best 100-meter time in the world. She also became the first and only athlete in 50 years who attended and represented a Mississippi Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in the Olympic games.

Jerry Sims, a 1973 Alcorn



Netter White with family and friends at Alcorn naming ceremony.

graduate and former teammate of Netter, spoke about White's determination to be the best in her sport.

"She worked tirelessly to enhance her performance on the track," said Sims. "Her goal was to be the fastest sprinter in the world. She showed sheer

strength and dedication, which led to her winning lots of races all over the country. She's been a great competitor, and we recognize her for all that she has done."

Sims also reflected on their glory years at the university.

"What we had here was love,

and we spread that love amongst each other. It was a team who had a strong bond with each other."

Percy Norwood, a 1968 Alcorn graduate, applauded White for being a trailblazer for women's track and field at Alcorn. He also thanked the university for acknowledging White's ac-

colades with the naming of the track and field.

"She was so fast," said Norwood. "Running with the guys made her better. When she went to the Olympics, she represented the state of Mississippi well. This woman is the mother of Alcorn track for women."

White expressed her appreciation to the university for recognizing her achievements.

"This is one of the most heartfelt and humbling experiences of my life," said White. "I didn't get here alone; I had plenty of help. I thank God that I am a living legend that my children, grandchildren and current student-athletes can admire. God takes ordinary people and empowers them to do extraordinary things. I am truly thankful."

White ended her speech by expressing her pride in beginning a legacy that continues today.

She thanked her alma mater for allowing her the opportunity to flourish.

"I am honored to be a pioneer for women's track and field at Alcorn. The university prepared me to be successful in my career. I hope this day of celebration will inspire others to use their God-given talents to help others along the way. I challenge you always to persevere so that you will reap your season of blessings."

Interim President Donzell Lee praised White for her continued dedication to serving the university that prepared her to be successful.

"Alcorn has been blessed because of this outstanding lady," said Lee. "I was humbled by her because she still has a love for this great institution. We served our purpose by showing love to an outstanding woman."







# IHL commissioner, MSU alumnus Alfred Rankins Jr. returns to Starkville for fall commencement ceremonies

When more than 1,400 Mississippi State students graduate Dec. 14 during fall commencement ceremonies at Humphrey Coliseum, a fellow Bulldog will be among the first to officially welcome them into the MSU alumni family.

Mississippi Public Universities Commissioner of Higher Education Alfred Rankins Jr. is returning to his alma mater to deliver 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Friday commencement addresses.

Doors open at 8 a.m. for the morning ceremony and 2 p.m. for the afternoon ceremony, with processions beginning at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., respectively. Graduates and their guests are encouraged to arrive early to ensure smooth entry through the coliseum’s metal detectors.

The morning ceremony will feature degree candidates from the colleges of Architecture, Art and Design, Arts and Sciences and Education, as well as those receiving University Studies degrees through the Complete 2 Compete program.

The afternoon ceremony will recognize degree candidates from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the School of Human Sciences, College of Business and the Adkerson School of Accountancy, Bagley College of Engineering and the Swalm School of Chemical Engineering, College of Forest Resources and College of Veterinary Medicine.

“We count it a high honor when one of our high-achieving alumni can return to campus to deliver a memorable commencement address,” said MSU President Mark E. Keenum. “Commissioner Rankins has both a personal vision and a life story that will inspire our graduates and we deeply appreciate him giving of his time to share his insights with them. I greatly value his strong leadership and wise counsel as he leads Mississippi’s higher education system.”

A native of Greenville, Rankins earned all three of his college degrees from Mississippi institutions of higher learning. He holds a bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics from Alcorn State Uni-



Rankins

versity, as well as master’s and doctoral degrees in weed science from MSU.

Rankins was appointed to serve as commissioner of higher education by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning earlier this year. In this role, he provides leadership to the university system, including all eight public universities.

Prior to being named commissioner, Rankins served for four years as the 19th president of Alcorn State University, the oldest public land-grant among the nation’s historically black colleges and universities. Under his leadership, the university excelled in academics and athletics and was noted nationally for its commitment to the student experience.

Rankins’ other leadership roles in Mississippi higher education include deputy commissioner for the Institutions of Higher Learning and acting president of Mississippi Valley State University.

He also served as a tenured associate professor in MSU’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and as an extension specialist for the MSU Extension Service.

Rankins and his wife, Juandalyn, are parents of two children, Aftyn and Alfred.

MSU is Mississippi’s leading university, available online at [www.msstate.edu](http://www.msstate.edu).

For more on MSU’s fall commencement ceremonies, visit [www.registrar.msstate.edu/students/graduation](http://www.registrar.msstate.edu/students/graduation).

## Kathy Thibodeaux celebrates 50th year on Thalia Mara stage

### 1982 International Ballet Competition Silver Medalist to take the stage with Ballet Magnificat in the title role of the Christmas production, The Return of Snow Queen

Mississippi Link Newswire

Award winning ballet dancer and Jackson native, Kathy Thibodeaux will celebrate her 50th year on the Thalia Mara Hall stage by joining her professional ballet company, Ballet Magnificat, as the title role in their Christmas Production, The Return of Snow Queen.

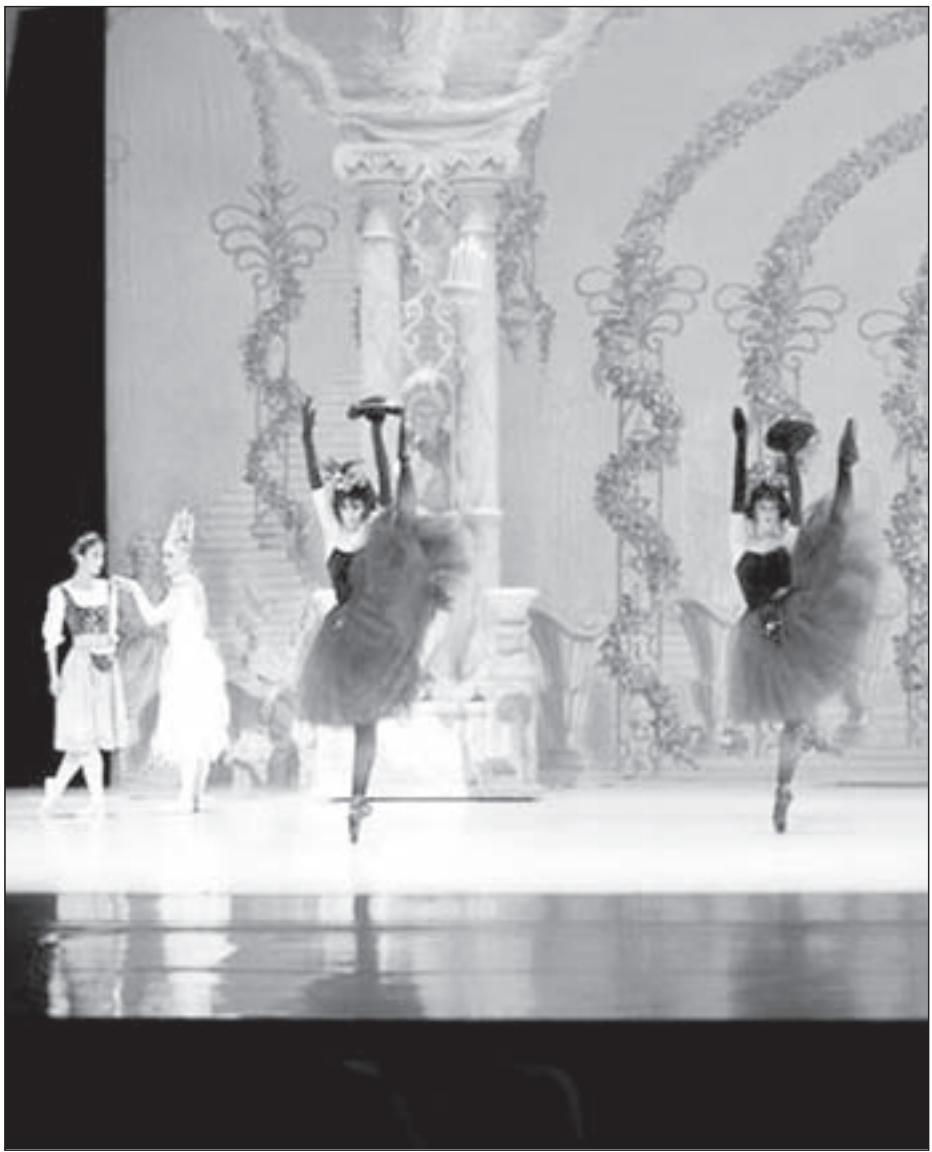
Thibodeaux, winner of the Silver Medal at the 1982 International Ballet Competition, founded Mississippi’s only professional ballet company, Ballet Magnificat, four years later. Since it’s founding, the company, under the leadership of Thibodeaux and her husband, Keith, has performed throughout the United States, as well as 38 nations worldwide. Each year the company holds its largest-scale performance at Thalia Mara Hall in December.

“Although I have performed on stages all over the world, those experiences don’t compare with the fond memories I have dancing on the Thalia Mara stage. This December will be so special for me, as it is not only an amazing production, but it is also packed with personal significance for me,” Thibodeaux said.

Inspired by the Hans Christian Andersen fairytale, Ballet Magnificat’s, The Return of Snow Queen, tells the story of Gerda, a young girl who sets out to rescue her friend Kai after he is captured by the Snow Queen. The production features an international cast of 135 dancers, including two professional companies, two trainee companies and over 60 local students.

“This is a must-see. This fairytale ballet has something for all ages. Amazing costumes, delightful children and the wicked Show Queen are among many of the exciting moments that are created with the theatrical elements of Broadway,” said Sue Lobrano, former executive director, USA International Ballet Competition.

The performance will run December 15-16 at 2 p.m. at Thalia Mara Hall. Tickets range from \$18-\$60 and can be purchased by visiting [www.balletmagnificat.com](http://www.balletmagnificat.com)



# Cathedral AME Church hosts party at Mississippi State Hospital

Mississippi Link Newswire

Volunteers from Cathedral AME Church of Jackson, Miss., shared their time and talent Nov. 17 to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for patients at Mississippi State Hospital.

Cathedral AME Church is one of more than 60 groups who will provide parties and activities to over 700 patients and residents at the hospital this holiday season.

“The outpouring of love and support from all of our volunteer groups adds so much to the lives of our patients and residents during the holiday season,” said Sheila Shows, volunteer services director for the hospital.

Holiday festivities at MSH will culminate Santa Day, Friday, Dec. 21. An annual tradition, Santa Day is a day when community volunteers and leaders gather at the hospital dressed as Santa and deliver gift bags to each and every patient and resident.

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



Volunteers from Cathedral AME Church



## **NNPA hosts Black Parents’ Town Hall Meeting to discuss the State of Education in Houston’s African-American community** *Seeking educational equity*

By Jeffrey L. Boney  
 NNPA Contributing Writer

A spirit of hope and change hovered over the S.H.A.P.E. Community Center in Houston’s historic Third Ward community November 15, as dozens of engaged parents, educators, elected officials and community members were on hand at the Black Parents’ Town Hall Meeting on Educational Excellence, where a lively discussion about the state of education for black children in the Greater Houston area took place.

The event was made possible by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who partnered with the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) to create a three-year, multi-media public awareness campaign focusing on the unique opportunities and challenges of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

ESSA, which reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary School Act (ESEA) and replaced No Child Left Behind, received bipartisan support and was signed into law by President Barack Obama December 10, 2015. The regulations are administered by the U.S. Department of Education and went into effect January 30, 2017.

Under ESSA, states across the country adhere to more flexible federal regulations that provide for improved elementary and secondary education in the nation’s public schools. The law also ensures that every child, regardless of race, income, background or zip code has the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education.

By raising awareness of ESSA policies, the NNPA, which is a national trade association of approximately 211 black and women-owned U.S. media companies with a weekly print and digital readership of over 20.1 million black Americans, seeks to empower parents to advocate for instructional strategies that are in the best interest of their students and communities. In addition, this is a tremendous opportunity to increase support around academic issues that will make a difference in closing the achievement gap and ultimately the wealth gap.



ESSA Houston Black Parents’ Town Hall participants – Larry McKinzie, Monica Riley, Lynette Monroe, Treyvon Waddy, Rhonda Skillern-Jones, Dr. Elizabeth Primas, Forward Times Publisher/CEO Karen Carter Richards, Chirelle Riley and Jeffrey L. Boney

Elizabeth V. Primas, who serves as the program manager for the NNPA ESSA Public Awareness Campaign and is a life-long educator, was on hand to welcome attendees and talk about ESSA being a tool to help increase the effectiveness of public education in every state, including Texas.

Lynette Monroe, who is the program assistant for the NNPA ESSA Public Awareness Campaign, served as the event moderator.

The panelists were asked questions regarding several topics, including how the Texas Education Agency funding structure promotes or inhibits equitable school funding, their views on standardized testing overall and specifically African-American student performance, effective ways to communicate and foster engagement with African-American family members, how to increase community engagement, and things the Texas Education Agency or other entities can do to better prioritize the needs of students who receive special education services.

“You must get engaged in your child’s education to ensure they don’t become a statistic,” said parent and community activist Monica Riley.

Riley was one of the five panelists, along with her daughter Chirelle Riley, who participated in this powerful panel discussion, which also included Houston Independent School District (HISD) Board President Rhonda Skillern-Jones, educator Larry

McKinzie, and Texas Southern University (TSU) student and Forward Times intern Treyvon Waddy.

Riley, who is the mother of seven girls and a product of the public school system, talked about the passion she developed about education, particularly after having to make tough choices about her children’s educational future. After sending her children to public school, private school and even choosing to home-school them, Riley became an educational advocate in order to tackle the issues she saw that were not being addressed by the school administrators.

Chirelle, who is an 18-year-old sophomore at Houston Community College, spoke about her educational experience from a millennial’s perspective and emphasized the need for school leaders to ensure students are being taught information that can benefit them beyond simply taking a test.

Skillern-Jones spoke about her own experiences dealing with the educational choices for her kids, which is what drove her to run for public office and become a school board trustee and seek to bring about change from within. Skillern-Jones stated that the elected decision makers at the state level have made things difficult for school districts to solve many of the problems African-American children face. She remained optimistic, however, that community engagement could change the current state of the educational system

in Texas.

“I think that teachers should contact parents in some way on a consistent basis, not just to say your child is doing this well or this is what your child did in class that day, because that’s not personal enough,” said Waddy, who is a graduate of HISD and attends TSU. “Teachers should seek to build trust with the parents and seek to know the parents on a first name basis, so they can stay in the loop. I think that will go a long way and would open the door to discuss more personal things that may be affecting the child.”

McKinzie, who is a 24-year-educator, parent of two public school students and a community activist, states that parents must talk to all elected officials and administrators and be an activist for their children. He believes that charter schools, which are only located in black and brown communities, take away the necessary resources from the public schools in those same communities which disparately impact those schools.

This regional town hall meeting was a follow-up to the National Town Hall which took place June 26 at the Gethsemane Community Fellowship Church in Norfolk, VA, which was a part of the NNPA’s Annual Conference. This regional town hall meeting was one of several that are taking place across the country, with the focus being on encouraging parents to get involved and stay engaged in their child’s education.

## **Republicans, the party of whiteness 2018**

By Roger Caldwell  
 The Mississippi Link Newswire

COMMENTARY

In 2018, all Americans would like to believe that racism is over, and the society is moving toward equality and certain inalienable rights for everyone.

Both parties, Democrats and Republicans, should respect every American based on the content of their character, as opposed to the color of their skin. But with the election in 2016 of Republican President Donald Trump, the party is going in the wrong direction.

Instead of the Republican Party working to be more diverse and reflecting the rainbows of the different cultures and races in the society, the party has become primarily, exclusively white. This has created a division in the country, which appears to be growing.

“When Thomas Jefferson wrote that ‘all men are created equal,’ he did not mean that all men were equal in all respects. In other places he wrote with conviction about the existence of a natural aristocracy among men, based upon virtue and talent,” says John Van Til, writer at Foundation for Economic Education.

It was very easy for our founders to extol the virtues of equality on one hand, and on the other hand own slaves, and whip a human being into submission. Based on wealth, power and violence, our great founders massacred an entire nation and justified their actions through religious, economic and political liberty.

Hypocrisy has always been a reality in America, saying one thing and doing another. Once white men in America realized they could abuse and enslave people of color around the world, and no one would challenge their authority, the great society was born.

America has always been a racist society, but with civil rights, voter rights, political and economic rights, people of color believed that equality and Democratic principles were just around the corner.

There have been tremendous strides in equality, in every aspect of the society, and with the election of the first black presi-

dent, there was change in the air.

But in 2016, a new ideology of racisms and xenophobia took over American politics, when Trump became president.

“Trump’s victory was regarded as the elevation to the highest office of a political misfit, when it was actually a return to normalcy. The permanence of the Trumpian discourse and the heyday of white nationalism are prone to stoke the flames of division and prejudice,” explains Serge Ricard, writer of the Trump Phenomenon.

Trump has connected with white voters who are anti-immigration and racially conservative, and the Republican Party has made the president a mouthpiece for white nationalism.

There are times that Trump represents almost 45 percent of Americans who are white, and many of these residents are motivated by racial resentment. The rule of law under Trump is about what you are able to get away with, and between 6.7 million and 9.2 million primary white voters switched their allegiance and vote from Obama to Trump, according to writer Zack Beauchamp of the Vox.

The reality of racism is deeply entrenched in the alt-right, and the redneck mindset of white America. White racial prejudice and bigotry has raised its ugly head again, and the Republican Party is following their hero, leader and mouthpiece, President Trump.

When the president says something ridiculous and racist, the white Republican Party acts as if the statement never existed like slavery, or the destruction of the Indian nation.

The challenge for the Democratic Party in 2018 is to speak the truth and address lies for what they are, when they are spoken.

America must be elevated to include the diversity of the entire country, with all its colors and cultures.

How long will it take prejudice, bigotry and white nationalism to be erased from the Republican Party, with leaders like Trump, and replaced with progressive ideas and healing?

## **Mia Love, the only black Republican woman in Congress, lost her re-election bid**

TraceEdneyWire.com

Ludmya “Mia” Love, the only black Republican woman in Congress, won’t be returning to Washington in January. She was defeated by her Democratic opponent in last week’s midterm elections to represent Utah’s 4th Congressional district in suburban Salt Lake City.

Love, who was seeking a third term after first being elected in 2014, lost to Democrat Ben McAdams in a close race, which wasn’t decided until Tuesday, 14 days after the election.

McAdams, mayor of Salt Lake City, defeated Love by fewer than 700 votes, flipping

a Republican-held seat in a deep red state.

Love was behind in the race from the beginning, but briefly took the lead in the contest before McAdams moved ahead.

Love’s loss did not make President Trump sad. Right after the election, he said, “Love gave me no love and she lost.” She refused to embrace him and his ideas, particularly blasting his immigration policies. Love is of Haitian descent, and Trump referred in the past to Haiti as a “shit hole country.”

Love also faced federal scrutiny regarding her campaign fund-raising and had to repay the money.



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# Giving the Lord the best

PART 1

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



We read in Mark 14:1-9: “After two days was the feast of the Passover, and of unleavened bread: and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by craft, and put Him to death. But they said, ‘Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar of the people.’ And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on His head. And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, ‘Why was this waste of the ointment made? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor.’ And they murmured against her. And Jesus said, ‘Let her alone; why trouble ye her? She hath wrought a good work on Me. For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but Me ye have not always. She hath done what she could: She is come aforehand to

anoint my body to the burying.’ Verily I say unto you, ‘Whosoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.’”

The woman in our Scripture text had the opportunity to anoint Jesus before His death. She probably did not have much, but she had that precious ointment. The Bible says it was very precious. The point is she gave what she treasured to Jesus. She gave the very best that she could possibly give to Him. Jesus said wherever the Gospel is preached she would be spoken of for a memorial of her.” She did what she could. Likewise, God expects each of us to do what we can.

Some people found fault with this woman and said the ointment could have sold for three hundred pence and given to the poor. Jesus told them that they would always have the poor with them, but they would not always have Him. Jesus was so blessed by what she did for Him that He wanted people to remember it throughout the ages of time. Why? She gave all she had and it was the best that she could possibly give.

We can read of a number

of examples in the Scriptures about those of whom God has noticed and had them placed in the Bible for us to read about. One was a man named David. We can read in the Old Testament that as King David was getting near the end of his life, he said that he had collected materials and had planned to build a house for God. First Chronicles 28:2-3 tells us: “Then David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, Hear me, my brethren, and my people: As for me, I had in mine heart to build an house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made ready for the building: But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build an house for my name, because thou hast been a man of war, and hast shed blood.”

If you read through that chapter, you will find that David had set aside great wealth to build a house for God. Although it was in his heart to build it, God told him no; however, He said He would let his son, Solomon, build it.

Sometimes you might have something in your heart to do for the Lord, but it is not in God’s plans for you to do. As you get older, there might be things in your heart that you

want to do that you are not physically able to do any longer. It is important to understand that because the devil will work on you and say, “If you were really saved, God would use you to do this or that thing.” The enemy will try to discourage you as much as he can. The Bible calls him the accuser of the brethren. He tries to accuse the Saints and bring discouragement because they cannot do this or that thing.

Sometimes the devil causes people to give up because they feel they are useless in the Kingdom of God. On the contrary, every member of the body of Christ has a purpose and a function no matter how old they get. Your body may not work as well as it once did, but you still have a work to do in the Kingdom of God. I want to encourage you to do what you can. You have to make sure that what you want to do is in the Will of God.

Next week, Part II – “Giving the Lord the best.”

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

P R E S E R V E D

## Worship and thankfulness in the middle

By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



“Tell my mama to come get me.” As the Dallas Police placed the young man repeatedly shouting these words in the back of a police cruiser, I watched from the comfort of my car as I entered the parking lot for Kwanzaafest a number of years ago. What had I just driven into and what had he done to get himself arrested? I was a little concerned because I’d convinced my friend visiting from out of town that Kwanzaafest was a fun place to go. Even as we fought through traffic and searched for a parking space, I continued to brag about the greatness of Kwanzaafest.

Because it was too crowded to get inside Kwanzaafest, we opted to walk through the African American Museum instead. About an hour later, we were stuck in traffic again; this time we were trying to make our way out of Fair Park.

As traffic slowly moved, my friend noticed the police in riot gear and wondered why they had their shields out and ready for action. I then noticed that I had to put gas in my car so as much as we wanted to leave the area quickly, we had to stop. It turns out that where we stopped was less than 20 feet away from where the police were.

As we put gas in the car, we asked the parking lot attendant what happened. He shared how there’d been a shooting and the cops were looking for the shooter. Finally, the arrest we’d seen earlier now made sense. But even

in the midst of the chaos that we’d unknowingly driven into, we’d still been protected from the worst.

In the end, I don’t know if I was more disappointed because I missed my annual Christmas shopping at Kwanzaafest or shocked because we’d been in the middle of a potentially explosive scene without realizing it.

I was explaining the good, bad and ugly of the Dallas/Fort Worth area to my friend when we experienced a real-life example. Had I known how really dangerous the situation was, there’s no telling how I would have reacted or how much I would have panicked.

A former pastor once preached that we before we can have faith, we have to learn to be thankful and worship our way out of “the middle” like the Hebrew boys in Daniel 3:13-30.

As 2018 ends, you may find yourself in a similar situation where you are dealing with things in “the middle.” Your “middle” situation may be a financial struggle, relationship problem or a place of spiritual yearning. If most of us knew how bad the middle was on the way to our promised land, many of us would have said “Never mind.” Sometimes God allows us to be protected in the middle because he wants us to be focused on the one who can deliver us out of those circumstances.

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](mailto:preservedbypurpose@gmail.com) or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.



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## Scandal

By E. Faye Williams  
Trice Edney Newswire



For several years many of us were consumed by the popular television program called Scandal, starring Kerry Washington. Well, it seems that the program was our preparation for what’s going on in our country today. Unfortunately, it didn’t prepare us for some of the things that happened.

In Georgia, we’ve just witnessed one of the worst cases of voter suppression to prevent Stacy Abrams and other Democrats from having a fair chance in their election bids. Brian Kemp ran both for governor against Stacy and made the rules to favor him when he disqualified over one million voters and scandalously decided the rules of the race.

As soon as the key parts of the election were over, #45 decided to fire Attorney General Jeff Sessions after continuously humiliating him when he actually did the right thing in refusing himself from handling the Mueller investigation. It’s clear that firing Sessions was strictly for the purpose of undermining the work of Robert Mueller and his team. Shortly after firing Sessions, we learned that #45 had made an attempt to prosecute James Comey and Hilary Clinton – two persons he claimed to be his enemies. It’s obvious that #45 had corrupt intent when he fired Comey, and he knows that Clinton was far more favorable to more people than he was when she received more votes than he did. I guess he didn’t like that so he has railed against her since he’s been in office – second only to his blaming President Barack Obama for everything.

Once Sessions was out, #45 quickly brought in Matthew Whitaker to become acting attorney general. Many brilliant lawyers have agreed that Whitaker did not meet constitutional requirements to hold such a position because he had not been senate confirmed. Add to that all of the biased comments Whitaker made about the Mueller investigation at various times proving that he could not be fair in his judgments. We need to know how and why he became the U.S. attorney general. One can only assume Whitaker was brought on to undermine the investigation.

Moving on with scandals, #45 dismissed the CIA’s report on Saudi Arabia and proclaimed what’s obviously his all-out support of Saudi Arabia over our intelligence community.

It’s hard to believe, but he actually picked a fight with retired esteemed Four-Star Admiral William McRaven who was the architect of the Osama bin Laden successful raid. He attacked the admiral for not capturing bin Laden earlier, despite the fact it was not his job. This criticism comes from a president who claims to love the military so much, and who claims to have done so much for the military. Now, we learn he is afraid to go to a war zone to visit soldiers.

There were more scandals from #45. He jumped into a disgraceful criticism of the 9th Circuit Court, charging the circuit was made up of Obama appointees and therefore unfair to him. So, that led Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, John Roberts, to inform #45 that, “We do not have Obama judges or Trump judges, Bush judges or Clinton judges. What we have is an extraordinary group of dedicated judges doing their level best to do equal rights to those appearing before them. That independent judiciary is something we should all be thankful for.” That should have been obvious to a sensible president.

#45 is still erasing all the goodwill that his predecessor, President Barack Obama, built around the world. When will our system allow us to end these daily scandals?

E. Faye Williams is national president of the National Congress of Black Women. [www.nationalcongressbw.org](http://www.nationalcongressbw.org). 202/678-6788 and host of WPFW-FM 89.3’s Wake Up and Stay Woke.

## Contrast between Obama and Trump has become clear

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



Donald Trump began his presidency with an inaugural address that denounced the “carnage” that had preceded him. He vowed to Make America Great Again, and set about systematically trying to deep-six virtually everything that his predecessor Barack Obama had accomplished.

Now, after two years, the contrast is stark and clear. Barack and Michelle Obama came from middle-class families and worked their way up to the White House. Donald Trump was born into a fortune that he eventually inherited.

Barack Obama put together a coalition across lines of race and won the majority of votes in two presidential elections. Trump stoked racial and nativist fears to consolidate a base of white voters.

Obama inherited an economy in free fall that was losing hundreds of thousands of jobs a month. He saved it, and began what is now the longest

recovery in history. Trump inherited that recovery and pretends it was his own.

Under Obama, 26 million people got health care coverage who did not have it before, despite implacable Republican opposition. Under Trump, about 4 million and counting have been deprived of health insurance.

Under Obama, taxes went up on the wealthy, in part to pay for extending health care to low-income people. Trump slashed taxes on the rich and corporations, and blew up the deficit.

No-Drama-Obama led a remarkably clean administration, with no high official embarrassed by indictment or scandal over eight years. In less than two years, Trump’s administration is already established as one of the most corrupt in history.

When Obama traveled the world, throngs gathered to hear him. Respect for America rose. When Trump travels, he goes late, leaves early and is greeted with protests. Respect for America has plummeted.

Obama listened to scientists’ warning about global warming and brought the world together – in-

cluding China – in a Paris Accord to take the first steps at meeting the challenge. Trump calls catastrophic climate change a hoax, has tried to purge any mention of it across his government and has pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Accord, making this country one of only two to spurn it.

Obama brought leading nations of the world together to force Iran to agree to dismantle its nuclear production facilities and to submit to intrusive inspection. Trump pulled the U.S. out of the accord unilaterally, and now is trying to enforce sanctions on Iran that our own allies deplore.

Faced with Republican obstruction, Obama used his executive powers to protect the Dreamers – migrants brought as young children to the U.S. – who know no other country. Faced with bipartisan agreement on comprehensive immigration reform, Trump walked away and used his executive powers to rip babies from parents and put them in cages.

Obama generally leveled with the American people. Trump lies routinely and repeatedly.

Obama strengthened enforcement

of civil rights. Trump has rolled enforcement back across the government.

Obama cracked down on for-profit colleges fraudulently luring students into crippling debt. Trump not only ran his own fraudulent education operation, but his Education Department is also gutting protections for students.

The contrast is even clearer when we look to the future.

Trump promises more tax cuts, more military spending, more deficits and deeper cuts in programs for the vulnerable. He plans to nominate a coal lobbyist to head the Environmental Protection Agency and is trying to install a partisan zealot atop the Justice Department.

Obama says America must move forward, and he praises progressive Democrats for advocating Medicare for all, a \$15 minimum wage, tuition-free college and more.

With Obama and then Trump, Americans have elected two diametrically opposed leaders leading into two very different directions. Over the next two years, Americans will have to choose once more.

## Can a women’s coalition survive petulant white women?

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA News Wire Columnist



I have had about enough of some white women. First, fifty-three percent of them vote for an odious genital-grabber. Then, they organize

a woman’s march with momentum from the #MeToo movement, founded by Tarana Burke, but co-opted by white women like the wanna-be activist Alyssa Milano who was a mediocre actress back in the day. Then, bunches of them support Roy Moore, an Alabama pedophile who would be senator. Then the majority of them vote against progressive candidates like Georgia’s Stacy Abrams and Florida’s Andrew Gillum. Meanwhile, the four women who lead the Women’s March – Bob Bland, Tamika Mallory, Linda Sarsour and Carmen Perez – are organizing for a January 19 march, and the self-proclaimed “founder” is demanding their resignation. Really?

Theresa Shook is the Hawaii grandmother who put an idea on Facebook in the wake of the 2016 election. “We should march,” she said. She did little else, and activist Bland picked up the baton and ran with it. She recruited other women, seasoned activists in their own right. Mallory had led a march from New York to D.C. to stop gun violence. Perez has worked on criminal justice reform and has worked on Harry Belafonte’s Gathering for Justice, now serving as its executive director. Sarsour, a former executive director of the Arab American Association of

New York, has worked with Black Lives Matter and on police brutality issues. The four co-chairs of the Women’s March are the very picture of intersectionality and multicultural cooperation – white, black, Latina and Palestinian. They are the rainbow.

So where does Shook get off asking these women to step down from a movement they built? She, along with Milano, have demanded that the women’s march leaders “denounce” National of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan. Why? They object to his anti-Semitic rhetoric. They object to the fact that Mallory attended his annual Savior’s Day this year. They say that anti-Semitism is hateful and dangerous, and they are right. But it wasn’t the Nation of Islam that shot up the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

White people’s hatred for Farrakhan is irrational and, might I say, racist. He is the only person, the only human being that Congress has censured. No David Duke, no Charlottesville murderers, none of the hate-mongers that have caused the racist tension in our nation; just Farrakhan. But then our society is consistent with its double standards and its demands that black people bend over backward to prove that we, too, sing America.

With the fraught history between black and white women, with their complicity in our rapes and in the lynchings of black men, white women have no right to demand anything of black women, let alone that leaders like Mallory “denounce” Minister Farrakhan. For the record, Far-

rakhan, a man who has the unique power to galvanize black people, especially black men, really doesn’t care what people outside of the Nation of Islam, think of him. He understands this nation so well that he would accept any “denouncement” and keep it moving. But anyone demanding a denouncement of Farrakhan has no knowledge of American history, of African American history, of context or of the unequal treatment that African-American people experience that is a constant in our nation. And white women have consistently had little empathy for the way history has treated black women.

Shook and Milano remind me of antebellum white women, hoop skirts and all, stomping their feet when they don’t get their way. Milano says she won’t speak if Mallory doesn’t denounce Farrakhan. So stay home, Alyssa. We won’t miss you. Other white women say they won’t march. Hundreds of thousands of others will. And Shook, the so-called founder, says she is demanding resignations. What is she going to do if she doesn’t get them?

Shook and Milano are the antitheses of coalition building and intersectionality. In an intersectional world, we come together to work on issues we agree on, in this case, the treatment of women. We decide to disagree on other matters. And sometimes, we agree to walk a mile in another woman’s shoes.

Black, white, Latina, Asian, Native, Palestinian and other women have starkly different experiences. We are joined by our gender but sep-

arated by the status of the men in our race, and by the differential privilege that some women experience. Miss Ann knew that enslaved women were being raped. She didn’t care. Now the descendants of enslaved women are willing to work with them, not FOR them. And the descendants of enslaved women have had enough foot-stomping white woman privilege. No more.

There will be no women’s coalition if there is no mutual respect. Milano and Shook and the other white women making demands have shown the hard-working co-chairs of the Women’s March a corrosive disrespect. They set the notion of a women’s coalition back decades. But they have also moved us forward because they have reminded us how important it is to consider history and context before we attempt to build a movement. White women, after all, are the mothers, daughters, sisters and wives of the white men who practice oppression. Those who consider themselves “woke” need to check their sisters who are not.

Meanwhile, Mallory, Sarsour, Perez and Bland need to stand their ground. They built something powerful and beautiful, even though there were fissures beneath the surface. The struggle to dismantle patriarchy, racism and predatory capitalism continues.

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](http://www.amazon.com). For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit [www.juliannemalveaux.com](http://www.juliannemalveaux.com)

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I N M E M O R I A M

# Dr. Blair E. Batson, first pediatrics chair at UMMC, dies at 98

UMMC

Dr. Blair E. Batson, the first chair of pediatrics at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, died Nov. 26. He was 98.

Dr. LouAnn Woodward, UMMC vice chancellor for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine, said Batson's importance to the health of children in the state "cannot be underestimated."

"He truly is the father of organized pediatrics in Mississippi," she said, "and the lives of countless children in our state have been touched through his work."

"What a wonderful legacy."

Batson's successor as chair, Dr. Owen B. Evans, called him "a living archive of pediatric diseases and experiences."

"And he was a role model for me in how to be a gentleman," Evans said.

Born Oct. 24, 1920, Batson grew up in Pearl River County in the sawmill town of Orvisburg, where his grandfather, Ran Batson, owned the mill and his grandmother, Mary Bryan, was principal of the three-room, eight-grade school. For three years of his childhood, at the start of the Great Depression, Batson and his family lived in West Point, where the local librarian, Lucy Heard, cultivated his lifelong love of books and learning.

He earned his B.A. and M.D. at Vanderbilt University, where he completed a residency in pediatrics. While an undergraduate, he was president of the student council and of his fraternity, Sigma Chi. He served as chief resident at Vanderbilt from 1949-



Batson

50 and had a faculty appointment there from 1949-1952.

He completed a one-year residency at the Johns Hopkins Hospital and was on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine from 1952-55. He also received a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins University.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1946-48 in Giessen, Germany, as ward officer for contagious diseases and pediatrics for the 388th Station Hospital.

At 34, he was named chair of the Department of Pediatrics at UMMC just two months after the medical center opened its doors to patients in 1955. He officially retired in 1989, although he still taught for years afterward. During his long career, he taught

more than 3,500 medical students and 240 pediatric residents. Among those was the late Dr. Aaron Shirley, who, under Batson's leadership in 1965 became the first African-American learner in any program at UMMC.

Dr. Joe Donaldson, a former member of the pediatrics faculty, said Batson was "superbly trained" and read all the time.

"He had seen virtually every interesting pediatric case in Mississippi since 1955," Donaldson said.

Another faculty member, Dr. Will Sorey, said Batson was "a wonderful teacher" who "knew infectious diseases, not from lab reports that we rely on now, but from clinical presentation."

Batson was honored often for his contributions to the health of children in Mississippi. He was the recipient of the 2000 Humanitarian of the Year tribute

from the Epilepsy Foundation of Mississippi. In 1996, he was selected Vanderbilt's Distinguished School of Medicine Alumnus of the Year. In 1995, he was inducted into the University of Mississippi Alumni Hall of Fame.

He also received awards for outstanding service from the March of Dimes, the National Easter Seal Society and the American Academy of Pediatrics District VII. He received an award for leadership and devotion to child health care from the Mississippi Academy of Pediatrics.

Batson was an examiner for the American Board of Pediatrics from 1963-90, a member of the executive board of the American Academy of Pediatrics from 1974-80 and president of the pediatric section of the Southern Medical Association.

In 1997, the new children's



hospital was named the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children in recognition of his lifetime contributions to the health of children in Mississippi. A new addition to the hospital is currently under construction.

He was married twice, first to Dr. Margaret Batson, a distinguished pediatrician in her own right and member of the original pediatric faculty, and then to Blanche Batson, a well-known artist, both of whom are deceased.

Survivors include Batson's only brother, John O. Batson II; six nieces and nephews: John O. Batson III of Lake Oswego, Oregon; Molly Batson Smith of Atlanta, Georgia; Blair Batson of Portland, Oregon; Bryan Bat-

son Jauregui of Todos Santos, Mexico; Andrew Graves Batson of Seattle, Washington; and Virginia Batson of Collingswood, New Jersey; and four great nieces and nephews: Bryan Smith of Athens, Georgia; Annie Smith of San Francisco, California; and Griffin Batson Grant and Tristan Batson Grant of Collingswood, New Jersey.

A memorial service will take place in early 2019.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children, c/o the UMMC Office of Development, 2500 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39216 or Friends of Children's Hospital, 3900 Lakeland Dr., Suite 205, Flowood, MS 39232.

## Gout is no holiday...

By Glenn Ellis  
TriceEdneyWire.com



The holiday season comes with little indulgences. But when you have gout, you must be smart to make sure those little indulgences do not turn into big flare-ups.

If the joint of your big toe is hot, swollen, red and it's unbearable to allow anything to touch it...there's a chance you could have Gout.

Gout is a common form of arthritis that usually affects one joint at a time (often the big toe joint) and is very painful. Men and obese adults are more likely to have gout. There are times when symptoms get worse, known as flares, and times when there are no symptoms, known as remission.

Repeated bouts of gout can lead to gouty arthritis, a worsening form of arthritis. There is no cure for gout, but you can effectively treat and manage the condition with medication and self-management strategies.

Gout flares start suddenly and can last days or weeks, followed by long periods of time – weeks, months, or years – without symptoms before another flare begins. Gout usually occurs in only one joint at a time. Along with the big toe, joints that are commonly affected are the lesser toe joints, the ankle, and the knee.

Without question, alcohol raises the top question I get from patients this time of year: "What can I drink?"

I get it. The holidays are a social season. But I also must

point out that, no matter the time of year, alcohol can raise the uric acid levels in your body and lead to gout attacks. That's why I tend to advise people not to drink at all, especially if they are newly diagnosed or starting new medications to control gout.

That said, if you're going to have a drink at that holiday party or family dinner, make it red wine. Beer and liquor are much more likely to trigger a flare-up than red wine. Why? Because high-fructose corn syrup raises uric acid levels in your body, too. When you are making homemade desserts, or even glazes for savory items, check closely for ingredients that include high-fructose corn syrup, corn syrup and fructose. Read the label of any pre-packaged foods, too; high-fructose corn syrup is in more items than you might think.

The holiday season is full of sweets. Realistically, people are going to indulge a bit – but when you do, choose items that don't contain high-fructose corn syrup.

If you are eating food prepared by others, ask about the ingredients if you are comfortable doing so. If not, just be mindful of the risks and limit your intake. And by all means, avoid drinking sodas, which are usually full of high-fructose corn syrup.

Don't reach for the salt shaker; if you have gout, you don't need any more sodium than what is already in cooked food. The salt itself may not be an issue, but loading up on sodium can lead to dehydration, and dehydration can increase uric acid

in your body.

In addition to not adding salt, limit your consumption of foods you know are high in sodium. Depending on how it's prepared, the turkey (go light on any gravy) may be a better option for you than the ham, for instance. The ham is likely higher in purines, as well.

And keep drinking water – more than you normally would, at least eight 8-ounce glasses per day – to keep yourself thoroughly hydrated. It's amazing what a difference simply drinking enough water can make.

Picture this: It's Christmas day, and your diet over the past week has not been ideal. You reach for the medicine cabinet but realize you are out of your allopurinol. Your doctor may be hard to contact, and pharmacy hours will be limited, so this situation is not ideal.

Avoid it by making sure you fill any prescriptions you may need – whether they are ongoing or "just in case" medications before the holidays are in full swing. It's better to have what you may need and not need it than to need it and not have it.

While a simple blood test will reveal an elevated Uric Acid level, Gout is technically diagnosed by a procedure called joint aspiration. In this procedure, your doctor will use a needle to draw fluid out of the affected joint cavity, which will then be analyzed for urate crystals as well as bacteria to rule out infection of the joint as the cause for pain. X-Rays are also utilized to determine the extent of Gout and monitor both bone and joint damage.

Remember that Gout not only

affects the great toe, but often occurs in other joints in both the foot and the rest of the body. First time attacks usually occur in the great toe, and secondary attacks may go to other joints in the foot and ankle or other areas of the body.

If Gout is left untreated, consequences may be chronic Gout pain or destruction of the joint where the Gout occurred resulting in permanent arthritis pain.

'Tis the season to be surrounded by family and friends – and lots of food that could trigger a gout attack. But with a

little planning, you can still enjoy seasonal treats while keeping your gout risk low.

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 plan.

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.glennellis.com](http://www.glennellis.com).

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A deposit of \$250.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

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

11/29/2018, 12/06/2018

**REQUEST FOR  
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## SECTION I – INTRODUCTION / INVITATION

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 Smith Willis Stadium, located at 1200 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39216. 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 set forth herein.

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, Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

The bid advertises November 8, 2018 through December 20, 2018. Bids will continue to be accepted and must be stamped by the City Clerk, prior to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

This Request For Professional Management Services is also being posted on the Central Bidding website at: <https://www.centralauc->

tionhouse.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 Wednesday, November 28, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 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 proposal.

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  
(CAO)

Dr. Robert Blaine,  
Chief Administrative Officer

11/8/2018, 11/15/2018, 11/22/2018, 11/29/2018,  
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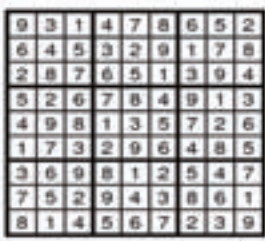
### Bid 3084 - Grease Trap Cleaning

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) December 13, 2018, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

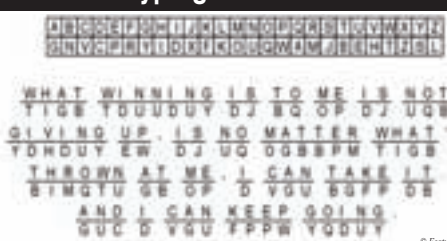
to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing [pagreen@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:pagreen@jackson.k12.ms.us), calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at HYPERLINK "<http://www.jackson.k12.ms.us>".

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Terry Road

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### RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

## UTICA

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Week of November 25, 2018



*National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Central MS Chapter*

# *S.T.A.R.S. in Hats and Heels*

## *27<sup>th</sup> Annual Top Hat Brunch*

**Hilton Jackson Hotel • November 24, 2018 • Jackson, MS**

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON







# FILM REVIEW: INSTANT FAMILY

## ALTRUISTIC COUPLE ADOPTS THREE SIBLINGS IN INSPIRATIONAL, REAL- LIFE DRAMA

By Kam Williams  
*Columnist*

Pete (Mark Wahlberg) and Ellie Wagner (Rose Byrne) are speculators who make a living flipping real estate in their hometown of Atlanta. The couple’s latest acquisition is a fixer-upper with five bedrooms they hope to sell to Ellie’s sister Kim (Allyn Rachel) and brother-in-law Russ (Tom

Segura). However, Kim and Russ aren’t in the market for a house that needs so much work. Furthermore, they’re childless with no plans to start a family. So, they simply have no use for a place that large. Pete and Ellie don’t have kids either, but they have been seriously considering adoption. In fact, they’ve even been

checking out photos of available orphans online. Next thing you know, they’re visiting a foster care facility during an adoption fair run by administrators Karen (Octavia Spencer) and Sharon (Tig Notaro). While being escorted around the grounds, Pete hits it off with Lizzy (Isabela Moner), a headstrong, 15 year-old obviously in need of a father figure.

Trouble is, Lizzy has been serving as a surrogate mother to her little brother (Gustavo Quiroz) and sister (Julianna Gamiz), and she doesn’t want to be separated from her siblings. Do the Wagners have enough love in their hearts to adopt all three? Of course they do, and the ensuing adjustment to parenthood is the sum and substance

of Instant Family, an inspirational biopic co-written and directed by Sean Anders. The semi-autobiographical adventure is based on Anders own real-life experience. To its credit, Instant Family does tackle a variety of serious themes ranging from drug abuse, to sexual abuse, to racial tolerance, even if the issues are generally resolved fairly easily.

An uplifting adventure apt to lead to an uptick in applications for adoptions. Very Good (3 stars) Rated PG-13 for sexuality, profanity, drug references and mature themes Running time: 118 minutes Production Studio: Closest to the Hole Productions Studio: Paramount Pictures

# Kam’s Kapsules

Weekly previews that make choosing a film fun

By Kam Williams  
*Columnist*

For movies opening November 30, 2018  
**Wide Releases**  
**The Possession of Hannah Grace** (R for terror and gruesome images) Kirby Johnson plays the title character in this suspense thriller about a cop (Shay Mitchell) who has horrifying visions when she starts working the graveyard shift at a city morgue. With Stana Katic, Nick Thune and Grey Damon.  
**Independent & Foreign Films**  
**Anna and the Apocalypse** (R for profanity, sexuality, violence and gore) Horror comedy about a teenager (Ella Hunt) who joins forces with her BFF (Malcolm Cumming) to fight the horde of zombies invading their hometown at Christmastime. With Sarah Swire, Ben Wiggins and Mark Benton.  
**Bathtubs over Broadway** (PG-13 for brief profanity) Quirky documentary following comedy writer Steve Young on his quest to collect rare, industrial musical albums. Featuring Florence Henderson, David Letman, Martin Short and Chita

Rivera.  
**Head Full of Honey** (PG-13 for profanity, mature themes and suggestive material) English language adaptation of Honig im Kopf, the 2014 German film about a young woman (Sophie Lane Nolte) who takes her grandfather suffering from Alzheimer’s (Nick Nolte) on a trip to Venice. With Emily Mortimer, Matt Dillon, Eric Roberts and Jacqueline Bisset.  
**The Man Who Mends Women** (Unrated) Reverential biopic about Dr. Denis Mukwege Mukengere, the altruistic gynecologist who, for the past 20 years, has treated thousands of disfigured and traumatized rape victims of the Congo’s civil war. Narrated by Martin Spinlayer, and featuring commentary by Hillary Clinton.  
**Mirai** (PG for scary images and mature themes) Animated fantasy about a 4 year-old boy (Haru Kuroki) who discovers a magical garden which enables him to time-travel to meet relatives from different eras. Voice cast includes Gen Hoshino, Koji Yakusho and Kumiko Aso. (In Japanese with subtitles)  
**No Shade** (Unrated) Romantic dramedy about a successful black

photographer (Adele Oni) frustrated by the fact that the color of her skin is the only thing preventing the man of her dreams (Kadeem Pearson) from falling in love with her. With Sharea Samuels, Judith Jacob and Jade Asha.  
**People’s Republic of Desire** (Unrated) Cultural expose’ chronicling the evolution of China into a country where virtual reality and social media have become more important than real-life human relationships. (In Mandarin with subtitles)  
**Sicilian Ghost Story** (Unrated) Romantic fantasy about a 12 year-old girl (Julia Jedlikowska) who embarks on a search for the classmate (Gaetano Fernandez) she has a crush on after he mysteriously disappears in an enchanted forest. With Corinne Musallari, Andrea Falzone and Lorenzo Curcio. (In Italian with subtitles)  
**Unstoppable** (Unrated) Korean crime saga about a legendary gangster (Don Lee) who comes out of retirement to rescue his kidnapped wife (Ji-hyo Song) from the clutches of a ruthless mob syndicate. Cast includes Noo-Ri Bae, Min-jae Kim and Seong-oh Kim. (In Korean with subtitles).

### Sudoku

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

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

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(For puzzle answer keys, see page 14)

### Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Patrick Swayze

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Q																									

Y I O B Y D U D U Y O J B Q O P O J U O B  
Y D H D U Y E W O J U O O O B B P M T I O B J  
T B I M Q T U O B O P O V O U B G F P O B  
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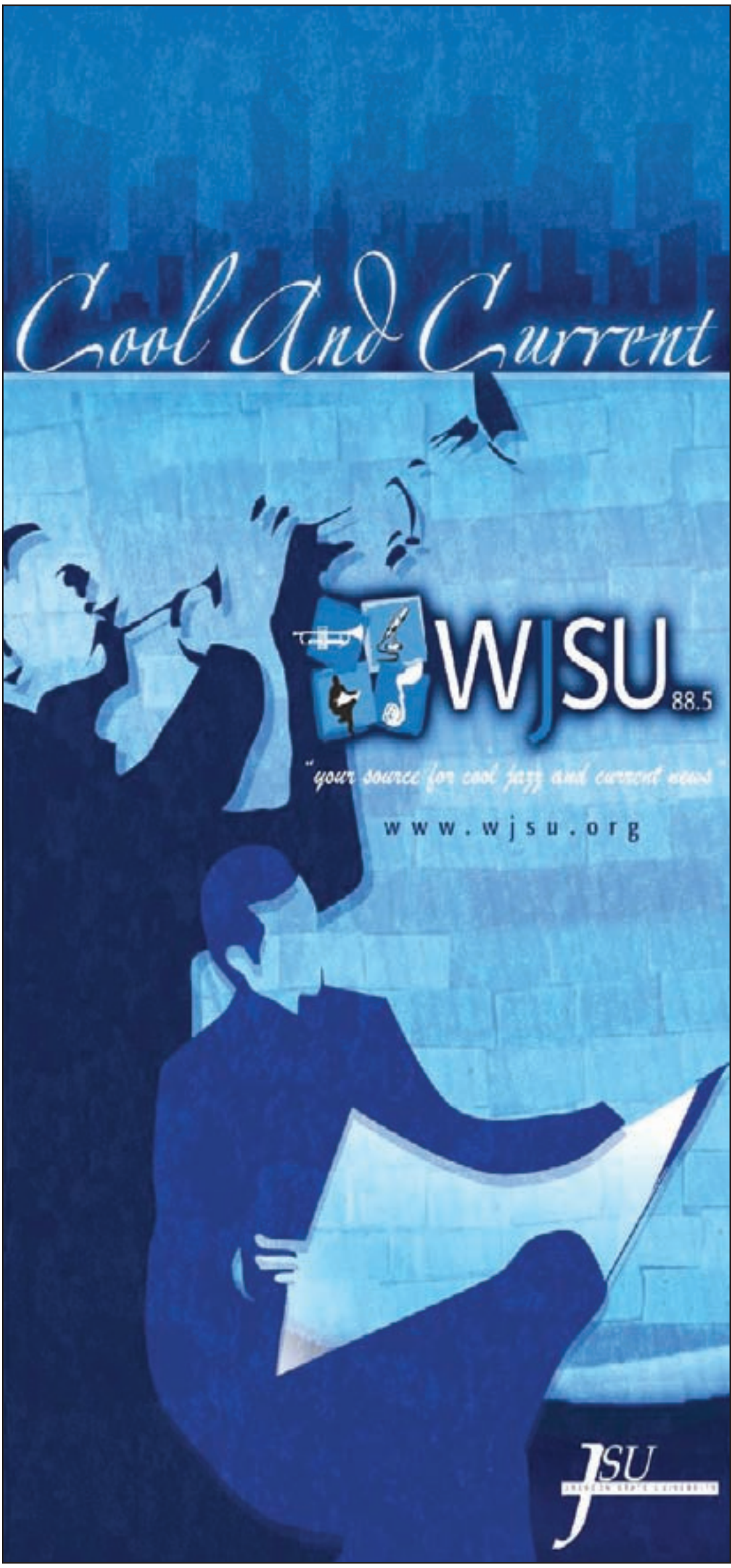
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# Espy Senate Run Off Election Coverage

## November 27 • Mississippi Civil Rights Museum • Jackson, MS

PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY



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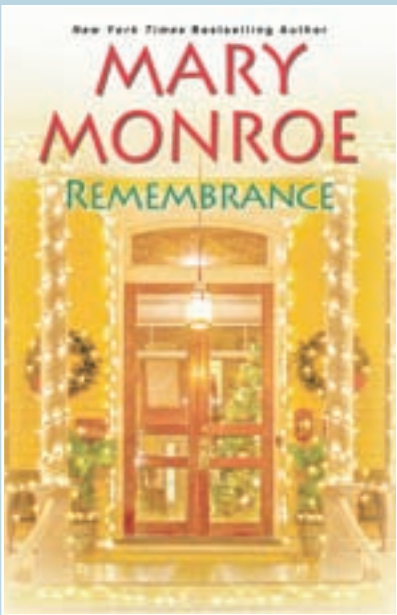
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By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
*Columnist*

For weeks, you’ve been scouring the stores. You have a lot to give.

Most of it is wrapped up colorfully, beribboned and bowed. Some gifts are in bags with shiny trim, while others are tucked away in closets. You have a lot to give this holiday season, but in the new novel, “Remembrance” by Mary Monroe, when you give of yourself, you also get.

Beatrice Powell couldn’t understand what was wrong with

people.

When she married Eric all those years ago, he told her that she could do whatever she wanted, as long as it made her happy – and so she found an excuse to throw dozens of annual parties. The biggest one was her Christmas-birthday celebration and everyone always had a good time. This year, though, all her usual guests made other plans that weekend.

This year, Bea had extra to celebrate.

It was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the day she almost

died of a hit-and-run accident, a date that she could never forget. She was still a teenager then; only the CPR skills of a handsome but anonymous man had saved her.

Each anniversary, that day weighed on Bea’s mind and she gave of herself in gratitude for her life. Because Eric’s business was successful, she didn’t have to work for money; instead, she worked at Sister Cecile’s soup kitchen, and helped feed the homeless. It was a job that fulfilled her soul, and she tried to lift up the people she served

with smiles and little kindnesses.

But while she put on a cheery face at the shelter, this party-not-party bothered her. Her three grown children couldn’t attend, her parents were going on a cruise, even her so-called best friends were declining.

Was her mama right, that there were too many parties? Did her oldest friend have a point, that Bea was too self-focused? Was she bored with her marriage, and was it time to separate from her husband? Could an angel in disguise soothe her mind?

The holidays can bring the kind of chaos, good and bad, that occupies your brain. It’s easy to forget to bring your gratitude. “Remembrance” has that covered.

For an adult who likes quick, painless novels at a time when reading might feel like a luxury, author Mary Monroe offers a book that’s easy to grab and finish. “Remembrance” is as uncomplicated as they come, which is nice when your mind is on other things: it’s perfect for starting and stopping as time warrants. It’s filled with just


enough drama to keep you reading and a good amount of characters that are basically pretty simple, but the story is not boring. Readers should also know that the plot is on the unsophisticated side and predictable, but not entirely so.

In short, this short little book is an excellent choice if your book group wants to squeeze in a before-the-holidays pick. It’s perfect for tucking in your handbag, and those wait-times you’ll have. Because, of course, you need that now, “Remembrance” is worth giving a try.

# Hinds County School District Weekly Update

## ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

### Hinds County School District implements Clear-bag Policy at athletic events



November 12, 2018

Dear Parents, Students, Faculty, Staff and Community Fans:

The Hinds County School District is dedicated to the safety and welfare of all students, staff, and visitors. Throughout the years, the district has initiated several safety and security procedures to strengthen campus security at all of our schools. In an effort to provide a safe and secure environment for our parents, community members, students and staff, we will implement a Clear Bag Policy. The policy will go into effect on **Monday, November 5, 2018**. The policy will cover all on-campus activities, including athletic events.

Utilizing a screening process that includes a clear bag policy will enhance safety inside athletic venues and speed the screening process along. The clear bag is easily and quickly searched and greatly reduces faulty bag searches. This process also supports the Department of Homeland Security's "If You See Something, Say Something" campaign.

Guests are encouraged not to bring any types of bags inside HCSO athletic facilities; however, the following bags are permitted:

- Bags that are clear plastic, vinyl or PVC and do not exceed 12" x 6" x 12";
- One-gallon clear plastic freezer bags (Ziploc bag or similar); and
- Small clutch bags, with or without a handle or strap, that do not exceed 4.5" x 6.5" (approximately the size of a hand).
- An exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection at a gate designated for this purpose.

We are living in a difficult time requiring difficult decisions from school districts. While these changes present an inconvenience to our students and parents, we must continue to be vigilant to protect the safety of our students and staff.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours in Education,

Delescia Martin, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Education  
Hinds County School District

**HINDS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**CLEAR BAG POLICY**

APPROVED BAGS	PROHIBITED ITEMS
 12" x 6" x 12" Clear Bag	<b>BAGS THAT DO NOT MEET THE HINDS CLEAR BAG POLICY</b>
 Clear Backpack	<b>WEAPONS</b>
 4.5" x 6.5" Clutch Bag	<b>THROWABLE OBJECTS, INCLUDING BALLS</b>
 Clear Tote Bag	<b>NON-SERVICE ANIMALS</b>
	<b>OUTSIDE FOOD, BEVERAGES, COOLERS, OR CONTAINERS</b>
	<b>MASKS</b>
	<b>ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, OR ILLEGAL DRUGS</b>
	<b>NON-COMPLIANT ARTIFICIAL INSECTICIDES, INCLUDING WHETSLAS, AIR HORN, AND AIRPUNIS</b>

### Community Bank lending coordinator addressed Raymond High Upward Bound students

Elaine Toney, community lending coordinator with Community Bank addressed students at Raymond High School on Financial Literacy last week. Topics discussed included how to establish good credit, your credit score and how to budget your money. The program is designed to offer consumer education to young people in school and in the community. The program offers several financial education topics that prepares students to be more bank-smart.

The students attending this session are part of the Hinds Community College-Utica Campus Upward Bound program. The program is designed to assist low-income, first generation college bound high school students in the successful completion of secondary education and to prepare them academically for enrollment by offering enrichment programs such as the financial literacy piece. The program is in its second year at RHS and THS and is coordinated by Natalie Russell, Upward Bound director.



Pictured L-R Back Row: Catherine Guerdon, reading-language arts interventionist; Natalie Russell, Upward Bound director; Tenicia Boone, math Interventionist; Arneisha Page; Rachel Burleigh; NaKiera Coleman; and Lakesha Harmon, academic champion. Front Row: Johnathan Britt; Tiara Johnson; Elaine Toney, community bank lending coordinator; Gernicia Jones; Kera Turner; O'Myah Clark; and Mya Scott



Elaine Toney, community lending coordinator with Community Bank addressed students at Raymond High School

### Dola “DJ” Greer, bus driver for RES & CMS, named Bus Driver of the Month



Pictured L-R: Curtis Washington, director of Transportation – Durham Services; Dola Greer, Bus Driver of the Month; Carolyn Samuel, board secretary – District 5; Bobby Taylor, principal-RES; and Deborah Newman, principal-CMS.



Erika Vazquez-Masters, substitute teacher at Utica Elementary Middle School, named Substitute Teachers of the Month

Pictured L-R: La'Tesha Roby, assistant principal-UEMS; Erika Vazquez-Masters, Substitute Teacher of the Month-UEMS; and Carolyn Samuel, board secretary – District 5.



Pamela Myles, bookkeeper at Utica Elementary Middle School, named Employee of the Month

Pictured L-R: La'Tesha Roby, assistant principal-UEMS; Pamela Myles, Employee of the Month-UEMS; Timothy Myles, chief of police-Utica; and Carolyn Samuel, board secretary – District 5.

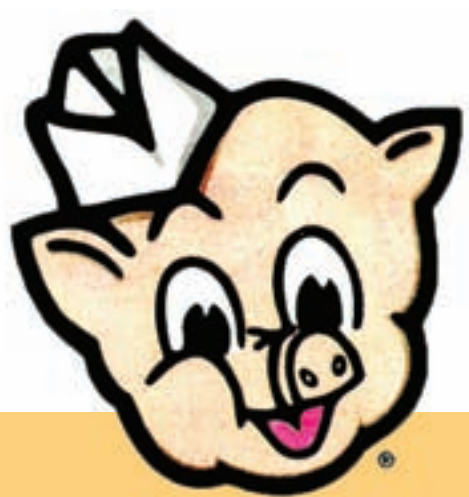


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