Keepers of the knowledge for people who speak the truth since 1993

The Mississippi Link

www.mississippilink.com

Vol. 25, No. 40 | July 25 - 31, 2019 | 50¢

NAACP unanimously calls for the House of Representatives to begin impeachment proceedings

By Lauren Poteat
NNPA Newswire

During its 110th National Convention at the Cobo Center in Downtown Detroit, the NAACP – the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization – hosted delegates from all over the country. In keeping with the convention's theme, "When We Fight, We Win," the NAACP national delegation voted unanimously for the U.S. House of Representatives to initiate Articles of Impeachment for President Donald J. Trump.

NAACP President Derrick Johnson, who has remained unwavering in his opposition to the president and his administration's policies, gave the following remarks to the delegates shortly after the vote was cast.

"The pattern of Trump's misconduct is unmistakable and has proven time and time again that he is unfit to serve as the president of this country," said Johnson.

"From his attempts to curtail the scope of Robert Mueller's investigation, to calling out minority congresswomen and telling them to go back to their countries, to caging immigrant children without food or water, to his numerous attempts to avert the Supreme Court's decision to not add in the citizenship question to the 2020 Census, this president has led one of the most racist and xenophobic administrations since the Jim Crow era."

"Trump needs to know that he is not above the law and the crimes that he has committed must be prosecuted. We will make sure that the NAACP is at the forefront of pushing Congress to proceed with the impeachment process," Johnson continued.


Johnson

Tonight's vote was the organization's latest effort to encourage members of Congress to pursue impeachment against the president.

Rep. Al Green (D-TX) energized the delegates, delivering remarks similar to those that launched his efforts on the floor of the House of Representatives, where he has put forth several impeachment measures.

Carmel Henry, a millennial voting delegate from the District of Columbia, believes that even if the vote won't have any legislative ramifications, the resolution represents a step in the right direction.

"I support the resolution passed by the organization during its 110th convention because it represents a closer step in addressing the injustices in America, particularly as it pertains to minorities and persons of color," Henry said.

The NAACP's vote happened one day before former special counsel Robert Mueller testified before Congress, which many Democrats hoped would help strengthen the argument for im-

NAACP
Continued on page 3

$600 million settlement reached following Equifax data breach

The Mississippi Link Newswire

People affected by the massive 2017 Equifax data breach will receive 10 years of credit monitoring and may be eligible for restitution following a $600 million multistate settlement reached with the consumer reporting agency by attorneys general across the country, Attorney General Jim Hood announced. The state of Mississippi will receive $1,399,071.54 of the $175 million going to states, with the remaining $425 million set aside for eligible consumers.

On September 7, 2017, Equifax, one of the largest consumer reporting agencies in the world, announced a data breach, affecting more than 147 million consumers – nearly half of the U.S. population, including 1.3 million Mississippians. Breached information included Social Security numbers, names, dates of birth, addresses, credit card numbers, and in some cases, driver's license numbers.

"The worst part about this data breach is that Equifax, as a credit bureau, knows firsthand how data breaches and resulting identity theft can impact consumers' credit; yet, when they were notified of a problem in their cybersecurity in March 2017, they failed to correct it, allowing highly sensitive information to be exploited by an intruder through July 2017," Hood said. "We should be able to trust that our personal information is safe in the hands of an entity like Equifax, but when that's not enough, consumers can be confident that I and other attorneys general will do all we can to require companies to pay up and protect their customers."

A multistate investigation found that the breach occurred because Equifax failed to implement an adequate security program to protect consumers' highly sensitive personal information, which enabled hackers to penetrate its systems. Despite knowing about a critical vulnerability in its software, Equifax failed to fully patch its systems. Moreover, Equifax failed to replace software that monitored the breached network for suspicious activity. As a result, the attackers penetrated Equifax's system and went unnoticed for 76 days.

Under the terms of the settlement, Equifax agreed to provide a Consumer Restitution Fund of up to $425 million for consumer redress. The company will also offer affected consumers extended credit-monitoring services for 10 years and longer for affected consumers under the age of eighteen.

Equifax has also agreed to take several steps to assist consumers dealing with identity theft, including, but not limited to:

- making it easier for consumers to freeze and thaw their credit;
- making it easier for consumers to dispute inaccurate information in credit reports; and
- requiring Equifax to maintain sufficient staff dedicated to assisting consumers who may be victims of identity theft.

In addition, Equifax has agreed to strengthen its security practices going forward, including:

- reorganizing its data security team;
- minimizing its collection of sensitive data and the use of consumers' Social Security numbers;
- performing regular security monitoring, logging and testing;
- employing improved access control and account management tools;
- reorganizing and segmenting its network; and
- reorganizing its patch management team and employing new policies regarding the identification and deployment of critical security updates and patches.

Consumers who are eligible for redress will be required to submit claims online or by mail. Paper claims forms can also be requested over the phone. Consumers will be able to obtain

Equifax
Continued on page 3

Black Wealth 2020 adds HBCUs to its Economic Empowerment Agenda

The catalyst for black wealth also applauds Robert Smith's gift to Morehouse


Lezli Baskerville, president/CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

The short-term economic impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) is $15 billion – rivaling corporations such as Bank of America in its more than 177,000 employees.

Yet, according to the U. S. Department of Education, approximately 60 percent of all black college students have no expectation of family financial contributions to their education. That's a family financial expectation far lower than that of whites.

Approximately 30 percent of white college students have no expectation of family financial contributions to their education.

That number is approximately 48 percent for Latinos and 38 percent for Asians.

The economic impact of HBCUs, their struggle to stay afloat, and the dire financial disparities faced by HBCU students are the reasons that Black Wealth 2020, a catalyst for black economic equality, recently decided to add HBCUs as a fourth leg to its three-pronged focus to grow black wealth through black-owned businesses, black banks and black homeownership.

"We've got to keep on pushing this agenda. And hooking up with HBCUs is a big way of doing that," said Michael Grant, former president of the National Bankers Association, and a founder of Black Wealth 2020 in a meeting just before the principals voted unanimously to expand its vision to acknowledge HBCUs as being "central to strengthening the American economy."

Grant added, "If we're serious about building black wealth, how can we not have a focus on our youth and the next generation?"

The vision expansion was inspired, in part, by a presentation by Lezli Baskerville, president/CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, also a principal of Black Wealth 2020.

"But for HBCUs, there would be no African-American middle class today. And that's a fact and that's documented," Baskerville told the group. "And just the existence of HBCUs in our communities – even the ones that are not thriving today – ends up collectively to generate about $15 billion in short term. And that doesn't include anything other than what the campuses, including employees and students, spend in surrounding communities."

Billionaire Robert Smith's Morehouse initiative has challenged the black community on support of HBCUs

In an initial move to encourage support for HBCUs, Black Wealth 2020 principals have also sent a thank you letter to black billionaire businessman Robert Smith, chairman/CEO of Vista Equity Partners, who touched hearts across the nation when he announced that he would pay off all of the student loans of the Morehouse College class of 2019.

The letter applauded Smith, saying, "With student debt nationally at over $1.4 trillion and with the average college student leaving school $30,000 in debt, your gift not only relieved an enormous financial burden from the

Black Wealth
Continued on page 3

Share this issue with a friend by mailing it to:

_____

_____

_____

Mississippi Children's Museum awarded $10,000 CarMax Foundation Grant for Summer Reading Camp

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On July 19, representatives from CarMax presented the Mississippi Children's Museum (MCM) with a $10,000 grant supporting MCM's intensive summer reading camp, Read to Succeed.

CarMax not only helped finance Read to Succeed this summer, but also sent staff members to volunteer at the camp where they interacted with students and served lunch. CarMax also volunteered at MCM July 19 to assist with activities related to the museum's Apollo 50th Anniversary Celebration event.

The CarMax Foundation was established to support the communities where CarMax associates live and work. The foundation supports staff members' passions and efforts primarily through volunteer and grants to the nonprofits they care about the most. To date, the CarMax Foundation has provided over $45 million in donations.

"I've always thought community involvement was just the right thing to do. When we invest our time and efforts to make sure our community and our kids succeed, then we all succeed," said Xavius Levy, CarMax Buyer and CarMax Cares volunteer.

"My favorite thing about working for CarMax is tahe fact that our foundation supports causes that our associates are passionate about and seeks to magnify the positive impact we create through our giving and volunteering."

MCM is grateful for community partners like CarMax who help make programs like Read to Succeed a reality.

For for information, contact Emily Hoff, director of Development, at emily@mcm.ms or 601 709-8356.

Equifax

Continued from page 1

information about the settlement, check their eligibility to file a claim, and file a claim on the Equifax Settlement Breach online registry. To receive email updates regarding the launch of this online registry, consumers can sign up at *ftc.gov/Equifax*. Consumers can also call the settlement administrator at 1 833-759-2982 for more information. The program to pay restitution to consumers will be conducted in connection with settlements that have been reached in the multi-district class actions filed against Equifax, and settlements that with the Federal Trade Commission and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

In addition to Mississippi, other attorneys general participating in this settlement include Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

NAACP

Continued from page 1

peachment among the legislators whose views differ from the 87 House members currently on record as expressing support for an impeachment inquiry.

While addressing attendees during Monday's events, Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.), one of the four freshman congresswomen who President Trump offensively told to "go home," a statement many believe to based solely on her ethnic background – Tlaib was born in Detroit – repeated her call for his impeachment, saying "I'm not going nowhere. Not until I impeach this president."

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), who also spoke at the convention Monday, did not mention Trump during her speech.

Black Wealth

Continued from page 1

graduating class from Morehouse and their parents, you have challenged all African Americans of means to think bigger about how to use their wealth to improve the lives of others within our race."

The letter was signed by members and supporters of the Black Wealth 2020 coalition. Those organizations include the National Association of Black-owned Broadcasters; the U. S. Black Chambers, Inc.; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; National Bankers Association; The Collective Empowerment Group; the National Association of Real Estate Brokers; The National Black Caucus of State Legislators; Marc Morial of the National Urban League; NAFEO; Congresswoman Maxine Waters; former SBA Deputy Administrator Marie Johns; John Rogers, CEO, Ariel Investments; Andy Ingraham, CEO, National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers; and Marcia Griffin, CEO, HomeFree USA.

"We thought it fitting that a coalition committed to building wealth should take the opportunity to acknowledge and praise your commitment to uplifting our people," the letter told Smith.

HBCUs struggle for funding to the detriment of the nation

In her presentation to Black Wealth 2020 on the state of HBCUs, Baskerville made the case that student loan debt is inevitable for students who are forced to borrow because their families cannot help. But, she said, financial issues also hinder even good students from making it through college in the first place.

Baskerville drew heavily from a report compiled by noted national economist Bill Spriggs, who has contended that HBCUs are the key to diversifying technology, currently among the top paying fields in the U. S. job market.

"In the pipeline of people who generate wealth in the African ancestry community, there is not today a challenge in terms of blacks getting into college. Bill's data shows that there is no disparity in the percentages of African Americans and their numbers and whites that are going into college and enrolled in these high needs areas. The gap happens when they get in," Baskerville said. "It's not that they're not prepared, it's not that they can't get in and could not thrive, it's that once they get in, they don't have dollars."

Among other facts that Baskerville noted from the Spriggs report:

Despite the challenges of the institutions and the financial challenges of the students, HBCUs are performing above average and do very well in moving students from low income families to the top 20 percent.

Generally, many universities now have more students drawn from the top 1 percent of the U. S. income distribution than the bottom 40 percent of the U. S. income distribution.

With a declining number of white students, and a growing share of low income students, HBCUs are an under-resourced asset for growing the US economy; therefore an increased investment in HBCUs would expand their unreached capacity.

According to the U.S Department of Education, there are currently 107 HBCUs operating in the U. S. All have struggles with funding.

"HBCUs Punching Above Their Weight," a recent report by the United Negro College Fund, the premier fund-raising organization for HBCUs, says despite their difficulty with fund-raising, HBCUs are still succeeding beyond expectations given their struggles.

"Given their small average size and a history of being under-resourced, the enrollment, degree and economic impacts of HBCUs on African Americans in their respective states are significantly greater than one would expect," says an introduction to the report.

Principals of Black Wealth 2020 have vowed to push for the growth of HBCUs as parts of their respective agendas and encourage other major organizations and the general public to do so.

"It certainly means that for nearly 150 years, we've had institutions of higher learning that have produced some of the best and brightest African Americans and we certainly still recognize the benefits that accrued to the African-American community because of the historically Black Colleges and Universities," said the Rev. Jonathan Weaver, a Black Wealth 2020 principal who represents the Collective Empowerment Group, an economic initiative involving approximately 800 black churches. "It's only fitting that Black Wealth 2020 would have a relationship in which we can find ways to collaborate and to partner to create even greater synergy within the African-American community with the historically Black Colleges and Universities."

JPS introduces new logo, refreshes brand

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Transforming lives through excellent education

The District will phase in the new logo across its platforms as part of an overall rebranding process.

JPS high school students from across the District came together for engagement sessions held at the Career Development Center in May 2019 to share ideas about how the District's new brand needs to look and feel.

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Public Schools revealed its new logo in conjunction with the unveiling of the District's five-year strategic plan during events held July 18. Fahrenheit Design Group led the effort by holding an engagement session with a team of JPS high school students in the spring. Representing all seven of the District's high schools, these students contributed their creativity and brilliance to come up with a unifying new brand.

The logo incorporates the District's commitment to transforming scholars' lives through excellent education. The final design is a graphic representation of our core values of equity, excellence, a growth mindset, relationships, relevance and positive and respectful cultures.

Furthermore, this process and the product reflect our belief that the transformation we have agreed upon as a community requires the deliberate involvement of our students, parents, teachers and partners.

"I am also thrilled to unveil to you a new logo for our District," said Errick L. Green, Ed.D., superintendent of Jackson Public Schools. "It is part of our rebranding effort to raise awareness about our strategic plan while adding a new, refreshing identity to Jackson Public Schools. A special thanks goes out to our high school scholars for designing this great logo that captures our new identity by uniting us in transforming lives through excellent education."

Excellence For All: JPS Strategic Plan 2019-2024

Mississippi Link Newswire

Over the last nine months, we have met with scholars, parents, teachers, leaders, partners and community members to better understand their desires for the future of the district. The resulting strategic plan, which can be downloaded on our website, is designed as a series of commitments to our scholars and families and will guide our district's decisions and actions. We invite and encourage feedback and sincere partnership as we work together to transform lives through excellent education.

Commitment #1: A Strong Start

Scholars perform better in school and complete more years of education when they engage in high-quality early learning. We will work to ensure that every 4-year-old in Jackson has access to high-quality, full-day early learning opportunities, supporting our vision of every child entering kindergarten ready to experience school success.

Commitment #2: Innovative Teaching and Learning

In order to graduate global citizens prepared to solve the problems of tomorrow, we must embrace schooling that is radically different from current and past practices. Innovation will be encouraged in classrooms, schools, out-of-school times and across the district, as space is created for new ideas and ways of "doing school."

Commitment #3: Talented and Empowered Teams

Scholars' achievement is improved when they are taught by educators who know them as individual learners and who can differentiate instruction in ways that ensure all scholars have access to high-quality curriculum. We are committed to improving our candidate pools and developing the capacity of the most significant school-based influences on scholar achievement: the teacher and principal.

Commitment #4: Joyful Learning Environments

Scholars learn better when they are in environments they view as safe, supportive and positive. This means our schools and classrooms must be designed and led in ways that encourage and nurture the joy of learning, foster a sense of belonging, build trusting relationships and encourage risk-taking and questioning that are essential to lifelong learning.

Commitment #5: A Culture of Accountability and Excellence

A culture of accountability and excellence must permeate the entire district in order for us to achieve the goals outlined in this strategic plan. Thoughtful planning, deliberate and consistent use of systems and data analysis, and a deep commitment to professional learning will enable us to build – and sustain – a districtwide culture of accountability and excellence.

JPS assistant superintendent receives national education award

Woody

Mississippi Link Newswire

Dionne Woody was recognized by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Central MS Chapter, with its prestigious Education Award. She was one of three outstanding professional women honored in the areas of Economic Empowerment, Education and Health. Awards were presented at the organization's High Tea event held this spring at the Hilton Jackson.

Woody currently serves as an assistant superintendent for Elementary Schools in JPS. She helped the school maintain its B rating for multiple years until it achieved an A rating and moved up to a No. 15 ranking in 2018.

Prior to serving at Key, Woody led Bradley Elementary School from low performing to successful in four years as its instructional leader. Throughout her esteemed career, Woody has emphasized a whole-child approach to educating children.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Central MS Chapter strives to be a premier advocacy organization of diverse women, committed to unity of purpose in addressing issues of concern to the global community, more specifically, the African-American community. This purpose is achieved by building collaborative partnerships and inspiring shared solutions, as well as promoting gender equity and progressive change.

JPS School Board elects new president

Mississippi Link Newswire

At its July 16, 2019, regular meeting, the JPS Board of Trustees elected a president, vice president and secretary from among its members.

The Board voted to elect Letitia S. Johnson as president, replacing Jeanne Middleton Hairston. Ed Sivak Jr. and Barbara T. Hilliard were re-elected to their roles as vice president and secretary, respectively.

The Board consists of seven members appointed by the mayor of Jackson and confirmed by the city council.

Johnson

Sivak

Hilliard

The Mississippi Link ™

Volume 25 • Number 40

July 25 - 31, 2019

Publisher.....Jackie Hampton
Editor.....Othor Cain
Copy Editor.....Minnie Garrett
Graphics.....Marcus Johnson
Photographers.....Kevin Robinson & Jay Johnson
Contributing Writers.....Janice K. Neal-Vincent
Ayesha K. Mustafaa

Member:

SAAPA

MISSISSIPPI PRESS ASSOCIATION • SERVICES

NNPA 75 YEARS NATIONAL NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

The Mississippi Link [USPS 017224] is published weekly by The Mississippi Link, Inc. Offices located at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. Mailing address is P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307 or e-mail us at: editor@mississippilink.com; Please visit our website at: www.mississippilink.com. Phone: (601) 896-0084, Fax 896-0091, out of state 1-800-748-9747. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Jackson, MS.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Subscriptions are $32 per year; $64 for two years or $96 for three years.

Postmaster:
Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.

Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

William Carey University dedicates new Tatum Court

The Mississippi Link Newswire

William Carey University hosted a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony July 18 for new Tatum Court, the final tornado recovery project after an EF3 tornado ravaged the campus in January 2017.

"This ceremony marks the end of a full two and a half years of recovery. We had six buildings totally destroyed, 49 buildings damaged, $110 million in losses. In two and a half years, we have come back, better and stronger than ever and we are so thankful," said WCU President Tommy King.

Several hundred people crowded the atrium of the new building, among them members of the Tatum family, who arrived early for a private tour before the ceremony – Virginia Angelico Tatum, Billy West Tatum, A.T. "Toddy" Tatum Jr., Diana "Dee" Tatum and Sam McDonald.

Tatum Court was named in honor of W.S.F. Tatum, a successful lumberman who acquired the property and offered it as a gift to the Mississippi Baptist Convention in 1911 to establish Mississippi Woman's College, the school that would one day become William Carey University. The original Tatum Court, opened in 1914, was so severely damaged during the tornado it had to be demolished.

"For all of us, no building hurt more to lose than Tatum Court. It was so much more than brick and mortar. For over a century, generations of alumni came through Tatum Court. It was an iconic building in this community and certainly for the Carey family," said WCU Provost Scott Hummel.

"But these years without Tatum Court also reminded us that the greatest strength of this university is not in its brick and mortar. It is in determined students, faculty members and administrators. Our recovery also reminds us that, as strong as our faculty and students are, we are 'Carey Strong' because God is our refuge and strength and ever-present help in times of trouble.

"Nothing has demonstrated that more than the recovery. There were times when we faced impossible decisions. But God does the impossible."

With the completion of Tatum Court, King said, William Carey University has never been better equipped, with better facilities, to meet the future.

New Tatum Court is WCU's main administrative complex. Its design echoes the appearance of its predecessor. Landry Lewis Germany Architects P.A. of Hattiesburg is the architect. Hanco Corporation of Hattiesburg is the contractor.

A memorial to old Tatum Court, built with bricks salvaged after its demolition, is the centerpiece of new Tatum Court's entrance.

After the dedication ceremony, WCU offered campus tours highlighting other buildings that were part of the rebuilding efforts between Jan. 21, 2017 and July 18, 2019:

• A multi-purpose building constructed to replace lost classroom space. It now houses the band hall and provides space for music classes and offices.

• Green Biology Annex and the Gym Annex were part of a planned expansion. Both were near completion and heavily damaged by the tornado.

• Ross Anatomy Lab, part of the WCU College of Osteopathic Medicine, had to be demolished and rebuilt after the storm. The new lab is larger than its predecessor.

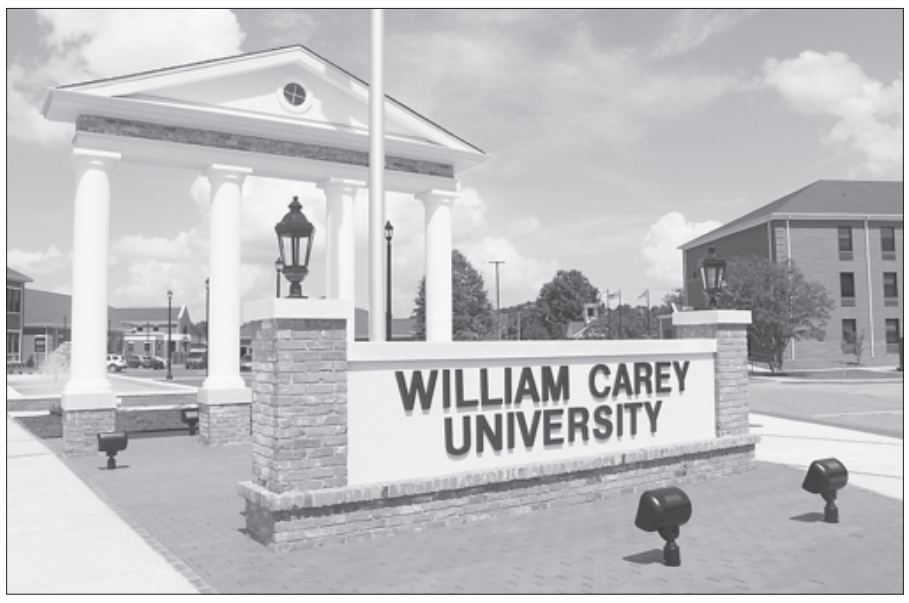
• Tatum Theatre Annex is the new home of the Theatre Department and the Speech & Communication Department, formerly housed at old Tatum Court.

• Johnson Hall-Ross Hall student residences opened in time for the fall 2018 semester. They replaced dorms by the same name that occupied the space where new Tatum Court now stands. Both had to be demolished after the tornado.

• Asbury Academic Building is the home of the Ralph and Naomi Noonkester School of Arts and Letters, formerly housed at old Tatum Court. The Lucile Parker Gallery is also part of Asbury Academic Building; its former home, "512 Tuscan," was demolished.

William Carey University hosted a dedication ceremony and ribbon-cutting July 18 for Tatum Court – the university's final hurricane recovery project. Pictured from left are: Tommy King, WCU president; Jack Simmons, chairman of the WCU Board of Trustees; Scott Hummel, WCU provost and executive vice president; Linda Montgomery of the WCU African-American Cultural Society Alumni Chapter; Hattiesburg Mayor Toby Barker; and William K. Ray, vice chairman of the WCU Board of Trustees.

New Tatum Court is WCU's main administrative complex. Its design echoes the appearance of its predecessor. The facility also includes a large conference space on the third floor served by a catering kitchen. Landry Lewis Germany Architects P.A. of Hattiesburg is the architect.



A memorial to old Tatum Court, built with bricks salvaged after its demolition, is the centerpiece of new Tatum Court's entrance.

WCU President Tommy King, left, visits with members of the Tatum family in the atrium of new Tatum Court. They are, from left, Sam McDonald, Virginia Angelico Tatum, Billy West Tatum, Diana "Dee" Tatum and A.T. "Toddy" Tatum Jr. Behind them is a display featuring the cornerstone of Old Tatum Court, opened in 1914, and portraits of W.S.F. Tatum and his wife, Rebecca Ann O'Neal Tatum.

Old Waverly Golf Club to host U.S. Women's Amateur Championship

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Old Waverly Golf Club, home to the Mississippi State men's and women's golf programs and one of the South's premier golf destinations, will host the 119th U.S. Women's Amateur Championship for its first appearance in the Magnolia State.

Admission is free, and no tickets are required for the Aug. 5-11 event, the third United States Golf Association championship held at the revered club in West Point and the fourth USGA championship played in Mississippi.

MSU President Mark E. Keenum said, "What a marvelous honor for the entire Golden Triangle region and the State of Mississippi to host the 2019 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship at the prestigious Old Waverly Golf Club. Because of MSU's strong connection to Old Waverly, we think of it as 'our' course, and we are delighted to support this important sporting event in every way. Our MSU Golf programs for women and men have long benefited from our affiliation with Old Waverly and the Bryan family."

Old Waverly was founded on the site of the historic Waverly Mansion. The club resulted from the vision of the George and Marcia Bryan family, who sought to create a world-class destination for golf and hospitality in the heart of the Mississippi Black Prairie.

U.S. Open winner Jerry Pate and well-known course designer Bob Cupp were recruited to develop the golf course from 360 acres of pasture in Clay County. The course opened in 1988 to rave reviews and has been listed in various "Best Of" rankings, including recognition as the top residential golf course in Mississippi.

"Old Waverly is a course that will certainly test the finest of golfers, and I'm excited for a national television audience to have a chance to see this Mississippi treasure," Keenum said.

A starting field of approximately 156 players will compete in the championship, which is open to female amateur golfers with a Handicap Index not exceeding 5.4.

"The USGA is proud to bring one of our three oldest championships to Old Waverly in 2019," said Stuart Francis, USGA Championship Committee chairman. "The U.S. Women's Amateur attracts the world's best female amateur players, and we are confident Old Waverly will provide a fair and comprehensive test that identifies a champion worthy of hoisting the historic Robert Cox Trophy."

MSU alumnus George Bryan said Old Waverly is honored to host the 119th U.S. Women's Amateur Championship in West Point.

"We have a strong history of supporting competitive amateur golf, and we look forward to welcoming the best female amateurs in the game to our course and to the state of Mississippi," he said.

The U.S. Women's Amateur Championship will receive live network coverage on FS1 and live streaming coverage on the USGA website. For details, visit *www.usga.org.*

Learn more about MSU's men's and women's golf programs at *www.hailstate.com*; Old Waverly Golf Club at *www.oldwaverly.com.*

MSU is Mississippi's leading university, available online at *www.msstate.edu.*

Hinds CC, ERDC partner on Coding Academy, seek applicants

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds Community College is about to embark on the second year of its partnership with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center on a computer coding academy and is looking for applicants.

Classes begin Aug. 19 at ERDC's facility on Halls Ferry Road and meet 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Campus officials say the 12-month program represents opportunities aplenty for the Vicksburg-Warren Campus and those looking to build a career in information technology.

"The academy continues to offer a for-credit curriculum in Vicksburg, and it's a great chance for the community to develop the skills needed for the workforce of the future," said Marvin Moak, vice president of the Vicksburg-Warren Campus.

Students in the program will learn the most current computer coding skills in a mix of classroom and actual coding. Students will focus on the practical application of technology in a hands-on work environment and also learn the soft skills necessary for employment. Upon completion of the course, students will have earned a career certificate from the college.

The program represents an exceptional opportunity to grow the local economy through cutting-edge workforce training.

"The Vicksburg Coding Academy is a unique educational opportunity that will provide a hands-on immersive workplace environment that will provide a wide variety of coding instruction that will result in skills we need at ERDC and other employers in the region," said Jerry Ballard, ERDC's Information Technology Laboratory Computational Science and Engineering Division chief.

Coordinating the program for Hinds, along with full-time instructor Jim Dismuke, is Jeffery Holland, former director of ERDC.

"The in-demand skills being taught in the Coding Academy are essential to the future of economic development in our community and state," Holland said.

For information on the program, contact Moak's office at 601 629-6804.

Against all odds: College of Business alumnus overcomes academic difficulties while defeating cancer

By LaToya Hentz-Moore
jsumsnews.com

Recent JSU graduate Christopher Salley says, "I feel blessed to be thriving in my career at the Mississippi Department of Transportation as an accountant/auditor," but life hasn't always been a crystal stair for the 34-year-old Florida native.

"During my senior year of high school, I started working the night shift full time and I missed entirely too many days of school," says Salley. "My principal called my mom and explained that because of my vast amount of absenteeism, she had to withdraw me or they would be forced to put me out."

So, at the young age of 18, he discontinued his studies and pursued full-time work. The following semester, Salley decided to return to school, but he admits, "I was young, lazy and irresponsible, so I stopped going again."

A decade passed and Salley found himself unemployed and re-evaluating his life choices. "I remember thinking, the only way that I can progress and have more of what I need to become successful is to go back and get my high school diploma."

He continued, "I decided to take my GED without prior classes or practice tests. I dropped out at 18 years old. So at 27, I wanted to see where I was without studying so that I would know exactly what areas I needed to work on. I took the test on a Friday and when I checked my mailbox the following Monday, my GED transcript and certificate were in there. I passed the test on my first attempt, and that is when my journey to Jackson State began."

Salley enrolled at a local community college where he attained a 4.0-grade point average. The following year, he transferred to Mississippi State University, and by mid-semester, he began to fall ill.

"I didn't know what was going on because I hadn't had any prior issues with my body," says Salley. "I was feeling severe abdominal pain, losing weight rapidly, and there was a lot of blood when I went to the restroom."

His symptoms forced him to withdraw from college before the semester ended so that he could return home to consult a doctor. "I got home in October, and by December, my doctor diagnosed me with stage three colon cancer."

He expounded further, "Shortly after my diagnosis, I started chemotherapy and radiation treatments. I told myself, 'people go through things all the time and despite their circumstances, they prevail.'

After starting chemotherapy and radiation treatments, Salley tried to return to college, "but it was just too much on my body." During his second attempt to continue his collegiate studies, he received a spinal infection while taking a lower dosage of chemotherapy and was forced to withdraw again.

"When I was finally able to return, Mississippi State gave me issues with my financial aid. On their end, all they saw was me enrolling and withdrawing from classes each semester," says Salley. "Initially, they didn't know about my medical issues, and after informing them, I still felt disappointed that they didn't try to work with me. I was mainly upset because I felt like they should have wanted to help a 4.0 student."

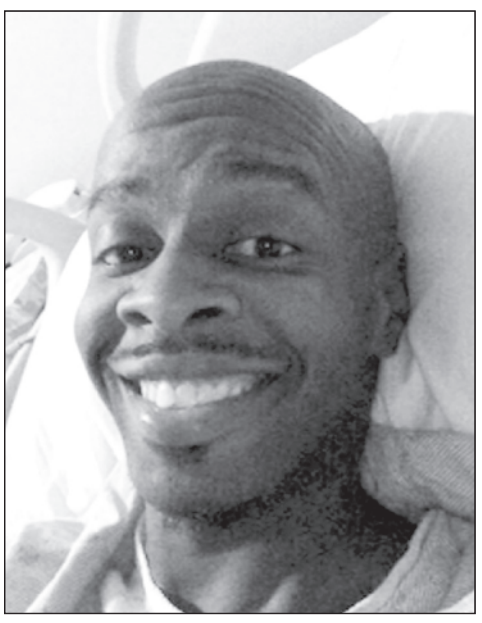
After not being able to return to Mississippi State to complete his degree, Salley pursued enrollment at Jackson State University. He says, "I wish I would have known that I could have gone to Jackson State when I first received my GED."

Sally attributes "youth and ignorance" to his assumptions that he had to attend a community college after receiving a GED. "I had never taken the ACT, so I thought starting at a four-year university was unrealistic. If I could do it all over again, JSU would have been my first choice."

Setbacks have been far too familiar in the Florida native's life. Upon acceptance to JSU, his admission was deferred yet again due to having to re-learn how to walk and other issues that were prevalent to him getting back on track.

Once he was cleared of all medical restrictions, Salley, once again began his quest for a college degree in accounting.


Salley


Salley says, "I didn't want the circumstances of what I was going through with my health, to stop me from being able to accomplish my goals. So, everything I did, was about staying positive, and always remembering that God is in control."

After an extensive journey, Salley earned his bachelor's degree in accounting.

"I was an older, non-traditional student that had been put further off my path by an illness so for periods of time; I would get discouraged." He accredits his professors within the College of Business, Dr. Daniels and Dr. Pridgen for staying positive and putting him in touch with people who could help with internship and employment opportunities.

"I felt like I've gone through all of these health issues where doctors told me that I didn't have long to live and now here I am with another chance at life so which way do I go," Salley says. "They both were diligent with pushing me to continue my pursuit of success."

After an extensive journey at JSU, Salley earned his bachelor's degree in December 2018.

Before concluding, Salley shared his perspective on surviving health and academic hardships. "Cancer is just a word, and words only have as much power as you give to them. I believe that God is victorious, so I wasn't going to allow cancer to become the burden of my life. Everybody has things that they have to go through, whether it's physical, mental or spiritual. We all have things that we have to overcome in order to get through. You have to go through to get through, and that's exactly what I did."

Jackson State, SodexoMAGIC celebrate five-year partnership

By Maxine R. Greenleaf
jsumsnews.com

Jackson State University President William B. Bynum Jr. recently met Earvin "Magic" Johnson, chairman and CEO of SodexoMAGIC, in celebration of the university's fifth-year partnership with SodexoMAGIC, in Los Angeles recently.

"It was a great honor and privilege to meet an American icon who has invested an enormous amount of his time, talent, and treasure in the African American community by blazing trails for aspiring and current athletes and inspiring entrepreneurship," said Bynum.

"Jackson State is excited about the future of our ongoing relationship with SodexoMAGIC. Since partnering with the university, the company has made significant investments in our food service program and infrastructure."

SodexoMAGIC provides comprehensive dining management and catering services to JSU, including service for residential student meal plans, retail dining, a convenience store and franchise outlets: Chick-fil-A, Pizza Hut and Burger King.

Throughout the partnership, there have been several capital investments, including Chick-fil-A renovations in the fall of 2018, renovations in the Heritage Dining Hall in summer 2019, and the addition of SubConnection, planned for a fall 2019 opening.

Upcoming service enhancements will consist of new menus overseen by Chef G. Garvin, nationally acclaimed TV host, author and NAACP Image Award winner; a mobile app feature for daily menu items and wellness tips; and allergen-friendly meal programs to support vegetarians and other specialized dietary needs.

PGA TOUR's biggest hitter Cameron Champ back to defend title at Sanderson Farms Championship

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The champ is back. The longest-driving player on the PGA TOUR, Cameron Champ, will return to Jackson, Mississippi to defend his Sanderson Farms Championship title.

The 52nd Sanderson Farms Championship, now a stand-alone event on the PGA TOUR, is scheduled for September 16-22 at The Country Club of Jackson.

"I'm excited to return to Jackson to defend my title at the Sanderson Farms Championship in September," said Cameron Champ. "It's always an amazing feeling to go back to a place where you have had success, but it's particularly special to go back to the site of your first career win. I can't wait."

"We are very excited that Cameron is coming back to compete," said Steve Jent, executive director of the Sanderson Farms Championship. "It will be fun to watch his game again, and with our new stand-alone date we knew he would have the ability to return."

Champ captured his first career PGA TOUR win in spectacular fashion at the 2018 Sanderson Farms Championship, in just his second start as a PGA TOUR member. It was one of three top-ten finishes in the early months of his rookie season.

Champ is dominating the PGA TOUR in driving distance this year at an average drive of just over 316 yards.

The tournament will make additional player announcements in the coming weeks as players begin to plan their schedules for the 2019-20 PGA TOUR season and make commitments to the field.

"With the last major of the year behind us after this coming weekend, and the FedExCup playoffs approaching, players are now beginning to think about their upcoming schedules," said Jent. "I'm certain our new status and strong reputation as a great tournament will be enticing for players who want to get a fast start to the new season."

Champ

MAC awards nearly $1.4M to grant recipients and program participants

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Arts Commission has awarded nearly $1.4 million in funding to artists and arts programs across the state for fiscal year 2020, which began July 1, 2019.

Awards were made in 80 Mississippi House of Representatives districts and 43 state Senate districts, to 174 organizations and schools and to 82 individual artists. Recipients will benefit in a number of ways, including operating support for museums and community arts centers, arts integration and guest artist presentations in schools and continuing education and supplies for working artists.

"Congratulations to the many deserving individuals and groups who received grants this year," said Malcolm White, executive director of MAC. "One of the most important ways MAC supports the arts in Mississippi is through awarding grants to artists and organizations. In fact, half of MAC's annual funding is distributed to communities and individuals across the state each year to directly invest in the state's arts and culture."

In addition to making direct grants, MAC accepted 29 schools into its Whole Schools Initiative program in fiscal year 2020. The program provides educators with intensive professional development for integrating the arts across the curriculum.

MAC also approved 30 artists and performing groups for inclusion in its Artist Roster and Teaching Artist Roster, which features many of the best artists and arts educators working in the state. The Artist Roster is updated annually on MAC's website, and the newest edition will be available this fall.

Non-profit organizations or schools can apply to MAC's Minigrant program to support a performance or workshop by a Roster Artist. The next opportunity to apply for a Minigrant will be October 2019.

For a full list of grantees, please visit the following link: https://arts.ms.gov/fy2020-grant-recipients/.

For more information on MAC's grant programs, Artist Roster and other services, visit the agency's website at www.arts.ms.gov.

Apollo 11 remembered: Mississippi recognized for role in putting a man on the moon

The Mississippi Link Newswire

recently, Congressman Michael Guest recognized the role the Stennis Space Center played in testing rockets used in the Apollo 11 mission.

"The men and women at the Stennis Space Center conducted 2,475 man-years of rocket engine testing to ensure that the astronauts successfully carried American ingenuity and fortitude towards the stars and returned home safely to a proud nation," Guest said.

July 20, 2019, marked the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. Both the first and second Saturn V rocket stages used in NASA's Apollo program were tested at the Stennis Space Center. The rockets tested were used in the Apollo 11 mission and six other lunar flights.

Chief Justice appoints Judge Emfinger to Commission on Judicial Performance; names Judge Collins as alternate member

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Chief Justice Mike Randolph has appointed Circuit Judge John Emfinger of Brandon as a member of the Commission on Judicial Performance, and appointed Circuit Judge Christopher Collins of Union as an alternate member of the Commission.

Gov. Phil Bryant recommended Judge Emfinger and Judge Collins in a letter to the Supreme Court July 16. Emfinger has served as an alternate member of the judicial disciplinary body since Jan. 1, 2016, having previously been recommended by the governor. The new appointment is for a term which will end Dec. 31, 2021.

Emfinger takes the commission position previously held by Circuit Judge James L. Roberts Jr. of Pontotoc. Roberts stepped down from the commission June 13. Roberts was appointed by the Supreme Court on the recommendation of the governor as a member of the commission for a term that began Jan. 1, 2016. He previously served for six years as an alternate member.

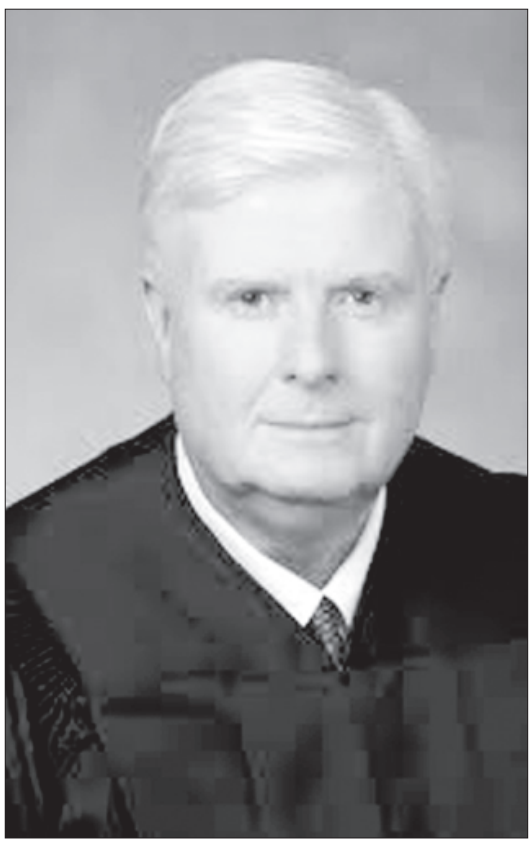
Collins' term as an alternate member of the commission also will end Dec. 31, 2021.

An alternate member sits on a judicial disciplinary hearing panel when a member has a conflict or cannot otherwise participate.

The Commission on Judicial Performance investigates allegations of judicial misconduct and makes recommendations for discipline to the Supreme Court. The commission includes seven members and seven alternates.

Emfinger has been a circuit judge of the 20th Circuit Court District of Rankin and Madison counties since January 2011. He is former chairman of the Conference of Circuit Court Judges. He previously served for 14 years as an assistant district attorney for the 20th District. He worked for nearly 10 years as a special assistant attorney general, serving in the attorney general's Criminal Division, in the State and Local Government Section, and later as director of the attorney general's Public Integrity Division. He worked for a year as a staff attorney in the office of the Mississippi Secretary of State. He was in private law practice for about seven years.

Emfinger earned a Bachelor of Science degree in political science from Mississippi College and a Juris Doctorate from Mississippi College School of Law.



Emfinger

Collins has served as circuit judge of the Eighth District of Leake, Neshoba, Newton and Scott counties since March 31, 2016, having been appointed by the governor. He previously served for 16 years as a judge of the Tribal Courts of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. He was a prosecutor for the cities of Union and Decatur and is a charter board member of the Eighth Circuit Court Drug Court. He served as felony indigent counsel in the Eighth District and as post-conviction counsel for inmates. He also served as a special prosecutor in Winston and Lauderdale counties.

Collins received an Associate of Arts degree from East Central Community College and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Mississippi College. He received his Juris Doctorate from the Mississippi College School of Law.

Philadelphia fires 13 officers for racist Facebook posts

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Police officers in Philadelphia and St. Louis are paying a heavy price for their acts of racism. Weeks after a scathing analysis by the nonprofit Plain View Project, the two departments have responded.

In Philadelphia, several officers have been terminated while in St. Louis, prosecutors have barred a number of police personnel from bringing cases against suspects.

"I continue to be very angered and disappointed by these posts," Philadelphia Police Commissioner Richard Ross Jr., said July 18.

Ross said the department terminated 13 officers who made "posts that advocated violence." He said 17 other officers still face "severe disciplinary action," while another four will receive 30-day suspensions.

In St. Louis, Circuit Attorney Kimberly Gardner said she added 22 officers to her "exclusion list" of authorities banned from bringing cases to her office after the Facebook posts were made public.

In a letter sent to Public Safety Director Jimmie Edwards and St. Louis Police Chief John Hayden, Gardner said seven of those 22 were "permanently banned."

Hayden and Gardner have said they are still investigating the Facebook posts.

In June, the Plain View Project determined that at least 328 active-duty police officers in various cities, including Philadelphia and St. Louis, posted content that championed violence against Muslims, immigrants and African Americans.

Ross

In the posts, officers from rookies to the highest of rank, said the viewed African Americans as "dogs," and some wrote that they would arrive at work believing that, "it's a good day for a chokehold."

Still, others posted their beliefs that women in hijabs were tantamount to "trash bags."

Plain View project officials counted more than 3,000 offensive posts from departments across the country, including Dallas, Tex.; Denison, Tex.; Lake County, Fla.; Philadelphia, Penn.; Phoenix, Ariz.; St. Louis, Mo.; Twin Falls, Idaho; and York, Penn.

"We found a very high and concerning number of posts that appear to endorse, celebrate or glorify violence and vigilantism," said Philadelphia-based attorney Emily Baker-White, who heads the Plain View Project.

"We included posts that we thought could affect public trust and policing," she said.

"We also included posts that seemed to emit some sort of bias against a group of people – whether if that's a minority faith, a minority race, ethnicity, immigration status, whatever it is. We saw a number of posts that appeared to denigrate those groups of people," Baker-White said.

Pennsylvania State. Rep. Chris Rabb said the move by the Philadelphia Police Department to fire the officers is the right thing to do.

"We rely on police officers to protect us, all of us, and to serve as an example of appropriate behavior in our community," said Rabb, a Democrat who represents the Philadelphia area.

"Unethical, racist, inappropriate behavior or comments by police officers, like that exhibited by these officers from the Philadelphia Police Department, undermines the public's trust in an institution that is supposed to serve us all," Rabb said.

Further, Rabb said he agreed with sending the message that such behavior will not be tolerated in any police department.

"But it's not enough if those police officers are able to find employment in another community that's unsuspecting of their past behavior," said Rabb, who has introduced legislation that would ensure that officers like those being terminated cannot simply be moved to another department without leadership and the community being aware of their past behavior.

He said his bill would prevent a department from hiring a police officer who separated from their last job after a pattern of allegations, complaints or charges for inappropriate behavior.

It would also ensure that the hiring departments are fully informed about whom they are hiring.

"This legislation would empower police chiefs and municipalities to make fully informed decisions about the officers who serve their communities," Rabb said.

"Accountability and transparency, which this legislation would promote, are assets in agencies and departments that strive for integrity."

Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #5 President John McNesby said the organization was "disappointed" in the decision to fire the officers in part because they were deprived of due process.

"The overwhelming majority of our members serve this city with integrity and professionalism," McNesby said.

None of the terminated officers were named, but Philadelphia authorities confirmed that the highest-ranking officer fired is a sergeant.

"We have a duty to represent ourselves and our city," Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney said.

"We will not allow this incident to break down the progress we have made and we pledge to do better," Kenney said.

CFPB turns its back on fair lending enforcement and reporting

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA News Wire Columnist

More than 50 years ago, this nation enacted legal guarantees that fair housing would be available to all Americans. Despite this federal assurance, however, a disturbing and ongoing stream of reports and lawsuits remind us that we are still on an aspirational journey. Aggressive enforcement of fair housing and other anti-discriminatory laws are supposed to bring punishments for violators, and restitution for those harmed.

But as with so many justice issues – either financial or criminal, what really happens in life seems a world away from the African-American experience.

Since its inception, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) mandate was to protect consumers from discriminatory lending as well as to ensure fair access to credit. In addition to violations of the Fair Housing Act, CFPB also has the authority to refer potential violations of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA) to the Justice Department.

Despite these and other enforcement options, CFPB's most recent fair lending report to Congress acknowledged a full year without any fair lending enforcement actions.

"The Bureau must refer to the Justice Department a matter when it has reason to believe that a creditor has engaged in a pattern or practice of lending discrimination in violation of ECOA," acknowledged the report. "In 2018, the bureau did not refer any ECOA violations to the Justice Department…In 2018, the bureau opened and continued a number of fair-lending-related investigations, however, it did not bring fair lending-related enforcement actions," the June 2019 report continued.

While CFPB turned away from fair lending, several 2018 lawsuits were filed mostly by private and nonprofit advocates. Their collective actions realized large settlements, fair lending reports and continued documentation of illegal breaches.

For example, nearly a year ago, New York's Suffolk County Federal Credit Union signed a $1 billion settlement rather than go to trial on discriminatory charges. The settlement resolved a case filed two years earlier, in 2016 that alleged black and Latino consumers were denied mortgage approvals at a higher rate than that of the credit union's white customers.

Later that same year, in a regulatory examination of Citigroup, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) found that consumers of color were not receiving the same mortgage rate discounts reserved for its large-deposit customers. That case was referred to the Justice Department.

Another 2018 discriminatory case involved lawsuits with several major banks on behalf of consumers in two Maryland counties, Montgomery and Price George. The case alleged that as early as the mid-2000s, consumers of color were steered into higher-cost, non-prime mortgages – a violation of the Fair Housing Act.

Some might contend that this sample summary might not be fair to CFPB and its mission.

To such questioning minds, I would add that this June a coalition of 158 state and national advocates filed written comments against another recent deregulatory move planned by the CFPB. This effort would exempt hundreds of lenders from providing vital data that tracks the market and consumer access to credit.

Every year, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) report makes public details of the past year's mortgage market. It is the only national report that includes the race and ethnicity of mortgage applicants, types of loan approvals as well as denials. Most importantly, the actual behavior of lenders – both banks and nonbanks – record the total number of loans involved.

By exempting so many lenders, the highly anticipated report would lose valuable clarity and irrefutable data.

Among the organizations signing these comments were: NAACP, The Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights, the National Fair Housing Alliance and the Center for Responsible Lending.

"A large loss of HMDA reporting will create a distorted view of lending trends in these underserved areas and will make it more difficult for stakeholders to determine if revitalization efforts are succeeding," wrote the housing advocates. "The overall impact of raising the threshold will be to frustrate HMDA's purposes of determining whether credit needs are being met and whether public investment has succeeded in rejuvenating the housing and lending markets in struggling neighborhoods."

The coalition comments also include a litany of CFPB actions that have occurred since 2017, all with anti-consumer effects:

- Failure to issue any violations of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act;
- Declared its intent to ignore the Disparate Impact standard, a long-standing legal test that holds the effects of discrimination, not the intent are legal violations;
- Publicly praised the repeal of anti-discrimination auto lending guidance;
- Sided with payday lenders in their challenge of the bureau's payday rule promulgated under the previous director;
- Stripped the bureau's fair lending office of its supervisory and enforcement powers; and
- Relegated the development of regulation on fair lending for minority and women-owned businesses to a low-level concern.

In many ways, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has failed to live up to its name and reneged on its mission.

"This lack of enforcement demonstrates our journey towards fair lending still has miles to travel," said Melissa Stegman, a CRL senior policy counsel. "CFPB was created to protect consumers without exception."

Driving While Black: Police continue to profile, stop and search African-American drivers

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

Two new recently published reports show that racial profiling – particularly "Driving While Black" – remains a crisis in America.

A recent report issued by Missouri's Attorney General Eric Schmitt revealed that black drivers across that state are 91 percent more likely than white motorists to get pulled over by police. What's more, the profiling usually takes place in the motorists' own community, according to the attorney general's report.

The Missouri report arrives on the heels of one out of Kentucky where a study found that black motorists are searched at a rate of three-times more than whites in Louisville.

African Americans account for approximately 20 percent of Louisville's driving age population, but they still accounted for 33 percent of police stops and 57 percent of the nearly 9,000 searches conducted on motorists, according to the *Louisville Courier Journal*, which conducted the study.

Their findings were highlighted in a tweet by The Thurgood Marshall Project, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that seeks to create and sustain a sense of national urgency about the U.S. criminal justice system.

The *Louisville Courier Journal* said it reviewed "130,999 traffic stops in Louisville from 2016 to 2018 and found that an overwhelming number of African-American drivers were profiled and pulled over by police."

The newspaper also found that black motorists were searched 12 percent of the time they were stopped, while white motorists were searched just 3.9 percent of the time.

"Aside from the alarming and devastating findings, we have always known that racial profiling is all too prevalent throughout law enforcement and our society as a whole," NAACP President Derrick Johnson told NNPA Newswire.

"What we need is to implement proper training for law enforcement officers on how to more efficiently carry out essential policing without threatening the lives of people of color," Johnson said.

Racial profiling is an insidious practice and serious problem in America that can lead to deadly consequences, Johnson added.

"Our faith in our criminal justice system will continuously be challenged if we are constantly targeted by discriminatory practices just by doing simple tasks – walking down the street, driving down an interstate, or going through an airport without being stopped merely because of the color of our skin. Living as a person of color should never be crime," he said.

American Civil Liberties Union Attorney Carl Takei told NNPA Newswire that racial disparities in the new data are similar to what courts have relied on around the country to find unconstitutional racial profiling in traffic stops.

"Disparities of this kind suggest that officers are using race not only in deciding who to pull over, but who to single out for searches," Takei said.

"What's particularly damning about this data is that police were more likely to search black people than white people yet found contraband in only 41 percent of searches of black people compared to 72 percent of the searches of white people," he said.

Takei continued:

"In other words, the police have a pattern of stopping and searching black people in circumstances where they would simply let white people go.

"This unjustly interferes with black people trying to live their everyday lives – subjecting them to humiliating, intrusive stops and searches in circumstances where white people would not be stopped or searched.

"Additionally, such racialized policing practices harm law enforcement by undermining the legitimacy of the police and damaging police relationships with the communities they are supposed to be serving."

The *Louisville Courier Journal* reported that Police Chief Steve Conrad spoke before the Metro Council Public Safety Committee and acknowledged that the department has disproportionately stopped black drivers.

The newspaper reported that Conrad reasoned that African Americans are disproportionately represented in all aspects of the criminal justice system, including in arrests and incarceration.

"This is not all surprising based on my over 35 years of practice defending drug cases after traffic stops," Randall Levine, a Kalamazoo, Michigan attorney told NNPA Newswire.

"I would say that DWB – Driving While Black – is still as prevalent today as it was in 1980," Levine said, before opining what could occur to affect change. "Diversity, sensitivity training and some type of real enforcement for violations might help," he said.

Keep your eyes on truth

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

There are many strongholds today that need to be torn down. Christian friend, we are in a spiritual battle. Truth is something that should never grow old to you. It should be fresh and new every day. It is something to rejoice about and tell others.

We should not let the enemy silence us. When we start to doubt and fear, the enemy knows what he can use to silence us so that we do not tell anyone else about the goodness of God. As a Christian, we are to tell others about His goodness. If they do not hear it from us, who are they going to hear it from? They are not going to hear it from the world.

We read in Second Timothy 1:7-10 these words: "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:"

Timothy was experiencing great opposition to his message and to himself as a leader. His youth, his association with Paul and his leadership had come under fire from believers and non-believers alike. Paul urged him and us to be bold. When we allow people to intimidate us, we neutralize our effectiveness of God. The power of the Holy Spirit can help us overcome our fear of what some might say or do to us, so that we can continue to do God's work.

Paul mentions three characteristics of the effective Christian leader: power, love and a sound mind (wisdom). These are available to us because the Holy Spirit lives in us. We must follow His leading each day so that our lives will more fully exhibit these characteristics.

Friend, God has done too much for us to doubt Him. The enemy will place doubts in our mind, but we do not have to let those doubts stay. Sometimes the physical man fears the unknown, but with God we ought to put our faith and trust in Him. We should not let the spirit of fear and doubts overtake us. It will affect our spirituality.

We need to let the One who placed this world in motion take care of all our needs. He is the One who put this world and the universe in place, and He can take care of us. He will be there when we need Him, and we will never get a busy signal.

There is no failure with God. We read in Proverbs 29:25, "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe." Fear of people can hamper everything we try to do. In extreme forms, it can make us afraid to leave our home. By contrast, fear of God – respect, reverence and trust – is liberating. Why fear people who can do no eternal harm? Instead, fear God who can turn the harm intended by others into good for those who trust Him.

To combat fear, we have to stand for what is right. We must not cower down. If someone comes at us with an accusation and we know it is not right, we do not cower down. We stand for what is right. The world stands for what they think is right. As a Christian, we need to stand for the right. If the world starts to throw arrows at us, that is not the time to cower down. Stand up for Jesus.

Next week – "Refuse to be Discouraged"

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

P R E S E R V E D

Racism and the church

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist

This past week, the current president of the United States made comments that shocked some and merely confirmed to others that he is a racist motivated by hate-filled cruelty and a desire to further divide our country along racial lines. His taunts that four congresswomen should "go back to where they came from" clearly are racist and intended to demoralize.

Rather than spend the rest of this week's column listing all of the racist things Trump has said in his lifetime (there is not enough space for that), I'd rather spend my column looking at how should Christians respond. With prayer? With conversations across denominational and racial lines? These things might work, but history has shown those efforts often work for a short time until the next racist comment is made. So, what should Christians do?

A couple of years ago, Pastor Dwight McKissic and Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington held a Kingdom Conversation about race and the Alt Right. This event took place partly because of the weak response of the Southern Baptist Church to the Charlottesville White Nationalist racist hate rally in August 2017. Then and now, questions about how the church could take a leading role in healing our nation were raised. The event offered the following as points to pray about moving forward regarding racism and the Christian church.

• We are praying and believing God for racial healing and unity in the Southern Baptist Convention and revival in our churches and the nation in order that America may be peaceable and a well-ordered society, demonstrating liberty and justice for all.

• White Supremacy contradicts the Word of God and is an ideology that no authentic kingdom citizen /follower of Christ can affirm. Therefore, we are praying that the Lord would rebuke the public and private attitudes and actions demonstrating White Supremacy in America.

• We are praying for our president, pastors, political leaders, parents, neighbors and friends to stand boldly against fascism and to exercise wisdom in our daily walk during these racially turbulent times.

I don't know what the answer is but I think the best place to start is in the word of God. The bible says in Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." 1 John 2:9 also reminds us, "Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness."

Looking back at these prayer points, it's sad to note how it seems like we haven't made much progress in race relations in the two years since the conversation was held. But that's not because of a lack of effort. Racism is the original sin that stains our country. Perhaps the first step in dealing with racism is acknowledging that it exists which recent events show for some is perhaps the hardest thing.

Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.

No more Mary Turners

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist

Mary Turner was lynched May 19. 1918 because she dared raise her voice. Her husband, Hayes Turner, was among 13 people lynched in two weeks in and around Valdosta, Georgia. The lynchings took place because one brutal white man, who was known to abuse workers so severely that he was only able to attract workers by getting them through the convict labor system, beat the wrong black man too many times. Sidney Johnson shot and killed the brutal Hampton Smith, and in response the white people of the area started apprehending, beating and lynching black men believed to be associated with Johnson (even though many of those lynched were not). Mary Turner was nineteen years old and eight months pregnant. She openly denounced the lynchings and threatened to have the men who killed her husband arrested.

After Mary Turner's lynching, an investigative reporter stated that Turner was lynched because she made "unwise remarks." The mob, it was reported, "took exception to her remarks as well as her attitude." Her "defiant voice" was the impetus for mob retaliation. The mob action was particularly brutal. Mary Turner was hung by her ankles, lowered face down from a tree. Her clothing was set afire while she was alive. When she was dead, one of the mobsters slit her belly open, and her fetus came out, landing in a pool of blood. Then the sick and brutal white men crushed the infant's skull.

Black women have been, too often, cautioned to be silent, to be demure, not to rock the boat. And Mary Turner's lynching reminds us that mouthy black women often suffer the consequence of their vocality. The 45th President of the United States stands in the shadow of the men who silenced Mary Turner with his vicious and vile attacks on black women. From Congresswoman Maxine Waters to Congresswoman Fredricka Whitfield, to journalists April Ryan, Abby Phillips and Yamiche Alcindor, this man neither has the grace or the gravitas to interact with these brilliant and amazing black women.

Now, here he goes again, spewing his filth. He suggested that four fresh women members of Congress, the self-described "Squad" of Congresswomen Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, "go back to where they came from." He amplified and attacked the women so vociferously (and inaccurately, but that's another story) that one of the mobs, I mean crowds, that attended one of his rallies began to chant "Send her home."

Three of the four members of the Squad were born in the United States. Ilhan Omar is a naturalized citizen and member of Congress. The president is out of line and out of order, but that's nothing new. What is new is that he's stopped dog-whistling his racism and now just shouts it out. And sometimes retreats. Five days after his offensive tweets, he claims he did not incite his crowd and instead tried to shut the racist chants down. Films of the mob at his rally shows otherwise.

Ilhan Omar and the other members of the Squad have had their lives threatened, sometimes by identifiable Trump supporters. We can't expect 45 to repudiate the threats. After all, he thought there were "good people on both sides" in Charlottesville when Heather Heyer was killed. So we aren't surprised that he let the vitriolic chants of "send her back" to go on for more than 13 seconds before they died down naturally (he did nothing to stop them, nor did he comment at the time).

If something happens to Ilhan Omar, our 45th president will be responsible. If something happens to any of the Squad, it will be the result of our putrid president and the silent Republicans who are reluctant to tell this man he is wrong. It took a full day after his offensive "go back" tweet for a handful of Republicans to speak up.

Like the white men who lynched Mary Turner, our president "takes exception to her remarks as well as her attitude." Without accusing Trump of lynching, one can accuse Trump of being a racist and hostile to black women. Ilhan Omer isn't the first he went after, and she won't be the last.

Ilhan Omar, Ayanna Pressley, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Rashida Tlaib had better not shut up. They need to continue to raise their loud, discordant, disruptive voices to make our country a better, more inclusive nation. They must raise their voices because Ida B. Wells did, and she paid the price. Because Shirley Chisholm did, and she paid the price. Because Barbara Lee did and got death threats as a result. Because Maxine Waters does, despite attacks and ridicule. Mary Turner chafed at her husband's lynching, and she paid the ultimate price. But the story of her lynching should strengthen us all. We must surround the Squad with support. We need more mouthy women to challenge patriarchal predatory white supremacy. There must not be another Mary Turner.

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

NYPD must terminate officer who used excessive force

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

"It was Eric and my family five years ago, but it could be you and yours today or tomorrow. They want all of us to believe that we didn't see what we saw on that video, but our eyes do not deceive us … Eric is no longer able to speak so I will be his voice and you will hear me." – Gwen Carr, Eric Garner's mother.

Eric Garner died pleading for his life on a New York City sidewalk.

The chokehold that triggered his fatal asthma attack was illegal.

Eleven times, Garner said he couldn't breathe, and Officer Daniel Pantaleo did not loosen his strangling, illegal grip on Garner's neck.

The world saw Pantaleo's deadly assault. The world heard Garner's pleas. But there will be no justice for Garner.

When U.S. Attorney General William Barr abandoned the civil rights case against Pantaleo, it sent a devastating message from an administration whose hostility toward civil rights protections is unprecedented in the last 50 years.

Astonishingly, Pantaleo remains a member of the New York Police Department, pending a decision by an administrative judge who is expected to rule within a few weeks. His continued employment by the NYPD diminishes the institution, and he should be terminated.

It is difficult to imagine the grief of Garner's family. To lose a father, a son, a brother, to an untimely death is painful enough. To have been dragged through five years of injustice after injustice, to see the person responsible for that death escape accountability seems almost too much to bear.

Not only has Pantaleo escaped accountability, he has received a substantial raise in his pay since Garner's death.

Sadly, police officers are rarely held accountable for unjustified brutality. Local prosecutors are predictably reluctant to bring charges. That's precisely why the federal government has a special responsibility to seek justice in such cases, and why Barr's failure to do so in the Garner case cuts so deeply.

In the wake of the death of Garner and other unarmed people of color who died violently at the hands of police officers, the National Urban League promulgated a 10-Point Plan for Police Reform and Accountability, elements of which were incorporated into the final report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

One of the key recommendations is "external and independent investigations and prosecutions of officer-involved shootings and other use of force situations and in-custody deaths.

In the Garner case, as in many others, the Department of Justice's civil rights inquiry was arguably the only hope for an external and independent investigation.

But this is an administration that is intent on weakening enforcement of civil rights laws. Under Barr's predecessor, Jeff Sessions, the Justice Department abandoned all efforts to work with local police departments to address discriminatory practices. Consent decrees historically have been a crucial tool in the Justice Department's efforts to ensure constitutional and accountable policing.

The department also tried, unsuccessfully, to block a federal court in Baltimore from approving a consent decree between the city and the Baltimore Police Department to rein in discriminatory police practices that the department itself had negotiated over a multi-year period.

The Department of Justice's failure to seek justice in the Eric Garner case is just the latest in a series of missteps with regard to civil rights.

Our hearts go out to Garner's family as they suffer yet another blow in the ongoing tragedy of Garner's untimely death.

Don't take Trump's bait

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire

If you truly want to make America great, you must turn down Trump's help to divide us. We were working toward being a better America for all before Trump became president. America was never her greatest for our Native American brothers and sisters, nor for much of America's diverse population. It's necessary to remember how people like Trump came to be in charge of this country – mostly on the backs of black people, then misusing brown people and yellow people.

You must think about how America treated black people by enslaving our ancestors, then constantly telling us to get over it and love America without question. It's not that easy when our ancestors have been robbed, killed, beaten, cheated, lied to, and we're still too often pushed back when we try to rise up to enjoy what America professes to be. So many like Trump have made it clear that every time we begin to enjoy a little bit of America the Beautiful, there's somebody like Trump wanting to send us back to some place most of us have never been.

I want to thank Speaker Nancy Pelosi for turning down Trump's help to criticize her party members while they are having a family dispute about the pace of change for those of us for whom America has a long way to go to give meaning to the words "justice for all." However, she made a mistake in her response to young women who refused to be silenced. Caught off guard, she took the bait, but these young women reminded all of us what Democrats stand for. It's fair to ask party members not to publicize party differences – but party differences are not Trump's business. So, Democrats, don't take the bait.

Who is Trump to tell Congresswomen Ayanna Pressley, Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came? Three of the women were born in the country he's trying his best to make a crime infested country.

Yes, Omar came to this country as a refugee when she was just 17, became naturalized and became a far more productive citizen than Trump has ever been. She has done pretty good through all of her challenges. She's achieved what many who're born here haven't come close to achieving with better opportunities.

Isn't there anyone who can teach him a few facts to use when trying to criticize others? With the resources he claims he has, he should've learned something about American history.

Somebody must've told him the Wright Brothers didn't give us airplanes that fly until 1903. Before that we had no need for airports. He should've learned proper English and a little about the laws of our country. I'm tired of hearing, "No one is above the law" when Trump thrives on living high above our laws. He constantly stirs up the worst behavior in others. God bless those who resist Trump's racism.

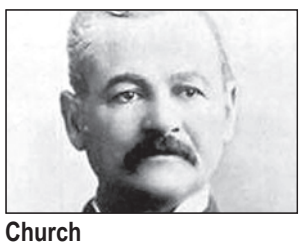
Who else could get away with at least 10 charges of obstruction, allegedly raping many women, praising enemies of our nation, having a vulgar mouth, violates basic human rights, telling over 10,000 lies in office, having no respect for anyone who doesn't bow down to and defend his bad behavior?

Pelosi is right in saying, "When …Trump tells four American congresswomen to go back to their countries, he reaffirms his plan to 'Make America Great Again' has always been about making America white again. Our diversity is our strength and our unity is our power."

The four lawmakers who fired back at Trump in a press conference were brilliant. They're obviously the grown-ups representing American values.

E. Faye Williams is president of the National Congress of Black Women and host of "Wake Up and Stay Woke" on WPFW-FM 89.3.

The black man who saved Memphis: Robert R. Church



Church

By Dr. L. LaSimba M. Gray Jr.
Special to The New Tri-State Defender

With a 7 p.m. parade down Beale Street to Church Park, Memphis celebrated the birth of Robert Reed Church Sr. as a part of the Memphis Bicentennial.

One hundred eighty years ago, June 18, in Holly Springs, Miss., Robert R. Church was born to a slave girl named Emmeline and Captain Charles B. Church. Owner and operator of two of the most patronized steamboats on the Mississippi River, Church transported cargo and passengers between Memphis and New Orleans.

In 1851, Emmeline died and Robert was sent to live with his father on the Mississippi River. Emmeline had secured Church's pledge that her son Robert would never be sold to another slave owner.

From errand boy to steward, Robert served as an assistant to his father in many capacities, learning the principles of business, with an emphasis on bookkeeping. Church taught Robert to read and count receipts in French. A fast learner, Robert listened intently to his father's instructions. "Be considerate of others but always demand respect for self," admonished Church to his son. "Never allow anybody to call you a nigger."

On June 6, 1862, the Civil War registered in Memphis as the Federal Fleet arrived in the Memphis Harbor with cannons blasting. Robert was serving as steward of the Victoria. When federal troops took over the Victoria, Robert was forced to make a decision: Be killed or be captured. Robert chose to jump into the river and swim to the muddy banks of Memphis.

With the savings from his work on the river, Robert entered business in Memphis. His first investments were in real estate and soon he expanded to hotels, pool halls, brothels, saloons and, ultimately, a bank.

Soon after the Civil War, Memphis was consumed by the Yellow Fever epidemic and the racial tensions that led to violence, death and destruction. Four days after the announcement that the plague was present in Memphis, 25,000 people fled the city. Robert acquired many abandoned properties, expanding on his real estate holdings. African Americans remained in Memphis and by 1878 they were 70 percent of the population.

The Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1878 eroded the tax base and city coffers. Memphis was unable to service a $5 million debt, adequately provide city services and pay state taxes. The city was stripped of its charter and reduced to a taxing district.

Robert remained bullish on Memphis. In 1885, he purchased the first $1,000 municipal bond, breaking the dam of fear. By that summer, local banks and wealthy individuals purchased more than $200,000 worth of bonds. Memphis accepted responsibility for the $5 million debt and continued to rid the city of unsanitary conditions. In 1891, the Tennessee State Legislature restored Memphis' charter and its city designation.

An editorial in the *Evening Scimitar* in 1899 put Church's legacy in this context:

"It may be said of Robert R. Church that his word is as good as his bond. No appeal to him for the aid of charity or public enterprise for the benefit of Memphis has ever been in vain. He is for Memphis first, last and all the time…"

John Overton, Andrew Jackson and James Winchester founded Memphis in 1819. It is safe to say, in 1885, Church saved Memphis.

Happy Birthday, Mr. Church; and thanks a million for Memphis and Beale Street.

Rev. L. LaSimba M. Gray Jr., is pastor emeritus of New Sardis Baptist Church.

Miss Mississippi visits MORA, recipient and donor family

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On July 10, Miss Mississippi Mary Margaret Hyer stopped by MORA's Flowood office and Garden of Hope to visit with tissue recipient Eryn Whitaker and her mom, Doris Whitaker, and donor family David and Shelia Wilbanks, whose son, Walker, was a donor in 2014. Thank you, Mary Margaret, for your dedicated passion in spreading awareness of organ, eye, and tissue donation!

Staff Spotlight: Jeffrey Graham

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jeffrey is an Organ Placement Coordinator with MORA. He is an alumnus of Jackson State University where he earned a B.S. in biology. For Jeffrey, donation and transplantation are personal to him as he lost his brother who was in need of a heart transplant as a teen. "I love my work with MORA because I get to help in providing a second chance at life for others through donation, transplantation and research," says Jeffrey.

Jeffrey is an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. through which he was named "Distinguished Alpha Man of the Year." He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Association of Multicultural Affairs in Transplantation.

Graham

Jeffrey lives in Brandon and is the father to two sons, Eddie and Reginald, and grandfather to Zion and Ava. He enjoys singing, reading, exercising, spending time with his family and helping others.

Rotator cuff injuries - one of the most aggravating and painful

By Glenn Ellis
TriceEdney Newswire

As I write this column, I'm in pain from a torn rotator cuff. It's has been a lingering problem for several months now. Following an inquiry from a reader in Birmingham, who is also at wits end, I thought the time was right. Unless you're like me and upwards of 3 million others in the United States, you probably never think about your rotator cuff.

Our shoulders do a lot of important things you might take for granted. They help you get something off a high shelf, comb your hair, or play a game of tennis or catch. It's a complicated process that your body makes look easy. And your rotator cuff is a big part of that. It protects your shoulder joint and lets you move your arms over your head. It's especially important in sports.

The rotator cuff is four muscles connected by tendons to the upper portion of the shoulder. Your arm is kept in your shoulder socket by your rotator cuff. When one or more of the rotator cuff tendons is torn, the tendon no longer fully attaches to the head of the shoulder. For the millions of us, this is one of the most aggravating, painful, and limiting injuries you can have.

A torn rotator cuff not only can be painful, it will weaken your shoulder. This means that many daily activities, like combing your hair or getting dressed, are painful and difficult to do.

Because the muscles and tendons of the rotator cuff are hidden well below skin level, it may be hard to feel the swelling that accompanies the injury, but that swelling within the small space that makes up the shoulder joint prevents the normal range of motion of the shoulder and causes the pain that occurs with movement.

There are two main causes of rotator cuff tears: injury and degeneration: either you hurt it in an accidental overstretching, or it slowly wears out over the years. This means the older you get, or the more active your lifestyle is, the more likely you are to be a member of our little "club."

If you fall down on your outstretched arm or lift something too heavy with a jerking motion, you can tear your rotator cuff. Or, like me, you could mindlessly make a habit out of reaching over the front seat of the car to lift your backpack or handbag from the back seat.

Most tears are the result of a wearing down of the tendon that occurs slowly over time. This degeneration naturally occurs as we age. Rotator cuff tears are more common in the dominant arm (left arm for me). If you have a degenerative tear in one shoulder, there is a greater likelihood of a rotator cuff tear in the opposite shoulder – even if you have no pain in that shoulder (I've had them in both.).

Tears that happen suddenly, such as from a fall, usually cause intense pain. There may be a snapping sensation and immediate weakness in your upper arm. When you have a small rotator cuff tear you can often still raise your arm with or without pain. Moderate tears are usually very painful, and you'll have difficulty moving your arm. Most patients can't sleep due to the relentless pain. When a large rotator cuff tear occurs, you may find that you are unable to lift your arm at all.

Tears that develop slowly due to overuse also cause pain and arm weakness. You may have pain in the shoulder when you lift your arm, or pain that moves down your arm. At first, the pain may be mild and only present when lifting your arm over your head.

It is possible for a torn rotator cuff to heal without surgery. I found that rotator cuff exercises are important to prevent and treat injuries. They help strengthen your muscles and improve flexibility. You should be able to feel the stretches and exercises. However, they should not be painful. If you feel any pain, stop and talk to your doctor or physical therapist. You can ice your shoulder for up to 20 minutes. It's best to use a plastic bag filled with ice cubes instead of a gel pack.

Early rotator cuff tear treatment is important. Delay will result in retraction of your rotator cuff tendon, which can make healing or rotator cuff repair surgery more difficult and less successful. The best results occur when the tear is fresh rather than older tear. Most rotator cuff repairs take approximately six months of rehabilitation to regain as full as possible range of motion, shoulder strength and function.

They say that time heals all wounds, but whoever said that never tried sleeping with shoulder pain.

For those suffering from shoulder pain or rotator cuff injuries, it can seem nearly impossible to get comfortable at night and find a sleeping position that isn't painful. There are plenty of medications to help with inflammation like Advil or Aleve, but please consult with your physician before taking anything.

Surgery is usually reserved as a last result for extreme injuries or in older people who aren't as likely to heal from the pain on their own.

The takeaway: rest, time, exercise; pain-relievers; and if all else fails, surgery. Your physician will help you determine what's best for you...mine did.

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. Ellis is an active media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics. For more good health information listen to Glenn, on radio in Philadelphia; Boston; Shreveport; Los Angeles; and Birmingham., or visit: www.glennellis.com

Forrest General Hospital's August support group, meetings, classes and events

Automatic Defibrillator Support Group
Thursday, August 22
11:30 a.m.
Forrest General's Hickory Room
This support group is designed for those with Automatic Internal Cardiac Defibrillators and their families. This group is hosted by Forrest General Hospital and Medtronix, a medical technology and services company. Lunch will be served, and family members are welcome. Please call 1-800-844-4445 to register for this free event.

Bereavement Support Group
Tuesday, August 6
6:00 p.m.
Asbury Hospice House Conference Room
304 South 40th Ave, Hattiesburg

Tuesday, August 20
6:00 p.m.
Asbury Hospice House Conference Room
304 South 40th Ave, Hattiesburg

Tuesday, August 20
11:30 a.m.
Highland Community Hospital Cafeteria Meeting Room
130 Highland Parkway, Picayune, Mississippi

The Bereavement Support Group is for individuals who have experienced the loss of a loved one. The meetings occur on the first and third Tuesday of every month and are free to the public. The first meeting of the month is held at the Asbury Hospice House, 304 South 40th Avenue. There are two meetings on the third Tuesday of each month. One meeting is held at the cafeteria meeting room at Highland Community Hospital in Picayune, Mississippi, and the other meets at Asbury Hospice House, 304 South 40th Avenue. in Hattiesburg. For more information, call 601-288-2500.

Brave Brilliant and Resilient
Thursday, August 22
1 p.m.
Forrest General Cancer Center's Rush Conference Room
301 South 28th Avenue

Brave, Brilliant, and Resilient, the Forrest General Cancer Center Support Group, welcomes current patients and caregivers to talk with and support other cancer patients and caregivers. Each month a new topic will be presented and an open discussion will follow. The group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Meetings will be held in The Rush Conference Room at the Forrest General Cancer Center (301 South 28th Ave.). For more information or to RSVP, contact Ramona Martin, RN, at 601-288-1743

Forrest General's Family Birthplace Classes
Family Birthplace Classes are held in Forrest General's Elm Room. All classes last only one session except for the Childbirth Preparation Course, which lasts for two sessions or a longer Saturday session. Classes can be repeated. Classes are free for those delivering at Forrest General or $25 for others who wish to attend, except the Saturday Childbirth Preparation Class, which is $50.

Childbirth Preparation Course
Prepares participants for labor and delivery and offers a tour of the Family Birthplace.
Classes meet for two weeks on Thursday from 6-8:30 p.m.
August 1 and 8

Breastfeeding Class
Provides details about breastfeeding for expectant and new mom, as well as breastfeeding mothers who are having difficulty nursing or who have questions.
Meets on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
August 27

Forrest General's Fitness for Two Classes
The Mommie & Me classes give mothers and their babies the opportunity to interact and exercise together using music, movement, story and rhyme. Topics for moms include parenting suggestions, relationship navigation and child development guidelines. From the First Year until Toddler Years, children are developing social, language, cognitive and motor skills for the next season of life. The six week session charge is $30. All classes meet at the Spirit of Women Conference Room in 28th Place, 421 South 28th Avenue. To register or for more information on the following classes, visit www.forrestgeneral.com/fitness4two or call Spirit of Women at 601-288-4968.

Mommie & Me – The First Year
First year mothers can share stories about their first-year experiences as they learn developmental milestones for their babies.
Meets Wednesday mornings for six weeks, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
August 14 – September 25 (no meeting Sept. 4)

Mommie & Me – Just Movin'
Just Movin' is geared toward the early walkers, often 11 to 22 months old. Children experience activities that will develop physical, mental and social skills.
Meets Monday mornings for six weeks, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
August 12 – September 23 (no meeting Sept. 2)

Mommie & Me – The Toddler Years
The Toddler Years class is the perfect launch into pre-school. Moms and their toddlers, age 22 months to 3 years, learn and grow while making great memories.
Meets Tuesday mornings for six weeks, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
August 13 – September 24 (no meeting Sept. 3)

Pregnancy Exercise Program
In a support group environment, the classes combine walking, strengthening, stretching and isolation exercises with education topics such as breathing techniques, discomfort releases, labor and delivery preparation and postpartum recovery. Program includes one free Coach's Corner class.
Meets each Monday for six weeks, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Class will only meet at 5 – 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 14 and Feb. 11
August 12 – September 23 (no meeting Sept. 2)

Bumps to Babies Postpartum Support
The "new normal" after childbirth can cause isolation and uncertainty. This community of new moms will process postpartum needs including physical and emotional recovery, breastfeeding, returning to work, adjusting to staying home, and other general questions, doubts and concerns.
Meets each Tuesday for three weeks, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
August 6 – August 20

New Moms' Night Out
The Bumps to Babies Postpartum class sponsors a Dutch-treat gathering with other new moms for postpartum support. Call for the location.
Meets periodically on Tuesday evenings, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
August 27

Coach's Corner
This one-session class teaches labor and delivery, breathing techniques and the coach's role throughout the childbirth experience. The coach and mother-to-be attend together. Curriculum benefits pregnancy first-times, as well as repeaters. An optional tour of Forrest General is included. Coach's Corner is free for Pregnancy Exercise Program Participants.
Meets Mondays once a month, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Monday, August 12

LEGAL

Advertisement for Bid
Bid 3101 Van Winkle Elementary School Site Improvements and Interior Improvements

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) August 20, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project will be held at Van Winkle Elementary School, 1655 Whiting Road, Jackson, MS on August 09, 2019, at 1:30 P.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 $150.00 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: GingerMurphree@dalepartners.com.

7/25/2019, 8/1/2019

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP

RFP 2019-18 Online Professional Development Management System and Video Library

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) August 09, 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.

7/25/2019, 8/1/2019

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs
RFP 2019-16 Text Sets for Grades K-12
RFP 2019-17 Lead Partner for Science Support and Assessment

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) August 01, 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.

7/18/2019, 7/25/2019

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY FOR CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE
SECURITY CHECKPOINT RECONFIGURATION PROJECT AT THE JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
JMAA PROJECT NO. 001-17

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 Friday, August 30, 2019 (the "Bid Deadline"), for construction and renovations in connection with the Security Checkpoint Reconfiguration project 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 Friday, August 30, 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 Friday, August 30, 2019 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Community 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 include the wording: "Security Checkpoint Reconfiguration, JMAA Project No. 001-17." 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. 623
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Attention: Bonnie Spears, Procurement Specialist

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 $125.00 plus $25.00 shipping and applicable sales tax and an electronic downloadable set is $35.00 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 p.m. central time on Wednesday, August 7, 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 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.

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 22% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
DATE: July 24, 2019 /s/ Perry J. Miller, A.A. E., I.A.P Perry J. Miller, A.A. E., I.A.P, Interim Chief Executive Officer

7/25/2019 8/01/2019

LEGAL

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, 08/27/2019 , for:

RE: GS# 411-121 Generator Upgrades-Nursing Home Division
East Mississippi State Hospital
RFx #: 3160003039

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

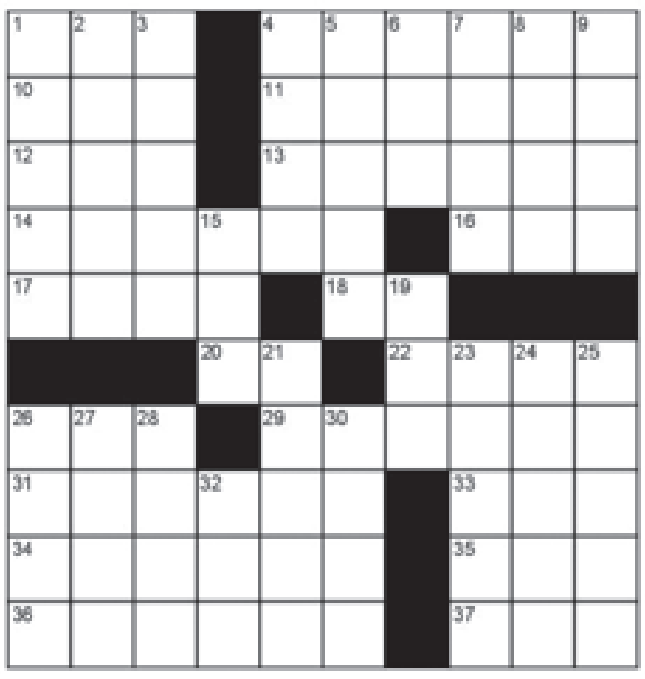
Professional: Shafer-Zahner-Zahner, PLLC
Address: 510 University Drive
Starkville, Mississippi 39759
Phone: 662-323-1628
Email: lsims@szzarch.com

A deposit of $200.00 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

7/25/2019, 8/1/2019

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Energy unit
4. Personal property
10. Billion years
11. Distaste for religion
12. Passing trend
13. Tramples
14. City in the former USSR
16. Seed bread
17. Greek sandwich
18. Kansas City locale
20. Week (abbr.)
22. Hornet
26. Gorilla
29. Set on fire
31. Risk taker
33. Lay
34. Voyage
35. Downwind
36. Has a bad odor
37. Be incorrect

DOWN

1. Confuse
2. Sychophant
3. Lower
4. Chow
5. Leave now!
6. Ball holder
7. Jewish calendar month
8. Neat
9. Loosen
15. Swine
19. Hold
21. Booth
23. Passageway
24. Command
25. Christ's disciple
26. What children learn
27. Fresh
28. Decorative needle case
30. Color
32. Container

© Feature Exchange

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 Natalie Wood

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
							Y							Z											

O G
E N T Z P V O M O F J Y H F N S E N N P H U

O O G
N Z M O W H V D V D O W F Z U Y T E U H

O O G O G
P Q L L Z P O H V P L E F V Z S Y F Z W H U Y

Q L

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

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

© Feature Exchange

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

ALMOST EVERY GIRL FALLS IN
ENTZPV OMOFJ YHFN SENNP HU

LOVE WITH THE WRONG MAN, I
NZMO WHVD VDO WFZUY TEU H

SUPPOSE IT'S PART OF GROWING
PQLLZPO HV P LEFV ZS YFZWHUY

UP.
QL

© Feature Exchange

PICK UP THE MISSISSIPPI LINK AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

J A C K S O N

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

C A N T O N

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

B Y R A M

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

C L I N T O N

DOLLAR GENERAL
807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

T E R R Y

SERVICE STATION
at Exit 78
CITY HALL
West Cunningham Avenue

R A Y M O N D

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

U T I C A

HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP
Mississippi Hwy 18
PITT STOP
101 Hwy 18 & 27

B O L T O N

BOLTON LIBRARY
BOLTON CITY HALL

MCAN
Mississippi Classified Advertising Network

To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

Classes / Training

AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Get FAA approved hands on Aviation training. Financial aid for qualified students. Career placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance, 1-866-367-2510.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN - ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE! Take the first step into a new career! Call now: 1-866-664-4140

Employment

Wanted high voltage overhead power **JOURNEYMEN LINEMEN.** Full time work. Travel required. Call 479-789-2550 for telephone interview or email resume to b1901@hotmail.com.

For Sale

CHURCH FURNITURE: Does your church need pews, pulpit set, baptistery, steeple, windows? Big Sale on new cushioned pews and pew chairs. 1-800-231-8360. www.pews1.com

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE. Call 601-981-3060.

Insurance

DENTAL INSURANCE. Call Physicians Mutual Insurance Company for details. NOT just a discount plan, REAL coverage for 350 procedures. 855-397-7045 or http://www.dental50plus.com/mspress. Ad# 6118

GET A-RATED DENTAL INSURANCE starting at around $1 per day!. Save 25% on Enrollment Now! No Waiting Periods. 200k+ Providers Nationwide. Everyone is Accepted! Call 662-584-6541 (M-F 9-5 ET)

LOWEST PRICES ON HEALTH INSURANCE. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 601-203-3854

Medical Supplies

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 888-964-0893

Medical Supplies

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Pills SPECIAL $99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 844-821-3242

Miscellaneous

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263

Services-General

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! $59.99/mo. with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 601-951-7614

DIRECTV NOW. No Satellite Needed. $40/month. 65 Channels. Stream Breaking News, Live Events, Sports and On Demand Titles. No Annual Contract. No Commitment. CALL 1-844-394-72661

DISH Network $59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY $14.95/month. Best Technology. Best Value. Smart HD DVR Included. FREE Installation. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-877-628-3143

Get DIRECTV! ONLY $35/month! 155 Channels and 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV. 1- 855-978-3110 or satellitedealnow.com/MSPS.

Services-Financial

OVER $10K IN DEBT? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 844-719-8928.

Services-Legal

DENIED SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pocket! Call 601-203-3826

Services-Medical

A PLACE FOR MOM has helped over a million families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique needs at no cost to you. Call 1-601-812-5678.

Place Your Classified Ad
STATEWIDE
In 95 Newspapers!

STATEWIDE RATES:
Up to 25 words.....$210
1 col. x 2 inch.....$525
1 col. x 3 inch.....$785
1 col. x 4 inch.....$1050

Nationwide Placement Available

To Place Your Ad Order Call:
MS Press Services
601-981-3060

Week of July 21, 2019

National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials

Summer Conference • July 17 - 21, 2019 • Jackson, MS

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Robert and Sarah Johnson 39th Bi-Annual Family Reunion • July 12 -14, 2019 • Jackson-Vicksburg, Mississippi

Mississippi's Most Influential African Americans of 2019 Selected

Mississippi Link Newswire

"Our Mississippi" magazine publisher Wesley Wells has announced that 25 individuals have been selected as Mississippi's Most Influential African Americans for 2019.

Wells said the individuals were selected by an independent panel of state-wide business and community leaders from nominations received from the public.

"What an awesome group of people," Wells said of the nominees. "I'd like to thank the committee for doing an outstanding job. I know they had to make some tough decisions narrowing the list down to 25, especially with having to select people from different categories," Wells said.

"Congratulations to all the selected individuals, and also to all the individuals nominated. We're proud of the great work they're doing for the State of Mississippi."

Wells said dozens of individuals were nominated in different categories that included: Business, Education, Politics, Religion, Media and Servant Leadership. The group will be honored at a gala and reception Friday, August 23, 2019 at the Jackson Hilton on County Line Road in Jackson, Mississippi.

Also being honored that evening will be six individuals chosen earlier as Legacies. They are: The Honorable Alyce Clark, Dr. Don Cole, coach W.C. Gorden, John James, Flonzie Brown Wright and Dr. John Perkins.

"What an incredible group of individuals that have done so much for the State of Mississippi," Wells said. "We are thrilled to have the opportunity to pay homage to them for all their contributions to this state. These are the kind of people society will be talking about 50-100 years from now."

Tables and tickets are now on sale for the event. They can be purchased at the magazine's website at *www.ourmissmag.com* or by calling 662 844-2602.

"What an excited evening this will be," Wells added. "We'll have a lot of things going on, including a brief panel discussion by the Legacy honorees. We're expecting a who's who of Mississippi to be there for this monumental occasion."

Mississippi's 25 Most Influential African Americans of 2019 was selected by our independent panel of business and community leaders. They were chosen by different categories from the dozens of nominations we received.

1. Banks, Fred – senior partner, Phelps Dunbar Law Firm in Jackson. Banks is a former Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court, trial judge and legislator.

2. Beckley, David – president of Rust College in Holly Springs.

3. Bennett, Rodney – president of the University of Southern Mississippi.

4. Booker, Michael – senoir vice-president, corporate banker with BancorpSouth in Jackson.

5. Brandon, Betina – manager of Workforce Development and Diversity at Entergy Corporation. in Jackson.

6. Bridges, Bernard – market president, Trustmark Bank in Jackson.

7. Bynum, William – president of Jackson State University.

8. Chapman, Jasmin – chief executive officer of the Jackson-Hinds County Comprehensive Health Center.

9. Colom, Wilbur – businessman, founder and senior partner of the Colom Law Firm, with offices in Columbus and Jackson, Mississippi.

10. Crudup, Ronnie – administrative bishop for the Fellowship of International Churches. He is also senior pastor of New Horizon Church International, a congregation of over 3000 members in Jackson, Mississippi.

11. Davis, Nettie – community activist, is currently the president of the Tupelo City Council. The former teacher is the first African American to hold that distinction in the city.

12. Edwards, Janell – executive director of the Fayette Community Service Organization, a 501 (c)3, rural, community-based organization located in Jefferson County, Mississippi, that focuses on health and education.

13. Feagin, Moses – vice president, treasurer, chief financial officer and chief diversity officer, Mississippi Power.

14. Flaggs, George – The Honorable Flaggs is the two-term, Democratic mayor of the city of Vicksburg.

15. Floyd, Juanita Gambrell – author and journalist is the vice-president of Administration and Finance with the Create Foundation in Tupelo.

16. Gillard, Chris – director of the Mississippi Highway Patrol. Colonel Gillard oversees the day-to-day operation of the largest, statewide law enforcement agency in Mississippi.

17. Hausley, Hozay – president of Renasant Bank/Aberdeen-Amory Market.

18. Lewis, Carla – chief technology officer, C Spire in Ridgeland.

19. Mayfield, Kenneth – businessman and author, Mayfield is the founder and senior attorney with the Mayfield Law Firm in Tupelo, Southaven and Memphis.

20. Paige, Mitzi Dease – South East Regional director of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and is also assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi.

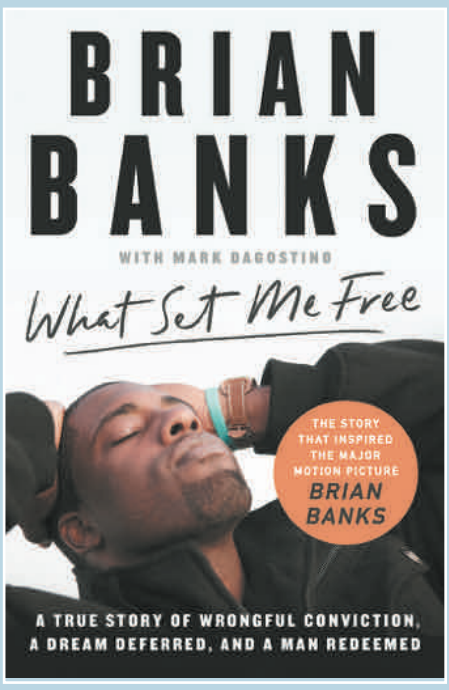
21. Reeves, Carlton – United States District Court judge for the Southern District of Mississippi.

22. Shaw, Dorothy – director of Compliance, Ethics, Community Affairs, EEO/Diversity & Inclusion for Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula.

23. Walker, LeRoy – community activist, businessman and owner of LTM Enterprises in Jackson.

24. Wheeler, Primus – executive director of the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation in Jackson.

25. Wilson, Dorothy – brand strategist, author, publisher, speaker and chair-elect of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce.



BOOK REVIEW: "WHAT SET ME FREE"

BY BRIAN BANKS (WITH MARK DAGOSTINO)
C.2019, ATRIA
$16.99 / $22.99 CANADA • 320 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You saw it happen.

Every second of it, every sound, it's burned in your memory. You can recall how it made you feel, how time seemed to slow down, how there was no room for anything else in your mind. It happened. Or – as in the new book "What Set Me Free" by Brian Banks (with Mark Dagostino) – did it?

His whole future was laid out in front of him.

Banks was sixteen years old, popular at summer school, smart and talented with an offer to play football for USC in his pocket and his own car in the driveway. He was your typical good kid; his mother had insisted on it and he never let her down.

Still, he was a teen-age boy who was very interested in the opposite sex, so when a girl he barely knew invited him to make out with her one afternoon at school, Banks, who'd already had experience with this kind of thing, eagerly agreed. Alas, nothing happened that day; a teacher interrupted the pair and they went their separate ways.

The next morning, Banks woke up with someone's knee in his back and guns in his face. He was torn from his bed, handcuffed, dragged from his mother's house, and taken to jail at the Long Beach, California, precinct, where he learned why he'd been detained: the girl had accused him of rape.

But he was innocent. He knew that, lots of people saw it, and he was sure it would be easy to prove. He told his story – the truth – over and over but lawyers failed him, courts failed him, and even though the girl's story changed, evidence was overwhelming, and DNA tests were negative, Banks went to prison.

For the next four-plus years, he worked to avoid becoming "an inmate." He found a mentor who gave him coping tools, and he looked for a balance between fitting in and keeping to himself. Banks thought of the future, and how his had unimaginably been taken away. Anger, he learned, is easy for a man to find behind bars.

That's doubly true when he didn't do the crime…

Prisons, as the saying goes, are full of innocent people but in the U.S., that's sadly been proven to be true. "What Set Me Free" is the story of one of them.

But first: yes, this is an often-told tale with elements you've read before but there's a difference here, in the way the story's told. Author Brian Banks (with Mark Dagostino) begins lightly before slamming us into that familiar tale, the body of which conveys a maddening frustration that completely carries readers along. That ultimately grows to include disorientation and a heightened bewilderment that seems as though it's never going to let go.

But let go it does, and in a way that'll leave you with a measure of satisfaction mixed with lingering sadness that it even occurred. Yes, "What Set Me Free" plays like that with your emotions but start it, and you'll just happen to like it.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HCSD Back to School Tips for Parents

Hello Parents,

Yes, summer is almost over and soon we will be starting a new school year, which can be a time of great excitement… and anxiety. Help calm your child's fears (and your own) with these teacher-approved tips:

Meet the new teacher

For kids, one of the biggest back-to-school fears is "Will I like my new teacher?" Breaking the ice early on is one of the best ways to calm everyone's fears. Take advantage of your school's open house or back-to-school night. Some teachers welcome phone calls or e-mails – another great opportunity to get to know each other before the year begins.

Tour the school

If your school hosts an open house, be sure to go. Familiarizing your child with her environment will help her avoid a nervous stomach on the first day. Together you can meet her teacher, find her desk or explore the playground.

Connect with friends

A familiar friend can make all the difference when heading back to school. You might try calling parents from last year's class and finding out which children are in your child's class this year. Refresh these relationships before school starts by scheduling a play date or a school carpool.

Tool up

Obtain the class supply list and take a special shopping trip with your child. Having the right tools will help him feel prepared. While keeping basic needs in mind, allow for a couple of splurges like a cool notebook or a favorite-colored pen. These simple pleasures make going back to school a lot more fun.

School supply lists also provide great insight into the schoolwork ahead. Get your child excited about upcoming projects by explaining how new supplies might be used. Let her or him practice using supplies that he's not used before – such as colored pencils or a protractor – so he or she will be comfortable using them in class.

Avoid last-minute drilling

When it's almost time to stop playing, give a five-minute warning. Giving clear messages to your child is very important.

Ease into the routine

Switching from a summer to a school schedule can be stressful to everyone in the household. Avoid first-day-of-school mayhem by practicing your routine a few days in advance. Set the alarm clock, go through your morning rituals and get in the car or to the bus stop on time. Routines help children feel comfortable, and establishing a solid school routine will make the first day of school go much smoother.

Have a Great Year!

2019-2020 Reminders for Parents and Employees

1. Beginning August 2019, all school buildings are open for registration Monday – Friday during normal school operation hours (8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.).

2. All parents are now required to provide proof of residency for all grade levels annually.

Upon enrollment, any parent seeking to enroll a student must verify full-time residency by submitting TWO pieces of business or government correspondence (dated within the last 30 days). HCSD does not accept affidavits, drivers' licenses/ Mississippi state identification cards, or voter registration cards as proof of residence.

3. All students entering the 7th grade must have proof of the Tdap Vaccination

4. Transportation/Bus Routes

Parents can find information regarding bus transportation, bus routes, time, etc. at the local school build, on the district website, or by contacting Durham Services at 601 857-5562.

5. Convocation will be held Friday, August 2, 2019, in Cain Hall on the main campus of Hinds Community College in Raymond, MS beginning at 7:45 a.m.

6. Meet the teacher will be held Monday, August 5 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

7. Students will report to classes Wednesday, August 7, 2019.

Gary Road Elementary School Registration

Kindergarten registration and re-enrollment for Gary Road Elementary students is open for the summer. Parents and guardians will be able to register children for kindergarten at Gary Road Elementary (7241 Gary Road, Byram, Miss.) from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Monday –Thursday.

Returning first and second grade students can be registered online with a Snap Code. If parents do not have a code, they can call Gary Road Elementary at 601 373-1319 to speak with a counselor and/or principal.

Parents and guardians will need to bring the following to complete enrollment:

• A driver's license or other state identification card

• Child's birth certificate (long-form), immunization records (Form 121), social security card and discipline record for each child being enrolled

• Current utility bill from the previous 30 days, AND filed Homestead Exemption from the previous year, mortgage payment documentation or property deed of trust, apartment or home lease OR two (2) business or government correspondence.

We encourage you to go ahead and register as soon as possible.