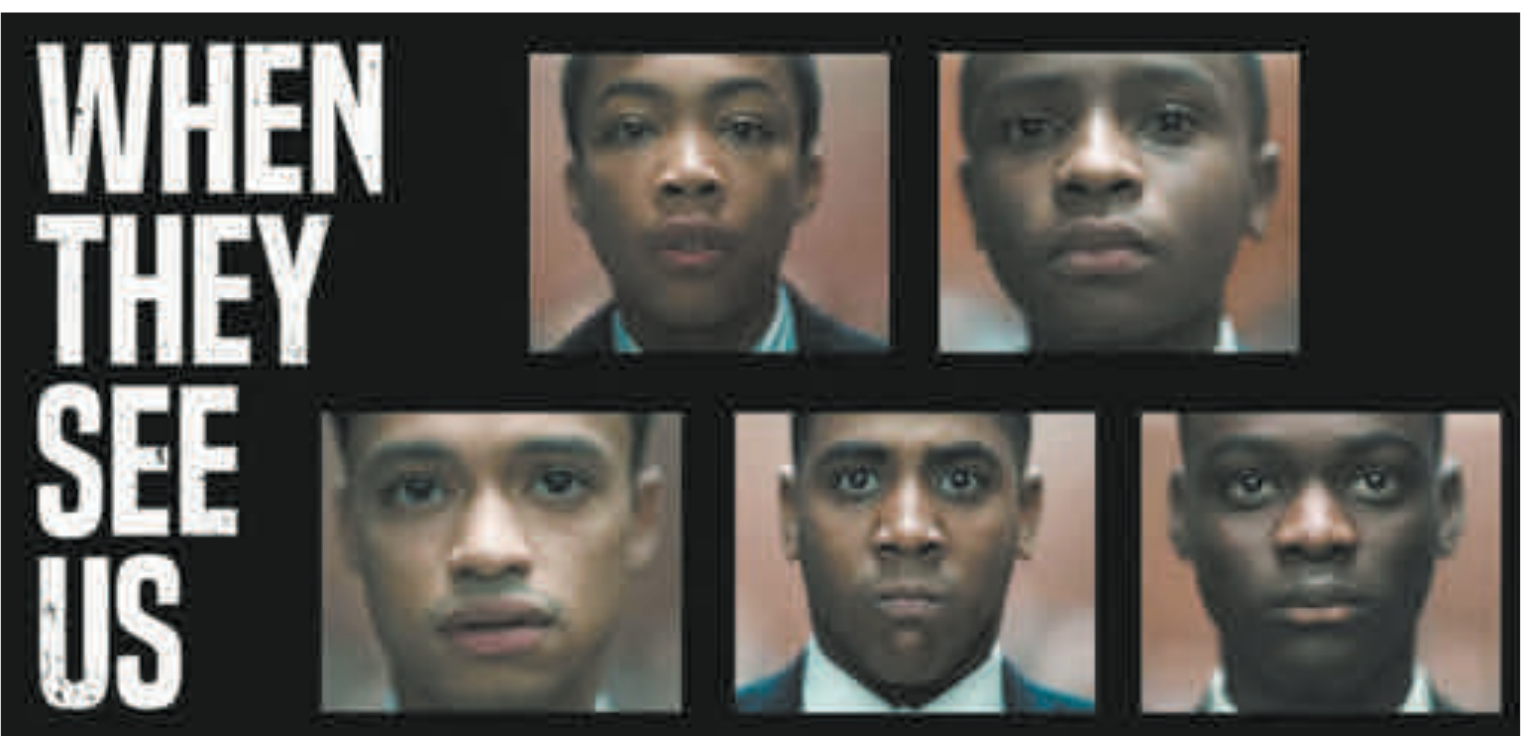


Ava DuVernay’s “When They See Us” wins mass attention for focus on falsely accused Central Park Five



By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The painful true stories of five falsely accused young men, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana, Kevin Richardson, Antron McCray and Korey Wise, has been brought to light in excruciatingly vivid detail by director Ava DuVernay. The group known as the Central Park Five would receive 6 to 13 years in prison.

“When They See Us,” is DuVernay’s new mini-series, featured exclusively on Netflix, depicting the story of the Central Park Five. Her new film features the infamous 1989 case of five boys of color who were falsely accused of the rape of Trisha Meili, a white female jogger

who was then an investment banker. The story was reminiscent of the Scottsboro Boys case in 1931 in terms of being a rabid miscarriage of justice that stereotyped men of color as sexual predators.

On May 1, 1989, Donald Trump called for the return of the death penalty in reference to the Central Park Five in full-page ads in all four of the city’s major newspapers. Trump has never admitted he was wrong about the Central Park Five though he has been asked about the case multiple times.

The members of the “Central Park Five” were coerced into confessing to a crime they did not commit and implicating each other as police detectives

subjected them to lengthy interviews and interrogations.

In 2002, Matias Reyes, a convicted murderer and serial rapist who was in prison, confessed to the crime the Central Park Five were convicted of and his DNA matched evidence found at the scene.

The five convictions of Salaam, Santana, Richardson, McCray and Wise were vacated after more than a decade. In 2014, New York City reached a \$40 million settlement with the Central Park Five after Mayor Mike Bloomberg blocked their payout for ten years.

As DuVernay’s film gained viewers and momentum and waves of publicity, Linda Fairstein, the main prosecutor of the

Central Park Five, was dropped by her publisher Dutton, an imprint of Penguin Random House, June 7. Fairstein has never apologized or admitted there was a wrongful prosecution in the case.

Several prosecutors and detectives have avoided discussing the series.

The five men are pursuing an additional \$52 million in damages from New York State in the New York Court of Claims.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist and writer for NNPA as well as a political analyst and strategist as Principal of Win Digital Media LLC. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

Alice Bernstein/ Freedom and Order: The Quilt Masterpieces of Gee’s Bend



By Alice Bernstein
Historian

A new exhibition has just opened at the Philadelphia Museum of Art: “Souls Grown Deep: Artists of the African-American South.” It includes sculpture, painting, and some of the amazing Gee’s Bend Quilts.

As the public has a new chance to view these quilts, I want people to know of a thrilling class taught by Aesthetic Realism Consultant and artist, Marcia Rackow in which she described the beauty of so many of them and placed their importance as art and for people’s lives.

In the museum/gallery classes she teaches, The Visual Arts and the Opposites, the art of the world is studied – from the masters at the Metropolitan Museum, treasures of African art, to the latest works showing in New York’s galleries – based on the great principle stated by Eli Siegel, founder of the education Aesthetic Realism: “All beauty is a making one of opposites, and the making one of opposites is what we are going after in ourselves.”

The particular class which I tell of now and was happy

Quilts

Continued on page 3

Hinds County Human Resource Agency unveils Annual Report during National Community Action Month Celebration

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In honor of National Community Action Month, Hinds County Human Resource Agency (HCHRA) met with its board of directors and sustaining partners to report on the agency’s achievements this past year. Observed annually in May, National Community Action Month was created by the Community Action Partnership to call attention to the Community Action programs that help thousands of families achieve self-sufficiency.

During the May 15 dinner meeting, HCHRA leaders showcased their 2018 accomplishments and gave partners a first-hand look at the struggles low-income families face. HCHRA showed how community action agencies such as theirs empower these families to become self-reliant.

Guests got the first look at the agency’s 2018 annual report, which detailed the outcomes of more than a dozen community action programs operated by HCHRA. The report revealed that of the more than 239,000 people residing in Hinds County, approximately 48,378 live in pov-



David Knight promoting collaboration

erty. Last year, HCHRA provided home energy assistance, nutrition, transportation, education and employment opportunities to over 14,000 disadvantaged

citizens in 4,000 different households to help families and individuals become stable and more self-reliant.

Perhaps the most notable occurrence for HCHRA in 2018



Roger Lutrell presenting annual report

was the overhaul to its customer service model. Roger Lutrell, vice president for planning and development, explained how the agency merged its social and community service program

divisions to create the newly formed Department of Family Opportunities to conduct family assessments in a thorough, more efficient way to promote sustainability and/or self-sufficiency for

everyone in the home, not just for the individual who walks through the doors of the agency.

Following Lutrell’s presentation, David Knight, the agency’s executive vice president and chief operations officer, talked about HCHRA’s investments in staff training and development, new technology, and facility maintenance and upgrades to help make sure the agency provided the right opportunities for success to produce even greater outcomes than the year before.

Knight also talked about the cooperative agreements the agency established with 78 different community partners to ensure that HCHRA was able to link customers with any service they may need that is not provided directly by HCHRA.

“While we can’t be all things to all people, as a community action agency, we should be able to refer people to a community partner where they can get help with the services we do not provide,” said Knight. “And that’s what we do; we link people with re-

Hinds

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Inside

Tired of city’s boil-water alerts? JSU student’s patented straw filters lead, other contaminants



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BTTM FDRS



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From the NFL to doctorate in medicine, ASU alumnus Nate Hughes talks sports, education and living two childhood dreams



Hughes

The Mississippi Link Newswire

A former standout Alcorn State University football star that successfully transitioned to the medical field is enjoying the fruits of his labor with his most recent accomplishment.

Nate Hughes, who earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Alcorn in 2008, recently received a doctorate in medicine from the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, Mississippi. Over the next two years, Hughes will participate in a residency that will train him to become an anesthesiologist. He will spend the first year of his training at UMMC before leaving for Rutgers University in New Jersey to complete his second year.

Studying medicine and becoming an athlete has always been at the forefront of Huges' life.

"I've always been attracted to the medical field, even when I was a child," said Hughes, a Macon, Mississippi native. "I grew up in a household where my mom was into sports and education, and my dad was into the medical field. So, I had the best of both worlds in my home."

Throughout his athletic days as a football player and track & field runner, Hughes made frequent trips to the hospital to repair injuries he suffered during various competitions. Despite the pain, those trips proved to be beneficial in furthering his fascination with the medical field.

"I had multiple surgeries. I tore a labrum in both of my arms, dislocated my ankle, and had a few more small procedures. Undergoing those surgeries and being around doctors furthered my passion for the medical field even more."

Being in medical school presents challenges that every student must find the will to conquer. The most pressing hurdle that Hughes had to overcome was being away from his family for extended periods.

"The biggest challenge was being separated from my family, who lives in Mobile, Alabama. I would see them once every two to three weeks. I missed out on a lot of my children's milestones. That, including long hours of studying, was hard at times. The environment that medical school provides can be mentally taxing."

Before Hughes focused solely on the medical field, he had a career as a football player. After an exceptional stint as the Braves' leading receiver, Hughes went on to the NFL where he played with the Cleveland Browns, Kansas City Chiefs, Jacksonville Jaguars and the Detroit Lions from 2008 to 2012. He recounts his experience as one that was demanding, but favorable to his future in terms of networking and enhancing his work ethic.

"It was different from my college experience because it felt more like a job. As an undrafted player who can be

cut at any moment, you have to show up every day with your best because if you don't, it could be your last day on the team. It was a stressful environment at times, but I made lots of friends and got to know a lot of people in high places. So the league turned out to be good for me."

Hughes went into the NFL knowing what route he would take after his football career was over. He encourages other athletes to have plans they can pursue once their athletic careers come to an end.

"Having a plan after your athletic career is very important. You have to realize that football and other sports are tools to help jumpstart your life. It helps you to get the money you need to put yourself in a comfortable financial situation. It helps put you in particular circles that could lead to more exposure. That way, you can live comfortably while pursuing your post-athletic dreams."

The boy who used to have big dreams has grown into the man who brought those dreams into fruition with hard work and dedication. Hughes is thankful for the journey and is looking forward to the future.

"It's incredible. When you set your goals and work hard to achieve them, you don't realize how well you're doing. Accomplishing both goals has been a fun ride. It has been an awesome journey."



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Hinds

Continued from page 1



Stakeholders at Community Action Month dinner

sources and opportunities.”

Some of HCHRA’s major accomplishments for 2018 include educating 2,247 children through its preschool education program; providing the training and support for 54 classroom staff persons to meet the standards necessary to become certified under the Classroom Assessment Scoring System, which measures the quality of interactions between teachers and students in PK-12 classrooms; improving access to medical and dental care for Head Start children; providing 3,281 families with energy, fuel and utility assistance; delivering 19,285 meals to senior citizens and people with disabilities who are unable to leave home without assistance; serving 6,631 congregate meals to senior citizens to promote health and well-being and transporting 35,673 individuals to work, school and doctor’s appointments. “I am very proud of the work we do here at HCHRA and the impact we made in 2018,” said Kenn Cockrell, the president and CEO of HCHRA. In addition to helping families live better lives, we made a \$35.7 million economic impact in Hinds County in wages, taxes, job development and contract opportunities. HCHRA is truly living up to its mantra of helping families, strengthening communities.”

A limited number of copies of the 2018 Annual Report are available at Hinds County Human Resource Agency. A copy of the full report is also available on the agency’s website at www.hchra.org.

To request a copy or get more information about the Hinds County Human Resource Agency 2018 Annual Report, call HCHRA’s Planning and Development Department at 601 923-3930.

Church of God in Christ, Mississippi Southern First Jurisdiction to focus on faith, youth and families during its 110th Holy Convocation

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Southern First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ will host its 110th Holy Convocation, July 8-12, 2019, in the metro Jackson, Miss. area.

An annual celebration, the five-day convocation is expected to attract more than 2,000 people.

“This is a week we look forward to each year. It’s a time where we come together as the Body of Christ to worship our Savior, fellowship, learn and grow,” said Jurisdictional Prelate, Bishop Daniel T. Littleton. “We work to empower clergy and laity to be more effective in ministry so that they can return home and make positive changes in their local communities.”

For the first time in the Jurisdiction’s history, this year, the Convocation will start with a Youth and Family Night outing. “We are so excited to partner with the Mississippi Braves; and for the opportunity for our families to come together, pray for youth everywhere and then enjoy each other,” said Elder Fred Davis, the Jurisdiction’s youth department president.

The Youth and Family Night will be held Monday, July 8 at Trustmark Park in Pearl, Miss. “The gates will open at 5 p.m. In addition to prayer, our Jurisdictional Recording Choir will provide entertainment during a live concert before the game which starts at 6:30 p.m. The game will feature in-state rivals, the M-Braves and Biloxi Shuckers.”

The conference also includes a free two-day youth camp for children. “That’s going to be held at our member church, Greater Deliverance COGIC in Byram, Miss. Tuesday and Wednesday.”

Other faith building services will be held in Jackson and will bring in national and regional speakers, including Evangelist Renee’ Murray of Michigan, Bishop Jerry Taylor of Memphis, Tenn. and Bishop Brandon Porter, a general board member for the Church of God in Christ, Inc.

The week of activities are as following:

Monday
Youth and Family Night, Trustmark Park, Pearl, Miss. Gates open at 5 p.m.

Tuesday
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Youth Camp, Greater Deliverance COGIC, 110 Holiday Lane, Byram, Miss.

10 a.m. Morning Worship
7:30 p.m. Evening Worship Davis Temple COGIC, 1700 Dalton Street, Jackson, Miss.

Wednesday
8 a.m.-4 p.m. Youth Camp, Greater Deliverance COGIC, 110 Holiday Lane, Byram, Miss.

10 a.m. Morning Worship
7:30 p.m. Evening Worship, Davis Temple COGIC, 1700 Dalton Street, Jackson, Miss.

Thursday
8 a.m. Secretary’s Workshop, Davis Temple COGIC, 1700 Dalton Street, Jackson, Miss.

10 a.m. Morning Worship
7 p.m. Evening Worship, Jackson Convention Complex, 105 East Pascagoula Street, Jackson, Miss.

Friday
10 a.m. Morning Worship
7 p.m. Evening Worship
10 p.m. Musical, Jackson Convention Complex, 105 East Pascagoula Street, Jackson, Miss.

All activities and services are open to the public. Youth and Family Night Out tickets can be purchased directly from the Mississippi Braves by requesting the “We Are One Ticket,” or by calling 888 647-3614.

For additional information, please email info@weareonecogic.com or call 888 647-3614.

Quilts

Continued from page 1

to attend in 2003 was taught by Ms. Rackow at the Whitney Museum’s exhibition “Gee’s Bend: The Women and Their Quilts,” which included 70 quilts made from 1920-1990 by descendants of slaves in rural Gee’s Bend, Alabama. Astounding in their variety and ingenuity they were described by one critic as “some of the most miraculous works of modern art America has produced.” They came to national attention with the Freedom Quilting Bee, a cooperative arising from the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s, and were sold at Bloomingdale’s and Sak’s, providing income for the quiltmakers. But they were largely forgotten until the 1990s, when they were rediscovered by art collector William Arnett and his family – and led to travelling shows which have been touring museums ever since.

Rackow described the African-American women who made the quilts, and whose families were tenant farmers on the former Pettway plantation. Most grew up in log cabins with walls covered with newspapers and magazines to keep out wind and cold. Here quilting, handed down over four generations, was a necessity of life, making use of old, worn-out clothes, remnants, cotton sheets and feed sacks. In a documentary shown at the Whitney, women told how nothing was thrown away: “There were no extras. We were so poor, you couldn’t imagine it.” Some walked many miles a day working in the fields.

Yet in the midst of misfortune and pain they made these beautiful quilts. All art, Siegel was the philosopher to explain, arises from the deepest desire in every person: “to like the world honestly.” We saw stirring evidence for this as Rackow discussed the designs and technique of many quilts. “Out of a life of great hardship,” she said, “these women show the indomitable desire to like the world, give form to it – beautiful form.”

She read these questions about Freedom and Order from Siegel’s historic Fifteen Questions, “Is Beauty the Making One of Opposites?”:

“Does every instance of beauty in nature and beauty as the artist presents it have something unrestricted, unexpected, uncontrolled? – and does this beautiful thing in nature or beautiful thing coming from the artist’s mind have, too, something accurate, sensible, logically justifiable, which can be called order?”

Said Rackow, “There is a terrific sense of symmetry and order in the quilts, and also something very unexpected, free, even mischievous.” She discussed Arcola Pettway’s “Lazy Gal” Variation 1976, a Bicentennial quilt composed like an American flag – a drama in corduroy stripes of intense, vibrant colors and also cool colors. While the pattern is regular – horizontal bands of stripes, she pointed to subtle and unexpected color combinations – one dark blue horizontal strip next to the brown is restful, but next to red it vibrates. “There is,” she said, “a true spirit of independence in the way the women quilted.”

This was visually evident in varieties of classic and often used designs: Chinese Coins, Flying Geese, Housetop and Lazy Gal, which I liked very much. Yet each work is unique. Annie Mae Young said: “I never did like the book patterns....I like big pieces and long strips. However I get them, that’s how I used them. I work it out, study the way to...find the colors and the shapes and certain fabrics that work out right.”

Loretta Pettway’s “Medallion” (1960), made of synthetic knit and cotton sacking is one of the most

dramatic and beautiful. Said Ms. Rackow, “It looks so modern in its design. On a black background there is a narrow white rectangular border – very simple, with a rectangular shape in the center. The white band is wild – it doesn’t follow the outside shape but curves and dances in space. There are curving rows of white stitching on the black, like tiny stars in the night.”

“The rectangular shape in the center,” she pointed out, “is created by two columns of lively colored stripes – vertical on the left, horizontal on the right. Lavender, pale green, orange, bright red and black, are in a free, vibrant relation. There is an optical effect of almost opposite colors: lavender and orange and the sweetness and acidity of lavender again with green. There’s a terrific interplay of surface and depth: we go into darkness and emerge from it. It is very orderly and symmetrical, but also wonderfully mischievous: the shapes are not quite rectangular. and the stripes are uneven and curve in space. The regular is irregular, in motion. It is an amazing work.”

Rackow continued, “The women who made these quilts came to expression that shows the desire for aesthetics in the human spirit. These quilts, in their form and beauty, are an implicit criticism of the brutal economic and racial injustice these women endured.”

I have learned from Aesthetic Realism that unless the opposites of freedom and order, or freedom and justice are together, horrors result. Slaveowners in the South, after all, felt it was their freedom to own other human beings.

I have also learned that we all have a choice when we see something in the world that is ugly and can’t be liked – we will use it either for contempt or respect. With all these women saw and endured, they made art in these beautiful quilts. There is good freedom, even something critical – things are shaken up – but that shaking up is in behalf of respect and true order.

I was moved to tears by Lutisha Pettway’s “Bars,” 1950, denim and cotton 80x84 inches. A memorial to her husband who died, it is made from his only possessions: work clothes. The worn out, faded areas, bleach stains, dark places where pockets and cuffs were removed, become elements of a large design. Nine vertical columns of pant legs and sleeves, patches filling out holes, and here and there a synopated horizontal band – all make for a tremendously alive feeling: a oneness of presence and unbearable absence. Through the energetic rhythms of fabric, what emerges from the worn cloth is something that puts together abstract design and deep emotion.

What I saw and learned in this wonderful class brought to my mind these lines from Siegel’s poem, “Let the Seeing Go On,” lines I see as standing for the Gee’s Bend artists and their quilts:

Take worn and tattered something
And show it, too, unworn, untattered,
unimpeached;
Seen largely.

Alice Bernstein is a journalist, Aesthetic Realism Associate, civil rights historian and editor/co-author of the book, *Aesthetic Realism & the Answer to Racism*. Consultant and art educator Marcia Rackow is on the faculty of the not-for-profit Aesthetic Realism Foundation.

Learn more at: www.AestheticRealism.org

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- 3) **Proof of Hinds County residency** - lease, mortgage statement, current utility bill (light, water, gas or sewer), current phone or cable bill
- 4) **Child's Social Security number**
- 5) **Medical insurance of child (if applicable)**
- 6) **IEP or IFSP (if applicable)**
- 7) **Legal guardianship (if applicable)**
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For more information about Head Start, call (601) 923-2940.

To apply, call HCHRA's 24-hour automated appointment line at (601) 963-5935.

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Pecan Park Elementary principal Wanda Quon recognized as Practitioner Of Distinction



Quon

Mississippi Link Newswire

The University of Mississippi School of Education honored Pecan Park Elementary Principal Wanda Quon as a Practitioner of Distinction during a recent awards ceremony. Quon was one of four School of Education alumni selected for the honor, held by only 12 elite educators as of 2019.

The Practitioner of Distinction Award was created to recognize current practitioners in teaching, leadership, counseling and higher education. Each recipient has demonstrated exemplary and measurable impact within the profession.

Practitioners of Distinction honorees were selected by the University of Mississippi's School of Education Alumni Advisory Board through nominations made by the School of Education community. "Ole Miss challenged me," Quon



The 2019 Practitioners of Distinction include (from left) Jamil Northcutt, vice pres., Major Soccer League, West Orange, New Jersey; Wanda Quon, principal, Pecan Park Elementary; David Rock, dean, University of Mississippi School of Education; Angela Victory, teacher, New Albany Elementary School, New Albany, Mississippi; and Adam Pugh, superintendent, Lafayette County School District, Oxford, Mississippi.

said. "It made me step out of my comfort zone. When you're challenged like that you see your strengths and also your limitations. I learned how to cope with my limitations, which prepared me for the future."

Quon received her bachelor's degree from Ole Miss in 1974. As principal of

Pecan Park Elementary School, she led her school from a D rating to a B rating in recent years. She has worked to encourage health and fitness in her students by leading a fundraiser with 200 volunteers that built a playground in one day and partnered with the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation to build

a walking track on campus.

Because of her health and fitness efforts, Quon's school was the first Jackson Public School to be visited by Former First Lady Michelle Obama. Pecan Park Elementary School students were later invited to attend the White House Easter Egg Roll.

JPS appoints executive director of Climate and Wellness



Thomas

Mississippi Link Newswire

Amanda Thomas has been named executive director of Climate and Wellness. The JPS School Board approved her appointment at its June 4 regular meeting. The effective date of her new role in the district is July 1 for the 2019-2020 school year.

Thomas has proven her commitment to the students and parents of Jackson Public Schools through 21 years of service in the district. Her teaching career began at French Elementary. She later moved to Boyd and McWillie Elementary Schools where she taught Montessori, a program she helped to establish in JPS. After teaching for nine years, Thomas became the assistant principal of the Montessori program, serving both McWillie and Van Winkle Elementary Schools. Her leadership skills led her to the principal position at Woodville Heights Elementary, the assistant principal position at Sykes Elementary and to the position as the district's lead interventionist.

Most recently, Thomas has served as the director of Multi-Tiered System of Supports. In that role, she has been an advocate for children with academic and behavior deficits and has ensured that students received intervention services. She has worked closely with school level interventionists and positive behavior chairs and conducted numerous sessions on classroom management and behavior management for teachers.

Thomas received a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She received Master of Education and Education Specialist degrees in Leadership from Mississippi College.

Thomas will steward the newly envisioned Office of Climate and Wellness. As part of the district's restructure plan, Student Support Services will be repurposed to Climate and Wellness and its focus enlarged in the areas of climate, positive behavior intervention and supports and social-emotional supports.

"I am excited about this new role, and I believe that every school in this district can improve their culture by changing the environment," said Thomas.

JPS educator selected for two MCATE outstanding administrator awards



Grigsby

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University and Mississippi College have selected Kathleen Grigsby as their recipient of the Mississippi Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Outstanding Administrator Award 2018-2019. This high honor is bestowed upon one individual at each of the 15 Colleges/Universities in the State of Mississippi annually. As part of this recognition, she will receive her awards at MCATE's annual awards ceremony to be held Monday, July 8 during the Elevate Teachers Conference.

Grigsby has recently been promoted to serve as an assistant superintendent of Elementary Schools in

JPS. She was previously the principal of Barack Obama Magnet School, which has maintained its ranking as the No. 1 school in the state for consecutive years.

At Mississippi College, she was the first graduate of the school's doctoral program. She also holds a specialist degree from the college. She was also recognized as a distinguished alumna of her undergraduate alma mater, the University of Mississippi, and was inducted into the School of Education Hall of Fame. In 2017-2018, she was named the Jackson Public Schools Administrator of the Year and Administrator of the Year for the 2nd Congressional District of

Mississippi.

The Mississippi Association of Colleges for Teacher Education provides leadership in Mississippi for the continuing transformation of professional preparation programs for educators. Its purpose is to ensure competent and caring educators for all of Mississippi's children and youth.

The Mississippi Department of Education's Office of Teaching and Learning sponsors the annual Elevate Conference. This year's conference will be held at the Jackson Convention Complex in downtown Jackson. The conference is free to all teachers.

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Alcorn's School of Education and Psychology awarded over \$1.1 million grant



Carson

The Mississippi Link Newswire

A new grant at Alcorn State University that focuses on preparing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) students to enter the field of education will lead them a step closer to their dream.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded Alcorn's School of Education and Psychology over \$1.1 million in grant funding for the school's "Be Brave, Teach STEM: Building a Diverse Teacher STEM Workforce in Mississippi" program. The program is designed to follow the aim of the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program to ensure that talented STEM majors become K-12 mathematics and science teachers. The NSF grant will allow the university to serve as a STEM educator hub for rural southwest Mississippi.

LaShundia Carson, who served as the principal investigator on the grant, acknowledged her colleagues' efforts in helping to secure the monumental grant. The grant will not only benefit Alcorn, but also surrounding school districts such as Adams, Claiborne, Jefferson, Warren and Wilkinson Counties.

"I feel very appreciative to have been a part of the team that worked diligently to provide a new pathway to assist junior and senior STEM majors in becoming STEM teacher candidates," said Carson. "After speaking with Dr. Malinda Butler (former associate dean of the School), I felt compelled to address the lack of STEM teachers in high-need school districts. All students deserve to have qualified teachers, so it is equally exciting that we will be able to assist partner school districts by increasing the number of

STEM teachers needed in these critical shortage areas."

Carson also thanks Alcorn alumnus Mitchell Shears ('98) for sharing his grant writing experience to help their alma mater.

The four components of the Be Brave program will consist of Marketing, Recruiting and Selection; Pre-Noyce Scholars Support; Noyce Pre-Service Teacher-Scholars Support; and Novice Teachers Support.

The program will also build on the conceptual framework for the school. The school will implement the 5E Instructional Model, which is considered to be one of the most innovative approaches for effective classroom instruction. This model will be embedded in the project activities and contributes to the conceptual understanding of science and mathematics in pre-service teachers.

The school will award 36 scholarships to junior and senior STEM majors. Upon accepting the scholarships, students will be required to serve as STEM teachers in high-need school districts. Carson gave a brief description of how the school plans to equip its STEM student teachers.

"We will provide scholars with mentoring, intrusive advising, teacher boot camps, workshops and clinics. Students will also attend professional conferences and given support during their novice years as educators."

The project will allow the university to be creative in being strategically aligned with the strategies included in the Mississippi State Plan to Ensure Equitable Access to Excellent Educators and will serve as a national model for other minority-serving institutions, especially HBCUs.

BPAC announces Its 25th anniversary season

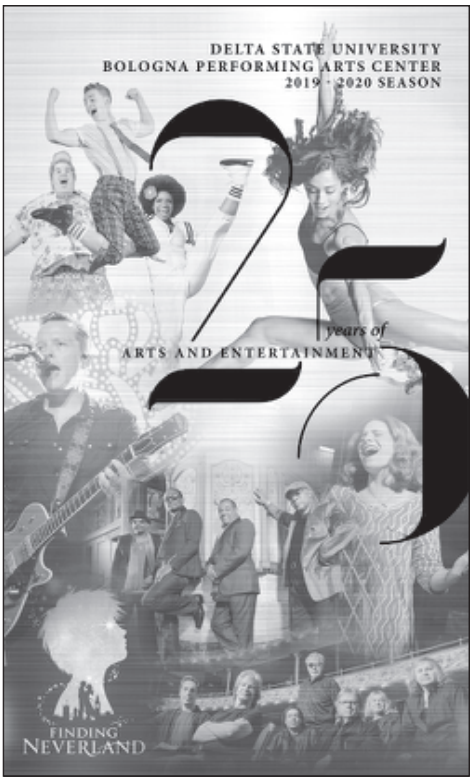
The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Bologna Performing Arts Center at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss., has recently announced its upcoming season of performances. The new season has two series: the Main Stage, featuring performances open to the public, and the School-Time Matinee Series for students and teachers. The 2019-2020 year marks the 25th season of performances at the Bologna Performing Arts Center (BPAC).

The Main Stage season begins Aug. 22 with *Kansas*, locally sponsored by Needle Specialty. Jason Isbell and The 400 Unit will return Sept. 5, locally sponsored by Robinson Electric. Craig Morgan, United States Army veteran and Grand Ole Opry member, will headline Sept. 19, locally sponsored by Cannon Motors. On Oct. 3, in conjunction with the International Conference on the Blues at DSU, Kool and the Gang will bring its iconic jazz, funk and R&B concert sounds to the Mississippi Delta.

BalletX, Philadelphia's premiere contemporary ballet company, will conduct a special residency funded in part by a grant from South Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), culminating in a performance Oct. 17. Americana singer/songwriter Drew Holcomb and the Neighbors, with special guest Birdtalker, will bring their *Dragons Tour* to the Delta Oct. 29. On Nov. 11, the 12-piece Tedeschi Trucks Band will perform live in concert, locally sponsored by Planters Bank. On Dec. 3, celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with *A Charlie Brown Christmas – Live On Stage*, locally sponsored by Bolivar Medical Center.

In 2020, experience the internationally-ac-



claimed hit theater show *The Simon & Garfunkel Story* Jan. 15. The winner of Broadway.com's Audience Choice Award for Best Musical, *Finding Neverland* comes to the Delta Feb. 4. On March 5, be a part of *An Acoustic Evening* with Mark Chesnutt and Joe Diffie. Don't miss the Tony- and Grammy Award-winning hit musical, *Beautiful – The Carole King Musical*, March 28, locally sponsored by Guaranty Bank. On April 23, Allman Betts Band, comprised of the sons of Gregg Allman (Devon Allman) and Dickey Betts (Duane Betts), will perform live in concert. The Main Stage series concludes May

4 with *The SpongeBob Musical*, which explodes with energy and features an original pop and rock-infused score by a legendary roster of Grammy Award-winning songwriters.

Visit the BPAC website www.bolognapac.com for additional events throughout the 2019-20 season, including a concert to be sponsored by Wade Inc.

The BPAC's School-Time Matinee Series kicks off Sept. 24 with *Dino-Light*, a glow-in-the-dark adventure, locally sponsored by Bayer. BalletX, a dance company, will give a special matinee performance Oct. 17, funded in part by a grant from SouthArts and the NEA. On Oct. 24, help whip the football team into shape, when *Miss Nelson Has a Field Day*. On Jan. 21, be inspired by *Walk on: The Story of Rosa Parks*, locally sponsored by Entergy. The *Snowy Day and Other Stories*, a humorous and fun adaptation of collected stories, will be presented Feb. 13. The School-Time Matinee Series concludes March 25 with adventures of friendship with *Pete the Cat*. Reservations for school groups will begin in August, and scholarship tickets will be available through support from the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi and Arts Education fueled by Double Quick.

Season tickets, which include one ticket to all 14 Main Stage performances, go on sale June 17. Custom "build your own" packages of at least three Main Stage performances will go on sale June 24. All individual tickets will go on sale to the public July 1.

To learn more information about all of the performances, visit www.bolognapac.com or contact the BPAC Ticket Office at 662 846-4626.

\$200M in restitution and forgiveness delivers financial justice: Settlements help consumers harmed by for-profit colleges, high-cost loans

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The struggle to eliminate high-cost predatory debt is a daunting one – particularly for Black America. As access to affordable credit, loans and mortgages seem ever elusive across the country, lying in wait are countless predatory lenders eager to fill the personal finance void.

But in recent days, two unrelated developments awarded consumers more than \$200 million in victories against high-cost private student loans and restitution for triple-digit interest payday loans. Together, the two developments illustrate how freedom from debt burdens can be lifted and erased.

The work of 44 attorneys general in states and the District of Columbia and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) together secured \$168 million in private student loan relief for former students of the now defunct ITT Technical College. In a second development, private legal advocates secured \$39.7 million in restitution and cancelled high-cost loans that tried to evade state laws.

Readers may recall that following ITT Tech's closure in 2016, the institution promptly filed for bankruptcy, stranding an estimated 35,000 students enrolled at one of 150 campuses in 38 states. Due to its high cost of enrollment, most students financed their studies by using a combination of federal and private student loans. ITT targeted low-income students for its private label loans known as CUSO. These loans came with fees and interest rates as high as 16.25%.

In response to the closure, the Department of Education forgave federal student loans incurred as part of enrollment. But that action still stuck stu-

dent borrowers with costly private loans that the schools and lenders pushed to finance promised educations that rarely were delivered.

Now through intergovernmental cooperation, over 18,000 former ITT Tech students are freed from high-cost loans that were prone to default by as much as 90%. Lenders must now cease collections, discharge all debts and notify the former students that the debts are cancelled.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, whose share of the national settlement returns \$13 million to 1,430 borrower students, spoke to the importance of the settlement.

"Students who attended ITT Tech are burdened with unpayable debts they received while pursuing an honest education," noted Paxton. "This college and loan program have failed them tremendously."

A similar reaction came from North Carolina where the settlement will bring \$4.2 million to 412 former ITT Tech students.

"As attorney general, it's my job to protect students and ensure they can safely invest in their futures," said North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein in a news release issued June 14. "Today's settlement will give these students the debt relief they need for a fresh educational start and a future unhindered by these debts."

By removing the financial burden of these loans, these same consumers will now be able to secure more affordable and lower interest rates as well as higher credit scores. Whenever defaulted loans are added to borrower credit profiles, the resulting credit score is lower and comes with predictable difficult and costly interest for any new credit application.

In the second consumer win, efforts of private legal advocates like the Virginia Poverty Law Center secured nearly \$39.7 million in restitution and wiped out debts from Think Finance. Once a federal judge approves the negotiated settlement, these monies and others paid by other defendants will be distributed to consumers ensnared in loans that came with an average interest rate of 375%.

For consumers, these predatory rates meant that a \$500 loan could wind up costing more than \$3,000 for unsuspecting borrowers living in California, Florida, North Carolina, and Virginia.

The settlement brings an encouraging end to litigation originally filed in 2016 against the Fort-Worth-based, Think Finance, Inc.

It should be noted that these nonprofit legal advocates' pursuit of financial justice from Think Finance stands in stark contrast to that of the current leadership at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) – especially when it comes to payday lending and other forms of high-cost loans.

Under CFPB's first director, a lawsuit against Think Finance was originally filed in November 2017 and alleged that the firm was deceiving consumers in 17 states into repaying loans they did not legally owe.

With a change of administration and key personnel, an amended complaint was filed under Acting CFPB Director Mick Mulvaney that significantly altered the affected dates as well as the amounts of monies involved in the alleged violations.

According to a May 2019 Bloomberg Law article, the dates originally cited a 7-year span of time from 2011-2018,

were reduced to only two years, 2013-2015. Additionally, the news outlet reported the amount of fees dropped from at least \$325 million to only \$40.2 million in interest and fees on combined loans totaling \$45.6 million.

"The low penalty assessed to Think Finance follows a recent pattern of the CFPB entering into settlements with companies for alleged abuse of consumers but collecting either no money or low amounts in civil money penalties and little to no consumer restitution," states the article.

In the May 2019 CFPB settlement, there was no consumer restitution. Instead, Think Finance and each of its six affiliates agreed to pay \$1 each to the CFPB to settle claims that consumers paid at least \$325 million more than the nearly \$50 million in principal amounts borrowed between 2011 and 2018.

"These settlements are huge wins for consumers," said Diane Standaert, an EVP with the Center for Responsible Lending and director of State Policy. "They show the scope and harm of abusive practices by high-cost lenders and predatory for-profit colleges that result in consumers carrying the burden of debt for years."

"The cancellation of these debts is an incredibly important form of redress that should be pursued by other state and federal regulators," continued Standaert.

"Effective enforcement can and will get people out from under crushing debt. And these actions underscore the need for strong protections at both the state and federal levels to prevent these predatory practices from occurring in the first place."



Tired of city's boil-water alerts? JSU student's patented straw filters lead, other contaminants

By L.A. Warren
jsunews.com

The city's notorious boil-water notices spurred a Jackson State University student to develop an innovative straw that successfully filters lead and other contaminants, and now the world's largest retailer wants his newly patented device on its store shelves.

Earlier this month, LaMonté Pierce earned the patent for his "Cleanstraww," a thin recyclable device that's strikingly similar to a regular drinking straw. The material used in development of the product is FDA compliant and has been tested according to guidelines by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Pierce said the difference between his straw and others on the market such as LifeStraw, which also removes contaminants, is that Cleanstraww eliminates lead, too, and costs a lot less. During the developmental phase, Pierce created Cleanstraww, LLC, secured a few small investors to help with the patent and built a website, www.cleanstraww.com.

Ultimately, his device captured the attention of Walmart, which has offered Pierce a vendor contract. The world's largest retailer is seeking to supply 4,000 stores with a single box of filtration straws of 10 to 12 units per box.

By Pierce's calculation, just that small quantity alone could generate total sales of \$240,000 — especially with individual straws costing about \$5 each and lasting an entire month. He said, "A lot of people spend more than on juices and sodas over a 30-day period. One straw can handle 20 gallons of water, and most people don't drink a gallon of anything through a drinking straw."

To further help consumers know when to discard the straw, he's looking at developing an app that would calculate its expiration date based on input from the consumer: date, SKU number and the amount of water consumed.

Because it isn't as bulky as LifeStraw, Pierce said the device is much more convenient for joggers, hikers and campers to carry. Aside from the price difference, he said his product is much less time-consuming than replacing expensive filters on sinks or purchasing bottled water. Beyond that, he cautions that some bottled water may not be filtered either.

He notes that consumers should be wary about drinking bottled water, especially over concern that plastic can break down and potentially compromise health. A main component in many plastic bottles is BPA (bisphenol-a), which has been linked to certain cancers, according to published journal reports in the *New York Times*. As a result, Pierce expresses concern about bottled water left in hot vehicles and those that sit in hot factories before arriving in stores.

Pierce, 36, is pursuing his master's degree in technology education at JSU; he earned his bachelor's in industrial technology in 2017 from JSU's College of Science, Engineering and Technology. Although he works full time in the IT Department at Jackson Public Schools as a network analyst,



LaMonté Pierce is a JSU graduate student studying technology education in JSU's College of Science, Engineering and Technology. His Cleanstraww has captured the attention of Walmart, which has offered Pierce a vendor contract. Photos by Charles A. Smith/JSU



Pierce recounts brainstorming on a better way to cope with the city's persistent water problems. He wondered, "What can we do to filter out the water and not have to continuously deal with the hassle of buying bottled water?"

he and his collaborators spent years refining the product.

He said his interest in science spawned from observing his father who worked as an electronics field technician and in the radar towers for the U.S. Air Force. "I would see a lot of his equipment laying around, including tools and books on binary and mathematics." As a boy, Pierce was always taking things apart and spanked often for dismantling remote controls. "I wouldn't care to put it back together; I just wanted to see what the guts looked like, what made it tick."

Pierce even remembers touring a nuclear power plant (up to a certain point) at a young age. The concept of technology further intrigued him as he realized then that it would lead the future.

The Jackson native recounts sitting outside on a day the city of Jackson issued one of its seemingly persistent boil-water alerts. He thought there had to be better way to cope with the nagging situation. He wondered, "What can we do to filter out the water and not

have to continuously deal with the hassle of buying bottled water?" After all, depending on the magnitude of the situation, "space in grocery stores is limited by how much they can stock," he mused.

His idea for a solution began to crystallize after he and classmates were invited to attend a cyberlearning summit that incorporated business, design and science. That experience introduced him to 3D printing. Donald Causey, an assistant professor in JSU's Department of Accounting, Finance and Entrepreneurship in the College of Business, gave participants a challenge to solve within five days a Mississippi problem. Thus, different groups engaged in a head-to-head shark tank competition, with Pierce's idea gaining overwhelming favor.

Causey said he didn't expect anything but the best.

"We have some really talented students at Jackson State University. When they are challenged you see them rise to the occasion. The heart of entrepreneurship is solving problems and making life better for



Pierce used a 3D printer similar to the one he's standing near to develop a prototype. He advocates use of Cleanstraww in schools, hospitals, on cruises, by the U.S. military, U.S. embassies and in developing countries where cholera and E. coli may be a major concern.

people through innovative approaches using technology and creativity," he said.

Causey cited the water problem with lead in Flint, Michigan, and other municipalities and the lack of clean water in many developing countries. "If you can't bring a large-scale filtration system to areas because of cost, why not come up with a small portable individual filtration system that can be used when there's no utility source."

So, Causey said the challenge was to create a straw that filters water at an inexpensive, safe level. The idea was to design a prototype that could be developed and partner with a company to produce and distribute it. He said 3D printers allowed the idea to flourish further.

To bring the idea to fruition, Pierce would join forces with partner Andrew Willis, now a JSU alum who studied marketing, finance and entrepreneurship. Using 3D technology, a prototype was completed overnight. "It actually came out really well," Pierce said of the product.



Causey

Willis said he's excited to continue his partnership with Pierce because of Cleanstraww's tremendous value and future impact.

"This is going to be a revolutionary product. It will change the world and how people think about huge problems. It gives people a greater sense of safety and awareness. With this device we're taking water purification out of the hands of government and corporations and giving control to consumers."

Willis aims to make sure the device is profitable and will assist with measured expansion efforts. He envisions widespread use of the product domestically and overseas.

Pierce received his patent June 4 after rigorously completing a prototype.

"The design side was the hardest part," he said. "And, once you come up with a concept and design type, you have to continue working to perfect it. Doing so will open your mind to different things and for making changes."

Because the cost to construct the filter in the U.S. was hefty — \$20,000 to \$40,000 — he worked with China to manufacture the mold. From there, however, he built his own device after extensive research and was elated after tests revealed that Cleanstraww successfully filters lead, contaminants and other particles.

Pierce explained how the filter works using carbon.

He discovered that "grounded activated carbon powder has positive charges that attracts other matter and triggers the contact space to remove particles." To make all this work, a filter casing material known as PDVF (Polyvinylidene Difluoride) is placed inside the straw. Then, carbon granules are placed inside the apparatus to act as an enclosure, thus locking particles and sediments inside the straw without spillage.

This process allows hydrogen and oxygen (water) to pass through the straw freely.

To illustrate the filter's effectiveness, he sucked up a coke beverage. All the carbon was removed and, basically, the soda was flattened. He tested it on other beverages, including wine. However, to maintain the straw's longevity for filtering quality water, he doesn't recommend other uses.

In addressing the safety of the straw, Pierce said the device won't eject into a person's throat and lead to choking. "It just won't happen."

Furthermore, he said, "I put indentions inside the device to lock in the filter and conducted a pressure test to determine how many pounds of water pressure is required to dislodge the filter. It would take 30 pounds of pressure, and nobody can accomplish that. The average human drinks probably 5 psi (pounds per square inch) from a straw," he said.

Pierce advocates use of the device in schools, hospitals, on cruises, by the U.S. military, U.S. embassies and in developing countries where cholera and E. coli may be a major concern.

Although Walmart has shown interest in Cleanstraww, Pierce is working with a nonprofit to brand the product and is seeking major funding to bring it to market. He's also hopeful for a licensing deal with a firm to produce, manufacture, wholesale the product or buy out his company.

Meanwhile, because of his work, Pierce has been invited to attend the upcoming National Science Foundation's Legionella Conference 2019 in September in Los Angeles. It will address energy sustainability, public health and emerging issues related to building water systems.

He credits JSU for his successes because "if I had not attended JSU, I would not have made it this far or even pursued this idea. It was just a thought at one time, and that thought became something I could hold in my hand. When I first left JSU my work continued."

Also, he said, "If Cleanstraww were to become a billion-dollar company, I would definitely come back to JSU and donate money to our school. I have learned from JSU that to become an innovator, you must have vision to see what can happen in the future."

GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi launches 2019 summer camps to help campers explore music

The Mississippi Link Newswire

GRAMMY Museum® Mississippi is excited to launch their summer camp programs: Music Revolution Project and Summer Sessions this month. Over 25 future rock stars have been selected to learn practical skills that will help them in a career in the music industry.

“Entergy Mississippi is pleased to help with sponsoring the summer camp program. Having this program gives many children opportunities that normally they would not have in being able to explore their talents and understand what a great heritage music has played in Mississippi culture. Opportunities such as this camp also make children more well-rounded, which ultimately benefits them no matter what careers they choose later in life, whether in the fields of math and science or the arts,” said Entergy customer service representative Cheryl Comans.

“The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation is thrilled to continue support of GRAMMY® camps. By working with the summer camp programs, we are continuing the charitable legacy of multi-GRAMMY award winner, Ella Fitzgerald” said Fran Rosman, executive director of The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation.

2019 Music Revolution Project Campers

Jamie Leak
Yasmine Ware

Madison Raper
William Shepherd
Ishiah Galtmore
Max Langlinais
Peyton Young
Charles Bickerstaff
Brandon Lee

2019 Summer Session Campers

Lillie Baughman
London Beard
Brooklyn Belton
Cason Brinkley
Lamaya Ferrell
Avery Greer
Reese Grogan
Elliot Groh
Jonathan Hill Lasker
Leigha McBride
Christian McKinney
Elizabeth Nowell
Montarvo Robinson II
America Taylor
Brandon Thomas
Mollie Townsend
Alexis Wells
Logan Cutts
Annsley McBride

Summer camp program support is provided by the Mississippi Arts Commission, Entergy, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area and the Recording Academy™.

To enroll in GRAMMY Museum Mississippi’s 2020 summer camps, visit grammymuseumms.org. GRAMMY Museum Mississippi is located at 800 W. Sunflower Rd., Cleveland, Miss. 38732. Subscribe to the Museum’s newsletter at grammymuseumms.org/newsletter to stay up-to-

date on new exhibits, upcoming programs, membership benefits and more.

About GRAMMY Museum Mississippi

Developed by the Cleveland Music Foundation – a non-profit organization founded in 2011 – the 28,000-square-foot GRAMMY Museum Mississippi is housed near the campus of Delta State University, home of the Delta Music Institute’s Entertainment Industry Studies program, which features the most unique audio recording facilities in the south. Affiliated with the Recording Academy™, GRAMMY Museum Mississippi is dedicated to exploring the past, present and future of music, and the cultural context from which it emerges, while casting a focused spotlight on the deep musical roots of Mississippi. The museum features a dynamic combination of public events, educational programming, engaging multimedia presentations and interactive permanent and traveling exhibits, including a Mississippi-centric area that introduces visitors to the impact of Mississippi’s songwriters, producers and musicians on the traditional and modern music landscape.

For more information, visit grammymuseumms.org, “like” GRAMMY Museum Mississippi on Facebook, and follow @grammymuseumms on Twitter and Instagram.

Some Mississippi businesses providing apprenticeship opportunities to students

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hundreds of Mississippi businesses are currently providing apprenticeship opportunities to students, according to a new Secretary of State’s Office survey of Mississippi business owners.

The survey, sent to about 97,000 domestic business owners in the State, marks the fourth installment in a series of questionnaires sent by the Secretary of State’s Office related to workforce needs. More than 6,700 contacts from limited liability companies (LLCs), limited partnerships (LPs), and corporations responded.

“Real-world experiences can help our students determine what career or college path they want to take before they receive their diploma on graduation day,” Secretary of

State Delbert Hosemann said. “It also makes good economic sense for businesses to invest in our schools. Their future employees are sitting in our classrooms.”

Among other responses, the survey also showed:

- More than 70 percent of businesses have less than 5 percent “turn over” in staff each year
- About 25 percent of businesses are at full employment and are considering expanding. Between 20 and 30 percent are not at full employment
- Most businesses are not using talent assessment tools to hire employees, but almost 15 percent said they would consider using one in the future.

The Secretary of State’s Office is responsible for managing the corporate documents

of about 190,000 foreign and domestic LLCs, corporations and limited partnerships. Businesses are surveyed on a variety of topics intermittently throughout the year. Results are used to address business needs and improve economic development tools like Y’all Business (www.yallbusiness.sos.ms.gov), a website developed by the Secretary of State’s Office which offers free consumer and demographic information to burgeoning businesses. Results are shared with educational entities, business leaders and economic development and state government stakeholders.

For more information about the Secretary of State’s Business Services Division, visit www.sos.ms.gov/BusinessServices or call (601) 359-1633.

Congressman Thompson announces disaster relief

The Mississippi Link Newswire

United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) recently announced President Donald J. Trump granted a Ma-

jor Disaster Declaration for the State of Mississippi triggering the release of Federal funds to help communities recover from the severe storms, tornadoes,



Thompson

straight-line winds and flooding that occurred April 13-14, 2019.

Declaration Number	Incident/ Incident Period	Public Assistance (PA)/ PA-Designated Areas	Hazard Mitigation (HM)/ HM-Designated Areas
FEMA-4450-DR	Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding/ April 13-14, 2019	Assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities/ Clarke, Clay, Itawamba, Kemper, Monroe, Oktibbeha, Warren, and Yazoo Counties	Assistance for actions taken to prevent or reduce long term risk to life and property from natural hazards/ All areas in the State of Mississippi are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Commissioners support construction of Yazoo Pump Project

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks voted unanimously to support an initiative to build a pump system in the lower Mississippi River Basin to lessen the impact of high water in Mississippi.

Region II Commissioner Scott Coopwood, whose region has been hardest hit, says the commission’s support is important.

“This year’s dramatic flooding event in the lower Mississippi Delta shows the necessity of a pump system, which would significantly reduce flooding in the Mississippi River backwater,” Coopwood said. “Preventive measures such as this would

benefit area residents, wildlife and the economy in the region.”

More than 40 percent of the nation’s watershed flows through the lower Mississippi River and above average rainfall this year flooded about 544,000 acres in our state according to officials of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Vicksburg District Corps of Engineers Water Management Section Chief Drew Smith told commissioners recently if pumps were in place the impact would be substantial.

“There would be a four to five-foot difference in the water levels and the duration would be less,” Smith said. “Pumps are very effective,

they work.”

Mississippi is the only backwater area of the Mississippi River that does not have a pump system to relieve high water effects.

In 2008, the United States Environmental Protection Agency blocked the Yazoo Backwater Area Pumps Project contending that it would have a detrimental effect on wetlands and wildlife in the lower Mississippi Delta. However, Governor Phil Bryant has been to Washington D.C. to lobby President Trump’s administration to renew efforts to revive the project.

Additionally, residents who have been impacted by the high waters are calling for the resurrection of the initiative.

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(BPRW) HSBC Bank contributes \$50,000 to nation’s first monument honoring African-American veterans; Memorial scheduled to open Memorial Day May 2020 near the Buffalo waterfront

Business Wire

HSBC Bank USA, N.A., (HSBC) recently announced a \$50,000 grant to the African-American Veterans Monument, the nation’s first-ever memorial dedicated solely to honoring the military service of African-American veterans and service members.

“African Americans have fought for their country in every military conflict since the Revolutionary War, and too often their contributions are underappreciated, as are the hardships they faced,” said Jennifer Strybel, chief operations officer, HSBC USA. “Their bravery and sacrifice deserve a national memorial, and HSBC is honored to support the construction of such a memorial in Buffalo where so many HSBC employees and customers live and work.”

Construction of the African-American Veterans Monument will begin this summer at a waterfront site in the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park. The design symbolizes the contributions of African Americans who have served or are currently serving in all five branches of the military, during war and in times of peace. When completed, a dozen 10-foot-tall black concrete pillars will



represent each of the country’s military conflicts. The spacing between the pillars represent peacetimes between each war.

“The committee has worked tirelessly to develop the plans for the African-American Veterans Monument and in two years, we have nearly reached our goals,” said Crystal Peoples-Stokes, Majority Leader of the New York State Assembly and spearhead of the initiative. “This donation from HSBC is a huge step in closing the gap and will allow us to begin construction this summer. We urge the community and private and public sectors to support its completion, as we are so close to the finish line.”

Since 2016, the African-

American Veterans Monument Committee has been raising funds for this first-of-its-kind monument. Today’s news brings the fundraising total to more than \$1.44 million, 93 per cent of the total needed.

The monument is on track to open to the public by Memorial Day in May 2020.

Contributions to honor an individual veteran are available through the purchase of an engraved brick paver that will line the walkways of the monument for \$250.

Additional information on the African American Veterans Monument can be found at AAVMWNY.org or by calling 716 800-1137.

About HSBC

HSBC Bank USA, National Association (HSBC Bank USA, N.A.) serves customers through retail banking and wealth management, commercial banking, private banking, and global banking and markets segments. It operates bank branches in: California, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington. HSBC Bank USA, N.A. is the principal subsidiary of HSBC USA Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of HSBC North America Holdings Inc. HSBC Bank USA, N.A. is a Member of FDIC. Investment and brokerage services are provided through HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., (Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC) and insurance products are provided through HSBC Insurance Agency (USA) Inc.

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide across 66 countries and territories in Europe, Asia, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. With assets of \$2,659bn at 31 March 2019, HSBC is one of the world’s largest banking and financial services organizations.

U.S. Department of Commerce Invests to Boost Business and Export Opportunities in George County, Mississippi

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Today, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced that the Department’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$1.4 million grant to the George County Board of Supervisors, Lucedale, Mississippi, to make critical infrastructure improvements to the George County Industrial Park. The improved industrial site will accommodate local business needs, including the development of a wood pellet plant that will produce over 3 million metric tons of pellets annually, primarily for export to the United Kingdom and Europe. According to grantee estimates, the project is expected to create 90 jobs.

“Since day one, the Trump Administration has worked hard to revitalize the manufacturing industry in the United States,” said Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross. “This investment in infrastructure for the George County Industrial Park will help grow the U.S. economy and support America’s exporters.”

“This grant is crucial for Envia and George County,” said Governor Bryant. “EDA’s investment in this project will further strengthen Mississippi’s status as a leader in economic development. I am grateful for Secretary Ross and his team for their continued support.”

“Mississippi is blessed with a strong industrial base and local leaders who are committed to advancing the economic prospects of our state,” said Senator Wicker. “This investment from the Economic Development Administration will help George County transform forestry resources into industrial growth and jobs for the region.”

“I commend George County for working to improve its economy. These EDA resources will help ensure the appropriate infrastructure is in place to support jobs and manufacturing,” said U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith

(R-Miss.). “The new pellet plant is a win for this rural region and for the Mississippi forestry industry. As I’ve said before, our forestry industry prides itself on being able to use every part of every harvested tree. In this case, meeting the demand for wood fiber will mean more jobs and investment in South Mississippi.”

“This grant will support the continued development of George County’s Industrial Park by investing in infrastructure to increase wood pellet production and bringing jobs to Mississippi,” said Congressman Steven Palazzo, (R-Miss.). “The wood pellet plant represents a long-term commitment to both the community and economy of the region. I am glad to know the President and his Administration also remain committed to revitalizing American manufacturing and growing our state’s economy.”

The project will fund roadway, water and wastewater improvements for the George County Industrial Park to support the wood pellet plant and other businesses. This project was made possible by the regional planning efforts led by the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District. EDA funds the Southern Mississippi Planning and Development District to bring together the public and private sectors to create an economic development roadmap to strengthen the regional economy, support private capital investment and create jobs.

This project is funded under the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (PL 115-123) (PDF), in which Congress appropriated to EDA \$600 million in additional Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Program (PDF) funds for disaster relief and recovery as a result of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, wildfires and other calendar year 2017 natural disasters under the Stafford Act.

California recycling bill highlights rift between mainstream environmentalism and environmental justice movement

By Khalil Abdullah
TriceEdneyWire.com

When a group of liberal lawmakers in Sacramento recently proposed legislation that would raise the amount of recycled plastic required in bottled beverages sold in California, many environmental activists lauded the move as a much-needed step in the fight to curb plastic waste.

But as debate over the legislation begins to take shape, critics say that it is becoming increasingly clear that the proposed recycling requirement would, if enacted, have an unintended consequence that hurts one group in particular: low-income Californians, particularly those in African-American communities around the state.

The bill, AB792, would mandate that plastic bottles be made with 25 percent recycled plastic by 2021 before it steadily increasing the recycling requirement to 75 percent by 2030. The bill faces a major test in early July when the Senate Environmental Quality Committee considers whether to send it to the full Senate for a vote.

To supporters, the bill would put in place necessary targets to accelerate a reduction in California’s overall plastic use. But a number of consumer advocates worry that the bill would create new production costs that average Californians would have to ultimately take on at the checkout counter.

A major concern is that the bill would unintentionally discourage bottled water consumption at a time when research shows that drinking sufficient amounts of water is key element for better nutrition and a successful diet.

The health implications are especially significant for African Americans, who have experienced



Taylor

rienced higher rates of diabetes than white Americans partly because of poor diet. The proposed legislation also comes at a time when studies have consistently shown black and Hispanic Americans are more inclined to drink bottled water than other ethnic groups.

In addition, research suggests that minority families without access to clean drinking water are more likely to turn to less healthy sugar-sweetened beverages. With African Americans and Hispanics making up more than 60 percent of Californians suffering from obesity, some advocates say creating new barriers to healthy drinking options could put these individuals at an even greater risk of developing a more serious chronic condition like diabetes.

As a result, experts and advocates are asking state lawmakers to slow down the pace of negotiations over the bill so that they can identify any other unintended consequences of the recycling legislation, no matter how laudable its ultimate goals may be.

The recycling bill has also had unintended consequences politically. It has exposed a rift in the environmental movement between mainstream environmentalists and environmental justice advocates.

Specifically, some in the environmental justice movement complain that many mainstream environmental organizations have focused on high-profile issues like climate change and bottled-water recycling while largely neglecting the day-to-day environmental hazards that communities of color face in many American cities.

These environmental hazards largely stem from a number of factors, including rampant industrial development and unwise land-use policies in many cities. The toxic legacy that these communities confront include incinerators, landfills and contaminated water.

In fact, mainstream environmentalists have drawn heavy criticism for their relative silence during the water-contamination crisis in Flint, Michigan, a predominantly African-American city where there is now a pressing need for bottled water.

The differences between the mainstream environmental movement and the environmental justice movement appears to have deep roots: research that has shown people of color and low socioeconomic status have been historically excluded from preminent environmental groups, many of which are largely white and enjoy the support of wealthy funders.

In 2014, researchers conducted one of the most comprehensive studies examining the intersection between race and environmentalism in environmental institutions. Their conclusion: An overwhelmingly white “green insiders’ club,” with racial minorities occupying less than 12 percent of the leadership positions in the environmental organizations studied.

Dorecta E. Taylor, the study’s


primary author, is a graduate of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and is presently professor of environmental justice at the University of Michigan, where she also serves as the program director of the Multicultural Environmental Leadership Development Initiative. She is also the university’s director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.


Taylor says white environmentalists are ignoring pressing environmental justice demands due to their failure to move outside of their own insular communities. “One of the things they should be doing is stop being so afraid of people of color, and meet them, interact with them, cultivate them and start recruiting them,” she said.

This dynamic could slow AB792’s progress as it makes its way through the chambers in Sacramento. While supporters laud the bill for its impact on reducing plastic waste, community advocates say AB 792 could potentially limit much-needed access in minority communities where bottled water is a lifeline.

And those concerns come at a time when nearly a million Californians are forced to rely on water systems that the State Water Resources Control Board deems unsafe. Take the people of San Bernardino County, home to one of the largest populations of black residents in the state. It has had dozens of suppliers that failed to meet compliance standards for safe drinking water.

Khalil Abdullah, is a Washington, D.C.-area writer and editor. He staffed the Committee on Transportation and Environment for the National Black Caucus of State Legislators before and while serving as executive director.





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Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap

PART 3

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



To be saved, you must repent. Repentance takes some work. Jesus taught that one must repent and turn things over to Him. John said in First John 1:9, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” You cannot allow one sin to remain in the corner of your heart; every sin must go. David said in Psalm 66:18, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.” Proverbs 28:13 states, “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”

You must turn your back on the sinful things that you have been doing and stop living foolishly. You must change fountains, and become a new creature in Jesus Christ. You

have to put off everything that belongs to the old man. When you truly repent, God will live within your heart and you will be a new man. It will not be hard for the world to see a difference in you.

John the Baptist said to repent. Did you know that when you repent, Jesus will meet you? Jesus said in John 6:37, “And him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out.” Isaiah 1:18 says, “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be as red like crimson (He will wash them), they shall be as wool.” Would you appreciate a good, clean, wholesome new suit from Jesus Christ, washed in His precious blood? He can remove every spot of sin and every stain from your heart. Then you can turn around and look at the world and say, “I am different than I was yesterday. I am a new man today.” No matter what someone had against you, you

will no longer be the same. You become a new person in Jesus Christ. That is the good thing about being saved.

You read in Acts, Chapter 9, that before the Apostle Paul was saved, God knocked him down with a light. When he heard a voice, he knew that the Lord was talking to him. When he got up, he was blind; but three days later, God sent Ananias to pray for him, and God removed the scales from his eyes.


In Acts, Chapters 24 and 26, you can read that Paul stood before a governor and told him about what the Lord had done for him. Festus said to Paul in Acts 26:24, “Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.”

When you get saved, some people cannot really understand what has happened to you. You do not want this or that anymore, and you no longer want to go to the same places. You have found a new fountain, you have new fam-

ily and you have received a new spirit. You are no longer lost; you have been found. You have been washed and you now have a new suit. Thank God, it will shine so the world can see it. Salvation makes a difference.

If you get saved, you will know who you are and you will know your direction. You can be established in the Lord instead of being tossed back and forth with sin and the things of the world. Friend, your sins can be taken away, and then God will write your name in the Lamb’s Book of Life. You can be cleansed by the precious blood of the Son of God and be established in your Christian experience. The Lord can give you a hope in your soul and something to sing about.

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



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PRESERVED Lost and Found

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



A few years ago, I got a gift of free membership to a fitness center. My goal was to improve my health and improve my appearance. For the first month, I was excited about learning how to use the different equipment and went as much as I could. Then, I slowed a bit. I didn’t go as much, nor did I go with the same amount of enthusiasm. In fact, after a certain point, I stopped going altogether. My excuse was that I just didn’t have as much free time because I was now working more than one job.

After about six months, my schedule changed and I now had time to work out more consistently. But a strange thing happened on my way back to the gym, I couldn’t find my membership card. Without the membership card, I wouldn’t be able to go to the club. I knew that I hadn’t thrown it away and for the next three months, I checked everywhere I thought I could have left it. This included my car, my old purses, the bags that were in my car, old wallets and old pant pockets.

I could have easily paid for another card but I knew that it was still somewhere in my home, I just needed to continue to search for it because I believed that I would someday find the card. And one day I did when God answered that seemingly insignificant prayer but also taught me a lesson about relationships. He promised in 2 Chronicles 15:7 “But as for you, be

strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.”

Eventhough I’d lost the card, I still wanted to work out. My plan B exercise program was to walk around a local lake. One day when I was getting ready for my walk, I put on a jacket since it was cool outside. As I placed my hands in the pockets, I felt a strange object. All I could do was laugh when I pulled it out and saw that it was my long-lost gym membership card. It had been hidden in my jacket pocket for at least 6 months. I laughed and shook my head at my forgetfulness at not checking that jacket.

Finding what I thought was a lost card reminded me of what happens to so many people. We desire connection and closeness with others and sometimes pursue this desire recklessly. Some of us fail to realize that what we are looking for is right under our nose. This is often in the form of those awkward family get-togethers that we dread going to because we are the only adult cousin without a child or spouse.

Like I looked without success for my membership card, we foolishly believe that the closeness we need is found somewhere else. This taught me that sometimes the things that we need the most are already the closest to us. This includes immediate and distant family and good friends.

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

REIGNING ANNOUNCEMENT

The “Crowning” of three deacons will take place at the Green Pastures Baptist Church, 2239 Flag Chapel Road Jackson, MS, June 30, 2019 at 3 p.m. Please come and witness this service of thanksgiving for God’s servants: Bro. Alfred Jacobs, Bro. Lonnie Jackson and Bro. Arvester Smith.

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Taraji draws attention to mental health

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



We've seen Colin Kaepernick, LeBron James and others draw attention to challenges in our community. At the recent hearing on reparations, we heard from Danny Glover. We've also just heard from Taraji Henson on the subject of mental health. In our community, we've often played down the importance of mental health. It was as if we knew it existed, but didn't want to discuss it. We've often looked down on people who shared their need for assistance with mental health issues. Taraji wants to change that.

I pray that other stars will take on the fight to bring about justice and fair play for all who've been burdened unnecessarily – especially when it comes to race. For black women, it's both race and gender.

Our communities have often internalized the negative impact of enslavement, segregation and all forms of discrimination. It appears we're being pushed backwards. We see too much high blood pressure and other health challenges to ignore the fact that the inhumanity we've suffered through the ages has been brought on deliberately and intentionally by others outside our community.

We've rarely had the luxury of calling ours "the good life." There are always unnecessary stresses in our community. We're always fighting just to keep our heads above water while others with less education, less compassion, less experience keep on moving ahead of us, and there're always those around us making an effort to take away the progress we've been able to make.

We elected Barack Obama as our president and that made us feel some sort of progress. Behind him came #45 who's tried to destroy everything Obama did. We had a Voting Rights Act. The Supreme Court took that away. We had health care, and some have done everything possible to destroy that.

So, it's important for us to work with Taraji on her efforts. We must be vigilant in working to get proper funding for mental health. A nation's budget tells us just how seriously it takes our concerns.

Let's do all we can to break the stigma around mental health with her organization, the Boris Lawrence Henson Foundation (website <http://www.borislhensonfoundation.org>) which she named for her dad who talked about mental health. He didn't avoid the subject as some do. Let's keep up with what the foundation is doing, donate when we can and do all we can to alleviate this challenge. Mental health help is not just for people who are wealthy; it's for anyone who needs the help. We can encourage people who need help to seek it and not feel they'll be judged badly for seeking help.

Taraji has taken the lead in breaking the stigma associated with mental health by encouraging us to talk about mental health. Let's vote for those who see the importance of mental health. Put this issue on your list when you're looking at candidates to represent our community. Let's not hide from the issue. It's real and we need to pay attention to it and act when necessary to get something done about mental health.

Taraji has said we don't talk about mental health in our families as her father did with her. She went on to say, "That's why there's a shortage of African Americans in the field of mental health, because we don't talk about it at home. Our children don't even know this is a field they can even flourish in." Yes, they do talk about being a doctor, but they rarely have been taught about the different kinds of doctors like the kind that treat mental health. Let's talk to change that. Thanks to Taraji. It's now on our agenda.

Dr. E. Faye Williams is national president of the National Congress of Black Women. www.nationalcongressbw.org. She is also host to "Wake Up and Stay Woke" on WPFW-FM 89.3.

America's challenge: Moving toward racial healing and transformation

By Gail. C. Christopher
Trice Edney Newswire



Months after Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam came under fire for the racist images on his yearbook page from Eastern Virginia Medical School in 1984, he remains in office, a battered and chastised, public figure. But maybe this isn't a bad thing.

A quick resignation would have elicited rhetorical condemnations, a symbolic "washing of hands," and sent the wrong message that everything has been resolved. It most certainly has not been, and in late May an investigation by the medical school couldn't conclusively determine whether it's the governor in the photo. But the Commonwealth of Virginia, and our nation, have an even weightier problem: they must address the root cause of racism 35 years ago, and today – the belief in a hierarchy of human value that poisons our society.

Through centuries, America has failed to do the required work of uprooting and finally eliminating the idea and belief in a hierarchy of humanity – the empowering of one human being over another because of skin color or religion or ethnicity. It was stunning that when *USA Today* examined 900 yearbooks from the same era, they found more than 200 examples of racist materials, dem-

onstrating the depth of racial bias in our society.

The heart of the problem is the hierarchy of human value. This core belief is the myth that built America. Human value hierarchy fueled unfettered land confiscation from Native Americans and unprecedented human decimation and enslavement of Africans; all of which fueled a young country's rapid economic growth and emergence as a world power.

As long as the foundational myth of unequal human value is allowed to fester consciously and unconsciously, the idea can, will and indeed is being manipulated for political gain and potentially authoritarian power.

Hitler perfected this art of fear-mongering and emotional manipulation using the idea of a hierarchy of human worth and value. His Nuremberg laws became the basis of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust. These laws were modeled after racist laws and practices here in the United States. The 2017 book, *Hitler's American Model* by Yale Legal scholar James Whitman, documents how America's racial oppression helped inspire the Nazis' anti-Jewish legislation.

Clearly, if America only "washes our hands" after every incident of racism, we fail to enact any meaningful change. The action that is long overdue in Virginia and the whole of America is a truth and racial healing process.

To heal is to make whole, to set right. A broken bone must be re-set in order to heal without deformity. Setting the United States right requires humanely and sincerely facing and unpacking the truths of our past; and finally burying the myth of a hierarchy of human value; replacing it with awareness and appreciation of the sacred interconnected reality of humanity. We must all realize that we are truly one human family, ultimately tracing our genomic ancestry to common ancestors on the continent of Africa.

Only at this point can we begin to envision a healed and shared future together as one America – not simply as red or blue – but with a shared vision of a truly reconstructed America that values all equally. No more susceptibility to manipulation through "dog whistle politics" and social media tricksters. No more deeply held racial resentments ripe for the picking by domestic and foreign enemies.

Together, we can then create a new, more complete narrative. We can construct a new story of America for our children, one honoring and embracing all of them. We can heal our perceived divides; share authentic memories and listen to one another, forging relationships of mutual understanding, trust and respect.

We can leverage these new bonds to meld division and separation into

the "Beloved Community" envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King. Working together, communities are capable of creating affordable housing, employing equitably, educating and caring for all. Laws and policies need to redress inequities created by centuries of adhering to a human hierarchy.

A compassionate, united and thoughtful people can create an authentic and expansive form of democracy that is poised to generate a far more fair and equitable economy; rather than continuing to increase wealth and income divides.

This change in our core belief and perception, in our way of seeing and willingness to relate to and with one another is America's unfinished business. The persistence of blackface, klansmen (with and without hoods), racial, anti-Semitic, gender and xenophobic violence are symptoms of the deeper pathology of having embraced human hierarchy as a way of life.

Let us take this moment to begin the true journey of healing that our future demands.

Dr. Gail Christopher is the former senior advisor and vice president of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and architect of the Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) framework and process that is being implemented in cities, colleges, universities and organizations across America.

Tone deaf Congress wants military pork

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



The F-35 stealth fighter aircraft is one expensive plane. It costs \$135 million to produce a single aircraft, but Congress is prepared to authorize spending for 90 more planes, a dozen more than the Pentagon has requested. Why? Lobbyists for Lockheed Martin, the company that produces these aircraft, have exercised their fine art of persuasion to convince the House Armed Services Committee that these aircraft are needed for our national "defense." Wouldn't you think the Pentagon has a better idea of what they "need" than lobbyists? Or are the profits of this corporation more important than the fiscal prudence that so many in Washington crow about when looking at education, Social Security, health care or programs that address human needs?

There is much to object to about the "Defense" budget, as defense spending absorbs more than half of all of spending from our budget. But spending on the F-35 aircraft is especially egregious. More than a trillion dollars will be spent on this

aircraft, a trillion; enough to eliminate all student debt, or fully endow the nation's historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) with money left over.

What do we get from this trillion? We get an aircraft with supply chain problems that the General Accounting Office has described as "falling short of warfighter requirements." They say the aircraft, "cannot perform as many missions or fly as often as required," partly because of a "shortage in spare parts and limited repair capability." So Lockheed Martin is producing this \$135 million aircraft, more than two thousand, to be exact, without producing the requisite spare parts or developing the appropriate repair capabilities.

Bloomberg News described the F-35 program, "as the world's costliest weapons program." Its entire history has been fraught with both cost and efficiency problems. Why, then, are lobbyist pushing Congress to order more of these planes, more, even than the Pentagon wants? Follow the money. It's all about the profits.

While the House Armed Services Committee is planning to waste billions of dollars on these costly and flawed F-35 planes, poor people

around the country gathered in Washington to hear from Rev. William Barber and Rev. Liz Theoharis about the Moral Budget. Believe me, there is no room for F-35 fighter planes in the Moral Budget. Instead, the poor People's Campaign increased spending on human needs, like health care, education and that oh-so-basic need – food. It might have been impactful for members of the House Armed Services Committee to spend a few moments with the Poor People's Congress, the thousand or so people who crowded into Trinity Hall at Trinity Washington University to demand equity in education, affordable health care and more.

The Poor People's Moral Budget has the theme, "Everybody Has the Right to Live." The budget would cut \$350 billion in military spending, while increasing taxes on the wealthy, corporations and Wall Street. It represents a paradigm shift from our nation's current focus on militarism to a focus on human needs. Our nation's hawks, and our president, believe that profligate military spending makes our world safer, which is nonsense. Indeed, the possibility of military action against

Iran (and the deployment of a thousand more troops to the Middle East in late June), suggests that militarism makes the world dangerous, not safer. In any case in this militaristic climate, the move to order more F35s than even the president wants is nothing more than a profit-serving move to benefit Lockheed Martin, the corporation that can't even produce enough spare parts for the planes it has already produced.

The Poor People's Congress operated in stark contrast to the House Armed Services Committee. Barber testified before the House Budget Committee June 19, 2019, calling for an end to police violence against poor people and urged Congress to embrace its moral budget. By continuing profligate spending on F35 fighter planes, and funding more planes than even the Pentagon wants, Congress is engaging in policy violence against all Americans, but especially the 140 million who are poor.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest project MALVEAUX! On UDCTV is available on youtube.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannealveaux.com

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School of Dentistry opens state-of-the-art technology center for students

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The School of Dentistry at the University of Mississippi Medical Center is one of only four schools in the nation with a technology center featuring the latest and best dental equipment for student training funded by a national organization established to do just that.

The school was chosen in 2017 by the Center for Research & Education in Technology, Inc. to host the Regions CRET Innovation Suite, a high-tech clinic featuring six state-of-the-art dental treatment rooms and two dental hygiene treatment rooms with equipment donated by more than 26 different dental manufacturers.

“This is the future of dentistry. All the students – as I look around, you are the future of our industry and of dental health care,” said Don Hobbs, vice president of equipment sales at Henry Schein, Inc. and CEO of CRET, at the grand opening ceremony for the clinic Friday. “It’s really important you get the chance to use the equipment. It’s really important.”

Regions provided \$100,000 for renovations to the area on the second floor of the school’s building.

John Boydston, Regions commercial relationship manager and senior vice president, said Regions saw the value for the community in supporting the Innovation Suite.

“These products and equipment are hitting the private dental practice as soon as they go into the marketplace, so it creates a challenge for dental school graduates to not be fully exposed to the technology that’s out there today,” Boydston said. “With the Regions CRET Innovation Suite, the School of Dentistry is going to have that advantage. It gives the school a very unique offering that differentiates itself on a national level.”

Dr. David Felton, dean of the School of Dentistry, has been working the past three years to bring the center to fruition.

“This clinic is truly the shining star in the School of Dentistry, and will enable us to train the next generation of dentists for Mississippi with cutting-edge technologies,” said Felton.

The clinic, which is designed to simulate a private practice



Present at the ribbon cutting are, from left, Stephen Greer, UMMC School of Dentistry student; Dr. Scott Phillips, UMMC associate professor of dentistry; John Boydston of Regions; Dr. LouAnn Woodward, UMMC vice chancellor for health affairs; Dr. David Felton, dean of the UMMC School of Dentistry; Dr. Andres Pappa, UMMC assistant professor of dentistry; Don Hobbs of CRET; Dr. Scott Gatewood, UMMC professor of dentistry; and Brett Quon, UMMC dental hygiene student.

dental office, also includes an innovative new sterilization center, two cone beam computerized X-ray machines, digital dental impression capabilities, 3-D printers, a laser room and the capability to design and mill dental prostheses.

The center’s conference room houses a large screen where students and faculty can watch patients receive treatments in the operatory rooms in real time.

The clinic has been on the mind of Dr. Scott Phillips, associate dean of clinical affairs, for more than five years. He was persistent about it, presenting it to Felton when he came to the school as dean in 2016. Felton was enthusiastic about the idea, and while Phillips coordinated with CRET, Felton helped secure the funding to make the center a reality.

“We went from having one CT scan in the entire school that was limited and clunky, and now we have three – two of which are state of the art. It opens up opportunities we haven’t had before,” he said.

Phillips has stayed in touch with the two other CRET centers at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry and the West Virginia University School of Dentistry.

“We are learning from them so we can continue the CRET vision and mission,” said Phillips.

Dental students Collin Peterson of Gulfport, Erin Coggin of Madison and Heather Wise of Gulfport are excited to get started in the clinic.

“It’s going to broaden the horizon of procedures we can do and the number of cases we can see,” said Peterson. “Right now

we’re limited on the supply and the technology we have, but now that we have all this, we can do a lot more advanced procedures.”

Dental students and attending faculty members will do rotations in the clinic throughout the year, with fourth-year students spending at least six weeks seeing patients there.

Not only will students be able to experience different kinds of equipment to better prepare them for life after school, they will also be able to treat patients in a way that more closely resembles what they will be doing as dentists.

“The students will be ... doing comprehensive treatment. What that means is they will be treating their patients as if this was their own private practice,” explained Dr. Andres Pappa, director of the Regions CRET Innovation Suite and assistant professor of care planning and restorative sciences. “Upstairs (in the current clinics) they work by areas – one afternoon they are in prosthodontics and only working on prosthodontics. The next day, they’re in the endodontics clinic, only working on root canals and so on.”

In the Innovation Suite, students, under the supervision of an attending faculty member, will get the opportunity to treat all of a patient’s needs.

Coggin is enthusiastic about the center’s digital capabilities, such as intraoral scanners that can be used to create a digital model of a patient’s mouth that is then printed using a 3-D printer.

Traditionally, making a model of a patient’s mouth takes hours in the lab and involves taking the impression, pouring it up with

stone, trimming the stone and then drying it before presenting it to the patient.

“We spend a lot of time without our patients doing the work,” explained Coggin. “So (having that ability) and being able to pay closer attention to the patient and maximize efficiency will be great.”

The digital capabilities of the technology center reflect the changing face of dentistry, better preparing students for the field in which they will practice.

“Dentistry is being transformed from an analog profession into a digital profession. Having access to digital intraoral scanners, 3-D printers and 3-dimensional radiology is going to be the biggest advantage of having this equipment here,” Pappa said. “It will put us at the forefront of modern dentistry as far as what we’re teaching our students.”

Wise sees benefits for the patients as well as for herself and her colleagues.

“Instead of them having to go upstairs and be in the big open bay, with tons of doctors walking by, this is a more private and intimate setting,” she said. “Maybe it can help lower their anxiety.”

Pappa, Felton and others at the School of Dentistry are well aware this unique opportunity would never have been possible without the support of CRET and Regions.

“We are so thankful to CRET and all of the member companies that have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars’ worth of equipment and supplies. Without them and the support from Regions, all of this would just be a dream,” said Pappa.

AMR paramedics urge safety with fireworks

The Mississippi Link Newswire

July 4 fireworks can be fun and beautiful, but they are always dangerous. Fireworks are explosives, not toys. Fireworks send thousands of people to the hospital each year and cause millions of dollars in fire losses. Paramedics at American Medical Response urge caution with fireworks to prevent disfiguring burns, loss of eyes and fingers and to avoid property fires. The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a professionally-run show.

Penalties for using fireworks

Many Mississippi communities have restrictions and penalties on the sale and use of fireworks. The National Fireworks Safety Council warns that certain fireworks are illegal in all 50 states. Those include M-80’s, Silver Salutes and Cherry Bombs. Further, if your fireworks injure or kill someone or start a fire, you could be sued for hundreds of thousands (even millions) of dollars.

Injuries

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) says more than 11,000 people are injured from fireworks each year in the US. The Consumer Product Safety Commission says nearly half of those injured by fireworks are under the age of 15.

While fingers and hands are most often injured, the American Academy of Ophthalmology estimates fireworks annually cause nearly 2,000 eye injuries with permanent eye damage.

Bottle rockets are highly dangerous to the eyes, as they are essentially unguided missiles flying as fast as 200 miles per hour.

Fireworks can also cause permanent hearing loss, second and third degree burns and amputations. These injuries are extremely painful and can be emotionally and physically debilitating. For every serious injury from fireworks, there are hundreds if not thousands of lesser injuries. Even the lesser injuries hurt badly and are extremely frightening.

Fireworks start home and business fires

USFA reports, each year, bottle rockets and other aerial fireworks cause more than 6,000 fires.

Fireworks safety tips

If you take the risk of using fireworks yourself, AMR gives this advice:

- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks. Even older children must have adult supervision.
- Remember: Fireworks entice children to use matches or lighters. Teach children that matches and lighters are dangerous tools, not toys.
- Follow the instructions on the fireworks packaging.
- Never shoot fireworks after drinking alcohol.
- Never set off fireworks in bottles, cans or other objects.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Never shoot devices near buildings, over roofs or near power lines.
- Never try to re-light or fix fireworks that have not gone off. Wait 15 to 20 minutes before approaching a “dud” and then soak it with water.
- Always keep a safe distance from fireworks staging areas.
- Protect your eyes by wearing safety glasses or safety goggles.

glasses. Prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses and contact lenses provide little or no protection from fireworks.

- Soak fireworks devices with water after they appear to have burned out.

- Never use homemade fireworks.

- Never extend any part of the body over fireworks devices while lighting them or after they have been lit.

- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose and a first aid kit nearby.

- Always follow local fireworks ordinances and related directives from police and fire personnel.

- In case of eye injuries do not touch, rub or press the injured eye. Call 9-1-1 for paramedics who will treat the victim and safely transport him or her to a hospital.

- In case of burn injuries, cover the burns with a dry dressing and call 9-1-1 for paramedic care.

Tips specific to sparklers

Sparklers are among the most common fireworks at private celebrations. Adults often let small children hold sparklers because sparklers seem harmless. But sparklers are dangerous. Sparklers get as hot as 2,000 degrees – as hot as a blow torch. They can cause serious burns long after burning out.

To avoid injuries from sparklers

The safe way to enjoy sparklers is to plant them in the ground away from dry grass and then have an adult light them.

- Do not hold more than one sparkler at a time. Always stand when playing with sparklers and do not run while holding them.

- If two or more people are holding sparklers, they should be at least six feet from each other when their arms are outstretched.

- Hold sparklers at arm’s length, away from the body. Do not hand a lit sparkler to anyone.

- Wear shoes with closed toes.

- Adults and older children should never carry a child who is holding a sparkler.

- Do not try to relight a burnt-out sparkler.

- Douse every burnt-out sparkler in a pail of water.

About American Medical Response (AMR)

Operating in 19 counties, AMR companies in Mississippi provide more patient transports than any other ambulance service. American Medical Response, Inc., America’s leading provider of medical transportation, provides services in 40 states and the District of Columbia. More than 28,000 AMR paramedics, EMTs, RNs and other professionals work together to transport more than 4.8 million patients nationwide each year in critical, emergency and non-emergency situations. AMR also provides fire services through Rural Metro Fire Department, www.ruralmetro-fire.com. AMR is a subsidiary of Global Medical Response, www.GlobalMedicalResponse.com.

For more information about AMR, visit www.amr.net and follow American Medical Response on Facebook @AMR, Social on Twitter and Instagram

Kids’ deaths in hot cars are preventable with tips from AMR medics

The Mississippi Link Newswire

High temps and high humidity increase the risk of an agony no one should ever suffer: It’s warm out and a parent takes a small child in the family car to run errands. At one of the stops, the parent forgets the child is in the vehicle or decides the child will be safe for a little while. Minutes later, the inside of the car is an oven the child can’t escape. Horror awaits the parent on returning to the car.

Ryan Wilson, clinical services manager for American Medical Response in central Mississippi, said, “Children fall victim to the heat faster than adults. That’s because children, relative to adults, have more body surface area, which means they absorb more heat and absorb it faster than grown-ups. In just minutes, a child’s body can reach temperatures that can cause heat stroke, which can lead to permanent brain damage or death. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports, some 40 children per year die in the US

from heat stroke when left in cars. Many more are disabled. Such tragedies can happen to any parent or caretaker, but there are ways to reduce the odds of kids’ dying in hot cars.”

Wilson said, “Research has shown, even when outside temperatures are in the 70’s, vehicle interiors can quickly get hot enough to kill a child. The temperature inside a vehicle can climb 20 degrees in 10 minutes. The bottom line is: Never leave a child unattended in a car or truck, no matter what the outside temperature is.”

Wilson, a paramedic, advised:

- Leaving a window open or the air conditioner on does not adequately protect children left inside a vehicle. Take the child with you, every time, no matter how soon you plan to return to the vehicle.

- Get in the habit of checking your vehicle’s interior, front and back, before walking away. Child passenger safety experts use the expression, “Look before you lock.”

To avoid overlooking a smaller child restrained in a car safety seat, use these tips:

- Tie one of your child’s small toys or a pacifier to a string and hang it around your neck. When you leave the vehicle, even if you forget the toy is hanging from your neck, someone else is likely to mention it.

- Place an unmistakable reminder of your child’s presence where you’ll be sure to see it before you leave the vehicle. For example, place a brightly-colored stuffed toy in plain sight on the passenger seat next to the driver. Clear off all other items on the seat so you are more likely to notice the reminder when you exit the vehicle.

- Keep a large Teddy bear in the child’s safety seat when the seat is empty and move the bear to the front seat next to the driver when the child is in the safety seat. Clean off the front passenger seat so the bear is the only object in it.

- Put in the back seat next to the child an item you have to

take with you when you leave the vehicle, such as a cell phone, purse or briefcase.

Do not rely solely on electronic devices designed to alert you that you have a small child a safety seat in the back of your vehicle. Some years ago, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported that such devices can malfunction due to a variety of causes. A couple of 2019 SUVs have a new form of alarm which uses ultrasound to detect movement in the second or third row of seats. If you use an electronic alert device, be sure to use additional methods to remind you of the child’s presence.

In most households with children in daycare, the same parent takes the child to the daycare center almost every day. When the other parent takes the child to daycare, the parents should agree to call each other right after the time the child should have been left at daycare, to make sure the “drop” went as planned.

LEGAL

Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bids

Bid 3099 Smart Boards

Bid 3100 Promethean Boards

Reverse Auction bidding 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. and 11:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) July 11, 2019, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. 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 Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (5:00 p.m., June 26, 2019) local time to be the given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the electronic reverse auction at www.centralbidding.com on July 11, 2019 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

6/20/2019, 6/27/2019

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

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

2016 Ford MUS 1FATP8UH0G5275202

Registered to Walton, James C

Santander Consumer USA, Financial, Lien Holder

Date of Sale: June 28, 2019

Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;

6700 Medgar Evers Blvd.,

Jackson, MS 39213

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

Time: 10:00 A.M.

6/13/19, 6/20/19, 06/27/19

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Jackson Medical Mall Foundation is submitting an application to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development for the purpose of obtaining funds to implement a Housing Preservation Grant program for the county of Hinds.

The Housing Preservation Program is designed to assist in the contribution of health and safety, alleviating over-crowding and well-being of residents that contribute to the structural integrity or long-term preservation of a housing unit. Funds will be used to rehabilitate owner-occupied standard single family houses. The primary goal is to improve housing conditions by correcting housing deficiencies. This includes the removal of health and safety hazards, complying with housing codes and standards and alleviating overcrowded conditions.

A "Statement of Activities" is available at Jackson Medical Mall Foundation, 350 West Woodrow Wilson Drive, Jackson, MS 39213, for review by any and all citizens. The SOA can be reviewed at any time between 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Jackson Medical Mall Foundation is an Equal Employment Opportunity organization.

6/20/2019, 6/27/2019

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
CHARLIE MAE CAIN, DECEASED

CAUSE #: P2019-38 O/3

BY: Corrie Kimes

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI


TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF CHARLIE MAE CAIN, DECEASED

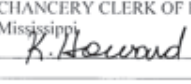
You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Corrie Kimes, Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Charlie Mae Cain.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 1:30 o'clock a.m., on the 13th day August, 2019, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Denise Owens and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

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

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 14th day of June 2019.



Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi


6/27/2019, 7/04/2019, 7/11/2019

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MARY HELEN BLAIR, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. P2019-121 O/3


NOTICE TO UNKNOWN CREDITORS


Letters of Administration having been granted on June 7, 2019 by the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi to the undersigned Executor upon the Estate of Mary Helen Blair, Deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of this Court for probation and registration according to the law, within ninety (90) days from the first publication of this notice, or they will be forever barred.

This the 12th day of June, 2019.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HINDS

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named, Kimberly Williams, Administrator for the Estate of Mary Helen Blair, deceased, who having been by me first duly sworn, states that the above Notice to Creditors is true and correct as therein stated.


Kimberly Williams, Administrator



Quanda Smith
NOTARY

6/20/2019 6/27/2019 7/04/2019

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MARY HELEN BLAIR, DECEASED

CAUSE #: P2019-121 O/3

BY: Kimberly Williams

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI


TO: KIMBERLY WILLIAMS

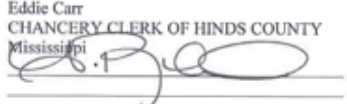
You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Kimberly Williams Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Mary Helen Blair.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 1:30 o'clock p.m., on the 13th day of August, 2019, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Denise Owens and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

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

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 25th day of June, 2019.



Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi


6/27/2019, 7/04/2019, 7/11/2019

LEGAL

RULE 81 SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
MARY HELEN BLAIR, DECEASED

CAUSE #: P2019-121 O/3

BY: Bryant LaKeith Blair

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI


TO: BRYANT LAKEITH BLAIR

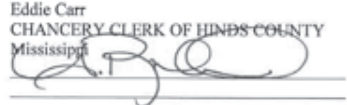
You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Bryant LaKeith Blair Plaintiff, seeking the adjudication of heirs of Mary Helen Blair.

You are summoned to appear and defend against the complaint or petition filed against you in this action at 1:30 o'clock p.m., on the 13th day of August, 2019, in the Chancery Courtroom of Hinds County, Mississippi, before Honorable Denise Owens and in case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment will be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

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

Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this the 25th day of June, 2019.



Eddie Carr
CHANCERY CLERK OF HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi


6/27/2019, 7/04/2019, 7/11/2019

Office
Space
for Rent

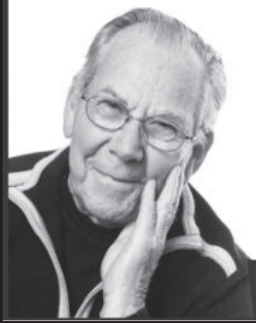
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Crossword Puzzle

1		2	3	4		5	6	7	8
9				10		11			
12						13			
14					15	16		17	
				18		19			
	20	21							
22				23			24	25	26
27				28		29	30		
31					32				
33						34			

ACROSS

1. On

5. Flightless birds

9. Express indifference

11. Ancien German character

12. Waitress on "Cheers"

13. Land mass

14. Every

15. Illinois (abbr.)

17. Possessive pronoun

18. Administrative unit

20. Like a new book

22. Card game

23. Road (abbr.)

24. Workplace

27. Cosecant's opposite

29. Parry

31. Engrave

32. Set again

33. Shallow area

34. Bunsen burner

DOWN

1. U.S. Department of Agriculture

2. Mr. Donahue

3. Voiced

4. Catholic sister

5. Epoch

6. Score

7. Identity

8. Salty water masses

10. __ counter

16. Conductor

18. Arkansas

19. Neodymium (abbr.)

20. Blend

21. Time being

22. Drug doer

24. Crave

25. A cozy room (2 wds.)

26. Second letter of the greek alphabet

28. Extremely high frequency (abbr.)

30. Downwind

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

U	P	O	N			E	M	U	S
S	H	R	U	G		R	U	N	E
D	I	A	N	E		A	S	I	A
A	L	L		I	L		I	T	S
			A	G	E	N	C	Y	
	U	N	R	E	A	D			
U	N	O		R	D		L	A	B
S	I	N	E			E	L	U	D
E	T	C	H			R	E	S	E
R	E	E	F			E	T	N	A

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DOLLAR GENERAL
2030 N Siwell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
4331 Highway 80W
DOLLAR GENERAL
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd
DOLLAR GENERAL
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
304 Briarwood Dr
DOLLAR GENERAL
2855 McDowell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
104 Terry Rd
J & A FUEL STORES
3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.
LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST
2325 Livingston Rd.
MCDADDE'S MARKET
Northside Drive
MCDADDE'S MARKET #2
653 Duling Avenue
PICADILLY CAFETERIA
Jackson Medical Mall
350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue
SHELL FOOD MART
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B & B
702 West North Street - Canton, MS
BOUTIQUE STORE
3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS
BULLY'S STORE
Church Street - Canton, MS
COMMUNITY MART
743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS
FRYER LANE GROCERY
Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS
HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN
285 Peace Street - Canton, MS
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Terry Road

CLINTON

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TERRY

SERVICE STATION
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RAYMOND

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Week of June 23, 2019

Cornelius Turner

October 11, 1927 - June 7, 2019



Turner

Major Associates was involved in the following notable construction projects: a joint venture partner on the Capital City Convention Center in Jackson and the Bennie G. Thompson Academic Center at Tougaloo College; a subcontractor on the Jackson State University Mixed Use Development and the Thad Cochran United States Courthouse in Jackson; the de-

veloper, general contractor and managing agent for the Susie B. West Apartments in Natchez, which was the second low-income housing project built in the State of Mississippi, and the Prestige Plaza Apartments in Port Gibson, which was constructed as congregate housing and one of the few such housing projects in the country at that time; and the owner and general contractor for the Crossroads Office Building, which was one of the first multi-level commercial office spaces in Downtown Jackson owned by an African American.

Throughout his life Cornelius was actively involved in Metro Jackson political, civic and social endeavors. He was a founding member of Jackson 2000; a commissioner and chairman of the board for the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority; and a board member of the Mississippi Literacy Foundation, the Children's Scholarship Foundation, Jackson State University School of Business (Advisory Board), the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, Downtown Jackson Partners, Benedict College and The Piney Woods School.

Cornelius became a close friend of Medgar Evers with whom he once shared office space. They co-founded the Mississippi Free Press to inform African Americans about the NAACP and other civil rights activities. Cornelius was the impetus behind the desegregation of the Jackson Catholic schools by enrolling one of his daughters at St. Mary's Catholic School. She was the first African American to attend.

Due to Cornelius' leadership and direction, Major As-

sociates received the Diamond Award for work performed on the US Postal Service Mail Facility and was recognized as an Outstanding Small Business by the Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce.

His recreational pastimes included hunting and fishing; but his greatest joy was taking his family, and occasionally his friends, out to dinner every Friday at local restaurants for "Family Bonding" where family ties were strengthened and friendships cemented.

The memorial service for Cornelius Turner was held June 21, 2019 at Saint Richard Catholic Church in Jackson, MS.

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Cornelius was predeceased by his mother Mary, his father Lucene, and his daughter Sheila. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Marian; his three daughters Lisa, Adrienne and Dorian; his grandchildren Amber (Mercury) Hall, Brandon (Devon) Washington, and Angel Lagunas; his sisters Mary Snow, Grace Farrell, and Esther Crenshaw; and his brother Franklin D. Turner. Cornelius will always be remembered as a loving husband and father, a business and community icon, and a fearless champion of civil rights.

The memorial service for Cornelius Turner was held June 21, 2019 at Saint Richard Catholic Church in Jackson, MS.

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Eddie J. Fair

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- Ensures that employees continue education training
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- Implemented Curbside Service and Open Door Policy

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PROVEN LEADER

Who is Eddie Fair?

Eddie Fair is the second of three generations that worked for 52,000 hours. He is a citizen of Hattiesburg, MS, who has graduated from Hattiesburg Central High School, where he was a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Education

- ★ Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Jackson State University
- ★ Master's Degree in Public Policy, Jackson State University
- ★ Automotive Engineer & Insurance Management, (Western Michigan University)
- ★ Collector of Revenue 1, State of Mississippi
- ★ Collector of Revenue 2, State of Mississippi

Accomplishments as Tax Collector

- ★ 15 dedicated years of service as Hinds County Tax Collector
- ★ Eliminated long lines
- ★ Organized a special area for senior citizens
- ★ Keep community informed with monthly newsletters
- ★ Invested in continuing employee educational training
- ★ Maintained a professional and friendly office environment
- ★ Keep community awareness with neighborhood newsletters
- ★ Implemented an "Open Door" policy
- ★ Maintained office integrity while producing 10 years of clean audits
- ★ Implemented Curbside Service

Memberships and Associations

- ★ Life Member NAACP
- ★ Member of Legislative Council of Hinds County and Collectors Association
- ★ Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
- ★ Member of Leadership Jackson
- ★ Member of Sallie B. Woodward Lodge #655
- ★ Member of Jackson Rotary Club
- ★ Member of the National Association of Public Administrators
- ★ Honored by 115th Congress of USA, Barack O. Thompson

Summer skin protection

By Dr Vicky Pilkington
Contributing Writer



It is summer. With summer comes exposed skin. Some of us love the feel of the warm rays of the sun, but that warm feeling that gives us that golden bronze glow can be deadly. Sunburn occurs when skin is burned by ultraviolet radiation (UVR), most often after being in the sun for too long. Repeated exposure to sun rays can cause photoaging (wrinkles), skin spots and skin cancer.

Skin Cancer is caused by normal skins cells turning into abnormal skin cells. This occurs most often by sun exposure and sunburn. The damaging effects of the sun build up over time, and tanning bed exposure can cause damaging effects. The more exposure the higher the risk for skin cancer.

There are two types of skin cancer: melanoma and non-melanoma. Most non-melanoma skin cancer can occur anywhere on the skin, but is often on the head, face, neck, back of the hands, arms and legs. These are the body parts most exposed to the sun's rays.

The 2 most common types of non-melanoma skin cancer are called "basal cell carcinoma" and "squamous cell carcinoma." These cancers grow slowly and can be easily treated. If not treated, some non-melanoma skin cancers can spread inside the body and become larger. The symptoms are pink, red and swollen skin, peeling, bleeding, open sores, thick crusty skin, scaly rough,

bumpy spots. Melanoma is a very serious skin cancer. Normal skin cells change into abnormal skin cells and grow out of control. Melanoma occurs anywhere on the skin and in hard to see areas such as inside the mouth, nose and genitals. Melanoma can run in families. If melanoma is not treated, it can spread to organs inside the body. A great way to remember the symptoms of melanoma are the ABCD; asymmetry, border, color and diameter. Melanomas can bleed and become red or crusty.

Testing for skin cancer
If you suspect that you have a skin cancer please see your primary care provider. A skin exam will be performed, and if needed a biopsy of suspicious area will be taken and sent to a special lab. There, a trained physician, called a pathologist, will look at the sample under a microscope to determine if the sample is cancer.

Treatment of skin cancer
In melanoma, there are four stages. Treatment is determined on the stage. Stage 4 is considered advanced. Treatment of melanoma can consist of one or more of the following:

- Surgery – Melanoma is usually treated with surgery to remove the cancer.
- Immunotherapy – Medicine that work with the body's infection-fighting system to stop cancer growth.
- Targeted therapy – a group of medicines that work only on cancers with certain characteristics. These medicines block a specific protein or molecule.
- Radiation therapy – Radiation kills cancer cells.

• Chemotherapy – medicines that kill cancer cells or stop them from growing.
Non-melanoma skin cancer can be treated with surgery or radiation therapy. Prescription skin creams can be used to kill cancer cells. A special skin cream and special light called photodynamic therapy kills cancer cells.

Prevention
The sun's rays are strongest between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during daylight savings time in the continental United States. Do not be fooled: ultraviolet (UV) radiation can pass through the clouds and cause sunburn. Using sunscreen and shade or sunscreen and clothing is the best way to reduce sun exposure. Seek out areas that are shaded by a porch, tent or tree to reduce your chances of developing a sunburn. Use an umbrella to help provide shade. Sunscreen is still recommended while sitting in the shade because your skin is exposed to some UV rays, particularly through reflection off other surfaces.

Sunscreen protects the skin by absorbing or reflecting ultraviolet (UV) radiation. The sun protection factor (SPF) is primarily an indicator of how much protection the sunscreen offers against ultraviolet B (UVB; sunburn) rays. You should look for a sunscreen that is labeled as broad-spectrum, meaning it protects against both ultraviolet A (UVA) and UVB rays.

When it comes to sunscreen, The American Academy of Dermatology recommends using a sunscreen with SPF 30 or greater, protects against both UVA and UVB radiation, and

a higher SPF if fair-skinned or plan on being out in sun for intense sun exposure (the beach for example).

Apply sunscreen generously to all exposed skin 15 to 30 minutes before exposure. Exposed skin is any skin that is not protected from the sun. The correct amount of sunscreen is approximately 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) of lotion to cover an adult's arms, legs, neck and face. You may need more sunscreen to cover your chest and back. Applying less than this amount may reduce the sunscreen's SPF rating.

Reapply sunscreen after sweating, rubbing the skin, drying off with a towel or swimming. The traditional advice is to reapply sunscreen every two to three hours. However, some evidence suggests that reapplying sunscreen as soon as 20 minutes after going outside may offer greater protection, allowing you to completely cover areas that you might have missed when you first applied sunscreen. You should then re-apply every two to three hours.

Protect your lips with lip balm containing a SPF of 30 or higher and re-apply frequently. Some cosmetic products (liquid foundation, lipstick) and moisturizers contain sun-protective ingredients, although to be truly effective, these products should be labeled as having an SPF of 15 or higher. However, many of these products provide little or no UVA protection.

In addition to sunscreen, consider covering exposed skin with a wide-brimmed hat and use sunglasses that provide 100 percent UV ray protection.

Sunglasses can reduce your risk of cataracts (clouding in the eye's lens); wraparound glasses provide the most complete protection.

Certain medications make the skin more sensitive to sunburn. This includes nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (ibuprofen), quinolone and tetracycline antibiotics (Ciprofloxacin, tetracycline), diuretics such as furosemide (Lasix) and hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ), psoralens (methoxsalen/Oxsoralen) and phenothiazines (Compazine). Other drugs include amiodarone and antifungals, including voriconazole, itraconazole and fluconazole. If you take one or more of these medications, you should avoid the sun and use protective measures (sunscreen) to avoid sunburn.

When to seek help
If you get a sunburn, stay out of the sun until pain and redness resolves. Use Tylenol or Ibuprofen if your doctor says it is ok. Over the counter aloe-based creams, lotions or gels can give comfort as well as cold compresses. If you have a severe sunburn, call your health care provider to determine if you can use treatment at home or if you need to be evaluated in the office or an emergency department.

Symptoms of severe sunburn include severe skin pain and skin blistering. People with severe sunburn can also have heat stroke or heat exhaustion (when your body temperature is extremely high), which can cause fever, headache, confusion, nausea, vomiting, blurred vision and fainting. If you have any of these problems, you

should go to the emergency department immediately.

Skin cancer in Latinos
Skin cancer can appear on the skin in many ways. If you have a growth on your skin that is getting bigger, a patch of scaly skin, or a dark streak under or around a nail, make an appointment to see a dermatologist.

Skin cancer in blacks
In people with brown or black skin, skin cancer often develops on parts of the body that get less sun like the bottom of the foot, lower leg and palms. Skin cancer may also begin under a nail, around the anus, or on the genitals. It's important to check these areas.

Skin cancer in Asians
The most common sign of skin cancer in Asians is often a roundish, raised brown or black growth. Skin cancer also shows up in other ways, so be sure to check your skin carefully.

Dr Vicky Pilkington is board certified in Internal Medicine, and is a Geriatrician who owns the Nail Bar, Salon & Spa in Gluckstadt, MS. She has been trained in laser skin and spider vein removal, botox injections, fillers, skin tag and mole removal and hormone replacement therapy. We offer medical grade sunscreen, Obagi 50 SPF Sunscreen, only available by a licensed physician.

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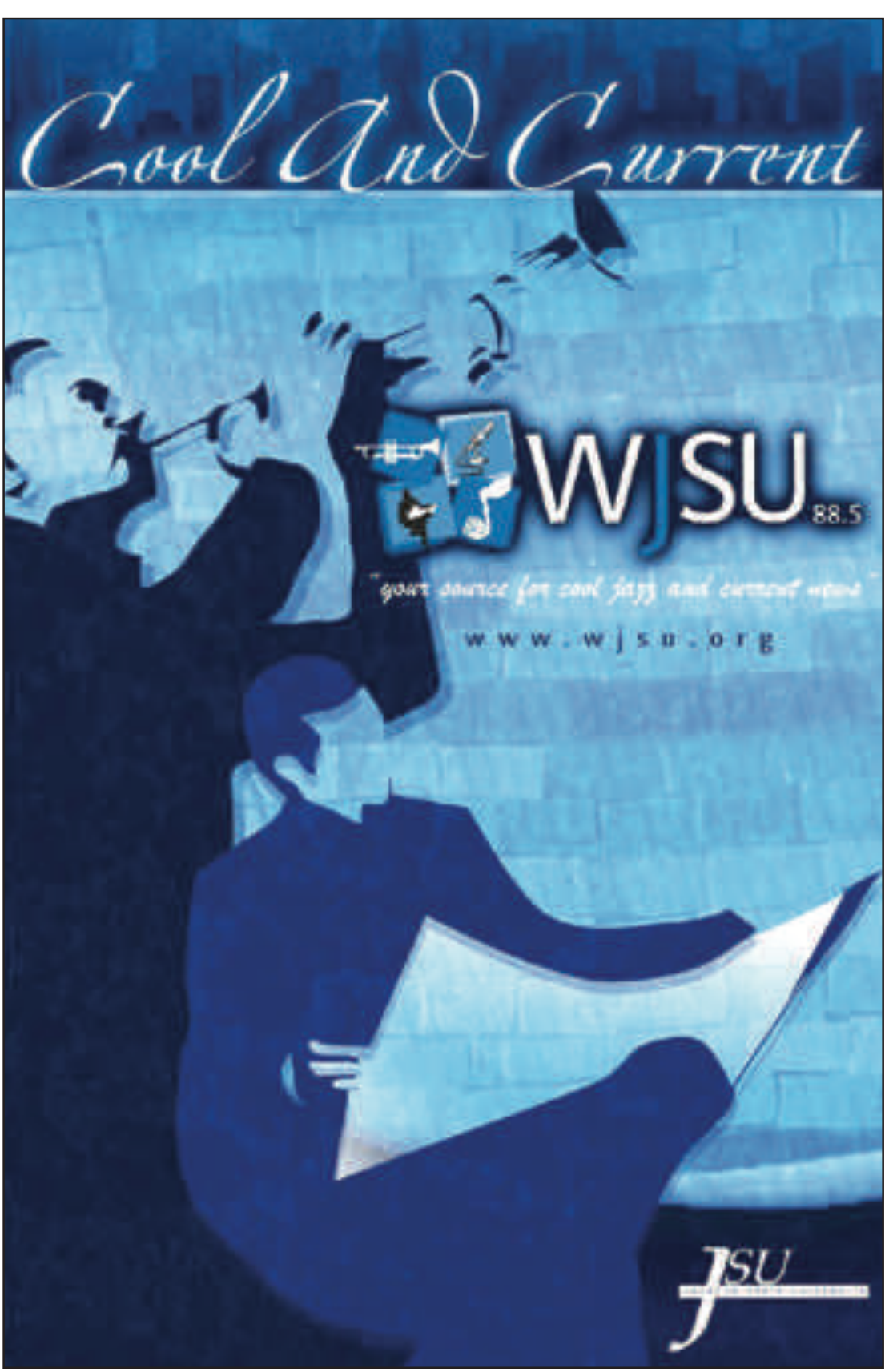


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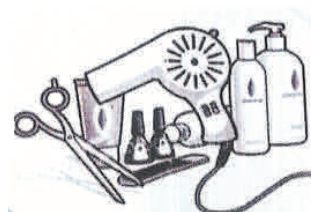
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BOOK REVIEW:

“BTTM FDRS”

BY EZRA CLAYTAN DANIELS & BEN PASSMORE

C.2019, FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Your first place all your own needs to be ah-mazing.

Big-screen TV for gaming. Fridge for snacks and drinks. Sofa for kicking back, a few good chairs, and places to hold your stuff. Maybe your parents will help out. Maybe the landlord will let you paint. Maybe, as in “BTTM FDRS” by Ezra Clayton Daniels and Ben Passmore, your new place will be interesting.

When it came time to finally get her own apartment, Darla

didn’t bother to look far. She grew up in Chicago’s Bottom-yards and though it still wasn’t the safest place on Earth, the former ghetto was gentrifying. That counted for something, right?

Her father hated the building; he warned her away and yeah, it was super-creepy but the rent was good. The place was roomy, but also had room for improvement: as Darla moved in, the electricity kept going out and her friend, Cynthia, messed up the plumbing. Even so, Darla had neighbors: a famous rap-

per moved in down the hall and she met an elderly lady and her son from downstairs.

Was it the stress of the move, then, or the stress of living in the place itself that made Darla fight with Cynthia soon after Darla spent her first night alone? Who knows, but they argued and the friendship was over – or Darla thought it was, anyhow, but Cynthia had second thoughts. She snuck back into Darla’s apartment, got totally creeped out, hid in a cabinet, and fell down a tunnel...

... and into a creature that

wrapped Cynthia into itself and overtook her body.

Unaware of the deadly organism that her best friend was fighting in the basement of the apartment building, Darla hung out with the famous rapper down the hall until she started noticing a lot of weird things. There were cameras in the apartments, and eerie noises. The building superintendent was super-creepy and the whole place was like a dungeon. And then she found Cynthia – or, at least, what was left of her.

Was there time for Darla to

get out alive?

If you’re not familiar with graphic novels – which are basically full-length stories in comic art form – “BTTM FDRS” might take a bit of getting used to. It doesn’t help that this tale starts abruptly, and with racism that feels like a slap.

Keep reading. That slap ultimately turns into a shiver.

With color-blocked panels and not a lot of fluff or dialogue, authors Ezra Clayton Daniels and Ben Passmore take readers into what could be perceived as commentary

on today’s social problems, or sly pokes at gentrification and modern segregation, in the future or now. The story is sly, almost backhanded and, much like the creature in this book, eats its way into your imagination until your hands sweat, your eyes dart wildly, and you realize that you’ve been holding your breath.

Let it go. You’re safe in your chair (for now) but if you’re 15-and-up and you love graphic horror novels, here’s your next scare. For you, “BTTM FDRS” is ah-mazing.

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Hinds County School District students perform the song “Mississippi Beautiful” at the Governor’s office with jazz artist Pam Confer

HCSD parents and students pictured with Dr. Delesicia Martin in the Governor’s Office



Governor Phil Bryant signs proclamation recognizing the song Mississippi Beautiful written by Pam Confer

Pictured L-R: McKinley Harris, RES; Trinity Spille, RES; and Lala Wade, THS; (back row) Pam Confer; Sitting: Gov. Phil Bryant



Hinds County School District recognizes Entergy representative for outstanding support to district

Ivan Smith, district maintenance director and Tammy Rankin, customer service representative – Entergy



Students recognized by Senator John Horhn, District 26, at district board meeting

Students from the Hinds County School District participated in an Essay Contest sponsored by Quinn Healthcare, the Mississippi State Medical Association, the Mississippi Academy of Pediatrics and the Mississippi Academy of Family Medicine in March to increase awareness of the importance of health physicals and reducing health disparities in the state of Mississippi among young people. Entries were judged by English professors from Jackson State University on the following criteria: 40% creativity; 40% quality; 20% social media shares.



Pictured L-R: Lorenzo Grimes, Principal; Mrs. Quinn; Sedeki Satcher, RHS graduate / 3rd Place Winner; Senator John Horhn, District 26; and Kenisha Potter, Director of Community Outreach – UnitedHealthcare of Mississippi



Pictured L-R: Lorenzo Grimes, Principal; Mrs. Quinn; Delicia Tyler RHS 10th grader / 2nd Place Winner; Senator John Horhn, District 26; and Kenisha Potter, Director of Community Outreach – UnitedHealthcare of Mississippi



Pictured L-R: Lorenzo Grimes, Principal; Mrs. Quinn; Raven Griffin, RHS graduate / 1st Place Winner; Senator John Horhn, District 26; and Kenisha Potter, Director of Community Outreach – UnitedHealthcare of Mississippi

Board Highlights

