

Hinds County voters wanted change

By Othor Cain
Editor

It was a day that delivered change.

Tuesday, August 27, several run-off races were held for candidates that did not receive the required 50 percent plus one vote to be declared a winner. Races in Hinds County included: sheriff; supervisor; justice court judge, state representative and public service commissioner.

The highly contested race for sheriff saw two veteran law enforcement officials square off. Incumbent Sheriff Victor Mason, the second African-American sheriff of the state’s largest county, asked voters for four more years. “If it isn’t broke, it doesn’t need to be fixed,” Mason said repeatedly on the campaign trail.

Voters decided that the Hinds County Sheriff’s Department is indeed broken and they wanted Lee Vance, a veteran police officer who spent more than 30 years with the Jackson Police Department and three years at the helm, when he was appointed Chief of Police by former Mayor Tony Yarber to fix it.

Voters overwhelmingly cast their votes for change by giving the democratic nod to Vance, who received 60 percent of the vote Tuesday. “I am honored to accept this nomination from the voters in Hinds County who voted for change,” Vance said. “The job isn’t complete yet.”

Vance advances to the November general election where he will face Republican challenger Charlette Oswalt, a former court administrator and independent candidate Torrence Mayfield, a former Edwards police chief.

In another major upset Tuesday, Hinds County voters in District 2 decided that they were also ready for a change. Hinds County District 2 Supervisor Darrel McQuirter lost his seat to David Archie.

In a very close race, Archie, a community activist, received 3,764 votes to McQuirter’s 3,619 in unofficial returns. Four years ago, McQuirter was able to hang on to his seat as he bested Archie in a runoff race.

In legislative races, William ‘Bo’ Brown, a former Jackson city councilman, defeated incumbent Kathy Sykes in the House District 70 runoff.

Brown was the top vote getter earlier this month and campaigned on representation that is fair, accessible, transparent, active and responsive. Tuesday, Brown received 1,630 votes or 52 percent. Sykes, who has served only one term, received 1,476 votes or 48 percent.

In House District 63, Stephanie McKenzie Foster handily defeated incumbent Deborah Butler Dixon. Foster received 2,257 votes or 63 percent, while Dixon received 1,323 votes or 37 percent. No Republican or independent entered the races for supervisor or representative.

In the Public Service Commission race for the Central District that includes Hinds County, Jackson City Councilman DeKeither Stamps prevailed as the democratic nominee. Stamps received 37,298 votes from the 22-county area and his challenger Dorothy Benford received 26,084 votes. Stamps will move to the general election in November and face Republican Challenger Brent Bailey.



Vance



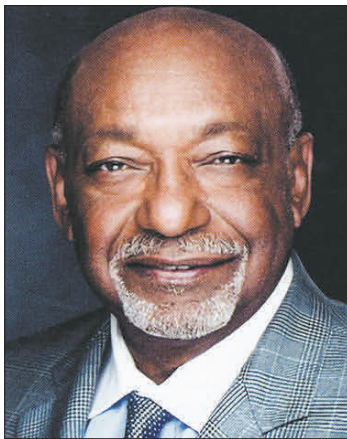
Archie



Stamps



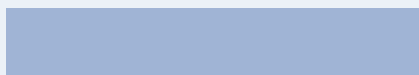
Foster



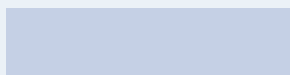
Brown

Hinds County Sheriff Democratic Runoff

Lee Vance 17,315 60%

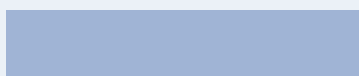


Victor Mason 11,367 40%

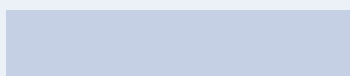


Hinds County-Supervisor District 2 Democratic Runoff

David Archie 3,764 51%



Darrel McQuirter 3,619 49%



Public Service Commission Central District Democratic Runoff

De'Keither Stamps 37,298 59%



Dorothy Benford 26,084 41%



House of Representative District 63 Democratic Runoff

Stephanie McKenzie Foster 2,257 63%



Deborah Butler Dixon 1,323 37%

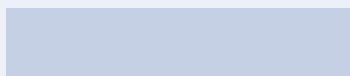


House of Representative District 70 Democratic 70

William Bo Brown 1,630 52%



Kathy Sykes 1,476 48%



From idea to reality: Refill Cafe opens in West Jackson

By Othor Cain
Editor

One thing the City of Jackson isn’t lacking – places to eat. From fine dining to local hole in the walls, on any given day in the state’s capital city you can get a plethora of good food.

One could ask, why another restaurant would enter the market place?

Refill Cafe isn’t just another eatery competing for business in Jackson; it is on a mission to transform lives.

Refill Cafe, is an arm of the Refill Jackson Initiative (RJI), whose mission is to empower young adults. Refill Cafe is the hub for the training development program of RJI, a workforce training program that is designed to support Jackson’s young adults, specifically those between the ages of 18 and 24 who are disconnected from the workforce and education.

Located in the former Koinonia



Refill Cafe cohorts and community partners including Jackson Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba (center)

Coffee House, Refill opened this week to an amazing reception. A standing room only crowd that showcased the best of what the city and state has to offer. “Today

we are going to celebrate all the work and the generosity that went into making this a reality. Today, we are here to lay down a marker and let the world know that some-

thing special has happened, because many came to the table offering gifts and talent and time... all in the interest of creating a place to empower young adults

ages 18 to 24 so that they are more confident, better equipped and motivated to enter into, navigate and stay in the workforce,” said Jeff Good, chairman of the board of directors.

Refill Cafe is the physical place where the workforce training takes place. On the first floor, the café is a high-quality lunchtime café and kitchen where the learning and practicing work-ready and technical skills are put into action. Concepts such as timeliness, respect for others, grace under pressure, workflow organization and conflict resolution are all played out as our members help the regular hired staff of the café serve lunch each day to the general public. The menu is fresh, high quality and will stand up to any restaurant offering in the metro.

Classrooms and meeting space are housed on the second floor and provides Refill “members” community space to complete

a well-designed curriculum for soft-skills, financial literacy, educational support and links to health and social services.

Upon graduation, Refill members are placed either in full-time employment, continuing education programs, or a paid internship that extends their learning opportunities in settings beyond the food services sector.

Your visit to the restaurant provides members an opportunity to put their skills on display and you get to enjoy amazing food.

There are so many amazing things happening in West Jackson and Refill is another extension of those offerings. Located on Jackson State University’s Parkway, it’s easily accessible for downtown workers, JSU students and anyone who wants to plant a seed into this mission.

For more information and opportunities please visit refillcafe-jackson.com.

See photos page 18.



Mississippi Jazz Foundation

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Jazz Foundation presents the 16th annual “Night of Musical Artistry” featuring national recording artist and famed jazz trombonist Jeff Bradshaw as he makes his second visit to Mississippi’s Capital City. Also returning for his 16th performance in this event is Jackson’s native son and national recording saxophonist Mike Burton. Serving as host for the evening will be Rita Brent. The event will be held in Jackson, Friday, November 29, 2019, at 7 p.m. in Duling Hall Auditorium, Fondren.

Born in North Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Jeff, known as a soul-jazz, hip-hop/funk innovator, came up in and out of the Philadelphia Soul Movement, and has played alongside some of music’s greatest talents – Michael Jackson, Earth, Wind & Fire, Pattie LaBelle, Jill Scott, Jay Z, Kirk Franklin, Floetry and Erykah Badu. Bradshaw’s solo projects highlight his expertise at blending elements of jazz, soul, R&B and funk into a musical experience. From his 2003 debut, Bone Deep, to 2012’s Bone Appétit Volumes 1 and 2, and 2015’s Home: One Special Night at the Kimmel Center, Jeff is consistent with creating a musically evolved utopia for music lovers.

A self-taught musician, Jeff effortlessly finesses the craft of harmonizing all of the music that he learned to love as a budding musician into a repertoire that defines who he would become as a trombonist and as an artist. Embedded by his father to play the words of songs instead of the notes on music sheets, Jeff remained true to his father’s teachings to play lyrics and not notes, giving his trombone a voice as opposed to as sound, that gives him distinctive and signature artistic trait that differentiates him from other purely instrumentalist musicians.

Mike Burton, has released a recent project, entitled Say What, and is currently touring with the legendary Patti LaBelle,

after coming off an extensive year and a half long tour with Jill Scott. He and several members of his own band recently appeared as the house band for the 2018 BET Awards, the Venkman’s in Atlanta, Georgia, the City Winery. Other engagements included the Sounds of Muscle Shoals at the Atlanta History Center. Mike has an extensive resume that includes over 10 years with Tyler Perry Productions, and several return appearances at the Bounce TV Network’s Trumpet Awards and BET’s Sunday Best.

Rita Brent is an up-and-coming comedienne who originates from Jackson, Mississippi. A former drummer in the 41st United States Army National Guard Band, Brent simultaneously earned her Bachelor’s Degree from Jackson State University, where she launched her career in radio in 2006 as a DJ for WJSU Jazz Radio Station. Seeking to find her voice, Rita took a leap of faith and tried her quick wit at stand-up comedy. Fast forward several years, after serving as the opening act for some of the biggest names in standup comedy, including Jay Anthony Brown, Sommore, the late Dick Gregory and frequently touring with her mentor, comedian and radio-personality Rickey Smiley, Rita made the big decision in 2017 to become a full-time comedienne. Soon thereafter, she met comedy mogul Kevin Hart, and was featured as one of four comedians from Mississippi selected by Hart to appear on his Comedy Central television series, “Hart of the City. Rita is working toward becoming Mississippi’s “next big thing.”

Tickets for the “16th Annual Night of Musical Artistry” are \$40 in advance through the Duling Hall website or <https://duling-hall.ticketfly.com/event/1871500-mississippi-jazz-foundation-jackson/> and \$50 at the door. All tickets are for General Admission seating.

For more information, call The Mississippi Jazz Foundation at 601 594-2314.

T-Pain to headline MSU’s Bulldog Bash in downtown Starkville

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Grammy Award-winning rapper T-Pain will headline the Mississippi State Student Association’s 20th annual Bulldog Bash.

Set to take place Sept. 20, the state’s largest, free outdoor concert will be held at the intersection of Jackson and Main streets in downtown Starkville. Following the day of the show will be MSU’s Southeastern Conference home football game against the University of Kentucky.

Bulldog Bash will begin at 3 p.m. in the afternoon with Maroon Market, which includes local musicians on The Social local stage, art and food vendors, and the Riddle and Bloom kid zone.

The winner of Battle of the Bands, hosted by MSU’s Music Maker Productions, will begin the night with a performance on the Clark Beverage main stage, followed by country artist Cale Dodds, Canadian all-female alternative rock band, The Beaches, and headliner T-Pain.

Born in Tallahassee, Florida in 1985, T-Pain began releasing music in 2005 with his debut album “Rap-a Ternt Sanga.” The artist’s 2007 sophomore album, “Epiphany,” reached the Billboard Top 200 chart. T-Pain has since won two Grammy Awards and founded his own record label, Nappy Boy Entertainment.

Proceeds from Bulldog Bash 2019 will benefit MSU’s Student Relief Fund. The MSU Student Relief Fund operates out of the MSU Dean of Students Office and ensures that students affected by day-to-day crises or catastrophic disaster can get the help they need financially. The funds received from this philanthropy directly impact students



Grammy Award-winning rapper T-Pain will headline the Mississippi State Student Association’s 20th annual Bulldog Bash. PHOTO COURTESY OF PARADIGM TALENT AGENCY

with these circumstances to help them achieve their academic success. For more information or to donate to the MSU Student Relief Fund, visit <https://www.msufoundation.com/s/811/foundation/interior.aspx?sid=811&gid=1&pgid=2292>.

Sponsors for this year’s event include 5-Hour Energy, Aramark Corp., MSU Alumni Association, 21 Apartments, Clark Beverage Group Inc., College View Apartments, Avalon Apartments, Copy Cow, Dog-Pound Printing, Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, MSU’s Interfraternity Council, Lakeside Student Living, National Panhellenic Council, MSU’s Office of the President, the

Retreat Starkville and Rick’s Café.

For more information about Bulldog Bash 2019 including sponsorship opportunities, see www.msubulldogbash.com, or contact the Center for Student Activities at 662-325-2930 or visit its office in Colvard Student Union, Suite 314. Follow on Twitter and Instagram @MSUBulldogBash.

The MSU Student Association is online at www.sa.msstate.edu, Facebook @MSUStudentAssociation, and Twitter and Instagram @MSU_SA.

MSU is Mississippi’s leading university, available online at www.ms-state.edu.



LIVE HEALTHY BLUE

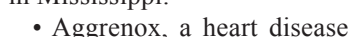
BELONGING TO THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Blue

www.bctbms.com

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- Revlimid, used to treat can-



To learn more about AARP's Stop Rx Greed campaign and view the national infographic, visit www.aarp.org/rx.



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...the ... of ...

Thank you, Mississippi.

If you missed our in-person workshops in libraries across Mississippi, you can still find all our free training and tools at google.com/grow.

See you around.

Grow with **Google**

MISSISSIPPI



Jackson Municipal Airport Authority appoints Pat Minor as new Hawkins Field Airport Manager

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) has appointed Patrick “Pat” Minor as the new Hawkins Field Airport Manager.

Pat is a graduate of Jackson State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. He furthered his education by obtaining a Masters of Public Administration degree from Belhaven University. He has well over 19 years of aviation experience in law enforcement, airport operations, aviation security, badging and communication.

During his tenure with JMAA, he has served in numerous roles such as:

- Police Officer, that included security checks and



Minor

inspecting buildings, facilities, grounds and other areas including gates and fencing to prevent trespass and ensure airport security.

- Operations Coordinator, where he performed daily report self-inspections of

major areas, including runway, taxiway, ramps, aircraft, refueling facilities, paved areas, safety areas, marking and lighting, security fencing and wildlife activity specific to the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (JAN).

- Airport Security Specialist and most recently communications supervisor, in which he was responsible for developing and maintaining all procedures related to departmental duties and responsibilities to remain in compliance with federal, state and JMAA regulations, rules and other standards as they relate to security, public safety and law enforcement response in the Airport Operations Center.

“JMAA’s focus is to revitalize Hawkins Field Airport to be a contributor to economic development in the City of Jackson and Hinds County. Part of implementing this vision included the hiring of a Hawkins Field Airport Manager,” stated Darion Warren, JMAA interim CEO. “Mr. Minor’s extensive background in airport operations and educational background are beneficial in effectively managing Hawkins Field Airport operations and successfully implementing its development strategy. We are excited about the opportunities ahead of us to make our ‘Crown Jewel,’ Hawkins Field Airport, “an airport of choice” with Mr. Minor leading the way.”

HCCSD seeks \$16.6 million in bid for historic passage of school bond referendum

Mississippi Link Newswire

Citizens for the VOTE YES School Bond Referendum will host a kick-off meeting for volunteers and selected community leaders to galvanize support for the passage of the county’s first school bond ever!

The steering committee will host a dinner Friday, August 30, at 6 p.m. to launch the campaign and share its logistics with the media, and ultimately, the general public. The meeting will be held in the Agape @Harvester Restaurant 20735 Highway 12, Lexington, MS 39095.

Nearly 40 people have already responded in the affirmative to serve on the committee and use their efforts and influence to persuade their

fellow citizens to vote for the referendum.

“No school bond measure has received community approval in the past 50 years, according to our research” said Superintendent of Schools, James L. Henderson, Ed.D. “It’s That Time! to invest in the future of our children. Our children deserve the best.” The bond will fund the construction of potentially three new schools: PreK–8 elementary school in Durant serving up to 900 students, a 9th grade Center for 350-400 students and a 10th-12th grade High School serving 650-700 students.

Between now and Election Day November 5, the Steering Committee and school employees will get the word

out that there is no increase in taxes for renters/non-homeowners, residents age 65-and-older, veterans or disabled persons. Moreover, 80% of the residents who see a change to their taxes will experience an increase of less than \$100 per year – which translates to 27¢ per day.

“We can’t continue using outdated and under-functioning buildings,” said Board President Anthony Anderson. “Our superintendent has secured state of the art designs for energy-efficient buildings with beautiful learning environments, including multi-purpose spaces and an athletic stadium like Holmes County has never seen before.”

Henderson reported, “Not

only do we want a state-of-the-art athletic stadium, we also want real-world, hands-on science labs, a performance theatre/auditorium, a student-run TV station, large bright classrooms, a swimming pool and cutting-edge technology – all to increase academics and rigor for our kids to be competitive in a global society.”

A pay raise for certified teachers and classified employees will also follow the passage of the bond.

Media organizations planning to cover the kick-off meeting or in need of more information are asked to contact Ms. Deborah Antoine, media spokesperson by email: dan-[toine@holmesccsd.org](mailto:antoine@holmesccsd.org), or call 662 854-3447.

Taste of West Jackson

Mississippi Link Newswire

Common Ground CDC will host its fourth annual Taste of West Jackson Saturday, September 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Claiborne Park (located behind Provine High School).

Enjoy the best of the best in food and music and celebrate the economic development that’s happening all across the West Jackson community.

There will be several entrepreneurs promoting their businesses at vendor tables, plus lots of activities for the children to enjoy.

This is a FREE, fun-filled community event for the entire family.

For more information, visit www.cgjxn.org or on Facebook and Instagram at Common-Ground-Covenant-Church (@commongroundcovenantchurch).

COMMON GROUND COVENANT CHURCH

You are receiving this letter because I consider you a friend as well as a friend to our Common Ground Church Family. This year Common Ground turns 5 years old. We would like your help to celebrate this occasion. I would personally be honored if you would celebrate with me.

On September 7th, we will hold our 4th Annual Taste of West Jackson, which is a food and music festival that celebrates the economic development happening in our West Jackson Community. It is held from 11 - 4 pm at Claiborne Park.

The following day we will hold our Worship Gathering to celebrate 5 years of Common Ground being a church serving in the West Jackson Community. Would you join us Common Ground's 5th Anniversary Weekend? Also, I personally would be honored if you help us move this celebration forward.

Thank you for your love and support through the years.

Blessings from your Partner in Christ,

John Perkins
Lead Pastor
Common Ground Cov. Church

Common Ground Covenant Church
4253 W. Capitol St. Jackson, MS 39209

Common Ground Community Development Corporation has three great objectives: **Work Force Development, Education, and Housing**

T.A.L.K.S. MENTORING

Transferring A Little Knowledge Systematically. A mentorship program for the 3rd-5th Grade children in Pecan Park Elementary School along with the ELI children one hour a week. This has had outstanding results at Pecan Park, so we are looking to expand to other schools as we follow our children.

Family Life Center

An outreach center of Common Ground that offers workforce development, Good News Bible Clubs for Children and other after-school enrichment through our computer lab and Chess and Garden Clubs. Also offers training for second chance High School diploma in our Community Room.

COMMON GROUND ENTERPRISES

A collection of Small Businesses owned by Common Ground Covenant Church as we show that it is possible to provide jobs and hope as a proof of concept. All the while, making a difference in the lives of those who need an opportunity.

JUBILEEJXN

The Church engaging God's heart for the poor. Bringing together Non-Profits, Government, and Church to work together on behalf of the poor.

TASTE OF WEST JACKSON

A community food festival from the grass roots for the purpose of promoting small businesses in our community. All to promote a greater quality of life for all the citizens of West Jackson

In Memoriam

Gwendolyn Theresa Bishop Chambliss

March 22, 1933 - August 22, 2019



Chambliss

“I try to be kind and follow the commandment that says, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Love is one thing that each of us should have and if we are kind, we will share this love with every person we meet. It does not matter if the person is rich, poor, black, white or of another nationality. Remember to respect everyone. Respect is a two-way street.”

These words of love were written by our beloved Gwendolyn Theresa Bishop Chambliss in the journal of her great niece Paige. In her own words she told us her philosophy of life which is exactly how she lived.

This extraordinary life began in Starkville, Mississippi, March 22, 1933 as Edward S. Bishop and Eva H. Bishop welcomed into this world their first child and only daughter, Gwendolyn Theresa

Bishop (Gwen). She enjoyed a nurturing, loving and active childhood with her four younger brothers, Edward Bishop, Ralph Bishop, B. V. Bishop and Harold Bishop.

Their growing family lived in Starkville, Jackson and finally in Corinth, MS. The Bishops raised their children in a loving Christian home and made Saint Mark Baptist Church the family’s church home. Gwen’s life of giving and Christian service was cultivated in her remarkable family. Eva, would tell the story of how her daughter, Gwen, gave away a brand new coat to a needy classmate. There are many stories like this throughout Gwen’s life that exemplified Christ’s love to others.

Education was paramount in the Bishop household. Gwen was educated in the Corinth, MS school system and received her high school diploma from Corinth Colored High School in 1951. She continued her education at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. At Spelman she sang in the choir, was a member of several committees and was elected a college sweetheart at nearby Morehouse College.

After graduating in 1955 from Spelman, Gwen moved back to Mississippi and started a teaching job in Holly Springs, Mississippi.

She relocated to Jackson, MS where she met and married Carneal E. Chambliss Jr. in April, 1957. They were blessed with two children, Karen and Carneal III, whom they raised in a home of love, service and education. The family joined and were active members of United Christian

Church where Gwen remained a member and leader until her departure.

Wanting to further her education, Gwen began graduate studies at Colorado State University, Greeley, CO. Her studies were completed at the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi in 1971 at which time she received her Master of Science Degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences. She also did post graduate work at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL. She was awarded the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) by the American Speech Language Association.

Gwen was a lifelong educator. She impacted many lives as a third-grade teacher in the Jackson Public School System. While still working with JPS, she changed her title from teacher to speech pathologist after receiving her master’s degree. It was at this time that she began her long and illustrious career at Jackson State University where she served as a tenured assistant professor of Communicative Disorders.

Always a motivator and tireless worker, she worked with Dr. Dora Washington to develop the curriculum for the Communicative Disorders Program on the undergraduate level where they became the first two instructors of the program. She also assisted in writing a proposal to start a graduate program for speech language and hearing.

Under her supervision, JSU Communicative Disorders Department started providing clinical services to Head Start students to aid in speech and language development. Additionally, she developed and facilitated workshops for Head Start teachers.

She planned and presented several college short-courses during the summer for classroom teachers. Gwen not only impacted students’ lives through her dynamic teaching, but she also served on department and university wide committees. She retired from JSU in 1998 and returned in 2000 as a clinical supervisor for graduate students and continued in that position until 2013.

Gwen worked in the home health care arena, nursing homes, hospitals, and as

an assisting certified speech/language pathologist in private practice. Furthermore, she provided screenings and speech/language evaluations for different agencies over the state of MS. She presented training workshops in speech/language for pre-school and elementary teachers over the state of MS.

Gwen has distinguished herself in many arenas and notable accomplishments. Club and church work have always been an important part of Gwen’s life. At United Christian Church she was a choir member, deaconess and elder as well as serving on many committees and hosting numerous meetings and events. In her community she was involved in her neighborhood association, High School Park Garden and Home Improvement Association, Inc. She was also a supporter of Jackson Metropolitan YWCA.

She continued her impact on young people in the community by being a dedicated mentor with Forward Lookers and the JSD Foundation in partnership with the Myrlie and Medgar Evers Institute. Through this partnership she mentored sixth grade males of color in the JPS District and was twice recognized by Forward Lookers as “Mentor of the Year.” She worked tirelessly with the I CAN Mentor Program and would often speak of the young men.

Gwen’s professional organizations were important to her as well. She was a member of the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA), and the National Black Association of Speech and Hearing. She and Dr. Juanita Sims Doty started the Mississippi affiliate of National Black Association of Speech and Hearing in 1980.

Retirement did not slow Gwen down. She was a member of AARP association in Jackson, MS and a proud member and president of the Jackson Metropolitan Retired Education Personnel Association. She loved singing in the Jackson Metropolitan Retired Community Choir. Predecessor of this choir for her was Silver and Gold which she and her friends Norweida Roberts Spencer and Vivian Woods founded and sang at various nursing homes.

Gwen was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and a member of the Spelman College Alumni Association of Jackson, MS. She was founding member of Jack and Jill, Inc., and a charter member of Lefluer Bluff Links.

Gwen was inspired to keep the legacy of her mom, Eva Hunter Bishop, who was one founding member of the Federated Clubs of Mississippi. She began this journey in 1978 by becoming a member of the Forward Lookers Federated Clubs in Jackson, MS. She served in many capacities on the local, state, and regional level in the organization for 41 years. She was the local president and led the organization through numerous community service initiatives that included service to a women’s shelter, supplying eye glasses, helping students with ACT testing, mentorship and other work. She served on the state level as a state president in which the State Federation was recognized nationally and received a plaque. On the regional level she served as first vice-president, program chair, chaplain and parliamentarian. She also served as historian on the national level. Gwen was the recipient of many awards with her work in the Federated Clubs. She has received the Uplift Award and Outstanding Leadership and Service Awards.

This beautiful soul transitioned to be with our Heavenly Father August 22, 2019. She is survived by her children, Karen (Ralph) Clark, Lancaster, TX; Carneal (Demethous) Chambliss Mansfield, TX. One brother, B. V. (Carine) Bishop. Sisters-in-law, Rosemary Bishop and Phyllis Bishop. Also treasuring her memory are her loving grandchildren, Ralph V. (Keneasha) Clark, II, Eva Clark (Alex) Edeigba, James V. Clark, Anna Chambliss, Aryn Chambliss, Carneal E. Chambliss IV, Gigi’s great grands, Hannah Clark and James Duke Clark.

To know Gwendolyn Bishop Chambliss was to love her. The greatest commandment in the Bible is to love God with all your heart and soul and to love your neighbor as yourself. Gwen did indeed follow and believe this commandment!

Delta State University National Alumni Association’s 34th Annual Pig Pickin’ Sept. 20-21 at Statesmen Park in Cleveland, MS



Mississippi Link Newswire

Delta State University National Alumni Association is preparing for the 34th annual Pig Pickin’ that will be held Sept. 20-21. All of campus, alumni and supporters of Delta State are invited to attend a weekend full of activities at Statesmen Park.

The official Pig Pickin’ website is <http://www.dsupigpickin.com/>. Visitors can purchase BBQ tickets, sign up for the Memphis Barbecue Network-sanctioned cooking competition, enter the annual cornhole

tournament, register to volunteer, purchase the event’s official T-shirt, and become an event sponsor. Information about Fall Preview Day hosted by DSU Admissions is on the website as well.

The schedule is filled with activities for Delta State alumni and friends of any age to enjoy. Activities kick off Sept. 20, leading into the main schedule on Sept. 21. Immediately following Pig Pickin’ festivities, the Statesmen football team will compete against Florida Tech at 6 p.m. A full schedule

will be released soon.

BBQ tickets can be purchased for \$10 at the Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni-Foundation House or <http://www.dsupigpickin.com/purchase-bbq-tickets>. A limited amount of food tickets will be available for purchase.

The traditional Pig Pickin’ T-shirts are \$20. This year’s design is printed on a grass-colored Comfort Color Brand shirt. You may purchase a shirt at <http://www.dsupigpickin.com/purchase-pig-pickin-tshirts> or stop by the Alumni House after Labor Day.

Stay updated on Pig Pickin’ announcements by joining the official Facebook event page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/605246456568837/> or by visiting the official Pig Pickin’ website.

For more information, contact the Alumni Association at (662) 846-4660 or alumni@deltastate.edu. Be sure and follow the Delta State University Alumni Association’s social media platforms to stay informed about upcoming events. Facebook: Statesmen Graduates; Instagram: [dsualumni](#),

and Twitter: [@DSU_Alumni](#).

Save the date for Delta State’s 87th annual Homecoming to be held Nov. 8-9.

About Delta State University: Delta State University is a four-year public institution whose more than 3,500 students come from most U.S. states and more than 50 countries. The university offers numerous unique programs, including the Delta Music Institute entertainment industry program, and is the only university in Mississippi to offer undergraduate and graduate

aviation programs. Situated in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, which is recognized as the birthplace of American music, Delta State has become the center of music and culture for the state and the region. The university is also the academic center for the blues, offering an online blues studies curriculum that leads to a certificate for advanced study of blues music. In addition, Delta State offers top-notch academic programs in business, arts, sciences, nursing, and education, among other areas.

Teaching in CPSD a family tradition for the Nyes

Mississippi Link Newswire

Women in the Nye family have taught in Clinton’s public schools almost since the district began.

“My mother Kaye Jordan accepted a job to teach at Clinton High School in 1974 when I was in sixth grade,” said Kathy Nye, who teaches reading and math intervention at Eastside Elementary. “When she chose to accept a job in Clinton, the fact that her children could attend was a determining factor.”

Kathy has spent the past 14 years as a teacher at Eastside and Northside. And today, her daughters Kelly Nye Keith and Phoebe Nye Head are following the family tradition and also teaching in Clinton schools.

“I have taught for nine years total and seven years in Clinton,” Keith said. “I currently teach honors geometry at Sumner Hill.”

Head is a dyslexia therapist for the Clinton Public School District, with a classroom at Northside. Of her seven years as a teacher, four have been in Clinton.

“I have loved watching the dyslexia therapy program grow and prosper,” Head said. “I enjoy watching my students grow and gain confidence from the program, which then transfers to achievement and success in the classroom.”

Keith said she loves being able to watch her students grow and mature during their ninth

grade year.

“It is such a significant year as they begin their high school career, and I love being part of the beginning of their journey,” she said. “I also really enjoy getting to teach students that my mom and Phoebe have taught. It’s neat to watch their students grow up and become my students.”

Changes over the years

In 1974, Nye attended Clinton Junior High at the old campus on College Street.

“When I graduated from high school, we didn’t have air conditioning, and we couldn’t wear shorts,” she said. “I have taught at the original Northside and the original Eastside Elementary. Now the two schools share a campus.”

Among the academic changes she’s seen are the addition of Advanced Placement courses, expansion of career and technical classes, block scheduling and interventions for struggling students.

“The most notable changes we have seen have been the implementation of technology in all aspects of education for students and teachers,” Keith said. “Also new since 2001 has been the completion of Arrow Drive, a new Arrow field and athletic complex.”

One thing they all agree on is that excellence has always been the only option in the Clinton Public School District.

“That’s the one thing that has never changed,” Nye said.



Three generations of Nye women have taught in Clinton's public schools. Pictured are (from left) Kelly Nye Keith, Kathy Nye and Phoebe Nye Head.

Among her favorite experiences in teaching are building relationships with her students and watching them blossom in extracurricular activities when they reach high school.

“I have loved getting to teach in the same district with my daughters,” she said. “I miss my

mother, Kaye Jordan, every day but I gain a lot of knowledge knowing that we are carrying on her legacy in a school district that she loved with all her heart. It is extra special that three generations of my family have served in this awesome school district.”

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Clinton celebrates 50 years as a separate school district

The Mississippi Link Newswire

In its 50-year history, the Clinton Public School District has seen many changes.

“We have many new facilities, many new people, the curriculum has changed and so has technology,” said Tim Martin, superintendent of schools. “The one thing that has remained the same is our commitment to excellence. Throughout our history Clinton has been at or very near the top academically, and we plan to continue this going forward.”

Throughout the school year, CPSD will be celebrating the achievements, people and significant milestones of its history. There will be a pregame ceremony at the Homecoming football game Oct. 11, featuring former district leaders and students.

“It’s so important to commemorate all the accomplishments of our district and to recognize the impact our schools have had on this community,” said Barbie Ferguson, retired teacher and 50th Anniversary Committee chairwoman. “You simply cannot overstate the importance our schools have had on the lives of thousands of people over the years.”

Humble beginnings

During the latter part of 1969 and the first part of 1970, leaders in the Clinton community were successful in separating the three Clinton schools from



In its 50-year history, CPSD has only had five superintendents, (from left) Dr. Virgil Belue, Dr. Randy McCoy, Dr. Tommye Henderson, Dr. Phil Burchfield and Dr. Tim Martin.

the jurisdiction of the Hinds County School District and established a new school district

titled Clinton Municipal Separate School District. This name was according to state law.

“The word ‘separate’ indicated that the new district was separate from the county

school district,” said Virgil Belue, CPSD’s first superintendent who held this position

from 1970-1992. “After a lot of people in Mississippi believed the word in their names indicated that it had to do with segregated schools, the State Legislature passed a law that municipal school districts could remove the word from their names.”

After this law went into effect, the Clinton School Board chose to rename the district to the Clinton Public School District. The separation from Hinds County changed the taxing authority from the county board of supervisors to the aldermen of the city of Clinton.

The city mayor and board of aldermen appointed five people to serve as trustees for the new school district. As per state law, the school board members served five years with staggered terms so that each year one member’s term would expire.

This law also provided that if there were more than 15% of students living outside the city of Clinton, the citizens there would be entitled to elect two of the five school board members, and this process allowed for two elected members.

The law stated that if the student enrollment from the area outside the city dropped below 15%, the city board of aldermen would appoint all five school board members. This is the procedure currently in place for the Clinton school board.

University Research Center to host annual Advancing Mississippi conference

Discount registration available until September 4

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Researchers from across Mississippi will share their findings relevant to the state’s economic growth at the fourth annual Advancing Mississippi conference. Hosted by the University Research Center (URC), the conference will be held Friday, September 6, 2019, at the Mississippi Public Broadcasting Auditorium, 3825 Ridgewood Road in Jackson.

“Each year, we invite researchers from all over the state to share research relevant to the state’s economic growth, asking them to focus on systemic issues and make research-based policy recommendations,” said State Economist and Director of URC Darrin Webb. “The goal of the conference is to uncover productive ways to overcome challenges and foster growth in Mississippi.”

In addition to presentations on human capital, health issues and poverty and disparity, the conference will feature a panel discussion during lunch that will focus on Human Capital: Defining Brain Drain and Discussing Its Relationship to the Mississippi Economy.

The sessions include:

9:30 a.m. Welcome

9:45 a.m. Human Capital

Breaking the Cycle of Confinement in Mississippi by In-

vesting in the Human Capital of Inmates: Revisiting the Value of Vocational Education as a Strategy Toward Diminishing Recidivism

David H. McElreath, Daniel Adrian Doss, Leisa S. McElreath and Ashley M. Lindsley

Baby Boomer’s Path in Retirement in Mississippi: Who Moves and Who Stays

Ayoung Kim

A Systematic Analysis of the Economic Impact of Childhood Obesity

Martha D. Ravola, Crystal Lim, and Debarshi Ray

11 a.m. Health Issues

Presumptive Eligibility as a Policy Avenue to Improve Birth Outcomes in Mississippi

Wengora Thompson, John Green, Katie Kerstetter, Rachel Haggard and Jamiko Deleveau

The Effect of Mandatory Sex Education on Teenage Births in Mississippi

Betty Thomas and Andrew W. Stevens

Implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the Experiences of Parents with Chronically Ill Children

Kimberly V. Bracey

12:15 p.m. Lunch/Panel Discussion

Human Capital Migration: Defining Brain Drain and Discussing Its Relationship to the Mississippi Economy

Hugh L. Davis III, Michael Madaris, Emily Foret, Zach Grady, Catherine Hasty, Jamie Sholar and Dean Price

1:45 p.m. Poverty and Disparities

Multidimensional Poverty Index for Mississippi

Fernando Arroyo Lopez and John J. Green

An Alternative Narrative: Resilience and Community Agency in the Mississippi Delta

Anne Cafer, Georgianna Mann, Kim Kaiser, John Green, Stephanie Showalter-Otts and Kristie Willett

Health Disparity, Increased Obesity and Cancer-Triggering Concerns for Mississippi

Debarshi Roy, Sofia Ievleva and Martha Ravola

3 p.m. Closing Remarks

Conference registration is available online. The cost to register is \$25 per person through September 4, 2019 and will be \$40 at the door.

Checks or money orders should be made payable to Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning. Multiple registration forms may be mailed in a single envelope with one check. Please mail your registration form and payment (check or money order) to:

Janna Weller

3825 Ridgewood Rd

Jackson, MS 39211

More English learner students gaining proficiency as population grows

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The population of students learning the English language is growing in Mississippi, and more students are gaining proficiency in English, according to recent results of the state’s English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT).

The state tested 12,106 English learner (EL) students in the spring of 2019, and 17% met the criteria to exit the EL program, which meant they acquired enough English to not need additional supports.

While Mississippi’s EL population is growing, EL students are still progressing. Nearly 11,800 students identified as EL took the proficiency test in 2018 with 13% of those students exiting an EL program. The 4% growth from 2018 to 2019 is statistically significant.

For some grades, the percent of students exiting the EL program reached double digits, peaking at 36% in the 5th grade. Research shows it takes 5 to 7 years to learn a new language.

Sandra Elliott, EL intervention support specialist at the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), said a big part of academic growth in English learners is due to the increased language-specific supports from teachers in the districts. MDE has provided ongoing professional development to general education teachers, interventionists and English learner teachers on strategies to support English

School Year	Number of EL Students Tested
2014-15	9,769
2015-16	10,965
2016-17	11,971
2017-18	11,748
2018-19	12,106

language development and academic growth.

“As a result, participants in our sessions have learned effective instructional strategies for oral language skills, vocabulary and fluency. They have also learned multiple new ways to increase instructional supports, such as the use of authentic, meaningful visuals and how to adapt word walls to meet the needs of English learners. Our teachers have risen to the challenge and our children are growing because of the hard work of their teachers,” Elliott said.

The ELPT is administered to students in Kindergarten through 12th grade who have been officially identified as English learners. This assessment, required by federal law, is administered annually to monitor English learners’ progress in acquiring academic English in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

In response to the growth in EL student populations, the MDE published a comprehensive

guide to help educators meet the needs of students. The guide, Mississippi English Learner Guidelines: Regulations, Funding Guidance and Instructional Supports, provides teaching resources and practical approaches to managing the day-to-day instruction.

Spanish is the most prevalent language spoken by English learners in Mississippi, but more than 20 other languages are also represented. After Spanish, the most common languages spoken by EL students in Mississippi are Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese and Gujarati.

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act requires states to include in their accountability systems the progress English learners are making toward becoming proficient English speakers, readers and writers. To meet this requirement, EL progress will be included in official grades for Mississippi schools and districts beginning in the 2018-19 school year.

Dr. Shears, associate vice president for Student Success says, “Students come to this institution seeking to be better individuals. They are looking at their futures and correlating it with how JSS can assist with them reaching their personal and professional goals.”



FCC authorizes \$7.1 million in Mississippi over 10 years for rural broadband

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Taking further steps to close the digital divide, the Federal Communications Commission recently authorized over \$7.1 million in support for Decatur Holding Company, Inc., in Newton County, Mississippi over the next decade for maintaining, improving and expanding affordable broadband for 1,644 rural homes and businesses.

The authorization of funding in Newton County was part of a nationwide authorization of over \$4.9 billion in support over the next decade for 455,334 homes and businesses served by 171 carriers in 39 states and American Samoa, including 44,243 locations on Tribal lands.

The support is targeted to smaller rural carriers, traditionally

known as “rate-of-return” carriers. These carriers agreed this year to accept subsidies based on the FCC’s Alternative Connect America Cost Model, or A-CAM, which provides predictability, rewards efficiency, and provides more value for each taxpayer dollar.

The homes and businesses are in sparsely populated rural areas where the per-location price of deployment and ongoing costs of providing broadband service are high, requiring support from the FCC’s Universal Service Fund to facilitate network improvements and keep rates reasonably comparable to those in urban areas.

In return for the support that is being approved, carriers must maintain, improve and expand broadband throughout their service areas, including providing service

of at least 25 Megabits per second downstream and 3 Mbps upstream to over 363,000 locations, including more than 37,000 locations on Tribal lands. Providers will be held accountable through an enforceable schedule for delivering improved and expanded service, with the first interim deployment obligation occurring in 2022.

“Our action today will help close the digital divide and is a win-win for rural Americans and taxpayers, including 1,644 homes and small businesses in Newton County,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai. “Carriers get the predictable support they need to deliver broadband to their customers in these high-cost rural areas. And taxpayers, who fund this support through a fee on their phone bills, are getting more bang for their buck.”

Four counties added to Federal Disaster 4429 for Public Assistance

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved Issaquena, Sharkey, Warren and Yazoo Counties for Public Assistance under Federal Disaster 4429, which is in response to the February 22-24 severe storms, tornadoes and flooding that impacted the state. Public Assistance is a supplemental cost reimbursement grant program that assists in the restoration of community infrastructure.

The addition of these counties brings the total number receiving federal assistance to 29. The others already included in this disaster are Alcorn, Calhoun, Carroll, Chickasaw, Clay, Coahoma, Grenada, Humphreys, Itawamba, Lafayette, Lee, Leflore, Lowndes, Montgomery, Panola, Pontotoc, Prentiss, Quitman, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tishomingo, Union, Washington Webster and Yalobusha.

The Public Assistance categories are as follows:

Category A: Debris Removal.

Category B: Emergency Protective Measures.

Category C: Roads and Bridges.

Category D: Water Control Facilities.

Category E: Buildings and Equipment.

Category F: Utilities.

Category G: Parks, Recreational Facilities and Other Items.

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is still waiting for a response from FEMA regarding an Individual Assistance declaration for Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Warren and Yazoo counties. Individual Assistance provides financial help or direct services to individuals who have disaster-caused expenses that are not covered by insurance or other means.

For more information about recovery efforts, visit MEMA’s website at www.msema.org. The best way to get up-to-date information is to “Like” MEMA on Facebook, @msemaorg or “Follow” us on Twitter @msema.

Flaggs cuts costs and streamlines city operations ahead of FY 2020 budget adoption



Flaggs

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Vicksburg Mayor George Flaggs Jr. announced his proposal to cut costs and streamline city government while providing a 3% across-the-board pay raise, and minimum wage increase, to city employees at Friday’s Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting.

“Providing the best service at the least cost to the taxpayers is my definition of being fiscally responsible,” Flaggs said. “I believe we should spend within our means instead of expanding government – these recom-

mendations will provide a pathway to balance our FY 2020 budget without raising anyone’s taxes.”

- Adopt a budget based on 97% of the previous year’s budget
- 25% spending cut for every department in the general fund
- Maintain a \$3 million reserve and adequate cash on hand to satisfy current AA Moody rating
- Reduce healthcare costs by \$300,000
- B that City retirement expenses have increased by 10.4%

- Provide a 3% across-the-board pay raise to employees
- Increase minimum wage from \$8.25 to \$8.50
- No longer fund any position that has been vacant for more than 60 days
- Employees who have not worked for the City for a minimum of 6 months will not benefit from the proposed pay raise
- For 1 year, no new position will be created that requires the city to pay into PERS or pay health insur-

ance costs. This includes new, full-time positions

- No layoffs, no furloughs
- Utilize temporary workers to reduce personnel costs in the Public Works Department
- No additional sponsorships or advertising will be added to the FY 2020 budget that were not budgeted during the previous year
- Adopt no new projects during FY 2020 unless classified as an emergency. This budget year will be dedicated to finishing current projects.

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Hood joins 50 AGs and 12 companies in fight against illegal robocalls

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Attorney General Jim Hood recently announced that as a result of the efforts of 50 attorneys general and 12 phone companies, an agreement has been reached whereby the phone companies have agreed to adopt eight key practices to fight illegal robocalls.

This agreement will help protect phone users from illegal robocalls and will make it easier for attorneys general to investigate and prosecute bad actors.

“I can’t go anywhere without meeting someone who has been harassed by unwanted robocalls,” Hood said. “As a result, I have committed to serving as a leading state in the Robocall Technology Working Group for the National Association of Attorneys General, and I’ve worked with the Mississippi Public Service Commission, federal enforcers and other AGs to do everything we can to stop unwanted robocalls. In the past, the Federal Communications Commission has made it clear that phone companies can assist us in our fight against these unwanted and intrusive robocalls. We have continued to press these phone carriers to give their customers what they have been asking for – a way to stop these calls before they ever come through.”

The principles of the agreement address prevention and enforcement. These principles also ensure that going forward, phone companies will stay in close communication with the coalition of attorneys general to continue to improve robocall

protections.

- 1) Phone companies have committed to:
 - Implementing call-blocking technology at the network level at no cost to customers.
 - Making available to customers additional, free, easy-to-use call blocking and labeling tools.
 - Implementing technology to authenticate that callers are coming from a valid source.
 - Monitoring their networks for robocall traffic.
- 2) Phone companies will assist attorneys’ general anti-robocall enforcement by:
 - Knowing who their customers are so bad actors can be identified and investigated.
 - Investigating and taking action against suspicious callers – including notifying law enforcement and state attorneys general.
 - Working with law enforcement, including state attorneys general, to trace the origins of illegal robocalls.
 - Requiring other telephone companies, with whom they contract, to cooperate in traceback identification.

“The principles offer a comprehensive set of best practices that recognizes that no single action or technology is sufficient to curb the scourge of illegal and unwanted robocalls,” said Henning Schulzrinne, Levi Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at Columbia University and former chief technology officer at the FCC. “I hope that all parts of the telecommunication industry, both large and small,

will commit to rapidly implementing these principles and work with state and federal authorities to make people want to answer their phone again without fear of being defrauded or annoyed.”

The coalition of attorneys general was led by North Carolina and includes attorneys general from all 50 states and Washington, D.C. The coalition of companies includes AT&T, Bandwidth, CenturyLink, Charter, Comcast, Consolidated, Frontier, Sprint, T-Mobile, US Cellular, Verizon, and Windstream.

Hood concludes, “We pay a lot for our phones for our own use. Instead, these bogus telemarketers and scam artists use our own property to harass us. I hope one day we will be able to push a button every time they call and charge them a fee to be paid toward our phone bill.”

In addition to this effort, Hood led national support this spring for federal legislation known as the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED). This Act would assist in combating illegal robocalls by requiring industry-wide implementation of call authentication protocols.

He also joined states calling on the FCC to take further action to stop the growing proliferation of illegal robocalls and spoofing. Additionally, Hood along with the Mississippi Public Service Commission, published a guide for consumers with helpful information to block or filter unwanted calls.



The pay gap is the tip of the iceberg for black women

The Mississippi Link Newswire

August 22 was Black Women’s Equal Pay Day, which marks how far black women had to work into 2019 to make what white men earned in 2018 alone. For a second year, LeanIn.Org and SurveyMonkey have partnered to conduct new research to measure Americans’ awareness of this pay gap and better understand the experiences of black women in the workplace, using SurveyMonkey audience. The results are clear and troubling: Black women face far more barriers to advancement, and only half of Americans think these obstacles still exist.

On average, black women are paid 39 percent less than white men and 21 percent less than white women. Even when you control for industry, occupation and education, black women on average are paid less than white men. According to the National Partnership for Women and Families, if the pay gap were closed, in a single year, a black woman working full-time would be able to afford over three years’ worth of groceries, nearly two years of rent, or two and a half years’ worth of childcare.

The new research from LeanIn.Org and SurveyMonkey shows that many people don’t know black women are paid less or don’t understand the magnitude of this pay gap. A third of Americans don’t know there’s a pay gap between black women and white men – and 42 percent of people who are aware of this pay gap underestimate its size. Moreover, half of Americans don’t know there’s a pay gap between black women and white women.

“While many Americans don’t realize the pay gap for black women exists, black women and their families certainly feel the effects. If the pay gap were closed, the average black woman would earn almost \$950,000 more over the course of her career – a staggering figure, especially when you consider nearly 4 in 10 Americans say they’d struggle to cover an unexpected \$400 expense,” said Rachel Thomas, co-founder and CEO of LeanIn.Org.

“Just like last year, our research shows that awareness about the pay gap for black women remains too low,” said Sarah Cho, director of research at SurveyMonkey. “We’re also seeing that black women have far less access to opportunity in the form of job training and interactions with senior leaders. We hope this research encourages companies to dig deeper into the interconnected factors that contribute to this disparity so we can all make progress in narrowing the gap.”

The pay gap black women face is only one piece of the story. This new research highlights that black women also experience a lack of access to opportunity:

- Less access to senior leaders: White men report having access to senior leaders at three times the rate of black women – and white women at twice the rate of black women.
- Less mentorship and sponsorship: Fewer black women have had a mentor or sponsor at some point in their career: 19 percent, compared to 27 percent of white women and 31 percent of white men.
- Less access to training: Fewer black women have ever received job or executive leadership training in their career: 19 percent, compared to 30 percent of white women and 33 percent of white men.

These findings are also supported by research from LeanIn.Org and McKinsey & Company’s Women in the Workplace study, which shows that black women face more barriers to advancement and get less support:

- Less likely to be promoted: Despite doing their part and asking for raises as often as men and white women, black women are less likely to be promoted. For every 100 men promoted to manager, only 60 black women are promoted.
 - Less support from managers: Only 25 percent of black women report that their manager helps them navigate organizational politics, compared to 39 percent of white women and 41 percent of men. Black women are also less likely to get help balancing their work and personal lives (39 percent of black women, compared to 48 percent of white women and 44 percent of men).
 - Less likely for managers to promote their accomplishments: 35 percent of black women say that their managers promote their contributions to others, compared to 46 percent of white women and 46 percent of men. Black women are also less likely to get opportunities to showcase their work.
 - Experience everyday discrimination/microaggressions: 40 percent of black women report having their judgment questioned in their area of expertise, compared to 36 percent of white women and 27 percent of men. And 42 percent of black women are asked to provide evidence of their competence, compared to 29 percent of white women and 16 percent of men.
- In this year’s SurveyMonkey and LeanIn.Org study, over a third of Americans said they believe offering leadership training, increasing wage transparency, and creating flexible workplace policies are effective ways to provide opportunities to help women and men advance equally. To address obstacles that can contribute to the pay gap and prevent black women from advancing, LeanIn.Org is issuing a series of recommendations for companies based on findings from Women in the Workplace:
- Put processes in place to ensure that employees doing the same work are being paid the same
 - Don’t ask job candidates about their current compensation, which is illegal in some states and can perpetuate pay disparities
 - Be transparent about the pay ranges for different roles so all employees know what to expect
 - Audit compensation data regularly to maintain fairness – and review the data by gender and race to ensure black women are being paid fairly
 - Ensure the performance review process is fair
 - Require diverse slates of candidates for promotions (only 26% of companies currently do this)
 - Set clear performance evaluation criteria before the review process begins – and put safeguards in place to make sure they’re applied consistently
 - Track outcomes of promotions by gender and race to make sure black women are being treated fairly (only 18% of companies currently do this)
 - Train employees to identify and challenge bias
 - Less than a third of employees say managers often challenge biased language and behavior when they see or hear it. Unconscious bias training

can equip managers to be part of the solution (less than 50% of managers currently receive it)

- Employees involved in hiring and promotions should receive unconscious bias training to help them make more objective decisions (less than 20% of companies require unconscious bias training for employees involved in hiring and promotions).
- Lean In’s 50 Ways to Fight Bias program highlights 50 specific examples of workplace bias and offers research-backed recommendations for what to do (available at no cost to companies):
- Double down on mentorship, sponsorship and leadership training
 - Ensure formal mentorship and sponsorship programs are opening doors for black women
 - Encourage informal interactions between black women and more senior colleagues – these types of personal connections can be more effective than formal programs and propel careers
 - Track participation in leadership training by gender and race to make sure black women are fairly represented.

At leanin.org/bwepd, visitors can find the full findings, as well as resources to combat gender bias in the workplace. To learn more about the study, visit the SurveyMonkey blog.

Key Findings From 2019 Black Women’s Equal Pay Survey Conducted By Leanin.org And SurveyMonkey:

Many people don’t realize that black women are paid less for similar work. A third of Americans (34%) don’t know that black women, on average, are paid less than white men – and half of Americans (53%) don’t know that black women, on average, are paid less than white women.

Even when people know there’s a pay gap, it’s bigger than they realize. A black woman makes 61 cents for every dollar a white man makes. Even when people know the pay gap exists, 42% of them underestimate its size.

Black women’s awareness of the pay gap is higher, and many see wage transparency as key to workplace equity. 69% of black women are aware that white men, on average, are paid more than them. When asked what companies can do to provide equal opportunities for advancement for men and women alike, 40% of black women selected wage transparency as their top solution..

The pay gap is only part of the problem. Black women get far less support at work. Compared to white men, black women are significantly less likely to have ever received job or executive leadership training (white men: 33%, black women: 19%) and to have had a mentor or sponsor at some point in their career (white men: 31%, black women: 19%). Most notably, black women are almost three times less likely to have ever had access to senior leaders (white men: 44%, black women: 16%). A similar disparity holds when you compare black women to white women – in all cases, black women get less support.

Most people are overly optimistic about the state of black women. Only half of Americans (51%) think there are still obstacles that make it harder for black women to advance. Not surprisingly, more than two-thirds of black women (71%) say significant obstacles still exist.

America’s racial wealth gap could cost economy \$1.5 trillion



By Charlene Crowell
NNPA News Wire Columnist



America’s nagging racial wealth gap has been the focus of many research reports and economic policy debates. Now new research analyzes the strong connection between disproportionate wealth and financial services and products that are either shared or denied with consumers of color.

Authored by the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), The economic impact of closing the racial wealth gap, identifies key sources of the nation’s socioeconomic inequity with its accompanying racial and gender dynamics along with family savings, incomes and community context.

“Black families are underserved and overcharged by institutions that can provide the best channels for saving,” states the report. “For instance, banks in predominantly black neighborhoods require higher minimum balances (\$871) than banks in white neighborhoods do (\$626). Unsurprisingly, 30% of black families are underserved by their banks, and 17% are completely disconnected from the mainstream banking system because of a lack of assets and a lack of trust in financial institutions.”

Additionally, according to the MGI report, the nation’s overall economy is affected by racial wealth gaps, estimating that between 2019 and 2028, the cost of economic losses to the general economy will be in the range of \$1.0-\$1.5 trillion.

Black America’s “racialized disadvantage” was created through historical forces – including private business practices and public policies that together advantaged white consumers while often excluding or relegating black Americans. For example, the National Housing Act of 1934 limited housing options for black Americans by assigning a D-rating to neighborhoods in general decline and occupied by lower-income residents.

Fast forward to more recent times, the Federal Reserve in 2017 found that black consumers are 73% more likely than whites to lack a credit score due to “credit redlining.” This term refers to where a consumer lives to be the central determining factor in whether to approve credit, rather than the actual credit profile.

Among the MGI report’s other key findings are that:

- Black Americans can expect to earn up to \$1 million less than white Americans over their lifetimes;
- Black men with no criminal records are less likely to receive job interviews than are white men with criminal records;
- The median wealth of a single black woman is \$200, while that of a single white man is \$28,900
- Black families are up to 4.6 times more likely to live in areas of concentrated poverty, than are white and Latino families.

Geographically, 65% of black Americans reside in one of only 16 states. The states are also areas that score below the nation’s national average of 77 state performance metrics spanning economy, education, economic opportunity, fiscal stability, infrastructure and more: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida,

Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

“This study represents a critical look at the key components of wealth-building: access to community and family assets, ability to save, access to homeownership and availability of good jobs,” said Tom Feltner, director of Research with the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL). “At every step it points to a widening racial wealth gap between black families and white families.”

“With today’s black homeownership rate hovering around 40%, while 73% of similarly situated whites own their homes, access to responsible mortgages remains more of a dream than a reality,” added Keith Corbett, a CRL EVP.

When student loan debts and criminal incarcerations are factored into the racial wealth divide, an even more bleak scenario is disclosed.

“Incarceration is estimated to reduce annual wages by 40% – not including the lost wages during the time served – for the formerly incarcerated,” states the MGI report, “reduces their economic mobility, and even increases the risk of school expulsion six times for their children....[B]lack men without criminal records are actually less likely to receive job interviews than are white men who have criminal records.”

For black women, gender brings a dual “wage penalty,” according to the report. Median earnings for black women are only 65% as much as those earned by white men, and 89% of median earnings for black men. Black women typically borrow more in student loans, so their lower earnings bring stronger financial challenges in repayment years. As a result of these and other factors, the median wealth of a single black woman is only \$200, while that of a single white man is \$28,900.

Both male and female black college graduates are prone to support their families more so than their white college classmates. The financial assistance shared with older family members reduces the amount of disposable dollars that might have contributed more to paying down student debt or beginning financial investments like mutual funds or certificates of deposit.

“Education, while quite beneficial to those who attain it, is not an equalizer,” said Aracely Panameño, CRL’s director of Latino Affairs. “And financial innovation and debt, even if well understood, can never undo historical racial discrimination that results in financial marginalization. Moving forward this situation can only be addressed through bold federal and state laws and policies that create equity of opportunity for all.”

Authors of the MGI report would likely agree.

“A number of simultaneous and mutually reinforcing initiatives will likely be necessary,” states the report. “This work will be neither simple nor easy, but targeted, productive efforts will likely strengthen the economy, increase economic and social equity and improve the quality of life for families.”

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending’s communications deputy director. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

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Keep pressing despite discouragement

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



If, in discouragement, we turn away from truth, compromise what we know God has told us to do and go another way; then I believe He will condemn us. Only when we put our hearts, souls and life into serving God will it work. The Bible lets us know there will be times of discouragement.

I believe Moses and Noah got discouraged. For more than a hundred years, Noah preached and built the ark, and the only converts he had were his wife and children. Do you think there were times that Noah got out of bed in the morning and said, “God, why do You want me to do this?” He kept going because he knew that was what God had told him to do. God let Noah know there was going to be a flood and people were going to be destroyed. It was the Truth of God’s Word that kept him going.

Even through those dark ages of time, God had a people, and He will always have a people. I am thankful that even in the trying times; we can trust God and know

that He will see us through. I want us to see what God said to this prophet who was going through a discouraging time. He was passing through a hard place. I want us to read Romans 11:2-5, “God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? Lord, they have killed Your prophets, they have demolished Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life. But what is God’s reply to him? I have kept for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal. So too at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace.”

God has a people who are what God wants them to be in every circumstance. We are living in trying times, when some people are letting down instead of being what God wants them to be in this time. The Word of God calls it Apostasy. There are times when we, as Saints of God, are going to be tried on every side. The enemy is going to work as never before, but God has always had a people, even in the darkest hours of time, even in the hardest places and even in

the most difficult trials. God has always been true. When it seemed that wickedness was winning, God had a people. God was faithful to His people, and for this reason, even in a time of Apostasy; I would like to see a revival.

We are living in a time when the enemy is working in a greater way than ever before. Today, we see humanism, immorality and ungodliness working as never before. The enemy of souls does not want to see people saved. We must stop and realize that, while we live in this time of Apostasy, wickedness and ungodliness, there is still something that we can do.

We may ask, “What are they talking about when they say we live in a time of Apostasy?” We are living in a time when people who have been faithful to God for many years are caught up in a spirit of Apostasy. They go the other way instead of being what God would have them to be. We are living in a time when people are turning away from the plain Biblical way of living for God and being what God wants them to be. The enemy has sold them the idea that there is an easier way, but there is only one true way that the Bible

teaches us. We must really stay close to God. We must see that it is very easy to feel that the things we are doing for God are in vain. No matter who we are or what we are doing for God, the enemy is out to bring discouragement, whether we are a teacher, a preacher, a choir leader, a song leader, one who testifies to others or a motivator, the enemy is out to get us. The enemy will work on us. It is easy to get discouraged if we are not careful.

As the enemy gets us down, he never tells us it is our fault; it is always somebody else’s fault. He will say, “If the preacher would have preached something different, or if the song director would have chosen different songs, I could have been further up the road.” We must understand that is the way it is in the day and time in which we are living, and the enemy is working to discourage. However, God in control.

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

Face to Face healing

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



A few years ago, while I was putting on makeup as I got ready for work, I noticed a quarter-sized strange dark spot on my left temple. I immediately made a doctor’s appointment. When the doctor explained that it was a fungus, all I could mutter was “I have a what on my where?” I asked my doctor to reexplain hoping she’d say something different the 2nd time.

After she gave me the prescription and explained how she wanted me to use it, I asked her a question that I knew the answer to...but still had to ask. “Can I wear makeup?” She looked at me with a mixture of surprise and amusement, “Eye makeup and lipstick only” was her quick response. Funny thing is she couldn’t tell me where the fungus came from. She just said sometimes as women age, our bodies do strange things...tell me about it, I thought.

Even though I was glad that I finally knew what this mysterious “thing” was on my face, I was not looking forward to walking around in the public with no makeup for two weeks. To convince myself that I wasn’t a makeupless menace to society, I said for the first few days of the treatment was that I was getting my face “back in shape.” But oh how scary looking I must have looked to my students and everyone else with no makeup.

My friends even told me all

the right things, “You don’t need makeup.” However, the best thing about not wearing makeup is that I saved at least 15 minutes off my time in getting ready for work in the mornings.

In the end, the cream that the doctor prescribed worked within a few days. There were days when I wanted to cover the spot with makeup where others couldn’t see it but I’d still know that it was there. It’s like I was put in a position where I had no choice but to be transparent. The doctors warned me that if I tried to cover up my face while it was trying to heal, it would hinder the healing process and might even make it worse.

I felt like God taught me how to be transparent, embrace and not hide my flaws...and how it can lead to healing. I didn’t die like I thought I would if I didn’t wear makeup. In order to be completely healed, I had to risk being transparent. In much the same way, when we choose to be transparent and are honest about our flaws (no matter how many), we also choose to take the first step to embracing God’s promises of emotion and spiritual healing as it says in Jeremiah 33:6, “I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth.”

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.

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The Significance of the 1619 Project

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



On Sunday, the *New York Times* unveiled “The 1619 Project,” a journalistic series in the Sunday magazine that seeks to tell the “unvarnished truth” about slavery and its impact on America’s history. In 1619, just 12 years after the founding of the first permanent English settlement in the Americas, the Jamestown colonists bought the first slaves, 20 to 30 enslaved Africans, from English pirates.

The Declaration of Independence, penned by Thomas Jefferson, a slave owner, issued America’s founding creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, ... endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, ... among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

As Nikole Hannah-Jones writes in her stunning introduction in the *New York Times Magazine*, at 43, she is part of the first generation of black Americans in the history of this country to be born into a society in which blacks had equal rights of citizenship. Blacks suffered under slavery for 250 years, and brutal racial apartheid for a century more. We have been legally free for just 50.

Americans prefer not to face this reality. Our history classes address it gingerly, if at all. Even as President Donald Trump and cynical politicians stoke racial divisions for political profit, we too often look away from it. Trump has recently decided to make four young, newly elected congresswomen of color a central target of his already launched campaign for re-election, scorning them as un-American, suggesting that if they don’t like America, they should go back to where they came from. This though all four are American citizens, and three were born right here.

Trump is poisonously invoking the old lie of slavery and segregation that people of color are somehow not real Americans. Yet, as Roger Wilkins wrote in his book “Jefferson’s Pillow” and Hannah-Jones in her introduction, it is the freedom struggles of black Americans that propelled the cause of equal rights for everyone. The Constitution excluded women, Native Americans and black people, and did not provide the right to vote to most Americans.

It is the laws borne out of the civil rights movement that extended the right to vote to everyone and banned discrimination; not simply on race, but on gender, nationality, religion and disability. Without the idealistic and patriotic struggle of black Americans, as Hannah-Jones notes, “our democracy today would most likely look very different – it might not be a democracy at all.”

Recently, Ken Cuccinelli, Trump’s acting director of the Citizenship and Immigration Services, sparked outrage when he brazenly rewrote Emma Lazarus’ famous poem found at the foot of the Statue of Liberty that reads “give us your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free...” What Cuccinelli probably had no clue about is that the Statue of Liberty was a gift to the people of the United States from the people of France and was dedicated in 1886 to celebrate the national abolition of slavery.

It is the figure of Libertas, the Roman goddess of freedom. A broken shackle and chain lie at her feet as she strides forward, commemorating the abolition of slavery in 1865, an abolition that turned out to be the first step in America becoming in fact, as well as in word, the land of the free. In telling the “unvarnished truth” of slavery, we will face the horrors of our past, as well as the triumph of our progress. It is a telling that is long overdue.

Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. is president/CEO of the Rainbow-PUSH Coalition.

Will you answer the call for moral revival

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



I cannot overstate my tremendous admiration for Rev. William Barber. Our connection goes back to North Carolina when I was the president of Bennett College, and he led the state NAACP. His daughter, Sharrelle, graduated from Bennett in the spring before I assumed the presidency and as student body president, she served on the search committee that selected me. So he’s a friend of long-standing.

In the years since our North Carolina time, I’ve watched this brother grow in his profound leadership, galvanizing people all over the nation around a moral agenda for our country. When we see already-weak bonds of civility and community, both national and international, fraying, the movement to “build a moral agenda rooted in a framework that uplifts our deepest moral and constitutional values to redeem the heart and soul of our country.”

In the past year or so, Barber has been building national momentum and plans mass action in Washington, DC June 20, 2020. We will be in the heat of the 2020 political election, a time when we must look at our nation’s future and its direction.

Barber’s organization, which he co-leads with Rev. Liz Theoharis, is poetically called Repairers of the Breach. Its website is <https://www.breachrepairers.org/>, and it is worth checking out regularly, as updates on

the 2020 march, along with other activities, will be posted.

The Barber movement is optimistic and much needed at a time when an elected leader regularly picks fights with the heads of other nations, triggers a trade war, disrespects people, even his own appointees, with vile name-calling and drips disdain for women, especially elected black women and other women of color. We live in a graceless age, but Barber and Theoharis radiate grace. They are optimistic, patient and movement building. They are inclusive, focused, and, most importantly, kind. They get this economy and its uneven distribution, but they also get race and the many ways it is foundational.

The Repairers website says, “Our deepest moral traditions point to equal protection under the law, the desire for peace and among nations, the dignity of all people, and the responsibility to care for our common home.”

In embracing and expanding the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Barber and Theoharis have asked presidential candidates to consider a debate that focuses exclusively on poverty. Many have agreed, but others have not gone on record. With more than one in five African-American families living in poverty, and wages relatively stagnant, a national conversation about poverty is more than overdue.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest project MALVEAUX! On UDC TV is available on youtube.com. Visit www.julianne-malveaux.com

“Jay-Z” did not sell out, he bought in

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



“Power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love.” Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In the wake of former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick’s protest against police brutality and extrajudicial murder, Jay-Z’s Roc Nation has struck a deal to lead the NFL’s endeavors into music and entertainment. This deal has caused a lot of consternation within the African-American community. The issue now being raised centers around Jay-Z being a “sellout.”

What must be clearly understood is that Jay-Z is a capitalist. He did what capitalists do, he bought in.

Before he was Jay-Z, he was Shawn Carter. He grew up in the Marcy Projects in Brooklyn, NY and was a drug dealer in his youth. By his own admission, his drug-dealing days prepared him for his current life as a sports entrepreneur and music mogul. “I know about budgets. I was a drug dealer. To be in a drug deal you need to know what you can spend.” To Shawn Carter, drugs were just a widge or commodity whose sale presented no moral dilemma or conflict. Selling drugs was a means to an end. It’s the urban Horatio Alger story, from as he said, “grams to Grammys.” Carter sold out his community for his personal gain by selling drugs to his own people. Jay-Z, the capitalists, has once again increased his personal fortune by buying into an institution that has also shown little regard for the fate of black people.

When asked where we are in the protest process and the significance of kneeling, Jay-Z gave a very Trumpian response: “I think we’ve moved past kneeling and I think it’s time to go into actionable

items...No, I don’t want people to stop protesting at all. Kneeling – I know we’re stuck on it because it’s a real thing – but kneeling is a form of protest. I support protest across the board...But now that we all know what’s going on, what are we going to do? How are we going to stop it? Because the kneeling was not about a job, it was about injustice.”

Translation? Jay-Z supported Kaepernick in the moment because it was the thing to do. Now there is an opportunity to get paid and as a capitalist, I’m about that paper.

In addition to helping the NFL with entertainment, Jay-Z will also consult with the NFL on matters of social injustice. Speaking of injustice...this opportunity for Jay-Z to work with the NFL only became possible after Kaepernick sacrificed his NFL career to protest against the real injustice of state sanctioned murder by the police. If Jay-Z were really down for the cause, wouldn’t he have stepped to the mic and told NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell that he will work with the NFL on the condition that “Kap” gets a fair shot at making an NFL roster? He could have used that moment and power to put real pressure on the league.

But it’s not really about Carter aka Jay-Z. He is a metaphor. In the current context, Jay-Z is a distraction from the real issue... the dangers of black capitalism. In Manning Marable’s “How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America, Marable writes, “A decisive component of this underdevelopment process within the periphery is the nonwhite elite.” These elite play a very important role. They serve “...as a necessary yet dependent buffer between those who wield power and those who have none. Within popular culture, it is the nonwhite mouthpiece of the new order, articulating in the media and in the various aesthetic forums the ideals of the masters.”

As referenced in the opening, Dr. King was clear, “Power without love is reckless and abusive...Power at its best is love implementing the demands of jus-

tice...” Jay-Z is wealthy and in some circles, wields a certain degree of power. However, given the example set by Kap’s protest and sacrifice, what part of Jay-Z’s deal with the NFL shows the love for the community and the demand for justice? This deal seems to be power without love, reckless and abusive.

When white capitalists team with black capitalists, the black community finds itself in a more precarious circumstance. The white capitalists will leverage the indifference and duplicity of the black capitalists against the very community that the black capitalist claims to support. “We don’t need to kneel anymore. It’s time to get paid.”

Frederick Douglas told us very clearly, “Find out just what any people will quietly submit to (or get paid to do) – and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”

By focusing on Jay-Z we are losing sight of the fact that Kaepernick used his platform to call attention to the historic and systemic problem in America, state sanctioned brutality and murder by the police. The NFL, the government and the media used their power to corrupt the message and demonize Kaepernick, costing him his livelihood.

As was the case with Curt Flood, Muhammad Ali, Dr. John Carlos and others before him, Kaepernick will eventually be remembered for taking a stand, or in this case, a knee for justice.

Jay-Z will be remembered for buying in...and by buying in, he sold out.

Dr. Wilmer Leon is the producer/host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio program “Inside the Issues with Leon,” on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to www.wilmerleon.com or email: wjl3us@yahoo.com. [www.twitter.com/drwlleon](https://twitter.com/drwlleon) and Dr. Leon’s Prescription at Facebook.com

Five years after Michael Brown’s death: Despite visible progress, racial disparities persist in Ferguson

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



“The city’s personal responsibility refrain ... reflects many of the same racial stereotypes found in the emails between police and court supervisors. This evidence of bias and stereotyping, together with evidence that Ferguson has long recognized but failed to correct the consistent racial disparities caused by its police and court practices, demonstrates that the discriminatory effects of Ferguson’s conduct are driven at least in part by discriminatory intent in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.” – U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, Investigation of the Ferguson Police Department, March 2015

Five years ago, a Ferguson, Missouri, police officer shot and killed unarmed black teen Michael Brown, bringing national attention to Ferguson Police Department’s shocking pattern of racial profiling and excessive force.

In a town that is a third white, African Americans accounted for 85 percent of traffic stops, 90 percent of tickets and 93 percent of arrests, according to Justice Department report released seven months after Brown’s death.

Ferguson Police used force almost exclusively on African Americans. They regularly stopped black drivers without probable cause. Ferguson officials circulated racist jokes on their government email accounts.

Five years later, Ferguson has shown some signs of improvement. There are now six black members of the City Council, compared with only one in 2014. The Police Department has gone from three black officers out of 53 to about two dozen black officers, including a black chief, Jason Armstrong.

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, which transformed the location of a burned-out into the Ferguson Empowerment Center, has just announced a new \$5 million investment to build a strip mall that will include a bank, a restaurant, a minority business incubator and a home health-care company.

Save Our Sons, the workforce development program that operates out of the Empowerment Center, has connected more than 750 men with jobs in the Ferguson area since it opened in 2017. A new partnership with First Financial Federal Credit Union will provide auto loans, credit counseling, checking and savings accounts to members of Save Our Sons and other local residents.

But stark racial disparities persist not only in Ferguson but in the wider St. Louis region, both economically and in the criminal justice system.

The disparity in traffic stops in Ferguson actually has widened drastically, according to the Missouri Attorney General’s office. The rate of stops of black drivers has increased by five percentage points since 2013, while it has dropped 11 percentage points for white drivers. Statewide, black motorists were nearly twice as likely as other motorists to be stopped.

Ferguson has not yet identified a Consent Decree coordinator, according to the independent monitor appointed in 2016 as part of a settlement between the city and the Justice Department. “Although the Monitoring Team published a Workplan in the Fall of 2018, it has not received regular updates from the city with respect to progress on that plan because no sole individual within the city is responsible for updating the Workplan and notifying the Monitoring Team about advancement in particular areas,” according to the monitor’s most recent report.

The economic news is even worse. According to the East-West Gateway Council of Governments, the median white household income was more than twice the median black household income in 2017, a slightly wider gap than in 2010.

Disparity in the poverty rate in St. Louis County has grown as well, driven mainly by flat income growth for black households versus increases in white income.

We commend the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and its outstanding leader, Michael McMillan, for their work in tackling economic disparities in the region, and agree with his assessment that the work is a “marathon as well as a sprint.”

As he has said, “A concerted, dedicated effort has to be spent on changing these disparities, and that the job is not done. So we have to stay the course from the governmental, not-for-profit, corporate, business and civic communities in order to fix those wrongs.”

Mississippi Congressmen host bi-partisan summit on rural healthcare

The Mississippi Link Newswire

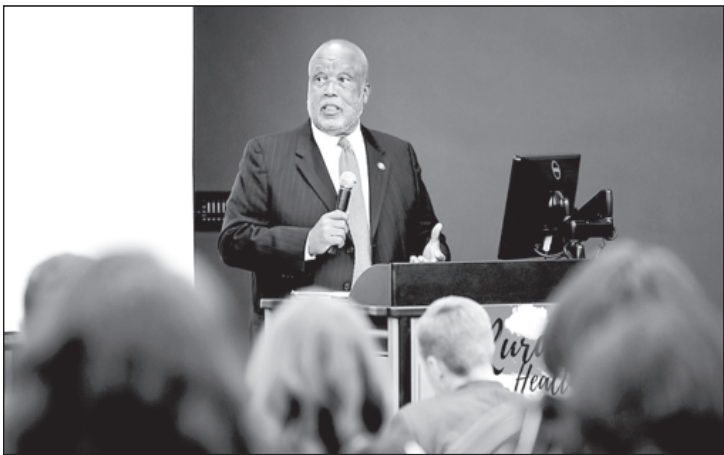
On August 23, Congressman Bennie Thompson (MS-02) and Congressman Michael Guest (MS-03) hosted a Rural Healthcare Summit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Health Related Professions. The summit brought together healthcare leaders to discuss issues facing the rural healthcare community.

Among the speakers who joined Thompson and Guest were Dr. LouAnn Woodward, UMMC vice chancellor for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine; Katie Waldo, keynote speaker, McDermott+Consulting; and Ryan Kelly, chairman of the Governor’s Rural Health Care Task Force.

Additionally, Toby Butler, Trilogy Healthcare Solutions, Ridgeland; Tonya Moore, administrator of community health services in UMMC’s Office of Strategy Development; and Joanie Perkins, North Sunflower Medical Center, Ruleville, participated on a panel entitled “Innovative Solutions for Rural Health Care in Mississippi.” Representatives of hospitals, state agencies and state and federal attended.

According to 2017 data from the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC), Mississippi has the lowest number of physicians per capita of any state in the country. Nearly half of Mississippi’s rural hospitals are at financial risk of closure. This threatens the ability for Mississippians to receive the care they need in their communities.

Thompson and Guest collaborated on this event to discuss potential solutions and highlight the work already taking place in Mississippi to address rural healthcare needs. Among the solutions discussed were using telehealth to expand access, increasing the physician workforce, addressing payment and reimbursement is-



Congressman Bennie Thompson



Katie Waldo



Dr. LouAnn Woodward

sues and mitigating future rural hospital closures.

“Rural hospitals are an integral part of the rural healthcare system. We must make sure rural communities have the same access to healthcare as urban areas,” Thompson said. “I hope we all leave today equipped with real solutions to advance rural healthcare. I thank Congressman Guest and the healthcare community for joining with me to address

the challenges and discuss opportunities for future innovations.”

“Ensuring that Mississippians maintain access to needed healthcare services in their communities is a bipartisan issue, which is why I am thankful to join Congressman Thompson and members of Governor Phil Bryant’s Rural Health Care Task Force for this important discussion,” Guest said. “I’m grateful for



Congressman Michael Guest



Ryan Kelly

the opportunity to join other public servants and members of our healthcare community to discuss policy solutions that would create a better healthcare system for all Mississippians.”

“A financially sound healthcare system across Mississippi, with rural hospitals is an important factor, is essential to positive health outcomes and a critical component to the Medical Center’s overall mission

of a healthier Mississippi,” Woodward said.

Waldo, a government relations and healthcare policy strategist, noted that of the 113 financially strapped rural hospitals that have closed nationwide since 2010, five were in Mississippi and most were in the South.

“I’d argue that one of the major factors is the way our current payment system is structured,” Waldo said. It’s often

based on “heads and beds,” or the number of inpatients cared for in a hospital, she said.

“That type payment structure is not feasible ... for rural hospitals,” she said.

She said Washington lawmakers are discussing health policy legislation designed to make the hospital landscape more self-sustaining, including a proposal to create a new Medicaid payment model and other initiatives that target ru-

MORA recognizes partners at annual Spero Awards

The Mississippi Link Newswire

MORA hosted the 6th Annual Spero Awards July 25, at the Hilton Jackson. The awards ceremony recognizes hospital partners, medical professionals, and community partners who help make the Donate Life mission possible. The keynote speaker for this year’s event was face transplant recipient Pat Hardison of Senobia. Hardison, a former volunteer firefighter was severely disfigured when a burning roof collapsed on his head in 2001. On August 14, 2015, doctors at NYU Langone completed the most complex face transplant to date.

A total of 14 Spero Awards were presented to individuals and organizations from areas throughout the state. The word Spero (Spā-rō) is Latin for “hope.” The title was chosen to reflect the hope that organ and tissue donation brings to those in need of a lifesaving organ or a life healing tissue transplant.

2019 Spero Award recipi-



Hardison

ents:

Most Supportive Ancillary or Healthcare Staff – Dustin Wicker, RRT, UMMC

Nurse Champion of the Year- Holly Holder, RN, UMMC

Advanced Practice Nurse or Nurse Manager of the Year- Brad Pickering, CNP, Forrest General Hospital

Physician Champion of the Year- Dr. Edward Pellerano, Forrest General Hospital

Hospital Leadership of the Year Award- Gladys Wolff, MBAHA, Forrest General Hospital

Hospital Most Supportive of Tissue Donation- Laird Hospital

Most Supportive Organ & Tissue Hospital- Forrest General Hospital

Most Supportive Mortuary Services- Riemann Family Funeral Homes

Most Supportive Coroner- David Ruth, Rankin County Coroner

Community Faith Leader or Chaplain of the Year- Charles Glenn, Gateway M.B. Church

Volunteer of the Year- Adrian Murry, Hattiesburg

Donation Advocate of the Year- Bill and Leslie Carruth, Meridian

Most Supportive Care Team- Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit (NSICU), UMMC

Storyteller Award – Jessica Bowman, WDAM-TV, Hattiesburg

Mississippi Lions Eye Bank (MLEB) presented the Gift of Sight Award to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson and the Partners in Vision Award to Merit Health Rankin, for their work in helping to facilitate sight saving

Hospitals receive organ donation awards



The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hospital Excellence Awards are presented to hospitals that have met or exceeded one or more of the national goals for organ donation, as set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This year,

10 hospitals were awarded:
Anderson Regional Medical Center
Garden Park Medical Center
Greenwood Leflore Hospital
Memorial Hospital at Gulfport
Merit Health Biloxi

North Mississippi Medical Center
Ocean Springs Hospital
Singing River Hospital
South Central Regional Medical Center
University of Mississippi Medical Center

LEGAL

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BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND
REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

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RE: GS# 111-056 Paul B. Johnson Roof Replacement
Mississippi Center for Education and Research (R&D)
RFx #: 3160003104

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

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Phone: 601-352-2699
Email: kmathew@jbhm.com

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

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

8/29/2019

LEGAL

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

IN RE: CUSTODY OF
KE'NIYAH CHRISTYANA FEAZEL

CAUSE NO. P2018-106T/I

TO: THE UNKNOWN FATHER OF A
African- America Female child born on
December 16, 2007 at ST. Mary Medical
Center in Long Beach, California to a
Nineteen (19) year old African American female,
An adult resident citizen of Long Beach, California

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by Kenneth and Gerald Johnson who is seeking Petition for Guardianship.


THE Petition which has been filed in this matter is important and you must take immediate action to protect your rights, if any.

You are summoned to appear and defend against said complaint or petition at 9:00 O'clock A.M. on the 22nd day of October 2019, in the courtroom of the Hinds County Chancery Courthouse at Jackson, Mississippi, before Honorable Dewayne Thomas. In case of your failure to appear and defend a judgment may be entered against you for the money or other things demanded in the complaint or petition.

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire. If you file an Answer or other pleading, you are required to mail or hand – deliver a copy to the attorney for the Petitioners, Damon R. Stevenson, 1010 North West Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202, 769-251-0207.

ISSUED under my hand and seal of said Court, this the 8th day of Aug., 2019.

(SEAL)



Eddie Jean Carr,
Clerk of Hinds County, Mississippi
By: K. Howard, D.C.

8/22/2019, 8/29/2019, 9/5/2019

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Crossword Puzzle

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

ACROSS

1. Branch of learning
5. Totals
9. Rise (2 wds.)
10. Gripping surface
11. Bunsen burner
12. Afloat (2 wds.)
13. Beetle
15. Charge
16. Clichés
18. Comments
21. Hubbub
22. Tin Man's need
26. Duke's domain
28. Dog food brand
29. Sound of a sneeze
30. Face part
31. Glean
32. Tints

DOWN

1. Gets older
2. Reserve Officers Training Corps.
3. Sandwich fish
4. Ancient Greek city
5. Picnic pest
6. What a house cleaner does
7. Nighttime images
8. Thick slices
10. Popular Japanese drama
14. Gully
17. Isle
18. Measuring instrument
19. Deduce
20. Coffee
23. Satiated
24. Niche
25. Opp. of yeses
27. Bunny movement

© 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 Barbara Eden

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

T

YMA

YL

NHH

AIV

NRAYPK

S

INTV

E

E

XP

GV

D

XS

AT

S

HYTV

XP

GSQF

F

T

XS

AT

HN

PPB

IN

FWNQ

AIV

WYKA

T

E

XV

XVPV

TVPB

RHYKV

NQD

SA

T

T

XNK

OMKA

N

XYQD

VPLMH

ASWV

E

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Sudoku

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

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

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

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XNK

OMKA

N

XYQD

VPLMH

ASWV

E

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku Solution

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

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

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

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DOLLAR GENERAL
5990 Medgar Evers Blvd
DOLLAR GENERAL
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DOLLAR GENERAL
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DOLLAR GENERAL
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RAYMOND CITY HALL
110 Courtyard Square, Raymond
RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

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Week of August 25, 2019

2019 BMW X2 M35i — Adding the M stuff is worthwhile

By Dan Scanlan
MyCarData.com

In a world gone crazy for crossovers, BMW offers a full menu of flavors and sizes. For those who want SUVs, there’s four. The new 203.3-inch-long X7 has three rows for seven. There’s the 194.3-inch-long X5; then the 185.9-inch-long X3 and 175.4-inch-long X1. All have that slightly tall-ish SUV look.

Then there’s spicier crossovers with a lower, more coupe-like 5-door design: midsize 193.8-inch-long X6 and compact 187.5-inch-long X4, both fast-back hatchbacks.

Add one more flavor as BMW offers the X2, which it calls a “new breed of car” with “sporty yet urban genes.” There’s a MINI Cooper Countryman under that exterior, since BMW owns the British firm.

Can you say “slightly taller hot hatch?”

- First impression – long and fairly low, well-planted on low profile 20-inch Pirelli rubber. It looks like a hot hatchback, just a smidgeon taller. LED headlights with haloed elements give that now-familiar BMW DRL look, inset fog lamps below. The twin kidney grill has a difference, though. The gunmetal alloy-trimmed trapezoidal design is wider on the bottom, the traditional design flipped upside down. Then M Sport takes hold.

The lower center intake is aggressive and deep. Its upper bumper goes a darker white, while gloss black mesh gets a Cerium Grey aero section with working intakes for engine cooling and side vents to cool brakes. It’s a serious M3 face glaring at the world.

The front overhang is a bit long and low, emphasizing the stance on Pirellis that neatly fill slight asymmetrically rounded fender openings. Those tires live on forked 5-spoke gray alloy wheels showing blue M Sport calipers on big brake discs. The X2 is 3.2 inches shorter and 2.8 inches lower than the BMW X1, yet shares its wheelbase. There’s gray lower sill accents to further lower the X2’s look. The sloping windshield flows into a low roof that ends in a classic hatchback with slim rear window under a spoiler/shade. The hallmark Hofmeister kink on the C-pillar gets a BMW



roundel insignia, a first. Sweeping taillights go LED, while the lower fascia is gloss gray with big twin exhaust pipes.

The M Sport additions, very performance-oriented stance and design grew on me, this crossover actually only as tall as my shoulder.

- Hold the key fob’s “unlock” button down, and windows plus sunroof open. Then gaze at our black over Magma Red interior. The X2 isn’t a tall crossover, so you just slide into heavily bolstered, firm and supportive high-back leather sports seats, with manually adjustable thigh supports, power height-adjustable lumbar and twin memory presets for the driver. They worked very well at the limit.

The driver faces a thick leather-clad M Sport steering wheel with shift paddles behind and familiar phone, voice command and cruise controls on the upper spokes. Gloss black trim accents center console and dash, underlined with 6-color LED strip lighting in door and dashboard.

Padded leatherette covers the dashtop, a small binnacle framing the cleanly concise digital 160-mph speedometer and 7,500-rpm tach, with small info display. A head-up display shows driving information, navigation/assistance systems and the local speed limit. A familiar audio panel with volume knob and eight presets lives in gloss black above a dual-zone climate control with heated seat buttons. More gloss black and red leather frame the center console with stubby electronic shifter, Eco/Comfort/Sport drive

select switch, and buttons for the electronic parking brake, stability control, parking sensors and hill descent control. There are twin cup holders, plus one USB and 12-volt outlet here, but no place to rest a smartphone other than under the flip-up center armrest.

Top center is an 8.8-inch touch screen with everything from navigation and a superb Harmon-Kardon sound system to horsepower/torque gauges ably handled by the sixth generation iDrive Controller or voice command. The familiar twist/tap iDrive knob easily runs through menus on the touchscreen, its matte black surface a pad to finger-spell addresses or radio stations. BMW Connected+ connects smartphones to remotely control the vehicle, view data, and set up trips, aided by Apple CarPlay for iPhones.

Being a crossover hot hatch and not a fastback 4-door coupe like the X6, there’s decent headroom in back. But style has overtaken a bit of function, the X2 a wee bit compromised in rear leg room as my knees wrapped around padded front seatbacks. Rear seatbacks recline a few degrees, with air vents and USB ports for those in back. The rear hatch opens high with the wave of a foot, accessing a slightly high load floor with large under-floor compartment, no spare due to the run-flat rubber. Total space with rear seats folded is 50.1 cubic feet, thanks to that boxier rear design.

- Any BMW with an “M” in its name usually means more sport, and the X2 M35i lives up to that in most ways.

A base X2 has a turbocharged

four with 228 hp, good for 60 mph of 6.3 seconds. Our X2 M35i gains a 2-liter turbocharged four with 302 hp from 5,000 – 6,250 rpm, maximum torque 332 lb-ft. from a low 1,750 rpm on up to 4,500 rpm. BMW’s first M Performance 4-cylinder engine is its most powerful production 4-cylinder yet due to changes like a reinforced crankshaft, larger main bearings, new pistons, larger turbocharger and increased boost. This is coupled to xDrive all-wheel drive and 8-speed sport automatic transmission with a front axle BMW M Sport Differential with Torsen-based limited slip capabilities with up to a 39 percent lock-up.

We found the Eco drive mode gave good power aided by quick shifts where needed. Comfort gave us more power and buffered, yet still quick shifts. But slip into “Sport” engine mode, slap the gearshift left into its Sport mode, and the crossover comes alive. This became our favorite with instant throttle response, shift points right in the meat of the turbo boost, and a heady exhaust snarl.

Downshifts gave us a throttle blip, while full acceleration gave us delightful exhaust snap, crackle and pop on overrun. Launch control was simple – tap stability control into less-active mode, stand on brakes and gas, then go when a checkered flag appears on the gauge display. Our 1,600-mile-old X2 M35i powered out of the hole, quick shifts with a chirp of wheelspin between first and second enroute to 60 mph in a very quick 4.6 seconds. That said, X2 only took 5.6 seconds to hit 60

mph in Eco mode, and overall a more relaxed ride for passengers, yet still fun. We saw an observed 26 mpg on premium.

Our crossover also an M Sport suspension system tuned to, as BMW puts it, “a more sporting character.” There were stiffer spring and damper rates, a 10 mm lower ride height and redesigned rear axle carrier and lateral control arms. That front M Sport Differential limits slip in aggressive driving to reduce torque steer, while xDrive can send up to 50 percent power aft if needed.

The X2 was supple, comfortable and quick to snuff out bumps with well-buffered rebound, yet still aggressive enough to make this a truly sporting crossover – or even hot hatch. Tackle a cobblestone street and it’s quiet and fluid, no creaks as it quickly handles the rumble. Toss it into a highway exit and it remains level and glued to the tarmac, power allocated to the wheels that need it. Get more aggressive, and the differential and xDrive pulled us easily out of curves.

There wasn’t much body roll around our skidpad and wide slaloms, only some understeer when we really pushed. If the xDrive allowed a bit more power shift aft, it might have been more neutral, but it was benign understeer, easy to handle via throttle with stability control backed off. We had great feedback from the very precise steering quicker ratio. And the M Sport braking system had a responsive pedal with quick stops, little nosedive and no fade after repeated hard use. Overall, a very nimble, quick and super-confident hot hatch that just happens to be a bit taller.

As for driver safety, we had lane departure warning with a gentle steering wheel rumble when you go over a line, plus automatic high beams, frontal collision and pedestrian warnings with city braking. Active cruise control maintains speed and distance down to a full stop, then resumes when you tap gas pedal or “Resume” button. Park Distance Control with the rear-view camera was handy as well.

- A base X2 sDrive28i with 2-liter/228-hp inline 4 and front-wheel drive starts at \$36,400. Our X2 M35i with xDrive and the 302-hp turbo four starts at \$46,450 with almost everything

standard except: \$1,450 Magma Red leather interior, \$1,800 Premium Package with head-up display and navigation, \$1,3550 panoramic sunroof, \$875 Harmon-Kardon sound system, \$500 M Sport seats, and \$600 M Double-spoke 20-inch alloy wheels. Final price – \$55,020.

Competition is limited to German competitors – the \$36,000 Audi Q3 2.0T Premium and \$53,000 Mercedes-Benz AMG GLA 45. Like the X2 M35i, the Benz has some serious sporting ability with its AMG tweaks with a 375-hp turbocharged 2-liter four, 60 mph in about 4.7 seconds, quicker than the X2 M35i. Audi’s Q3 gets some suspension and appearance work, retaining the base car’s turbo 2-liter four with 228 hp, with 60 mph in 7 seconds. The BMW stands about two inches taller than the GLA, and about four inches lower than the Audi.

The Benz is the most aggressive looking, yet has usable people room inside. My choice – the AMG GLA, followed by our X2 M35i, yet the Audi is quick, good looking, high-tech and comfortable to live with.

- Bottom line — The M-ification of the X2 is worth it in looks, fun and power without really sacrificing the daily drivability and usefulness of this low and sporty crossover, other than a bit of back seat room

2019 BMW X2 M35i

Vehicle type – compact 5-passenger all-wheel-drive sport crossover

Base price – \$46,450 (\$55,020 as tested)

Engine type – turbocharged

16-valve in-line four cylinder

Displacement –2-liter

Horsepower (net) – 302 @ 5,000 – 6,250 rpmTorque (lb-ft) – 332 @ 1,750 – 4,500 rpm

Transmission – 8-speed Aisin automatic

Wheelbase – 105.1 inches

Overall length – 172.2 inches

Overall width – 71.8 inches

Height – 60.1 inches

Front headroom – 39.8 inches

Front legroom – 40.3 inches

Rear headroom – 37.1 inches

Rear legroom – 36.7 inches

Cargo capacity – 21.6 cu.ft./50.1 w/rear seats folded

Curb weight – 3,713 lbs.

Fuel tank – 16.1 gal.

Mileage range – 23 mpg city/29 mpg highway

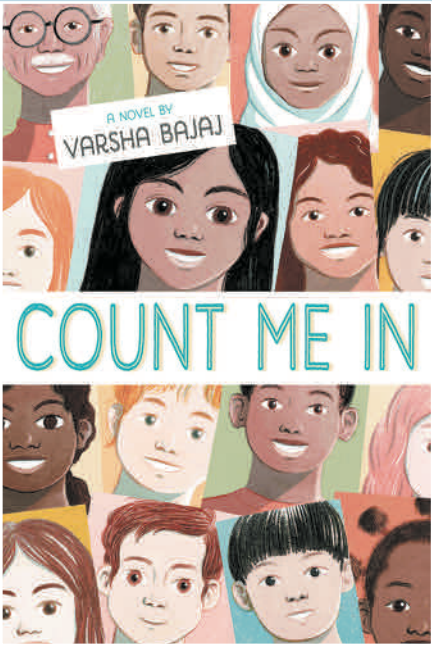
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BOOK REVIEW: “COUNT ME IN”

BY **VARSHA BAJAJ**
C.2019, NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS
\$16.99 / \$22.99 CANADA • 192 PAGES

By **Terri Schlichenmeyer**
Columnist

There are a few kids in your class that you usually try to ignore.

That’s because they’re kinda mean. They call others names, knock books out of their hands, and say racist or hurtful things. They’re bullies, and you avoid them as much as possible, but as in the new book “Count Me In” by Varsha Bajaj, could there be something you don’t know?

It was early in sixth grade, and Karina Chopra kept her head

down. The popular boys, basketball players, had tried hard to humiliate her on the school bus and she wasn’t having any of that. She was nerdy, she’d admit it. She was a good student and the teachers liked her. And her skin was brown, but was that any reason to harass and embarrass her?

No, it wasn’t, and though it was now early in the school year, seventh grade, Karina never forgot that hurtful incident. She still tried to avoid those boys, even though one of them, Chris Dan-

iels, lived right next door. Avoiding him was a challenge: she and Chris were in five of their seven classes together. Ugh!

Chris was almost positive that Karina thought he was one of the mean dudes. He didn’t blame her for it; he never stood up to any of the other boys on the team when they teased her, even though he knew he should. He actually thought Karina was one of the prettiest girls in Houston, but he couldn’t tell her that because he barely knew her, even though she’d lived next

door for years.

And then – oh, man – Chris’s dad decided that Chris needed a math tutor and the school assigned Karina’s grandfather as his teacher. He had to spend practically every after-school with them. For sure, he’d make a total fool of himself.

But he didn’t. Instead, Chris learned math, and a lot more. He found out that Karina was pretty cool, and that Indian culture included awesome food. He learned to stand up for himself, and for Karina and her family.

And he learned that there were haters in the world, and that they could change everything...

With its themes of bullying, violence toward immigrants and diversity, if there ever was a timely tale, “Count Me In” is it. And this is a nice book, to boot.

It’s not filled with needless drama or pre-teen angst or drugs. There are no adult-only themes here, and nothing from the realm of the unexplained. Instead, Bajaj’s plot is one that teens and almost-teens may be grappling with now, and her

characters are well-rounded, basically good kids caught in a modern problem with a modern solution. That leads to a message inside this tale that is underscored through repetition, and which could invite discussion.

Readers ages 10 and up will surely see themselves or someone they know inside this book and that might help the kid who needs it. Even if there’s no pressing concern for your child, “Count Me In” is a book she can’t ignore.

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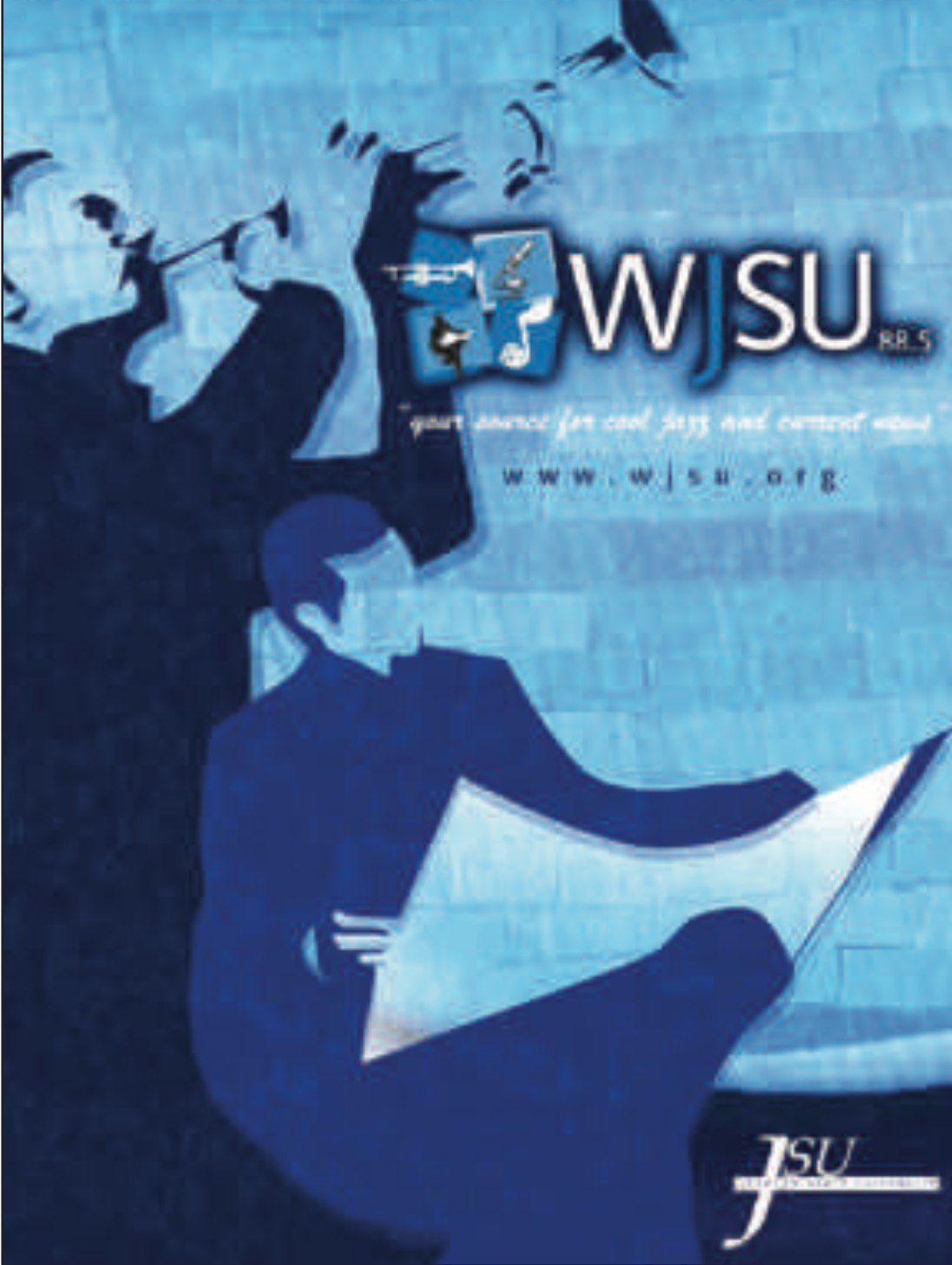


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August 26, 2019

PHOTOS BY PAUL WOLF / VISIT JACKSON



Jackson Municipal Airport Authority names LaSeine Hilliard Chief Administrative Officer

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA) has named LaSeine T. Hilliard as the new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

Hilliard is a graduate of Southern University A&M College in Baton Rouge, LA with a Bachelor's Degree in business administration and concentration in marketing. She furthered her education by obtaining a Master's Degree in public policy and public Administration (NASPAA Accredited) from Jackson State University in Jackson, MS.

Serving just under five mayoral administrations for the City of Jackson, including Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Hilliard has twenty years invested in public administration. As the City of Jackson's Deputy CAO, she served as the principal advisor to the mayor and CAO on all matters of external funding from pre-submission to post award of an application.

Her background in government has also allowed her to hold other positions such as the director of the Mayor's Youth Initiative, Grants Development



Hilliard

manager and Grants Development coordinator. Hilliard was also able to transfer that experience, knowledge and skills to the non-profit sector as the executive director of the Mississippi Asset Building Coalition (MsABC) and under her leadership the organization obtained its non-profit status.

Prior to becoming the CAO for JMAA, Hilliard served as the management assistant where she was responsible for the administration and facilitation of the Board of Commissioners' process; administration

of JMAA's Internship Program; writing and submitting grant applications; and working with state and federal legislative consultants.

"The CAO will provide executive level leadership and will lead the organization's internal administrative functions, which will include Information Technology, Human Resources, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), and Procurement. The CAO role will also be vital in the overall execution of our strategy and process improvements that support our long-term and short-term efforts," stated Darion Warren, JMAA interim CEO. "Ms. Hilliard's experience as a Deputy CAO for the City of Jackson and recent experience as management assistant for the Airport Authority will serve as a foundation for her success as CAO and effectively lead our administrative efforts."

Hilliard lives in Jackson, MS with her daughter Sydney Logan. She is a life-long member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and worships at Jackson Revival Center Church.

Fair Housing Is Your Right!

The federal Fair Housing law prohibits discrimination in housing related transactions because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or familial status.

Some signs of possible discrimination:

- The housing availability changed between a phone contact and an in-person visit
- The housing provider refused to sell, rent, or show available housing, changed the terms, or charged a higher security deposit
- The housing provider failed or delayed to make repairs or maintain the property



Housing discrimination is against the law. Sexual harassment is sex discrimination.

Sexual harassment includes:

- Offers to pay rent with sex instead of money
- Use of sexual words in front of you and/or your family
- Sexual assault or rape

It is also illegal to threaten, coerce or intimidate anyone exercising another Fair Housing rights or assisting others in doing so.



Housing Discrimination Against People With Disabilities Is Illegal

The Fair Housing law provides protection for people with any physical or mental impairment, or who have disabilities, including:

- Emotional disorders
- Serious impairments in sight, hearing or speech
- Alcoholism and those who are recovering from drug addiction
- Specific diseases, such as AIDS



You are entitled to Reasonable Accommodations, or waivers of rules or policies to allow you to enjoy the housing as others do.

Don't be afraid; the only way to stop discrimination is to report it!
Housing Education and Economic Development
3405 Medgar Evers Blvd | Jackson, MS 39213
(601) 981-1960



HINDS COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY

25TH ANNUAL
 AWARDS & RECOGNITION

GALA
 2019

Friday, September 20, 2019 | 7:00 p.m.

JACKSON MARRIOTT HOTEL



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
DERRICK JOHNSON
 PRESIDENT AND CEO, NAACP

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

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

Derrick Johnson, President and CEO of the National NAACP, will be featured as the keynote speaker for this year's Gala. Tickets are \$75.

The Gala provides an important opportunity to create greater awareness about our programs and services; celebrate clients who have transitioned out of poverty to self-sufficiency; and honor our volunteers and community partners who work with us throughout the year to help eradicate poverty and provide a better life for more than 48,000 low-income citizens throughout Hinds County.

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

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



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 Strengthening Communities

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

Terry High School vs Raymond High School
County Football Showdown!

