

Hometown girl Joanna Archie seeking to become a judge with passion and purpose



Archie

By Othor Cain
Editor

We’ve all heard the phrase, “the third time is the charm.” Joanna Archie is banking on the second time being the charm in her quest to become Justice Court Judge for District 4.

A product of the Jackson Pub-

lic School District, Archie is better prepared this time around than she was in 2015. “I’ve learned a lot since then, I’ve visited with families, I’ve talked to inmates and I know without a doubt, we can do better by all people,” Archie said. “It really is about getting to know individuals and try-

ing to help them.”

An Alabama State University graduate, Archie has seven years of law enforcement experience with the Jackson Police Department under her belt. After college, she returned to her native Jackson in 2001 and became a certified law enforcement officer. After her

time with JPD, she moved over to the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC), as a parole /probation officer.

“My passion has always been to provide safety and a feeling of security to our citizens while helping reform or punish those that have chosen not to uphold

the laws,” she shared. “During my tenure as a certified police officer and parole/probation officer I handled and sometimes arrested people on misdemeanors, as well as, felony charges. I’ve served warrants and have worked inside

Archie
Continued on page 3

National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Central MS Chapter gives \$10,000 in scholarships



Front Row: Wendalyn Towner, Alashija Johnson, Rita Wray – president, Victoria Baker and Kaila Love. Back row: Cynthia Armstrong – first vice president of Programs, Hailey Greer, Jalisea Finch, Olakemi Olagbegi, Corianna April, Arionna Haynes and Barbara Monroe – Scholarship and Awards chair. Not pictured: Robyn Turner

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women Central MS Chapter awarded \$10,000 in scholar-

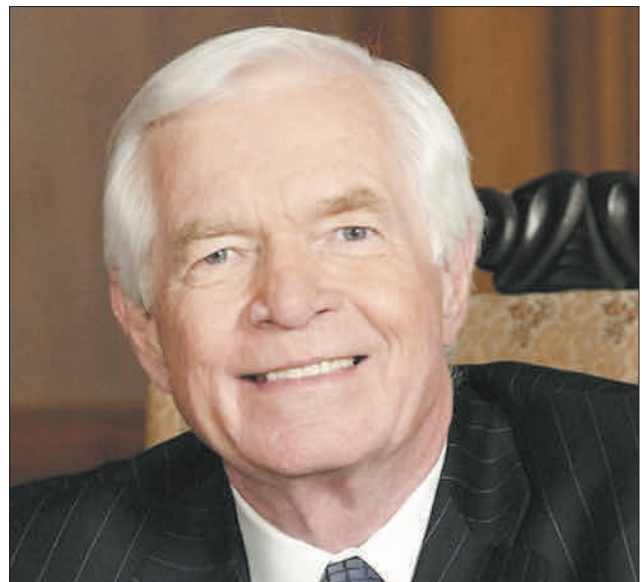
ships to 10 graduating high school seniors from across the Central Mississippi area. The 2019 Scholarship & Awards Program was

held at the Hilton Jackson where Beverly Hogan, president of Tougaloo College, served as the keynote speaker. Guests in attendance

proudly watched as each graduate

100 Black Women
Continued on page 3

Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus honors Cochran



Cochran

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus offers prayers and condolences to the family and survivors of U.S. Senator Thad Cochran, a true statesman whose service in Washington will never be duplicated.

Senator Cochran’s legacy of service to our state, our country and to mankind has been tremendous and we the members of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus will miss our friend whose helpfulness crossed all barriers.

With heavy hearts we stand ready to assist the family in any way that we can and we will strive to honor Senator Cochran’s legacy through our own work at forming coalitions and better serving our state.

Angela Turner-Ford
Mississippi Senate District 16
Chair, Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus

See photos page 2



Turner-Ford

Trailblazing Tigers Awards Breakfast

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Inc., Byram-Terry Chapter, held its 2nd Annual Trailblazing Tigers Awards Breakfast Saturday, June 1, 2019 in the Terry L. Woodard Grand Ballroom located on the campus of Jackson State University.

The breakfast was held to honor Jackson State University graduates who live, work or serve in the extended Byram-Terry community.

One honoree in each category was named.

Activism & Civil Rights

Dr. Edelia J. Carthan

Athletics & Sports

Earl Sanders

Community Service

Dr. Juanita Sims Doty

Education

Dr. Will Smith

Education Leadership & Administration

Trailblazers

Continued on page 3



Pictured from left to right (back row): Tracey Purvis (1st vice president), Tosha Garner (president), Brad “Kamikaze” Franklin, Dr. Will Smith, Earl Sanders, and Aleesha Hudson (Treasurer & Event Chairman). Pictured from left to right (front row): Dr. Michelle Gibson-Thompson, Dr. Juanita Sims Doty, Dolores Lynch Williams, Dr. Edelia J. Carthan, Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, Shirley Epps-Perry, and Mickala Hodges. PHOTOS BY: FULLOFLAVA PHOTOGRAPHY

Michael Johnson
Walk Run 2019



Show Me
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MLK Jr.



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Pictorial Memoriam of U.S. Senator Thad Cochran



The flag-draped casket carried by an honor guard from the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol arrives at Mississippi State Capitol.



Speaker of the House State Rep. Philip Gunn speaks at the state funeral of U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran at the Mississippi Capitol Building in downtown Jackson, Miss., Monday, June 3, 2019.



Gov. Phil Bryant speaks.



Speakers including (from left) Gov. Phil Bryant, Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves and Speaker of the House State Rep. Philip Gunn stand before the state funeral of U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran.



Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves speaks.

See tribute on page 4

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Archie

Continued from page 1

prisons and jails when riots have broken out. I have been inside almost every prison, county and city jail in the state of Mississippi...I'm the only experienced candidate in this race.”

Archie said her experience with inmates has shown her what inmates and their families are seeking from the judicial system. “I think we have to understand when we are sitting on the bench that our decisions not only affect those standing before us but the many lives of family members and victims,” she said.

Having sat in on parole hearings, listening to offenders’ humble pleas about not going back to prison, Archie says, “We can not arrest our way out of the problems we are experiencing. I also believe that locking everybody up that appears in a courtroom isn’t the answer either.”

Archie believes in rehabilitation and offering help within the confines of the law. “Please make no mistake about it, if a person is a habitual offender and shows no remorse, the law deals with that...but most people that appear in Justice Court are folk looking for and in need of help...I want to help,” she said.

Passion and purpose are two traits Archie has embraced. “I

have heard and accepted my calling and I want to walk in my purpose,” she said. “I’m doing this to help. I know the system...I know the law...I know the options available...I want to put my experience into action,” she said. “People are looking for someone they can trust and that person is me.”

Justice Court judges deal primarily with civil cases and some criminal misdemeanor cases. These judges can also conduct preliminary hearings and bond hearings on felony cases.

To the notion of bonds, Archie believes the public must understand how the process work. Judges are bound by the law to set bonds. She also understand alternatives. “What I’ve learned in my career is that sometimes offenders are released depending on the circumstances surrounding the crime and their support system (s) at home,” Archie said. “There are a lot of other alternatives that I have hands-on used to rehabilitate an offender. I have had to counsel, encourage and assure these offenders that if they want help from the system they have to desire it.”

The election will be held August 4. District 4 includes portions of Jackson, Byram, Clinton, Raymond, Bolton and Edwards.

100 Black Women

Continued from page 1

received her scholarship and told of the institution she plans to attend in the fall; as well as, her future aspirations.

Cynthia Armstrong, first vice president of Programs, stated, “The organization is honored to assist with the young ladies’ educational expenses this fall. Each year NCBW Central MS Chapter commits itself to providing scholarships to young ladies in our service area who plan to attend HBCUs. To date, we have given over \$200,000 in scholarships.

The 2019 scholarship recipients are Corianna April, Jim Hill High School; Victor Baker, Murrah High School; Jali-sea Finch, Jim Hill High School; Hailey Greer, St. Joseph Catholic High School; Arionna Haynes, Crystal Springs High School; Alashija Johnson, Canton High School; Kaila Love, Jim Hill High School; Olakemi Olagbegi, Jim Hill High School; Wendalyn Towner, Velma Jackson High School; and Robyn Turner, Callaway High School. Prospective schools the young ladies will be attending are Alcorn State University, Dillard University, Jackson State University, Spellman College, Tougaloo College, Tuskegee University and Xavier University.

Trailblazers

Continued from page 1

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson
Entertainment
Brad “Kamikaze” Franklin
Entrepreneurship
Shirley Epps-Perry
Health & Medicine
Dr. Michelle Gibson-Thompson
Lifetime Achievement
Dolores Lynch Williams
Ministry
Mickala Hodges
Young Trailblazer of the Year
Marqua Lofton

Maggie Wade Dixon, WLBT News anchor, served as Mistress of Ceremony and entertainment was provided by J6, MADDRAMA, Amazing Grace Dance Ministry and Daniel Harris.

The Byram-Terry Chapter also presented the Jackson State University Development Foundation with a check for \$7,287.64 to be used towards scholarships via the Byram-Terry Chapter Endowed Scholarship and the Byram-Terry Chapter Annual Scholarship Fund.

If you would like to join the Byram-Terry Chapter, please email info@jsunaabyramterry.org or call 601-951-4744.



Award recipients and honorees



**Helping Families,
Strengthening Communities**

HCHRA offers Summer Food Service Program to fight child hunger

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In an effort to fight child hunger, Hinds County Human Resource Agency (HCHRA) will offer the Summer Food Service Program from June 10 through July 23, 2019 at two locations in the Jackson metro area.

Children 18 years and younger

can receive lunch at absolutely no cost.

The meals will be served Monday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at South Jackson Head Start Center located at 3020 Grey Boulevard and at Mary C. Jones Head Start Center located at 2050 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

“During the summer, families typically have to buy more food, and that’s an increased expense that many families simply cannot afford,” said Kenn Cockrell, HCHRA president and CEO. “By offering the Summer Food Service Program, we hope that we can relieve some of the financial strain

and ensure that children receive nutritious meals across the summer.”

Both of the food service sites are open to the public. Children are not required to show proof of age, income or residency.

For more information about the program, parents can call 601 923-1780.



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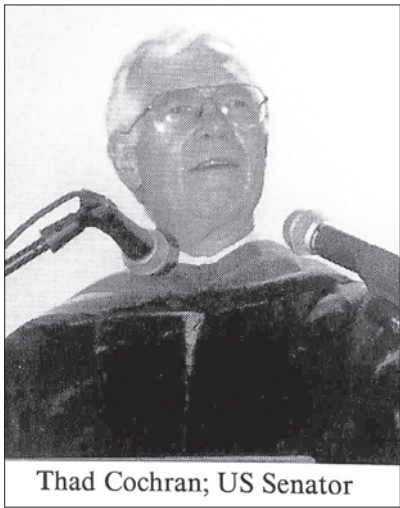
Alcorn State University remembers former U.S. Senator Thad Cochran



Mississippi Link Newswire

Alcorn State University issued the following statement in remembrance of former United States Senator Thad Cochran for his lifetime of service, support and dedication to the state of Mississippi, its institutions and residents.

“Senator Thad Cochran was an exemplary great leader and statesman. He served the country and Mississippi at the highest level, tirelessly working to make a difference and improve the lives of its people. His work on education, healthcare, defense and agriculture funding, policy, research and facilities for Alcorn was unparalleled. He leaves a distinguished legacy as a respected gentleman of wisdom, civility and consensus building. Senator Cochran’s nearly forty-five years of public service stands as a



Thad Cochran; US Senator

model for publicly elected officials. Mississippi is stronger today because Thad Cochran was her servant. Alcorn extends its deepest and most sincere thoughts and prayers to the Cochran family.”

Delta Regional Authority chairman comments on Senator Cochran’s legacy

Mississippi Link Newswire

Delta Regional Authority Chairman Chris Caldwell issued the following statement on the passing of Senator Cochran.

“Senator Thad Cochran was not just a champion for Mississippi and the Delta, but he was a tireless advocate for young leaders. His greatest legacy is the countless individuals that he impacted and the lives he

touched. More than any appropriation or project he shepherded, the impact of his influence will be felt for generations to come. Without his support, I would not be in the position I am today and for that I am forever grateful. On behalf of DRA and the Delta region, I offer my thoughts and prayers to Sen. Cochran’s family and friends, former staff and all who had the pleasure to know him.

Condolences from Supervisor Robert Graham, District 1

Mississippi Link Newswire

I am deeply saddened by the loss of Former U.S. Senator Thad Cochran. I would like to express my sincere

condolence to the family at this difficult time. Senator Cochran was a great public servant and a true statesman.

Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba issues statement on the passing of Senator Thad Cochran

Mississippi Link Newswire

“Senator Thad Cochran was a dedicated public servant whose commitment to the growth and progress of Mississippi was evident in the many

initiatives and programs he was so instrumental in seeing through for the benefit and wellbeing of all Mississippians. The loss of his presence will be felt greatly throughout our entire state.”

Gov. Phil Bryant’s statement on the passing of Sen. Thad Cochran

Mississippi Link Newswire

“Mississippi and our nation have lost a true statesman in Thad Cochran. He was a legend in the United States Senate where he worked tirelessly to move this state and country forward. He was one of our longest serving senators, and his influence can be felt in every corner of Mississippi. Whether it was fighting for resources during the dark days following Hurricane Katrina on the Coast or being a zealous advocate

for farmers in the Delta, he dedicated himself to serving all Mississippians. The Quiet Persuader dominated Mississippi politics for nearly half a century, and he did so by being a gentleman. Senator Cochran has left a legacy of public service that should serve as an inspiration for all Americans. I am requesting that flags be flown at half-staff in Mississippi. Deborah and I are praying for the Cochran family during this difficult time.”

Statement from Commissioner of Higher Education Alfred Rankins, Jr. on the passing of U.S. Senator Thad Cochran

Mississippi Link Newswire

“The passing of Senator Thad Cochran is a great loss to our state and our nation. He was a statesman, a gentleman and a servant leader. He understood the importance of higher education and was a staunch supporter of the university system in his home state. We are forever grateful for this support, which has left an indelible

imprint on our universities, the academic experiences our students enjoy and the research capabilities that seek to improve the lives of Mississippians on many fronts. This is just one of the many legacies of Senator Cochran’s service that will impact generations to come. We extend our sympathies to the Cochran family. He will be greatly missed.”

Statement from Delta State University on the passing of Sen. Thad Cochran

Mississippi Link Newswire

Delta State University joins many friends from around Mississippi in mourning the passing of U.S. Senator

Thad Cochran, who was a true statesman and a great supporter of this university. We offer our thoughts and prayers to his family during this dif-

ficult time. Below is a tribute to Sen. Cochran, written recently by DSU President William N. LaForge and published in the *Mississippi Law Journal*.

Thad Cochran: The affable and approachable Senator from Mississippi

A constant voice of reason and a major conscience of the United States Senate, Thad Cochran was respected and admired by legislators and other government leaders across the political spectrum – from his first day in the House of Representatives in 1973 until his final day in the Senate in 2018. He was a principled leader who exuded integrity and could be trusted for his word and a handshake. He was a master of the written and spoken word, which was a source of pride for the university and law school that provided his formal education – his beloved Ole Miss.

When U.S. Senator Thad Cochran retired in the spring of 2018, the State of Mississippi lost a giant of a leader in the nation’s capital. Senator Cochran was the quintessential statesman who served the citizens of this state with great distinction and success. His distinguished service and effective advocacy in Congress over the last four and a half decades positioned Mississippi to be at the forefront of critical debates, public policy decisions and historical events.

Senator Cochran was a leader in national and international issues and decision-making that made our country safer, more prosperous and more productive. The superb leadership he demonstrated in the context of the nation’s response to Hurricane Katrina is legendary. He was a key voice in the effort to curb nuclear proliferation during the Soviet era, as well as a staunch advocate throughout his public career for a strong national defense and robust military. He supported market ideas in agriculture, trade and commerce that have helped keep Mississippi an agricultural mecca and our country the economic envy of the world. He helped steer billions of dollars in federal discretionary spending to virtually every government program – much of that funding to his home state. And, he displayed a keen and genuine sense of responsibility and compassion for those who have a legitimate need for food and social program assistance. He could always be counted on to “go to bat” for his Mississippi constituents, no matter the issue or the petitioner.

In his public service, Thad Cochran had a keen understanding of Mississippi and Mississippians. He was everyone’s representative and senator – despite party affiliation, ideology or background – and the people of Mississippi rewarded his stewardship, service and leadership by electing him to the United States Senate seven times. His style of advocacy and leadership was naturally gentle and genteel, yet forceful and intense when necessary. He was an authentic leader of substance who used facts and compelling arguments to win the day on an issue. However, he could certainly “mix it up” politically to make his point. Often considered the “quiet persuader,” the Senator was widely sought out to speak on an issue, because – like the old E.F. Hutton commercial – when he spoke, people listened. His voice and perspec-

tives carried substance, weight and credibility.

While he chose his battles prudently – always prioritizing issues and carefully analyzing strategies and outcomes – he was also courageous in championing righteous and sensible causes. I vividly recall the Senator’s erudite, extemporaneous response to a colleague’s opposition to his proposal for the creation of a foreign agricultural fellowship program for middle-income countries and emerging democracies. His persuasive arguments for the plan encompassed some of the most salient and practical points I have ever heard in support of U.S. trade, agribusiness and foreign policy, and resulted in the program initiative passing congressional muster and being signed into law. Today, it is in its fourth decade as the very successful and expansive Cochran Fellows Program, named by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in honor of the Senator for his visionary authorship. Since its inception in 1984, the program has provided training for more than 17,500 agriculture and agribusiness fellows from 125 countries, and it has resulted in the strengthening of trade interests for U.S. agriculture around the world. This program is one example of the many legislative victories Thad Cochran notched during his congressional career that had a major impact on U.S. public policy.

In his decades of service – when many of his colleagues were embroiled in one political fight after another – Thad Cochran had the wisdom and ability to rise above the fray and to bring civility to debate and decision-making, which is almost a lost “art form” today. He was a visionary among many short-sighted politicians, and he prided himself on making public policy decisions that truly served the public’s interest. He possessed “political humility” – a rare trait in today’s political realm. While he exhibited confidence and a mastery of issues, the Senator always kept his ego in check, and he seemed to grasp the bigger picture and end game more clearly than others. He worked just as diligently and cooperatively with colleagues across the political aisle as he did with those within his own party to achieve important legislative results for his state and the nation.

In many ways, Thad Cochran was larger than life in his service to the public. He embodied the modern Renaissance man – a thought-leader, an intellectual and an internationalist who could go toe-to-toe with anyone in any setting.

As his college social fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, proudly noted when it presented the Senator with its prestigious Distinguished Achievement Award, Thad Cochran personifies the classic attributes of a scholar, leader, athlete and gentleman. Throughout his career, his versatility and abilities seemed endless – and enviable. He could just as easily discuss foreign trade with the vice premier of China, or the details of a Middle East peace agreement with

a sitting president, as he could talk local politics, duck hunting and the weather with a citizen in the smallest Mississippi hamlet. And, he could always give his colleagues – of any political persuasion – a good tennis match.

Along with hundreds of other former Cochran staff members, fellows, interns and pages, I have reaped the lifelong benefits of having served under Senator Thad Cochran. We learned “at the feet of the master” how to be professional, industrious, enterprising, courteous, inclusive, fair and successful. We learned to be servant leaders who are committed to causes and care about people and communities. Many of us have returned to Mississippi, or stayed in the state, to lead major enterprises in business, higher education, government, law and non-profit organizations.

More importantly, millions of Mississippians today, and in the future, will benefit from the hard work and superb representation to which Thad Cochran dedicated himself during an outstanding congressional career that spanned nearly a half century. His dynamic service as chairman of both the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry in the U.S. Senate benefitted the state of Mississippi in untold ways. His outstanding legacy will be with us always in the numerous programs and facilities around the state that bear his name and celebrate his contributions to Mississippi.

One terrific tribute, among many, is the Thad Cochran United States Courthouse in Jackson that symbolically sums up so much of the Senator’s persona and career – his respect for, and his career in, the law and government; his advocacy for the people of Mississippi; his “big tent” approach to bringing people together and solving problems; his genuine care and compassion for his fellow travelers on this planet; and, his impact on the federal judiciary in Mississippi, including the fact that he recommended the appointment of every sitting Article III federal judge in the state today.

Thad Cochran’s legacy will be that he made extraordinary and meaningful contributions – throughout his long tenure of public service – to advancing the interests and improving the future of our state and our country and for millions of his fellow citizens.

To my good friend and mentor, Thad Cochran, I say a heartfelt “thank you” for giving so much of yourself to the people of Mississippi and the nation. I salute you for your outstanding and distinguished service, leadership and lessons of a lifetime. I am forever thankful for the experience of working with, and for, the affable and always approachable senator from Mississippi who relished the fact that his constituents simply called him ‘Thad.’

William N. LaForge

JSU National Alumni Association Byram - Terry Chapter

Trailblazing Tigers Awards Breakfast

June 1, 2019 • Jackson State University • Jackson, MS

PHOTOS BY FULLOFLAVA



Celebrating the Class of 2019



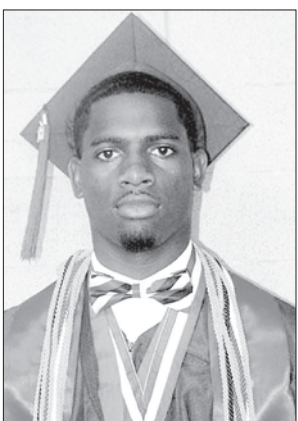
CALLAWAY – Mikenzi Laster, Valedictorian



CALLAWAY – Alyssa Riddley, Salutatorian



FOREST HILL – Andrea Milton, Valedictorian



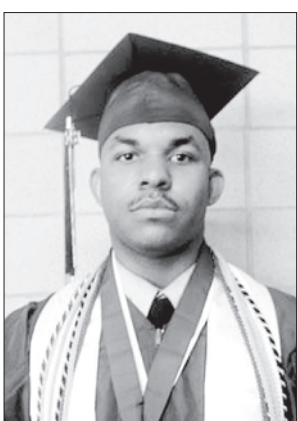
FOREST HILL – Rodreekas Bush, Salutatorian



JIM HILL – Manuel Campbell, Valedictorian



JIM HILL – Jocelyn Greene, Salutatorian



LANIER – Sabastian Robinson, Valedictorian



LANIER – Makyla Simmons, Salutatorian



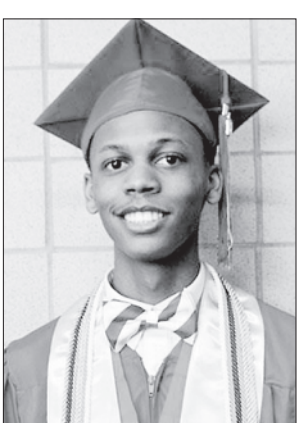
MURRAH – Kelcie Bolden, Valedictorian



MURRAH – Kaitlyn Fowler, Salutatorian



PROVINE – Shanean Dille, Valedictorian



PROVINE – Andre Cox

Mississippi Link Newswire

On May 28 and 29, Jackson Public Schools held commencement ceremonies for the graduating seniors from all seven of the district's high schools. Parents, siblings, and other family members joined either in person or via livestream to witness the occasion. Valedictorians and salutatorians delivered thoughtful remarks to challenge their classmates as they embark on the next leg of their journey. Dressed in ceremonial

regalia, the district's high school principals presented the graduates from their schools as School Board members conferred diplomas. Graduates crossed the stage to the cheers of the attending audience as they received their diplomas and plenty of well-wishes from district officials including JPS Superintendent Errick L. Greene. Listed below are the heads of the class – the valedictorians and salutatorians of the class of 2019.



WINGFIELD – Bridgett Moore



WINGFIELD – Shamia Thompson

Scholarship & Graduate Totals

We can say our scholars have crossed this important milestone with great success. This year's 1,460 graduates accrued a whopping \$33.7 million in scholarships. By far, the most significant scholarship total in recent years.

School	Scholarships	Graduates
Callaway	\$2,728,116	180
Forest Hill	\$1,866,720	246
Jim Hill	\$18,793,815	246
Lanier	\$637,000	120
Murrah	\$7,248,000	284
Provine	\$774,404	238
Wingfield	\$1,697,860	146
TOTAL	\$33,745,915	1,460

Community celebrates Top Ten Scholars

Mississippi Link Newswire

Seventy high school seniors were honored at the 39th Annual Salute to Scholars celebration held May 20. The ceremony is held at the end of each

school year to recognize the top ten graduating seniors from each high school. The event is sponsored each year by the Jackson Council PTA/PTS and hosted by the Office of the Mayor.



Callaway - Kirstyn Banks, Aleaxus Barney, Jadyn Bradley, Evelyn Henderson, Nijah Horn, Antwoine Kitchen, Mikenzi Laster, Cameron Lazard, Alyssa Riddley, Robyn Turner



Forest Hill - Brittany Bradley, Rodreekas Bush, Marc Evans, Albert Jackson, Jimmie Lee III, Candace Mayfield, Andrea Milton, Litzy Trejo, Casiah Watson, Jorelyn Wilson



Jim Hill - Ruben Banks, Manuel Campbell, Terace Donaldson, Jalisea Finch, Christopher Gardner, Jocelyn Greene, Adora Guice, Jayla Holloway, Jaina Johnson, Kaila Love



Lanier - NyKia Brown, Jamauria Davis, Joseph Jiles, Blair Lee, Myrekal Payton, Keyshawn Robinson, Lillyunna Robinson, Sabastian Robinson, Makyla Simmons, Daniel Wynn



Murrah - Jaalyn Alexander, Victoria Baker, Kelcie Bolden, Kilando Chambers, Ava Davis, Selena Dixon, Armand Grant, Aja Purvis, Jayden Smith



Provine - Eriona Banks, Diamond Cornelius, Andre Cox, Shanean Dille, Philandra Green, Patrick Johnson Jr., Markesa Lee, Ro'Darien Pendleton, Erica Peyton, Alondra Reyes,



Wingfield - Lois Brown, Precious Brown, Shamaria Cattenhead, Akira Ellis, Shauntea Kelly, Yasmine Lyons, Anahja'Nai Moore, Bridgett Moore, Shamia Thompson, Jamectria Williams

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JSU and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Central MS Chapte, awarded a \$75,000 grant

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson State University in collaboration with the National Coalition of 100 Black Women Inc., Central Mississippi Chapter, have been awarded a \$75,000 grant through Thurgood Marshall College Fund’s partnership with Apple for its proposal Women RISE which provides exposure for women and underrepresented minorities to STEM.

The Women RISE Program will focus on coaching and support in STEM education and STEM careers and will be composed of two parts – a symposium and a research publication journal writing workshop.

The impact of this project will aid in the recruitment and retention of students in the STEM majors and influence students to attend STEM graduate programs and receive hands-on exposure to research. Faculty members from HBCUs will be asked to bring at least one undergraduate or graduate student with them.

Coaching. During the symposium, STEM professional coaches (i.e. scientists, engineers, etc.) will interact with the participants providing career tips and coaching opportunities. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask specific questions regarding career and education paths.

Poster Presentations. The purpose of the poster presentation will be to provide a venue for faculty and students to share their research in STEM fields. Presentations will be judged for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Honorable Mention.

Everyone Can Code. Apple Swift representative will introduce the Everyone Can Code Program curriculum with presentations and interactive live demonstrations.

Faculty and students will have the opportunity to attend a workshop on peer-reviewed journal writing. An opportunity to submit to a peer-re-

viewed journal dedicated specifically to this grant leading to publication if submission requirements are met.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Incorporated Central MS Chapter advocates on behalf of black women and girls to promote leadership development and gender equity in the areas of health, education and economic empowerment. This advocacy requires our diligence in keeping abreast of issues which impacts the achievement of this mission.

“One of the current issues on the table is our commitment to the education of women and girls in STEM” states Rita Wray, grant co-principal investigator and president, NCBW Central MS Chapter.

Jackson State University is the state’s fourth largest institution of higher learning and largest HBCU. It was recognized among the top 20 HBCUs in the nation by *U. S. News & World Report* (2016) for higher education and academic quality. Jackson State University is a Carnegie High Research Institution and had the distinction of being named an Apple Distinguished School for 2013-15.

Barbara L. Howard, assistant professor at Jackson State University and principal investigator for the grant, has led several efforts dealing with the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students in STEM. Her vision with this proposal was to provide a holistic approach to STEM student recruitment to include the professional development and showcasing of STEM faculty. Co-PI’s include Marilyn Evans and Jennifer Young-Wallace.

For more information contact Dr. Barbara L. Howard at 601-979-3406; email Barbara.L.Howard@jsums.edu or Rita Wray at 601-992-2842; email rwray1035@aol.com

You might say they’re a Carey family ...

The Mississippi Link Newswire

When the McCons say they’re a Carey family, they mean it.

Over a three-day span, May 16-18, William Carey University hosted six commencement ceremonies. Graduates in the first of these ceremonies included a father, Reuben Fitzgerald McCon, and two of his sons – Reuben Perez and Neuman Fitzgerald.

The sons received master’s degrees – Reuben in health administration and education and Neuman in biomedical science. Their father earned a bachelor’s degree in general studies with emphases in physical education and psychology.

That’s three William Carey degrees, but we’re not done yet.

In 2017, both sons also earned their bachelor’s degrees from William Carey. And their mother, Angela Jupiter-McCon, earned a doctorate in nursing administration and education from William Carey in 2014.

That’s six William Carey diplomas. Wait, there’s more.

The family lives in Ocean Springs. Father Reuben works in the facilities department at WCU’s Tradition campus – where his wife, Angela, is a professor of nursing. Moreover, son Neuman will begin classes this summer at the WCU-Tradition School of Pharmacy, a doctoral program that accepted its inaugural class in 2018. Son Reuben Jr. plans to pursue a doctorate in health administration and education in 2020, when the new degree program begins accepting students.

That’s a lot of WCU connections.

Angela said, “So, yes, I guess you could say we are a Carey family. Our third and final son is just 14 years old, and that’s the only reason he doesn’t have a Carey degree.”

Family beginnings
Reuben and Angela McCon met in high school during a basketball game in Pascagoula.

“It was never a matter of whether you were going to college in my family, but where you were going to college,” Angela McCon said. “It was never like that in my husband’s family. That’s why we’re doubly proud of him.”

As a young man, Reuben McCon attended junior college for



MILESTONE: The McCon family poses for a photo before commencement May 16 at William Carey University’s Hattiesburg campus. In the center are father Reuben Fitzgerald McCon and his wife, Dr. Angela Jupiter-McCon. At left is older son Reuben Perez McCon; at right is younger son Neuman Fitzgerald McCon.

a while. “But I couldn’t afford it, so I joined the Navy and they sent me to aviation school and I became an airplane mechanic,” Reuben said.

He retired after a distinguished 20-year military career, serving at U.S. Navy bases at home and abroad or assigned to aircraft carriers. His last nine years were spent at Naval Air Station Belle Chasse near New Orleans.

“I’m glad I was able to finish what I started 30 years ago. I needed to set an example for my boys. I can’t describe how exciting it was to walk at graduation with my sons. It was a blessing from God for me, my sons and my wife, onstage in her academic regalia, to be together for this milestone,” Reuben said.

“I want to thank William Carey University for everything it did – especially Tommy King, Garry Breland, Scott Hummel and Jerry Bracey.”

Next generation
Like their mother, who has been a nurse for 20 years, both

McCon sons chose careers in health care.

Elder son Reuben Jr. and his wife, Brittney, have two children ages 6 and 3. While he was in school, Reuben worked full-time as an X-ray technician at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport. This year, he’ll continue working while he waits to enroll in WCU’s new doctoral program.

“I was proud of my dad. He had a tough upbringing. I’m the oldest son, so I got to see the progression of his career, how hard he worked, as we moved around with the military. I’m proud of my mom, too, who went to nursing school during that time,” Reuben Jr. said.

“My brother and I fight about who’s the smartest. I say it’s him and he says it’s me.”

Younger son Neuman said he’s going to take a short breather before starting classes at the WCU School of Pharmacy in July.

“But I’m going to continue to study and stay mentally sharp. I’m up for the challenge and ready to begin. My mom being

in a health care profession made me decide to go into health care as well. I’ve always enjoyed helping others,” Neuman said.

“It was an honor and a blessing to graduate with my brother and father. Especially my father. For him to go back and accomplish this was huge for us all.”

As for who’s smartest? “My brother and I always give each other the credit,” Neuman said. “But, we both have our specialties.”

Giving thanks
Angela said it was important for the McCon men to graduate during the same ceremony.

“In this day and age with so many negative stereotypes about African-American males, we wanted to show that there are educated, productive families in every race,” she said.

“Also, we hope we can serve as inspiration to others that with the Lord, nothing is impossible. It is through Him, through the love of Christ and each other, that anything we achieve is possible.”

Mississippi Optometric Association to provide eye exams at no cost for students who did not pass third grade reading assessment

The Mississippi Link Newswire

For the fifth year, the Mississippi Optometric Association (MOA) and the Mississippi Vision Foundation (MVF) will provide eye exams at no-cost to third graders who did not pass the state reading assessment test and do not have insurance. The exams are offered through July 31.

This year, with higher standards implemented by the Mississippi Department of Education, one in four of the state’s third graders did not pass the literacy promotion test. Studies show that children who struggle to read are more likely to leave school without graduating; ultimately contributing to the poverty rates in our state.

“We know that vision is a

greater predictor of academic success than socioeconomic status. And as citizens of Mississippi we have a vested interest in making sure all of our students have the tools and the opportunity to succeed at their highest abilities,” said Dr. Amy Crigler, MOA president. “Vision is a better predictor of academic success than socioeconomic status. We are committed to identifying those students who have vision problems.”

Statistics show that 25 percent of all school age children have vision problems and more than 80 percent do not get the help they need. Results of the MOA and MVF Third Grade Eye Exam program (aimed at students who did not pass the third grade reading assessment)

reveal that 88 percent of the students who took advantage of the eye exams were found to be in need of some form of visual intervention.

State Superintendent of Education Carey Wright said, “We greatly appreciate the association’s concern for our students’ health and academic progress, and this annual opportunity for eye exams is a wonderful example of community partnerships that will benefit students.”

For students who are covered through private insurance, applicable co-pays may apply due to laws that require the doctor to collect this amount. All children, regardless of their family’s ability to pay, will be seen by ODs participating in the program. The MVF, working with


industry partners, will cover the costs for any student who needs an exam and is not covered through insurance.

Additionally, industry partners are working with Mississippi ODs to provide glasses to any student whose eye exam reveals the need for corrective lenses.

To locate a participating optometrist, parents of eligible third graders should go to www.msvisionfoundation.org or call 601 572-0845. When making the appointment, parents should tell the receptionist they are scheduling the third grade eye appointment. They should bring the letter notifying them that their child did not pass the assessment test with them to the appointment.

Afternoon with Actress

SHERYL LEE RALPH



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Attorney heeds the beat of career path, helps ink major deal for local rapper

By Rachel James-Terry
jsu.msnews.com

On a Monday afternoon in April, attorney Jeffrey Graves is talking copyright law to a group of music technology majors at Jackson State University. The session is the last of several the '06 music technology graduate voluntarily offered during the spring semester.

Graves said he felt compelled to give back to his alma mater after witnessing a JSU Jazz Vocal Choir performance at the university's opening of the Miles Davis Art Exhibit last year.

"I was super intrigued at their level of musicianship, and then I learned almost half of the students were music tech majors," he said. "I was immediately moved by that. I was one of the first people to get a music tech degree from here (JSU)."

The alum explained that he began at the HBCU when the music technology program was in its infancy and was wowed by the increase in the program's enrollment. He then expressed additional surprise upon learning that the curriculum had not entirely adjusted to encompass artists of today.

"I realized that a lot of these students were new industry types – beat makers, producers and musicians who are really good at what they do, but do not want to be band leaders," he explained.

The students showed an appreciation for learning the fundamentals found in music theory classes and marching band experience but, Graves said, they also desire new and fresh information about the things they care about.

"They want to know more about beat making, streaming, beat leasing, selling music and songwriting, stuff that is not usually provided if you're a traditional music education or performance major" said Graves.

His one-on-one music discussions eventually led to a meeting with Lisa M. Beckley-Roberts, interim chair and assistant professor of ethnomusicology in the Department of Music. Together, they decided to offer music technology students a four-part seminar that covered various aspects of the music business.

"Mr. Graves' love of our program and desire to help our students and contribute to their success is a reflection of the deep and sincere investment that our Department of Music alums feel toward our programs," said Beckley-Roberts. "His decision to take time out of his incredibly busy schedule to share his expertise and knowledge is remarkable."

Beckley-Roberts explained that the seminars addressed issues that professionals in the music technology industry face as well as ways that students can use their time in the Department of Music to be better prepared after graduation.

"To have this information come from a professional in the music and entertainment industry who looks like them and comes from their own department was so powerful. It added value to the message and affirmed their own path," said the interim chair. "I really can't thank him enough. Our students have been eager for each of his presentations and seem to be more engaged with their course work as a result of his presentations."

During his copyright seminar, Graves also covered publishing and royalties and used examples like the "Blurred Lines"



Jeffrey Graves, a '06 music technology graduate and attorney, spent the spring semester conducting a four-part entertainment law seminar for music technology majors at his alma mater. "I realized that a lot of these students were new industry types – beat makers, producers and musicians who are really good at what they do, but do not necessarily want to be band leaders," he explained. PHOTO BY RACHEL JAMES-TERRY/JSU



Jeffrey Graves, son of federal Judge James E. Graves, said he always wanted to be a music artist and producer. However, he recognized that as an attorney and musician he could help artists better navigate the entertainment industry. PHOTO BY RACHEL JAMES-TERRY/JSU



It's a Jackson thang. (Starting second from left) Shell Enns, engineer and owner of Crown Studios; Brad Franklin, Dear Silas' manager and president of OurGlass Media Group; Dear Silas, rapper and musician; Alicia Stapleton, Silas' wife; and (far right) is Jeffrey Graves, Silas' attorney, pictured with RCA/Sony executives, during their New York trip to ink partnership deal. PHOTO SPECIAL TO JSU

lawsuit filed by Marvin Gaye's family against producer Pharrell and singer Robin Thicke to drive home his points. He also delivered thoughts on the evolution of music laws in the face of a changing musical landscape and the lack thereof in some instances.

Delvin Deener, music tech major, said the knowledge bestowed by Graves is very valuable. "Most of us don't know the real world laws of copyright and publishing," said the junior.

Deener said the info received from the seminar can help him be a successful music producer. Daria Beard was one of a few students waiting to talk to Graves after his presentation. The graduating senior said her goal is to be "the next Will Smith."

She took the opportunity to record Graves as he spoke. "This is like a master class," said Beard. "I can play my recording back and listen more in-depth and look up things to further research for myself. I really appreciate him coming. It was really good."

Having the business aspect of music is vital to sophomore Timothy Walker, and it's the reason he wanted to hear from Graves. "Understanding what you need to know as a music artist, producer or whoever you are is important," said Walker, an aspiring audio engineer.

Having more than the business aspect is a phrase that best describes Graves. The self-proclaimed "band geek" played the saxophone for Peoples Middle School. At Murrah High School, he played alto sax, tenor, baritone and tuba and was a drum major his senior year. After graduating, he attended the University of Southern Mississippi on a music scholarship and later transferred to JSU where his

mother, Bettie Graves, served nearly 30 years as an administrator before retiring.

"I got more into engineering and music production in college. I got me a (Yamaha) Motif 7 (synthesizer) workstation, a Roland Digital Recorder and was making beats by the bed," said Graves. "That turned into big dreams of moving to California and doing a Kanye West, living in my van waiting on Jay-Z to pay me."

The entertainment industry did not quite align with his family's legacy. His father is federal Judge James E. Graves, and his two older brothers are also attorneys. "Coming from that kind of background, expectations are high. I actually did pretty good in school up to a certain age."

At 9, Graves along with his parents discovered that, unlike his siblings, he was more of an auditory learner, "Which is when my parents recognized why I had this love for music. So I think they realized that maybe they should focus on music since I learned by hearing," he said. "I could be the fastest reader in the class but couldn't really comprehend what I was reading. But I could hear a song and play it back note for note."

The music tech major was determined to make his bones in the industry until he began interning with Ron Carbo, producer, engineer and owner of the Soul Kitchen Recording Studio which is widely used by artists inside and outside the state. Graves describes this time as the most significant part of his education at JSU.

He explained that Carbo was the only industry-level producer with an industry-level studio in the area where he could intern. "A lot of my last year at JSU was spent doing independent

study with him and watching him engineer sessions," he said before adding that Carbo was the first person that told him to go to law school.

"He said the benefit is because I'm a producer and an artist. If I got a legal education, I could contribute more to the music industry than I ever could as a producer," said Graves.

The 35-year-old credits Carbo for giving him a pro-artist mentality early on. He also agreed with his mentor's belief that what artists lack is a legal understanding of entertainment and those who do get it end up working in favor of the label and not in favor of the artist.

Attending law school seemed a no-brainer decision for his mentor. "He had a love for music, and his father is a 5th Circuit Court of Appeals judge," said Carbo during a phone call. "I knew he had a solid background behind him, the mentality, and the analytical skills to be a good attorney. But his love for music would make him a great entertainment attorney."

In 2012, Graves received his law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law. He passed the bar, and started working at Copeland and Cook in Ridgeland, Mississippi.

Graves left Copeland and Cook in 2014 with former Gov. Ronnie Musgrove, who opened a private practice. He then spent over three years at Sweet & Associates, describing it as the most extensive legal experience he received.

A year ago, he began Graves Legal Services specializing in general litigation, alternative dispute and entertainment law. "I wanted to create something that was fitting for me. I am still a creative first. I was never an 8-5 by-the-book guy. I survived it, did it and excelled but that wasn't me," said the father of two daughters, ages 10 and 17.

As an entrepreneur, one of the most significant tests he has received to date is negotiating a considerable music deal for Dear Silas, a local artist whose unique and catchy song "Skrr Skrr" went viral causing a slight bidding war with several major labels before RCA emerged the victor.

"Brad Franklin (Silas' manager) called me one day. We

knew each other, but never really called each other. He told me that 'Skrr Skrr' was picking up, labels are calling and they needed a legal contact," Graves explained.

Franklin said he knew the young attorney had a passion for music, was an entertainment lawyer, a musician and had a studio engineer's perspective.

"It's one thing to know entertainment law, but it's another altogether to know music," said Franklin.

The phone call soon led to Graves, Silas, Silas' wife, Alicia Stapleton, and Franklin waiting to board a plane to New York less than 48 hours after their initial conversation. He admits he and his wife, Eyra, were surprised by the sudden turn of events. However, there was little time to process.

"We're in the airport and Brad is dressed like a manager. Silas was dressed like an artist, and I was dressed like a lawyer," Graves laughs. "We all looked the part."

Once in New York, the group was picked up by a chauffeur and dropped off at RCA/Sony headquarters with luggage in tow.

"We walked in there like we just hitchhiked," he said before laughing. "I walked in like a super fan taking pictures of the Sony sign. It's all these things... dreams you have, starting as a producer, which evolved into entertainment law and you see it playing out into a situation you could have never imagined. None of us planned – it happened this way."

After listening to Dear Silas' Album "The Last Cherry Blossom," with talent scout K.J. Jadav, artist & repertoire for RCA, and the labels CEO, it was time for negotiations.

"I literally got up and went to the restroom and threw up. It's my first time doing a major label record deal, and I imagined the worse," he divulged. "I thought I would walk into the room with 10 sophisticated New York lawyers and it's just me."

Calling his father for advice, he received just the push he needed. "The only thing my dad said was, 'This is what you wanted. You know what to do,' and hung up the phone."

Graves said he exited the restroom ready to go. Apprehen-



After Jeffrey Graves' seminar on entertainment law, students linger to ask questions and receive answers that will hopefully benefit them in the music industry one day. PHOTO BY RACHEL JAMES-TERRY/JSU



Jeffrey Graves pictured with his father Judge James E. Graves. PHOTO BY FULL OF FLAVA

sions further subsided when he realized it was one attorney, the lead counsel for RCA, and not the 10 he conjured up in his mind.

"I was just trying to make sure Silas and his wife were happy, trying to make sure we understood what was happening and advising him on what they were proposing," he said.

The group didn't leave RCA until 9 p.m. Even still, Graves had to take the nearly 100-page contract with him to his hotel room.

"I had to marry myself to the contract because we were literally flying out the next day. All I could think to myself was 'I can't mess this up,'" he said.

When it was all said and done, Graves helped Dear Silas, a native of Jackson, sign a partnership between Dear Silas, LLC, the company started by the rapper, and RCA/Sony which allows him full creative control and the freedom to distribute music as he sees fit.

RCA re-released "The Last Cherry Blossom," April 26, 2019. The album, written by Silas, was produced and recorded in Crown Studios in the capital city. This deal is the first of its kind for a Jackson artist.

"It was fulfilling to know that I was able to survive the negotiations and had an understanding of what was going on. More importantly, Silas was comfortable with my decision. That's always important when you're representing someone with something life-changing," he said.

Of Graves' abilities, Franklin said he is a valued teammate of Ourglass Media Group, Franklin's management company. "This won't be the last big deal we close together."

And Graves agrees. The attorney said he wants to build on what Silas has been able to do and have more of a focused effort in developing talent, producing high-quality music, and forcing major labels to Jackson instead of Mississippi artists relocating to make their dreams come true.

What he has accomplished thus far is everything that Graves said he has worked toward. "All the love I have for music all the love I have for the industry; this is the first time I can see the results of my labor"

USDA announces loans to improve rural electric infrastructure and upgrade energy efficiency

Approximately 450,000 residential and commercial customers will benefit

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue recently announced that USDA is providing \$858 million in loans to upgrade rural electric systems in 17 states. The funding includes \$64 million to finance smart grid technologies that improve system operations and monitor grid security.

“Investing in our nation’s electric infrastructure powers our economy, creates jobs and helps deliver services such as education, training and health care to build stronger rural communities,” Perdue said. “These loans will help rural electric cooperatives generate and distribute power to keep systems reliable and affordable for those who live and work in rural areas.”

USDA is investing in 17 projects through the Electric Loan Program. This funding will help build or improve

2,941 miles of line to improve electric reliability and resilience in rural areas, including two projects in Mississippi, announced by John Rounsaville, state director for Rural Development in Mississippi.

The Magnolia Electric Power Association received a loan of \$40 million, which will be used to make system improvements. These improvements include 303 miles of line and \$4 million in smart grid technologies to increase system reliability. This will benefit nearly 32,000 residential and business consumers across eight counties and 4,780 miles of line.

The Natchez Trace Electric Power Association received a loan of \$8,560,000 to be used to upgrade distribution and headquarters facilities to improve system efficiencies and resilience and meet customer needs. This investment will

benefit more than 15,800 customers over 2,100 miles of line across seven counties in north central Mississippi.

“Both Magnolia Electric Power Association and Natchez Trace Electric Power Association are great organizations, and we are thrilled to make an investment like this that will support our electric cooperatives and provide reliable service to so many rural customers in Mississippi,” Rounsaville said.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas.

For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.

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The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Department of Public Safety’s Driver Service Bureau is launching a new initiative called the JUMP START program that will include computer testing and processing for first time permits. This program will better accommodate students and parents in getting a jump start on obtaining a Mississippi driver’s license. Beginning this summer, students may skip the wait to take a road test or computer testing for permits by simply calling or texting our Driver Service Bureau staff at the numbers listed below.

The qualifications are simple: 1) the student must be 15 years or older and eligible for first time permit testing and processing; 2) have a current driver’s permit for road test; and 3) be willing to schedule a time at one of our nine driver license locations. A permit holder scheduling a road test will still have to hold his/her driver’s permit for a period of one year from the is-

sue date before obtaining the intermediate license; however, the student will be able to skip the road test at the time of the intermediate license issuance. If the student is ready to take the road test and has held a permit for a period of one year, he/she will also be able to obtain a license through the JUMP START program’s designated hours.

The new JUMP START dates and hours will be the 2nd and 4th Saturdays beginning in the months of June, July and August from 8 a.m.-12p.m. This

time is set aside for students only. Future dates TBD.

You may participate in the JUMP START program at Driver Service Bureau offices located in Pearl, New Albany, Batesville, Greenwood, Starkville, Meridian, Hattiesburg, Biloxi, and Summit once confirmed by our staff members.

To guarantee a slot and get a JUMP START on getting your driver’s license, please text/call our staff in your respective area listed below:

Northern Region
Lieutenant Ronny Hall (662)416-3151.

Central Region
Lieutenant Ola Kirk (662)299-3975

Southern Region
Lieutenant Jason Ashley (601)744-6377



Congressman Thompson selects Earvin Miers to serve in his Washington office

Mississippi Link Newswire

U.S. Representative Bennie G. Thompson (MS-02) announced the selection of Duck Hill, Mississippi native, Earvin Miers, to serve in the role of scheduler in his Washington, D.C. office.

“Earvin interned in my office during the summer of 2017 and proved himself to be an ambitious young man with a strong work ethic,” Thompson said. “I know his passion for the state of Mississippi, and it is wonderful to see young residents of the Second Congressional District work towards giving back to our state. I welcome Earvin to my office with confidence that he will be an asset to our team.”



Miers

Earvin graduated from Grenada High School in 2015 and received a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in political science from Millsaps College in 2019.

While at Millsaps, he was active with nonprofit organizations

both in the state of Mississippi and in Washington, D.C. He has interned and worked with other organizations such as One Voice, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Time On The Hill, Mississippi Democratic Party, The Diamond Project, Mississippi State Conference NAACP, and Mississippi Votes.

Earvin is also a 2018 alumni of the Political Leadership Development Program hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus Institute.

Earvin plans to continue his academic career in pursuing a master’s in integrated marketing and communications while continuing his work for the state of Mississippi.

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NAREB takes fight for black homeownership to congressional hearing

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

The rate of black homeownership in America – now at 41.1 percent, according to 2019 U. S. Census numbers – is even lower than it was when the U. S. Fair Housing Act was signed into law 51 years ago, April 11, 1968.



This means black homeownership is 32.1 percentage points lower than that of whites, which stands at 73.2 percent. It also means black homeownership is 6.3 percentage points lower than that of latino Americans, which stands at 47.4 percent.

These are just a few of the facts presented to a recent U. S. congressional hearing by homeownership advocates. The hearing, held by the House Finance Committee’s Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance, was the first modern day hearing of its kind - intended to discover the barriers to homeownership for people of color.

“Federal housing regulators and agencies have aggressively pursued lending practices and policies that make access to homeownership more challenging for black Americans. It is against this backdrop that I give my testimony,” Jeff Hicks, president/CEO of the National Association of Black Real Estate Brokers (NAREB), testified to lawmakers at the hearing. “Our nation has a very complicated and checkered history with providing equal and equitable access to homeownership to black Americans. At the end of World War II, when black Americans sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom, dignity and human rights, the United States federal government created an economic divide between blacks and whites.”

Hicks described how black veterans and their families were “denied the multigenerational, enriching impact of homeownership and economic security that the G.I. Bill conferred on a majority of white veterans, their children and their grandchildren.”

He concluded that the “unequal implementation of the G.I. Bill, along with federal government policies and practices at the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), including the redlining of black neighborhoods, were



After hours of testimony before the House Finance Committee’s Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance, witnesses raise their hands in response to a question on whether homeownership discrimination against blacks continues today. Seated left to right are: Alanna McCargo, vice president for Housing Finance Policy, Urban Institute; Nikitra Bailey, executive vice president, Center for Responsible Lending; Joseph Nery, president, National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals; Jeff Hicks, president/CEO; National Association of Black Real Estate Brokers (NAREB); Carmen Castro, managing housing counselor, Housing Initiative Partnership; Joanne Poole, liaison for the National Association of Realtors and Joel Griffith, research fellow, Financial Regulations, The Heritage Foundation.

leveled against black veterans” while at the same time the government financed the construction of suburbs and provided subsidized mortgage financing for whites-only. This scenario “set the stage for today’s wealth and homeownership gap statistics,” Hicks said.

The hearing, led by Housing Subcommittee Chair Rep. William Lacy Clay Jr. (D-Mo.), marked the anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act (FHA), signed into law one week after the April 4 assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

President Lyndon B. Johnson described the road to the 1968 passage as a “long and stormy trip” after it failed three times. Together, the testimony of the 72-year-old NAREB – the oldest organization represented – and the string of witnesses at the 21st Century Congressional hearing, revealed that the storm is not nearly over.

“We have not simply failed to make progress; we are losing ground. And we cannot continue to go backward,” Alanna McCargo, vice president for Housing Finance Policy, Urban Institute, stressed the urgency of the moment.

The Urban Institute was founded by Johnson in 1968 to focus on “the problems of America’s cities and their people and to inform social and economic policy interventions that would help fight the War on Poverty,” she described.

to mainstream mortgage credit as prospective black homeowners have been trapped in predatory mortgage schemes or by an absolute denial of access to home loans.

Historically unequal access to credit for people of color was repeated as a key problem during the hearing.

“Wide access to credit is critical for building family wealth, closing the racial wealth gap, and for the housing market overall, which in turn, contributes significantly to our overall economy,” Nikitra Bailey, executive vice president of the Center for Responsible Lending, told the Committee. “Today’s hearing is a good step toward acknowledging this history and presents the potential to create opportunities to address it.”

The other four witnesses were Joseph Nery, president, National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals; Carmen Castro, managing housing counselor, Housing Initiative Partnership; Joanne Poole, liaison for the National Association of Realtors and Joel Griffith, research fellow, Financial Regulations, The Heritage Foundation.

Bi-partisan lawmakers on the subcommittee listened intently then fired questions and remarks.

When U. S. Rep. Al Green (D-Texas) asked the witnesses to raise their hands if they “believe that invidious discrimination has been a significant reason for the

inability for African-Americans to achieve wealth in this country...to this very day,” all seven witnesses extended their hands into the air.

“I’m grateful that you’ve done this because we’ve been trying to build a record to let the world know that we still have discrimination,” Green said. “Our original sin was discrimination. To be more specific racism...institutionalized racism.”

Clay saw eye to eye with the witnesses. “It is clear by the evidence in front of us that 51 years later, there is still much work to be done to promote and assure fair housing in America,” he said. He said Congress must bear the responsibility to end the discrimination largely because of its failure to continue to make and maintain fair housing policies.

Clay concluded, “Although many private actors were complicit, research has shown that the government played a significant role.”

U. S. Rep. Maxine Waters, chair of the House Financial Services Committee, which oversees the Housing Subcommittee, pressed the lawmakers, saying many of the oppressive policies are still used by banks and are “taken for granted.”

Waters described interest rates that are so high that homeowners – paying both interest and principal – have faced foreclosure because they can no longer afford the loan. She also de-

scribed banks that won’t do loan modifications until two payments are missed making it difficult to catch up on the payments.

“We need to scrub this market and all the rules and practices and come up with a laundry list of what we think needs to be taken out of the way,” Waters said.

The Congressional hearing was held on launch day for NAREB’s 2019 Spring Policy Conference May 8.

NAREB, founded to fight for civil rights in order to win economic justice for its members and the people they serve, has set a goal of at least two million new black homeowners within five years. They view working with Congress as their next best hope.

“Together with Congress, we must overcome the discrimination that continues to limit black homeownership,” Hicks said. “The reason for this “dismal reality,” as stated in NAREB’s most recent SHIBA (State of Housing in Black America) report, is “that blacks have never enjoyed equal and equitable access to mainstream mortgage credit. Rather, black families attempting to become homeowners have largely been trapped in a vicious cycle of predatory mortgage schemes or by an absolute denial of access to home loans...We need to vigorously renew the importance of homeownership to all families, regardless of their race or ethnicity.”

Spotlight shifts to local development company in dispute over DC halfway house

By Rachel Holloway
TriceEdneyWire.com

In November of 2018, Washington, D.C. residents, community activists and local officials got an unexpected opportunity to address a question that had long bedeviled them: how to provide former inmates the support they need to adjust to life outside of prison walls.

The stakes could not have been higher: Over 2,000 individuals return home to Washington D.C. every year, with more than half winding up back behind bars within five years of release because many returned to the same environment that drove them to crime in the first place. The population, including African Americans, face a cycle of arrest and re-arrest, tearing communities and families apart.

The unexpected opportunity came when the federal Bureau of Prisons announced it had awarded a private social services provider a contract to turn a vacant building in Ward 5 into a residential reentry center for returning citizens in the area. It was a significant decision



Hope Village FILE PHOTO/WASHINGTON INFORMER

because the lone current provider, Hope Village, had been in operation for roughly 40 years, despite a controversial record of standard services and resident escapes, according to various media reports.

No comment as deal mysteriously falls apart

The deal, however, fell apart at the eleventh hour. The owner of the proposed site for the new reentry center abruptly pulled out of the deal to lease the social services provider, Core DC, without explanation. “I can confirm we are not moving forward,” the vice president of the development company told *The Washington Post*. “No further comment. Thank you.”

Now, amid new revelations of problems plaguing Hope Village, many in the community are scratching their heads, wondering why the deal was scuttled and, more specifically, why the landlord, Douglas Development, walked away from the leasing arrangement.

Adding to the mystery is the relative silence of key players in this sad saga.

Laurene MacTaggart, a media

spokesman for Douglas, did not respond to an email requesting comment for why Douglas Development pulled out of the deal.

Likewise, Advisory Neighborhood Commission Chair Jacqueline Manning also did not respond to an email asking whether she encouraged or advised Douglas Development to pull away from the deal.

Ward 5 Councilman Kenyan R. McDuffie also failed to respond to an email asking why he believed CORE failed to reach out to him during the federal contracting process when our reporting indicates that CORE apparently notified McDuffie’s office during the bid process at least twice and made several attempts to meet with him after the award.

CORE vows to push forward as residents search for answers

In the absence of a clear answer, residents have come up with a slew of theories. Was Hope Village behind a campaign in the community to shunt aside the new social service provider, CORE DC? Or, even

more troubling, did Hope Village’s allies in government exert pressure on Douglas Development to walk away from the leasing deal?

This is pure speculation at this point. And the answers may never be known. But this much is clear: the neighborhoods in Northeast DC and beyond are right back where they started, with no obvious solution to a vitally important criminal-justice challenge that has beset them for years.

As it now stands, Core DC has vowed to continue to press forward with its efforts to bring a new, proven model of reentry to DC. Core Services, Core DC’s parent organization, has been providing reentry services to former inmates in New York for more than ten years. With a focus on equipping residents with the tools needed to land a stable job, Core has been touting its record of helping former inmates rebuild their lives after prison.

This model of reentry eludes DC as Hope Village and some politicians apparently seek to place

obstacles in Core’s path. But any efforts to foil a new local provider could be complicated by the growing national dialogue around the need for fresh solutions to criminal justice issues.

Indeed, some people are asking why what should have been a straightforward hand-off has now dragged on for months without resolution. Two weeks ago, the National Legal and Policy Center, a nonprofit public interest group, sent a letter to BOP expressing “serious concerns” about the matter.

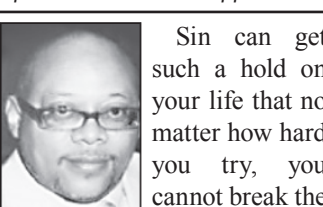
In a statement, Tom Anderson, Director of NLPC’s Government Integrity Project, said the questions about political bias derailing the procurement process were a legitimate response to the secrecy shrouding the actions of key players.

“Taxpayers have a right to know the decisions that impact the expenditure of public money,” he said in the statement. “Until the public gets those answers, a dark cloud of doubt will hang over this matter.”

Salvation brings deliverance

PART 3

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



Sin can get such a hold on your life that no matter how hard you try, you cannot break the power of it. It takes one greater than you. In Hebrews 9:27 the writer stated, “It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”

Death does not end it all. Many people say, “I have nothing to worry about for when I die that is the end. However, my friend that is only the beginning. We are living in this life but a short time. Sooner or later, we will leave this world for eternal life in Heaven or hell.

John 3:16 reads, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish.” No one wants to perish. Many people talk about going to Heaven

no matter how sinful they are living. Some join a church or shake a preacher’s hand or get their name on a church book and think they have done enough. Then, they mistakenly think all they need to look forward to is Heaven.

The Bible says you must be born again. John 3:3 states, “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.” Also, Luke 13:3 tells us, “I tell you, nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” Therefore, man’s condition without Christ is one of extreme wretchedness and peril. The time between your birth and your death is the only time that is allotted to you to be saved. Sometimes it does not even last that long.

Many people are very much alive, yet without hope. King Saul of the Old Testament was very much alive, but because of his disobedience, he had no hope of salvation. Judas was in good health, but he had no hope of repentance.

You can resist God’s salvation too long. You need to be careful. God did not design His salvation to be rejected or postponed by man at his fancy. You may do it, but that is not what God is expecting. Man must attend to this opportunity right away. If he defers it until tomorrow, he is guilty of neglect, and he is adding one more sin to the list of all his others.

Today the offer of salvation is extended to you. You may think that it does not matter as long as you have good intentions of being saved someday, but your condition is serious. Every day you spend in a life of sin is causing your sin to become more aggravating to God.

God is angry with the sinner every day. It is urgent that you seek God. That is the reason the Hebrew writer said in Hebrews 3:7-8, “Wherefore, as the Holy Ghost saith, today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.”

Another reason that this mat-

ter needs to be attended to right away is life is so uncertain and to delay your acceptance is to run the risk of eternal damnation.

You need deliverance now. You need to get rid of sin now. You need to get rid of the tobacco habit and the gambling. You need to get rid of the drinking habit, fornication and adultery. You need to get rid of the drug habit, stealing and lying now.

The good news is that you can, right now. Salvation saves you not only from sin but also from all that is wrong. This call could be your last. Therefore, time demands that you become diligent in pursuing this work of God’s divine grace and surrender your all to the Lord. May God bless you.

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.

PRESERVED

“When They See Us”

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Their names have captivated social media for the last few days: Corey Wise, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana Jr, and Antron McCray. These are the five young African-American and Hispanic teenagers who were wrongfully convicted of the brutal rape of a white female in Central Park in New York City in 1989.

Those who don’t remember or were not alive during the media frenzy that surrounded their trials can relive the heartbreaking and infuriating details of the injustice that they suffered by watching director Ava DuVernay’s superb retelling in **When They See Us** on Netflix.

Watching the series over the weekend was challenging as it brought to mind some very real emotions about the injustices of the modern criminal justice system. In particular, seeing the scenes set inside the correctional facilities reminded me of the three short years I worked at a private correctional facility in the mid 1990’s. Even though I was a newly divorced woman and working as a warden’s secretary to merely pay my bills, seeing DuVernay’s depiction of the dehumanizing conditions that the inmates were forced to endure, regardless of their guilt or innocence, made me feel ashamed, despite the fact that it was over 23 years ago.

In agonizing detail, the first episode shows how the New York City police detectives denied access to their parents, food and sleep as well as physically assaulted the boys in order to

coerce false statements. However, once their trials started, each young man was adamant about his innocence and refused plea deals with reduced sentences.

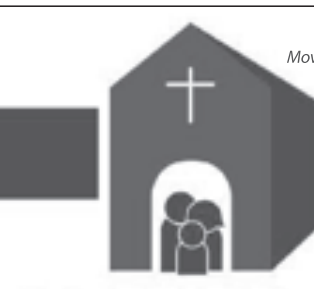
When given the chance to make the decision for themselves, without threat of violence and with sound minds, each of the young men chooses the truth and refuses to admit to the crimes. One scene shows how Wise refuses to attend a parole board hearing because he was unwilling to consider telling the lie that he committed the crime. He does this knowing that as a result he would be denied parole.

How many of us would have the strength of character to tell the truth even if it temporarily made life more difficult? Some of us might actually choose the lie if it made our lives easier.

There were brief references to Christianity in the series but the overall focus on truth seemed very much like a living example of how John 8:32 says, “Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

The series showed how even when the young men were dealing with the worst parts of their incarceration traumas, the fierce grip that they had on truth sustained them and, in some ways, gave them a kind of mental freedom, despite their physical incarceration. As presented in the series, this seemingly gave them the hope that they needed until the truth actually came out. And that’s an important lesson that we all can learn to live by.

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.



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Menopause is not a disease, it's a part of life

By Glenn Ellis
TriceEdneyWire.com



As we continue to get closer to the heat of summer, many women are dreading experiencing their own “private summer” in the sweltering heat. Of course, most people know that this refers to the “hot flashes that accompany menopause.

Menopause is a common occurrence that occurs in the lifespan of all women. Some experience it naturally, while others experience it as the result of other phenomena; which I will explain later.

First, let's look at exactly what menopause is (or is not).

I am amazed and dismayed at the way our society has relegated it as a disease in the minds of most men and women. Nothing can be farther from the truth.

From the point of puberty, a woman's ovaries are supplied with eggs, which are for fertilization in the process of pregnancy. The ovaries utilized a constant availability of estrogen” in order to produce and keep the eggs healthy. Estrogen is a hormone, like the many other hormones that the body's endocrine system produces. This endocrine system is comprised of a number of glands, each producing its own particular hormone(s) for the health and vibrancy of the respective gland.

The hypothalamus, pituitary gland, and pineal gland are your brain. The thyroid and parathyroid glands are in your neck. The thymus is between your lungs, the adrenals are on top of your kidneys, and the pancreas is behind your stomach. Your ovaries (if you're a woman) or testes (if you're a man) are in your pelvic region. Each gland has specific hormones that control many different bodily functions, including breathing, metabolism, reproduction, sensory

perception, movement, sexual development and growth.

An important point in this look at menopause is to understand that the endocrine works in harmony in the production of all of these hormones, that the glands in the system work in harmony, and there is a precise balance of hormones.

Now back to menopause.

Throughout a woman's life, the ovaries have a lifetime supply of eggs that are not replenished. It is estimated that there are 400 eggs stored in the ovaries from the start of puberty. Each month, an egg is released in the fallopian tubes, and made available should sperm present itself for fertilization. At the same time the uterus prepares for a possible pregnancy. If pregnancy does not take place, the uterus lining and the egg are released, and shed through the vagina. This is the menstrual cycle.

If a woman begins menstruating between age 15-18, with an egg being released from the ovaries each month, this means that somewhere around the early 50's, menopause begins naturally. At this time, with no more eggs to take care of, the natural production of estrogen slows down, and eventually comes to a complete stop.

As mentioned earlier, each of the glands and their hormones have specific functions, and the abrupt end of estrogen disrupts the balance of the entire system, resulting in what is referred to as menopausal symptoms.

Now all of a sudden, things that worked smoothly throughout life begin to go haywire. Just look at a partial list of menopausal symptoms – irregular periods, vaginal dryness; hot flashes, chills, night sweats, sleep problems, mood changes, weight gain and slowed metabolism.

Understandably, these symptoms are enough to make anyone miserable, and wrongly identify menopause as a dis-

ease.

The hot flashes, or private summers, are the result of the disruption in the hormonal balance of the thyroid. The thyroid, among other things, is the body's thermometer and metabolism regulator. So, now you see why those hot flashes happen, and why you just don't want to be “bothered.”

Now, about those women who go into menopause not for “natural” reasons.

Some women just plain experience a natural decline in their estrogen production and may enter menopause much earlier than normal. Others go into early menopause due to hysterectomy; treatments like chemotherapy; or approximately 1% of women have genetic or auto-immune predisposition that may lead to an early menopause.

Common thinking is that menopause automatically means the start of hormone replacement therapy (HRT).

These are chemical “duplicates” of natural female hormones. It is important to check with your doctor to determine if this is right for, as HRT does have some potentially life-threatening side effects. A few of these risks are heart disease, stroke, blood clots and breast cancer.

Just know that menopause is not the end of the world. In fact, it's a new beginning; filled with liberation, freedom, and all the joys that life can bring.

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

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice.

Glenn Ellis, is Research Bioethics Fellow at Harvard Medical School and author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. Visit: www.glen-nellis.com

THINKING ABOUT HEALTH Another challenge: Finding the right follow-up care after hospitalization

By Trudy Lieberman
Rural Health News Service

If ever there were a weak link in hospital care, it's what happens when you or a loved one leaves the hospital. It's becoming clear that the process known as discharge planning is deficient, can be harmful, and sometimes results in a patient's decline.

One in five patients across the country needs further care after discharge from a hospital, according to a series of four reports published by the United Hospital Fund in New York City. That's a lot of people, and many times their families don't know where to turn for help. The fund reported that hospitals themselves sometimes prove to be of little assistance.

Patients are being sent not only to nursing homes but also to long-term acute care facilities (LTACs), a relatively new type of facility that treats sicker patients for an average of at least 25 days for recovery, or to sub-acute facilities, home care agencies or rehabilitation centers with little input from their families and little explanation of what these facilities can do.

How many families have ever heard of an LTAC, for instance? Mine never had, and neither had I when I found myself transferred to one early in 2018 after a long hospital stay necessitated by a series of ailments caused by what seemed to be a simple infection.

When my daughter called facilities in Manhattan – where we live – looking for care, most wouldn't even take her calls. “I called around and realized you cannot find a place on your own,” she said. “That's not how this works.”

Too often families find that hospitals limit the options for

them. The United Hospital Fund found that even though hospital staff stressed patient choice, patients and their families actually had little choice.

One woman sent me a tweet not long ago saying that a VA hospital gave her father and his family “zero” time to make a choice. Instead they were given the names of three facilities, “all one star,” she said. Presumably she was referring to a ranking from the federal government's Nursing Home Compare website that rates the country's nursing homes. “We had to fight daily for basic human needs to be met,” she told me.

David Lipshutz, associate director of the Center for Medicare Advocacy, told me hospitals have electronic systems and share profiles of patients they are about to discharge with prospective recovery facilities. “They shop the patient around and say, ‘This is the facility to go to.’”

If hospitals are hitting the limits of what Medicare will pay for a patient's care, they have a great incentive for moving people out. To them it doesn't matter if a patient is moved to another state, as I was, or to another town. Either one can make it difficult for family to visit and keep an eye on the care, which is all-important.

The Hospital Fund also noted that legal safeguards don't go far enough to protect patients and help their families and care givers choose high quality options. That means hospitals are not giving enough good information to families, already stressed by the illness of a loved one.

Even if a hospital recommended the Nursing Home

Compare website, families often found the site lacking information about services families needed. Hospital staff did not have or provide information about the quality of care or a facility's relevance to the patient's needs.

In the end, when families did have a choice, location and transportation were key to their decision, the fund reported. In the absence of any other compelling information about a facility, who wouldn't select a place where you could easily visit your relative?

But even if a family did make an informed choice, if their preferred facility did not have a bed available, they had to go elsewhere. The hospital made the decision.

Because the system is such a mess, it's hard to give good advice to families. But there are a couple things I can suggest.

Medicare requires a discharge notice, which sets out a patient's appeal rights and procedures, to be given no later than two days after a person is admitted to a hospital. Some are given at admission, usually a time of confusion, and the explanation of rights is likely to be overlooked. Be aware of it, though, and read it carefully. You may need to rely on it if you think a relative needs to stay longer in the hospital.

And for all families who need more care after a hospital stay, the <https://www.medicareadvocacy.org/medicare-info/discharge-planning/#hospital-discharge-website> of the Center for Medicare Advocacy has loads of information.

What has been your experience with hospital discharge planning?

Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

One step forward, two steps back: The Equality Act is anything but

By Kaia Wright
Special to The Mississippi Link

The Equality Act recently passed by the House of Representatives enshrines into law the affirmation of regressive, sexist stereotypes; eradicates the sex-based protections of women and girls; and adversely affects the sex-based rights of lesbians and gay men. The sponsors of this bill have missed the mark. Gender identity must be removed from the Equality Act.

With its egalitarian title and stated objective of expanding civil rights, the Equality Act appears to be a positive step towards strengthening one of our country's foundational objectives – liberty and justice for all.

The law as proposed amends several statutes, including the vaunted Civil Rights Act of 1964, to extend federal protection against discrimination to members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBT) community. The Equality Act does so by expanding the definition of “sex” to include “sexual orientation” and “gender identity.” However, a critical analysis of the legislation's content reveals that the inclusion of gender identity has devastating consequences for women, girls, lesbians and gay men.

The Equality Act defines

COMMENTARY

gender identity as “the gender-related identity, appearance, mannerisms, or other gender-related characteristics of an individual, regardless of the individual's designated (sic) sex at birth.” Putting aside the tautology of including “gender-related identity” in the definition of “gender identity,” none of these items can be explained without resorting to sexist stereotypes.

There is not a single “man-nerism” “appearance,” or non-biological “characteristic” that is connected to a person's sex. In fact, it is this very tethering of stereotypes to men and women that the Civil Rights Act, particularly regarding Title VII and employment discrimination, explicitly prohibits. Yet the Equality Act seeks to embed this regressive concept into federal law.

Males competing against women and girls in sports has dominated headlines regarding this bill; and while athletics and Title IX are important issues, this singular focus obscures the breadth and depth of the infinite ways gender identity's presence in the Equality Act impacts women and girls' sex-based rights and protections.

Though a detailed analysis of these items is beyond

the scope of this piece, there are some that readily come to mind. Based on their purported “gender-related identity, mannerisms, appearances, or characteristics,” males will be able to enter female-only spaces such as showers, dressing rooms, locker rooms and domestic violence shelters; apply for female only scholarships, awards, loans and grants; perform intimate services for which a woman has been specifically requested; compete against and displace women and girls in female-only individual and team sports; and participate in any female only efforts to assemble, meet, organize, socialize or conference around the unique issues inherent to being women or girls.

Thus, in an Orwellian twist, under penalty of law, the Equality Act will compel women and girls to cede their sex-based rights to males – the very group whose millennia of sex-based discrimination necessitated the creation of these protections – based upon these males' adherence to, affinity for, or identification with the very stereotypes whose eradication form the core basis of feminism, and fundamental aspects of anti-discrimination law and policy.

Kaia Wright is an attorney, activist, and entrepreneur living in Tampa, Fla.



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The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority “JMAA” requests Sealed Bids for the purchase of items identified for disposal.

JMAA will receive Bids for the property at JMAA’s administrative offices, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208 until 2:00 p.m. central time on Monday, June 24, 2019 (the “Deadline”). The outside of the envelope must be marked “Bid for the Purchase of JMAA Personal Property”.

A site visit is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. central time at the address indicated above. Any parties interested in viewing the Items/Lots for sale are welcome to attend. No additional times will be allotted to view the Items for sale. All sales are “final” and “as is”. Each Respondent must submit a separate amount and description for each “Lot” they are bidding on.

Lot 1: “Computer Equipment and Other Furniture & Equipment Lot” consists of one hundred and fifty (150) pieces of computer equipment such as CPU’s, monitors, iPads, eight (8) pieces of furniture such as chairs, cabinets, book shelf, and sofa table, nine (9) televisions, , one (1) Stihl Hand-held blower, thirty-six (36) other pieces of equipment.

Lot 2: “Telephone/Cellphone Lot” consists of one hundred thirty-four (134) telephones and cellphones, etc.

Lot 3: “Printer Lot” consists of twenty-nine (29) printers and two (2) typewriters

Lots WILL NOT be split for any reason.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of Bid Tab sheet for the property by going to JMAA’s website at www.jmaa.com/resources/rfprfb-center/.

JMAA will not consider any Bids received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Any questions regarding the sale of these Items are to be directed to Mr. Ricco Owens, Accountant, contact information is as follows:

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Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Ricco Owens, Accountant
Telephone No.: (601) 939-5631, ext. 297
Facsimile No.: (601) 939-3713
E-Mail: rowens@jmaa.com

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Jackson (“City”) is seeking new box office management services for Thalia Mara Hall. Box office services will include the sale of ticketed events at the venue, online, and over the phone, staffing the box office, managing performance settlements with the venue, and regular financial and performance reporting. The Proposer may explore exclusive and non-exclusive agreements for ticketing services at Thalia Mara Hall, based on the stipulations provided by the City.

Detailed information pertaining to submissions of a response to this request for proposals may be obtained from Thalia Mara Hall, 255 E Pascagoula Street, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, from the Department of Human and Cultural Services, 1000 MetroCentre Drive, Suite 101, Jackson, Mississippi, 39209, or by contacting John David Lewis, Deputy Director of Cultural Services, at 601-960-1537 or email: jdlewis@jacksonms.gov.

Responses will be received by the City of Jackson, Office of the City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until 3:30 p.m., Central Standard Time on Tuesday, July 16th, 2019. Each proposer must submit a signed original, six (6) printed copies and an electronic copy (thumb drive w/ pdf) of its proposal.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting and professional services. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all person doing business with the City.

Adraine Dorsey-Kidd, Ph.D., Director
Department of Human and Cultural Services
City of Jackson, Mississippi

6/6/2019 6/13/2019 6/20/2019

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed and electronic bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 07/09/2019 , for:

RE: GS# 422-158 Campus Road Improvements (RE-BID)
Ellisville State School
RFx #: 3160002947

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

Professional: Chas N. Clark, Associates, LTD
Address: 714 Hillcrest Drive
Laurel, Mississippi 39440
Phone: 601-649-5900
Email: lweeks@clarkengineers.com

A deposit of \$150.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

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

6/6/2019, 6/13/2019

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES
IN CONNECTION WITH
5TH FLOOR & WEST CONCOURSE ROOF REPLACEMENT
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 005-18C)

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (“JMAA”) will receive sealed bids at the Jackson- Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (“JAN”), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 3:00 p.m. central time on July 12, 2019 (the “Bid Deadline”), for construction and renovations in connection with the 5th Floor and West Concourse Roof at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the “Work”).

JMAA will also accept electronic sealed bids as specified in the bid documents. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. central time on July 12, 2019, Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Once registered, Suppliers can download bid specifications and upload bid documents.

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 3:15 p.m. central time on July 12, 2019 (the “Bid Opening”), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN.

The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the Bidder’s company name and Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number and with the wording: “5th Floor & West Concourse Roof Replacement at JAN, JMAA Project No. 005-18C.” Bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

JMAA will award the Work to the Lowest and most responsive and responsible Bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and most responsive and responsible Bidder. Any Addendums issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered part of the Agreement.

The Information for Bidders, including plans and specifications, is on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the following address:

Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
Suite 300, Main Terminal Building
100 International Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 939-5631 ext. 616
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Attention: Robin Byrd, Manager, Procurement

A copy of the plans and specifications for the Work are being made available via digital and original paper copy. Plan holders may register and order plans and specifications from the Jackson Blueprint Online Plan Room website <http://planroom.jaxblue.com>. There is no charge for registration or to view the documents online. Documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. A printed bid set is \$50.00 plus \$15.00 shipping and applicable sales tax and an electronic downloadable set is \$20.00 plus applicable sales tax. For questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601)353-5803.

Bid Documents may be picked up or shipped to the person making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed, however, until payment is received.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference at 2:00 pm. central time on June 20, 2019 in the Community Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is highly encouraged for all those interested in submitting bids as a Prime Contractor for the Work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Contractor. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Contractors and Sub-Contractors, as well as the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Bid Conference; review of the plans and specifications; and a site visit of the area covered in the scope of work. No site visits will be scheduled other than the one provided during the Pre-Bid conference.

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid Deadline; to reject any and all bids; and to hold and examine bids for up to ninety (90) days before awarding the Contract to perform the Work.

If it becomes necessary to revise any aspect of this Request for Bids or to provide additional information to Bidders, JMAA will issue one or more Addenda by posting on JMAA’s website (<https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>). JMAA will also endeavor to deliver a copy of each Addendum, to all persons on record with JMAA as receiving a copy of the Information for Bidders, via email.

JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 20% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
DATE: June 4, 2019 /s/ Perry J. Miller, A.A. E., I.A.P.

6/6/2019 6/13/2019

LEGAL

Advertisement for Electronic Bidding

Bid 3096 Callaway High School Bleacher Replacement

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 2:00 P.M. (Local Prevailing Time) July 09, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Callaway High School Bleacher Replacement will be held at Callaway High School, 601 Beasley Road, Jackson, MS on June 21, 2019 at 10:30 A.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.dalebaileyplans.com. A \$100.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Ginger Murphree at Dale Partners, Associates, Phone: 601-352-5411 or Email: HYPERLINKmailto:GingerMurphree@dalepartners.com GingerMurphree@dalepartners.com.

5/30/2019, 6/6/2019

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. 2003 Chry PT Cruiser 3C8FY78GX3T559459
Registered to Brinson, Arlesia
Larry Auto Sales, Inc., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: June 7, 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.

5/23/2019, 05/30/2019, 6/6/2019

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. 2002 Chev KAV 3GNEK13T12G218966
Registered to Richards, Ella
Mississippi Title Loans, Lien Holder
Date of Sale: June 7, 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.

5/23/2019, 05/30/2019, 6/6/2019

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Jackson is preparing to submit properties for demolition to the Mississippi Home Corporation for its Blight Elimination Program. The goal of the Blight Elimination Program is to reduce the number of blighted and abandoned homes in our communities and neighborhoods. Working in conjunction with its blight partners, the City is committed to eliminating blight in Jackson, MS and to that end, plans to demolish properties with funding received. The City is required to give public notice listing properties anticipated for demolition as a part of this program. Because the Blight Elimination 2nd application list of proposed properties to be addressed is quite extensive, it can be viewed on the City’s website at www.jacksonms.gov.

For additional information, contact the City of Jackson’s Office of Housing and Community Development at (601)960-2155.

6/6/2019

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CITY OF JACKSON

Notice is hereby given that Proposals will be received by the City Clerk of the City of Jackson, Mississippi until 3:30p.m., Friday, June 21, 2019. The City of Jackson, Mississippi requests proposals from art groups and other community development groups providing services to the citizens in the City of Jackson.

Financial assistance is available to support arts and community development activities designed to increase awareness, understanding and appreciation of the arts and improve the quality of life among the citizens of Jackson. This solicitation seeks proposals with an emphasis on community exposure, history and education.

Grant awards offered by the City of Jackson shall only represent supplemental funding in support of arts projects and community development based projects. To be eligible for funding, proposing organizations must have verifiable cash match contributions that equals to at least 50% of project cost.

A workshop on the Request for Proposals packet is scheduled for MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2019 beginning promptly at 2:00pm. It will be held at the Municipal Art Gallery located at 839 North State Street Jackson, MS 39202. Those interested in submitting proposals should attend this Workshop.

For the Request for Proposals packet, please contact Beverley Johnson-Durham at 601 960 0383. All proposal must be sealed and plainly marked on the outside of the envelope: Proposal for general funds Arts and Community Based Grants. Proposal packets must be received by the City Clerk’s Office at City Hall, 219 South President Street by 3:30pm on JUNE 21, 2019. The city reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Request for proposal documents can be downloaded from the City of Jackson website: www.jacksonms.gov and may be picked up at the City of Jackson Department of Human and Cultural Services located at 1000 Metrocenter Drive Suite 101, Jackson MS.

By: Adriane Dorsey-Kidd, Director
Department of Human and Cultural Services

5/30/2019, 6/6/2019, 6/13/2019, 6/20/2019

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2019-11 Lead Partner to Provide Extensive Support on the Jackson Public Schools Instructional Management System (Standard 20) of the Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards 2019, Instructional and Leadership Coaching

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 17, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened. Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

5/30/2019, 6/6/2019

LEGAL

REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS
AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY
EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (JAN) PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGE
REPLACEMENT AT AIRCRAFT GATE NO. 2 – EAST CONCOURSE
BY THE JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
JMAA PROJECT NUMBER 001-19

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (“JMAA”) requests Statements of Qualifications and Expressions of Interest (each, a “Statement of Qualifications”) to provide Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for engineering design and construction administration services in support of the Passenger Boarding Bridge Replacement project at Aircraft Gate No. 2 located on the East Concourse at the Jackson Medgar-Wiley Evers International Airport (“JAN”).

JMAA will receive Statements of Qualifications to perform the Services at JMAA's administrative offices, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208, until 2:00 p.m. central time on Monday, July 8, 2019 (the “Deadline”).

JMAA will not consider any Statements of Qualifications received after the Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information for Respondents relating to this Request for Statements of Qualifications (“RFQ”) is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA. The Information for Respondents contains a copy of the RFQ, General Information for Respondents, Information Required from Respondents, and Criteria for Selection.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the Information for Respondents from JMAA by contacting Bonnie Spears, JMAA Procurement Specialist, as follows:

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority
100 International Drive, Suite 300 (39208)
Post Office Box 98109
Jackson, Mississippi 39298-8109
Attention: Bonnie Spears, Procurement Specialist
Telephone No.: (601) 360-8623
Facsimile No.: (601) 939-3713
E-Mail: bspears@jmaa.com

or from JMAA's website at <https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>

JMAA will hold a Pre-Submission Conference at 10:30 a.m. central time on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, in the Community Room, 3rd Floor Mezzanine Level, at the Main Terminal Building at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, MS 39208. Attendance at the Pre-Submission Conference is highly recommended for all those interested in submitting a Statement of Qualifications as a Prime Consultant for the work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Consultant. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Consultant and Sub-Consultants, the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Submission Conference, the opportunity to receive detailed scope related information from the project owner, and a possible site visit of the area covered in the scope of work. No site visits will be scheduled other than the one provided during the Pre-Bid Conference.

Based on the Statement of Qualifications, JMAA will initiate negotiations with the Respondent ranked first on the list. If such negotiations fail to produce an agreement, in form and content, satisfactory to JMAA, within a reasonable period of time, then JMAA may reject the first-ranked Respondent.

In that event, JMAA will follow the same process with the other Respondents, in the order of their ranking, until a Respondent agrees to and enters into an agreement satisfactory to JMAA.

JMAA reserves the right to: (1) reject any and all Statement of Qualifications, for any reason, any time before execution of a contract with a Respondent selected by JMAA to perform the Services.

JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 30% for the Services solicited by this RFQ. JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

6/6/2019 6/13/2019

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Internet service,
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within reach.

Qualified Mississippi low-income residents may receive discounted service from AT&T under the Lifeline Program. Customers must meet certain eligibility criteria based on income level or participate in the following financial assistance programs:

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- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Income level at or below 135% of the federal poverty guideline

Customers must reside in an area where AT&T participates in the Lifeline Program. In addition, if you live on federally recognized tribal lands and are eligible for benefits through any qualifying program above or the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Head Start Subsidy or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, you may qualify for Tribal Link-Up and expanded Lifeline Assistance.

Please call your local AT&T customer support center at 855.301.0355 and ask about Lifeline or visit us at att.com/lifeline.



Lifeline is a government assistance program, the service is nontransferable, only eligible consumers may enroll in the program, supporting documentation is necessary for enrollment, and the program is limited to one discount per household consisting of either wireline or wireless service or an Internet plan that meets the Lifeline program's minimum service standards at an eligible location. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. AT&T's Lifeline Program is not available in all areas. Offers subject to change. ©2019 AT&T Intellectual Property. All rights reserved. AT&T and Globe logo are registered trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

Sudoku Solution

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

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Cryptogram Solution

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

I STOPPED BELIEVING IN SANTA
P VQZYYOR WOBPOLPSU PS VCSQC
CLAUS WHEN I WAS SIX. MOTHER
GBCAV KHOS P KCV VPT EZQHOI
TOOK ME TO SEE HIM IN A DEPARTMENT
QZZN EO QZ VOO HPE PS C ROYCTQEOSQ
STORE AND HE ASKED FOR MY
VQZIO CSR HO CUNOR FZI EX
A U T O G R A P H
C A Q Z U I C Y H

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PICK UP
The MISSISSIPPI LINK
AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

JACKSON

BULLY'S RESTAURANT

3118 Livingston Road

CASH & CARRY

Capitol Street and Monument Street

CITY HALL

219 S President St

GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX

2659 Livingston Road

DOLLAR GENERAL

3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

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.

MCDADE'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADE'S MARKET #2

653 Duling Avenue

PICADILLY CAFETERIA

Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

SHELL FOOD MART

5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55

MURPHY USA

6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)

REVELL ACE HARDWARE

Terry Rd (South Jackson)

WALGREENS

380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON

A & I

716 Roby Street - Canton, MS

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

JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY

507 Church Street - Canton, MS

K & K ONE STOP

110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

LACY'S INSURANCE

421 Peace Street - Canton, MS

SOUL SET BARBER SHOP

257 Peace Street - Canton, MS

TRAILER PARK GROCERY

22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

BYRAM

DOLLAR GENERAL

125 Swinging Bridge Dr.

HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE

5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road

CITY HALL

Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL

807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

SERVICE STATION

at Exit 78

CITY HALL

West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELCOME CENTER

505 E. Main Street

SUNFLOWER GROCERY

122 Old Port Gibson Street,

Raymond, MS

LOVE FOOD MART

120 E. Main Street,

Raymond, MS

RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS

RAYMOND CITY HALL

110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

UTICA

HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP

Mississippi Hwy 18

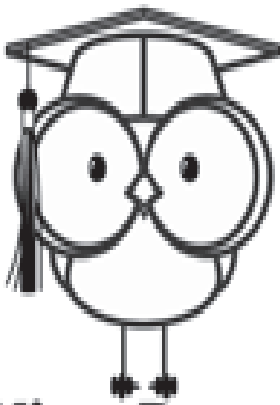
PITT STOP

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Week of June 02, 2019

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PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Jay D Johnson
2019



“Kam” Lloyd Joseph Williams

I N M E M O R I A M

Prolific film and literary critic dies

1953 - 2019

Over the past two decades, film and literary critic Kam Williams published nearly ten thousand articles and reviews.

Throughout his nearly 22-year career as a writer, he was most known for his film reviews and celebrity interviews for websites such as Rotten-Tomatoes.com and over 100 publications around the world, ranging from local papers like Princeton, NJ’s Town Topics to international news chain Metro.

A prolific journalist, he also wrote countless book reviews, editorials and a novel that will be published posthumously later this year.

Williams, who was a resident of Princeton, N.J., died Thursday, May 30, from prostate cancer. He was 66 years old.

Born Lloyd Joseph Williams in New York City and raised in St. Albans, Queens, Williams was commonly referred to as “Kam,” a nickname short for “Kamau,” a name given to him while he was a student at Brown University, by famed Jazz musician Sun Ra.

Williams’ path to a career in writing was circuitous. He was a graduate of Brooklyn Tech High School in New York City and earned his bachelor’s degree from Cornell University in black literature in 1974. While receiving his master’s in English from Brown University in 1975, he first attempted a career in screenwriting at Chi-

cago’s WTTW, a PBS affiliate TV station.

However, Williams, had a diverse set of interests and diverted his attention from writing for business and entertainment law, receiving his J.D. from Boston University in 1978 (along with Bar membership in MA, PA, CT, NY and NJ) followed by an M.B.A. from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1980.

Williams’ first wife, the late Kristina Barbara Johnson, introduced him to art dealing and the antique business in which he subsequently deployed his corporate and legal knowledge for over a decade.

Williams had a colorful personality and a commanding presence, according to friends and family. He was a tall African-American man with freckles and wore his bright-red hair in a large Afro hairstyle that was immediately noticeable in a crowd.

His diverse life experiences and base of knowledge (he was a polymath who read a book a week) made him a compelling conversationalist and lead to a brief but recurring guest appearance on The Howard Stern Radio Show.

It was that experience that later sparked his career in journalism when a family friend and writer at the *Princeton Packet*, a local newspaper in his hometown Princeton, NJ, recommended Williams write a

film review of Howard Stern’s 1997 biographical film “Private Parts.”

Williams’ intense work ethic and glowing journalistic reputation lead to extensive work interviewing celebrities associated with upcoming film and book releases, including Quentin Tarantino, Jamie Foxx, Mel Brooks, Russell Simmons, LeBron James and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, among many others.

Williams was also a staunch supporter of civil rights-related causes, publishing countless op-eds on the topic and later joined the NAACP Image Awards Nominating Committee.

Outside of his writing career, he had a deep passion for music and boasted a large collection of albums. He enjoyed long daily walks in nature, was an avid sports fan and a passionate Little League baseball coach.

He was also an enthusiastic participant in weekly trivia nights with a large group of friends at a local bar in Princeton, N.J.

He is survived by many friends, 4 siblings (Lawrence, Daryl, Teresa and Rod) and his 2nd wife of 25 years, Susan, and stepson, Nicholas.

A memorial service will be held at the Princeton Garden Theater June 29.

Kam was a regular contributor to The Mississippi Link Newspaper.

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Sudoku

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

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

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Cryptogram

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

Hint: Quote by Shirley Temple

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

T
P V Q Z Y Y O R W O B P O L P S U P S V C S Q C

A T A
G B C A V K H O S P K C V V P T E Z Q H O I

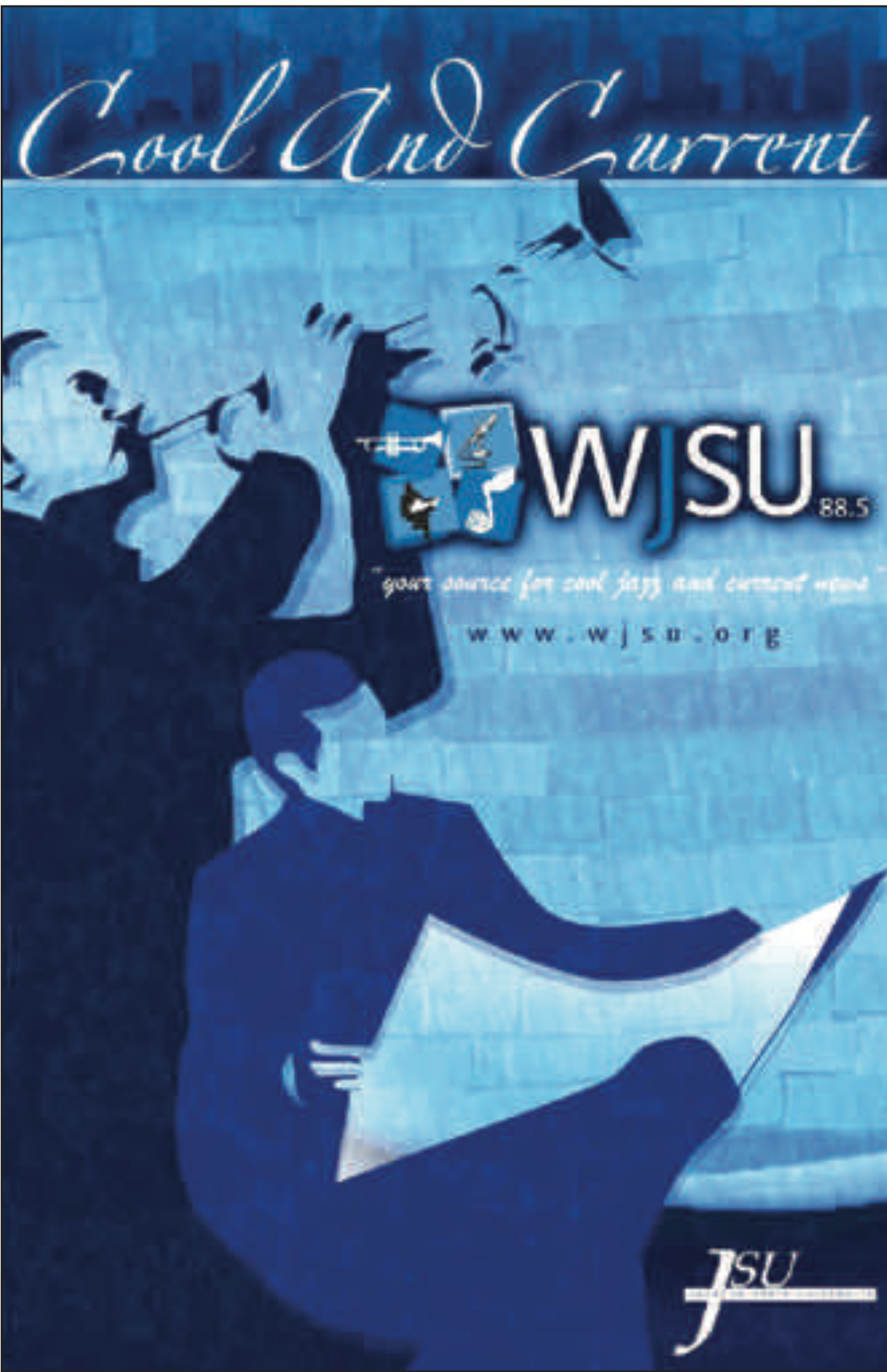
T T T A T
Q Z Z N E O Q Z V O O H P E P S C R O Y C I Q E O S Q

T A T
V Q Z I O C S R H O C V N O R F Z I E X

A T A
C A Q Z U I C Y H

© Feature Exchange

(For puzzle answer keys, see page 15)





2019 Nissan Maxima

By Frank S. Washington
AboutThatCar.com

The 2019 Nissan Maxima is not your average family sedan. Other than four-door, that may be where the similarity ends. It has the feel and the performance chops of a full-fledged sport sedan.

Where to begin? It lacks the conservative styling of most middle of the road large family sedans with styling designed to offend no one and appealing to even less. This car had an angular style that generated 'love it' or 'loathe it' responses and was unapologetic. The Maxima was no go along to get along sedan.

Nissan's flagship was quite a figure with its 19-inch diamond cut wheels, large boomerang shaped LED headlights and an oversized V-motion grille. The Maxima had a new front fascia, a revised rear fascia with LED tail lights and integrated quad-tip exhaust finishers; the dual exhaust was made to look like a quad exhaust.

It had a low stance. The lines were meant to evoke the image of a jet fighter. The doors had deep scallops. Blacked out A-pillars enhanced the floating roof appearance. Combine that with blacked out B- and C-pillars and you get a wraparound canopy look. The test vehicle had a dual panoramic roof with the front panel being retractable and the rear panel fixed.

Under the hood was a 3.5-liter V6 that made 300 horsepower. It was mated to an Xtronic transmission. That is

a continuously variable transmission with manual shift mode as well drive mode selector, it could be put in sport.

Nissan has invested more time and money into the development of CVTs than most automakers. It shows on the Maxima. Gone where the bugaboos like the drone and what seemed to be slow response time.

Clearly the downsides of CVTs were gone. That left the upside. The Maxima had an EPA rating of 20 mpg in the city, 30 mpg on the highway and 24 mpg combined. That is pretty good for a 300-horsepower sedan.

This powertrain provided some exhilarating driving. Acceleration was impressive, cornering was good and the suspension soaked up imperfections in the road. The cabin was quiet and the instruments were laid out in such way that it wasn't necessary for the driver to reach for anything.

The Maxima had a driver focused interior. All of the instruments were pointed at the driver. Even the center stack was slanted in the driver's direction.

The test vehicle was equipped with the Platinum Reserve Package. It featured tan semi-aniline leather appointments. The package interior also had Satin Bronze faceted interior finishers, tan steering wheel insert for a two-tone appearance and heated rear seats.

The leather was quilted; it was plush and really rivaled the inside of most luxury sedans.

It was close but not in an uncomfortable way, it was snug. It really did feel like a cockpit.

The leather was soft, there was stitching throughout and the interior was modern but there were buttons where needed, like the audio controls.

There was plenty of headroom and hip room. Three people could sit abreast but I don't think full size adults would be comfortable.

This Nissan Maxima had push button start and stop as well as lock and unlock. Now that I think about it, the car was equipped with one of the best overhead cameras that I've run across. It had a power tilt and telescopic steering wheel.

Of course, there were voice controls, satellite radio, Bluetooth, lane departure warning, heated and cooled front seats, blind spot warning, automatic high beams, automatic emergency braking with pedestrian protection and forward collision warning. And there was remote start; you'd be surprised how many vehicles don't have this feature.

As tested, the 2019 Maxima sticker was \$45,225. That just didn't seem like that much for all you got.

Frank S. Washington is editor of AboutThatCar.com

HEAD START

Hinds County Human Resource Agency Project Head Start
is currently accepting applications
for the 2019-2020 school year.



Priority is given
to children with
diagnosed disabilities
(certified IEP or IFSP)

To Qualify:

- * Child must be 3 or 4 on or before September 1st
- * Family must reside in Hinds County
- * Must be a low-income family (based on the federal poverty level)
- * Families of children with disabilities are encouraged to apply regardless of income.
- * Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP)

Head Start Offers the Following Services:

- * Preschool Education
- * Medical
- * Dental
- * Nutrition
- * Mental Health
- * Disability
- * Library
- * Leadership Development
- * Limited Transportation

...ALL AT NO COST TO PARENTS!

To Apply, You Must Present the Following:

- 1) **Proof of child's age** - birth certificate, hospital birth record, or passport
- 2) **Proof of family's income** - tax return, W-2, pay stubs, SSI, Social Security, child support, TANF, grants/scholarship, unemployment, and any other source of household income
- 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)**
- 8) **Documentation of foster care (if applicable)**

For more information about Head Start, call (601) 923-3940.
To apply, call HCHRA's 24-hour automated appointment line at (601) 963-5835.

SPACE IS LIMITED!
APPLY EARLY!



HINDS COUNTY
Mississippi
Building Families
Strengthening Communities



Unisex Cutting & Styling
Hair Coloring
Relaxers

Super Doo Beauty Salon

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A Full-Service Salon

By Appointment Only

Tuesday - Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Willie McGill Hair Stylist

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Spirits of the Passage

THE STORY of the
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A sea of stolen lives.
A ship that never landed.
A voice, unsilenced.




FEBRUARY 2 - AUGUST 11, 2019

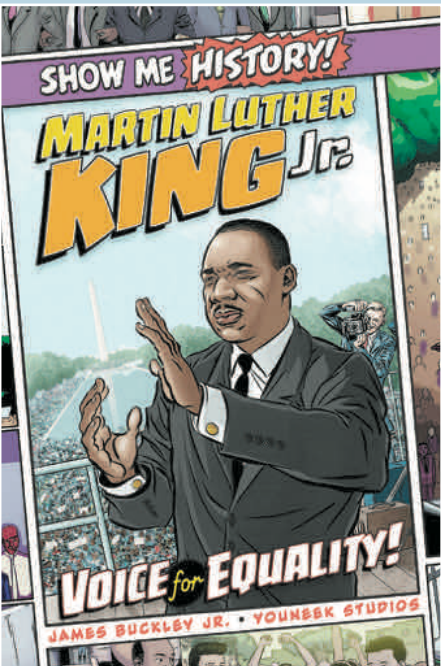
Explore rare, firsthand accounts of loss and resilience from the unlikely discovery of a stolen slave ship.

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TWO
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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

The heroes in comic books arrive in fancy costumes. Their heads are ringed by bubbles that say things like “POW!” and “ZOOM!” and that’s when bad guys fall like dead twigs from a tree. BAM! All the heroes in comic books are super-powerful and mighty but here’s the thing: as you’ll see in the new book “Martin Luther King, Jr.: Voice for Equality!” by James Buckley, Jr. and YouNeek Studios, real heroes sometimes quietly wear suits

and ties. Welcome to this history tour. Your guides are Libby (a.k.a Lady Liberty, the statue) and the boy who will someday be your “Uncle Sam.” Today, they’ll take you on a tour of the life of a boy named Mike. Yes, that was his name at birth: Michael King, Jr., but when Mike was a boy, his father changed both their names to honor a religious man. That was also when Martin Luther King, Sr. decided to become a minister. Later, Martin Luther King

Jr. did, too. Back then, young King knew that it was wrong to deny someone their rights, based on the color of their skin. As a child, he vowed to do something about Jim Crow laws someday but it wasn’t until he was older and visited Connecticut that he learned what it was like not to be segregated. That trip changed his focus: he was still a man of God, but he’d use his talents as speechmaker and leader to gain civil rights for African Americans. It wasn’t easy.

King’s house was bombed and, although his family was safe, it was scary. His followers and friends were beaten and bloodied in fields, on the street and in marches. His life was threatened and that landed him in the hospital once. And yet, King never gave up; he persevered by reaching out to politicians and other influential people who could help the cause. He planned and marched, even though there were times when he was just plain tired. And he did it until the day he died on a hotel balcony, killed

by a man with a gun... Kids who struggle to read, or who claim they don’t like to read may change their tune with “Martin Luther King, Jr.: Voice for Equality!” Parents take note: this isn’t your old-school stuffy history book. Using the younger versions of two historical icons, author James Buckley, Jr. tells the story of Dr. King through comic-book-like illustration and balloon-text, mediums that are familiar to both readers and reluctant readers. Inherently, that makes this a tale kids can relate

to, but Buckley Jr. also uses modern language that children understand, which helps get them involved by subtly including them in the emotions inside the story. Crisp illustrations by YouNeek Studios then keeps them engaged. That makes this a story that could turn a middle-schooler’s groans into smiles this summer, while it’ll still appeal to kids who love books. For either kind of child in your home, “Martin Luther King, Jr.: Voice for Equality!” is a book they’ll ZOOM! through.

EXPERIENCE MATTERS!



Eddie J. Fair

LET'S DO IT AGAIN!

RE-ELECT
EDDIE J. FAIR
HINDS COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

- Eliminated long lines
- Designed area for senior citizens
- Established convenience of on line & credit card payments
- Keeps community informed through monthly newsletters
- Ensures that employees continue educational training
- 18 years of dedicated customer service improvements and flexible office environment
- Partners with the City of Jackson CCEP Program
- Implemented Curbside Service and Open Door Policy

Paid for by friends of Eddie J. Fair

PROVEN LEADER

Who is Eddie Fair?

Eddie Fair is the most distinguished individual elected for 18th year as the mayor of Hattiesburg, MS, where he graduated from Hattiesburg Central High School, then earned his Bachelor's degree from Jackson State University.

Education

- ★ Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Jackson State University
- ★ Master's Degree in Public Policy, Jackson State University
- ★ Administrative Graduate & Executive Management, (Meredith Corporation)
- ★ Collector of Revenue 1, State of Mississippi
- ★ Collector of Revenue II, State of Mississippi

Accomplishments as Tax Collector

- ★ 15 dedicated years of service as your Hinds County Tax Collector
- ★ Eliminated long lines
- ★ Organized a special area for senior citizens
- ★ kept community informed with monthly newsletters
- ★ Invested in continued employee educational training
- ★ Maintained a professional and friendly office environment
- Built community awareness and neighborhood involvement
- ★ Implemented an "Open Door" policy
- ★ Maintained office integrity while producing 18 years of clean audits
- ★ Implemented Curbside Service

Memberships and Associations

- ★ Life Member NAACP
- ★ Member of Legislative Council of MS, Taxpayers and Collectors Association
- ★ Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
- ★ Member of Leadership Jackson
- ★ Member of Delta B Rho Wood Lodge #658
- ★ Member of Jackson Rotary Club
- ★ Member of the National Association of Public Administrators
- ★ Honored by 115th Congress of USA, Barack O. Thompson

WRTM

SMOOTH 100.5 FM

WRTM-FM SMOOTH 100.5 FM, IS JACKSON’S URBAN RHYTHM AND BLUES STATION PLAYING FAMILIAR FAVORITES FROM THE 70’S, 80’S AND 90’S. TUNE IN TO HEAR JUST THE RIGHT MIX OF BLUES AND TODAY’S BIGGEST HITS.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Hinds County School District graduates say goodbye



Dear Graduating Class of 2019;

This year it was my honor and privilege as superintendent of the Hinds County School District to share in your high school graduation ceremonies. My congratulations go out to every teacher, counselor, administrator, parent and mentor who supported this year's graduates along the way. In addition, this is a time for all staff members to take pride in this achievement as well. If we truly look at education as a business, then graduation – the act of students walking on and off the stage and receiving a diploma – is the time when our product rolls off the assembly line.

As you continue to celebrate and prepare for the next level, I know that there are many more achievements that could be

included in this year's celebration. There is, indeed, a very personal story behind each of your journeys. Each of you have had many successes and setbacks, achieved significant milestones, made sacrifices and met special challenges on the path to this year's ceremonies.

We also know that all of you will have more of these challenges and victories in the future. Life is like that; but, you will overcome them. To say that you are our future is not an empty cliché; you are our future, and what you make of it will impact all of us. We want you to be successful personally and to contribute to the greater good of our society.

In summary, we have so much to be proud of. As graduates, you will be continuing

your education, some through technical skill career programs, some through community college, some four-year institutions, plus many of you will enter our military, and I salute you for serving our country. The scholarship contributions are staggering, and I thank all local organizations who worked hard to support our high schools with funds for these graduates.

Again, thank you for your efforts during this academic year and we look forward to an even better year in 2019-2020. On behalf of the Hinds county School District family, congratulations to each of you and best wishes in the future.

Delesicia Martin, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Education

Raymond High School Highlights



RHS Senior Choir and Air Force JROTC Color Guard



Cameron Courtney gives opening remarks



Reijah Harper and Jyrah Wallace, Salutatorians



Sharon Jimerson, Valedictory

Terry High School Highlights



THS Senior Choir members



Alicia Hulitt, Valedictorian



Christopher Buie, Salutatorian



Supt. Delesicia Martin presents diplomas to THS graduates

Raymond High School Highlights



Amy Orellana and Justin Morales, Utica Elementary



Saul Lopez and Juan Lopez from RHS



Luis Delgado from RHS and sister



Mireille Nimana from THS