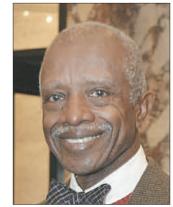
Vol. 25, No. 42 August 8, 2019

# Primary Election Results

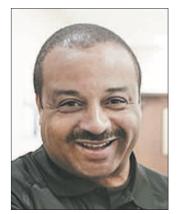












Vance (runoff)



Mason (runoff)

Special to The Mississippi Link

In Hinds County, primary election day got off to a rocky start, as early voters experienced broken machines, polling places opening late and missing names from some of the ballots.

"We've been dealing with problems all morning," said Jacquie Amons, chair of the Hinds County Democratic Executive Committee. "It's disturbing to get to "the day," and experience this.

Two highly contested primaries Tuesday, didn't yield any major surprises. On the Democratic side, Jim Hood handily defeated his opponents. At press time, Hood had received 199,467 votes or 69 percent, establishing him as the Democratic nominee for governor of the Magnolia State.

The closest person to Hood in the eight-person race was a virtual unknown, Michael Brown, who at press time had received a little more than 32 thousand votes or 11

On the Republican ticket, Lt. Governor Tate Reeves held the lead all night and with 99 percent of the precincts reporting landed 189,979 votes or 49 percent. While impressive, not enough to hold off a run off with former Supreme Justice Bill Waller, who ended Election night with a commanding 124,707 votes or 33 percent. "We were out spent 5-1, but we were not outworked," Waller said.

Waller and Reeves will meet again in three weeks to publican nominee," for governor of Mississippi.

In the hotly contested Public Service Commissioners race on the Democratic tickto a runoff with former public school teacher and community activist Dorothy Benford.

Benford surprised many and surpassed expectations by capturing 34,599 votes or 33 percent. Stamps, in the four-person race that included Deputy Commissioner Ryan Brown, received 41,318 or 40 percent of the vote. "We've got to finish this phase in three weeks, and then continue our message of changing Mississippi all the way to November," Stamps said. "We still have

more work to do. On the Republican side of the Public Service Commissioners race, Brent Bailey who has been the Republican nominee before, handily defeated former state employee Nic Lott. Bailey received 72,504 or 74 percent, while Lott received 24,833 votes or 26 percent. Republicans are working overtime to gain control of this 22-county seat. The district is 55 percent democrat and is comprised of a majority of African Americans.

In Hinds County, in an eight person Democratic race for sheriff, former top cop in Jackson, Lee Vance emerged as the top vote getter. Vance received 14,440 or 38 percent and the cur-

Page 6

seek the official title of "re- rent incumbent sheriff, Victor Mason received 11,877 votes or 32 percent. Mason and Vance will face off in three weeks to secure the title of the Democratic nomiet, Jackson City Councilman nee for sheriff. Whomever is DeKeither Stamps is headed the winner then will face a republican and independent challenger in November. If history is repeated, for the last several years whomever wins on the Democratic side usually is victorious in November.

The Hinds County District Attorney's race became a hot button issue, the last few weeks on the campaign trail. With personal attacks, slander and distortion. Jody Owens, the former head of the Southern Poverty Law Center, was the subject of most those attacks. "Things got unnecessarily off track,"

Owens said. Even with those public and painful distractions, Owens emerged as the winner in the three person race. Owens received 19, 555 votes or 53 percent. He defeated his other two opponents and will take office as the Hinds County District Attorney in January.

Eddie Fair, the long time Hinds County Tax Collector will continue in that role for another four years. Fair, handily defeated two opponents and captured 66 percent of the vote. He received 24, 777 votes.

Next week, we will give a birds eye view of all of the Hinds County Supervisor races and profile those that are "still running."



**Transformative** strategic plan announced for JPS



**Butterflies on** the First Day of School



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(Continued on page 4)

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#### **Edward Dene Lindsey Sr.**

July 5, 1945 - July 29, 2019



Edward Dene Lindsey Sr. was born July 5, 1945 in Canton, Mississippi. He was one of 10 children of the late Melvin and Josephine Lindsey. He departed this life on Monday, July 29, 2019.

Edward graduated from Rogers High School in Canton, MS in 1964. He joined the United States Air Force immediately after high school. After 4 years of honorable active military service, he attended Jackson State College, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Industrial Arts. Afterward, he taught one year of high school at Prentiss High School in Prentiss, MS. Following his teaching career, Edward worked at Eaton Aerospace for more than 42 years. He retired in 2015.

Edward was united in holy matrimony to Maxine Parrott on September 6, 1969 and to their union were born two children: Marla Shereace and Edward Dene Jr.

Edward was a devoted member of Zion Chapel AME Church of Canton, MS for many years under the leadership of Rev. Floyd Chambers. He was an active member of the Church Board of Trustees.

Edward knocked on the doors of M.W. King Hiram Grand Lodge. of A.F. & A.M. in 1980, and was initiated into the lodge of St. John Lodge #196 of Jackson, MS. He remained loyal and faithful to the organization for 38 years. Edward served in different capacities as Secretary and Worshipful Master of St. John Lodge #196 for many years. Edward was also a member of Jackson Royal Arch Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Mt. Calvary Knight Templar, Solo-mon Consistory and Jerusalem Shrine Temple.

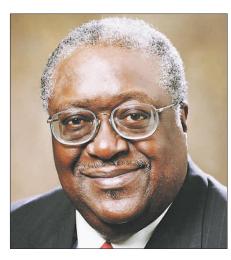
Preceding him in death were his parents, Melvin Sr. and Josephine Lindsey; one brother, Melvin Lindsey Jr.; and one sister, Sadie Lindsey.

Edward leaves to cherish his memory: a loving and devoted wife, Maxine Lindsey of 50 golden years; two children: Marla Lindsey of Ridgeland, MS and Edward Dene Lindsey Jr. of Houston, Texas; two grandchildren: Miles Jordan Lindsey and Morgen Dene Lindsey of Houston, Texas; five sisters: Corine Brown of Canton, MS, Lucille (James) Moore of Chicago, IL, Clara Harden of Canton, MS, Hazel Smith of Canton, MS and Eliza (Albert) Knight of Bentonia, MS; two brothers: Percy Lindsey of Canton, MS and Harry (Ann) Lindsey of West Helena, AK; and a host of relatives and friends.

Celebration of life services were held August 3, 2019 at Zion Chapel AME Church, 361 Robinson Rd., Canton, MS.

# **Booker T. Jones**

September 26, 1943 - July 27, 2019



Booker T. Jones, 76, passed away Saturday, July 27, 201, in Jackson, MS. The Marshall County native lived in Jackson for over 40 years and served as president and CEO of MINACT, INC. a national job training firm. Booker Taliaferro Jones, affectionately known as "B.T." was born on September 26, 1943 in Chulahoma (Marshall County), Mississippi to Irene Jones and Ellis Harper.

His formative years were spent in Chulahoma with his maternal uncle and aunt, David and Maggie Jones, who instilled in him a strong work ethic and a tenacious outlook on life. He confessed his belief in Christ, was baptized and became a member of Chulahoma Missionary Baptist Church. Later, B.T. joined his mother and siblings in Memphis and graduated from Hamilton High School in 1961.

He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1961 and served as a navigator on the aircraft carriers USS Oriskany and USS Kitty Hawk in the South China Sea during the Vietnam War.

In 1966 he married H. Ann Jones of Magnolia, Mississippi and to this union were born daughters Irene Trezette and Ilene Telese.

Shortly after being honorably discharged from the US Navy, he received a degree in sociology from Indiana State University and began a storied career in Job Corps in 1966. He was employed at the Breckinridge Job Corps Center in Morganfield, Kentucky and in a short time advanced to center director at the first Job Corps Center in Mississippi at Crystal Springs in 1977.

Jones decided to take a step further in trying to help make "the American Dream a Reality" by starting his own company, MINACT, Inc in 1978 – a management and training firm. Under his leadership, MINACT, Inc. has become the largest minority firm in the job training business, as well as one of the nation's largest Job Corps contractors.

In addition to Job Corps contracts, MINACT, Inc. provides employer services to Nissan North America at its Canton, Mississippi facility through a subsidiary company, MINACT Logistical Services. MINACT, Inc. was recognized by the U. S. Department of Labor as the "Outstanding Minority Contractor of the Year" in 1989. In May 2007, Jones was honored for his significant contributions to the growth and development of business in the state of Mississippi by his induction into the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame.

B.T.'s genuine concern for others lead to involvement in civic and humanitarian efforts throughout the nation. He was

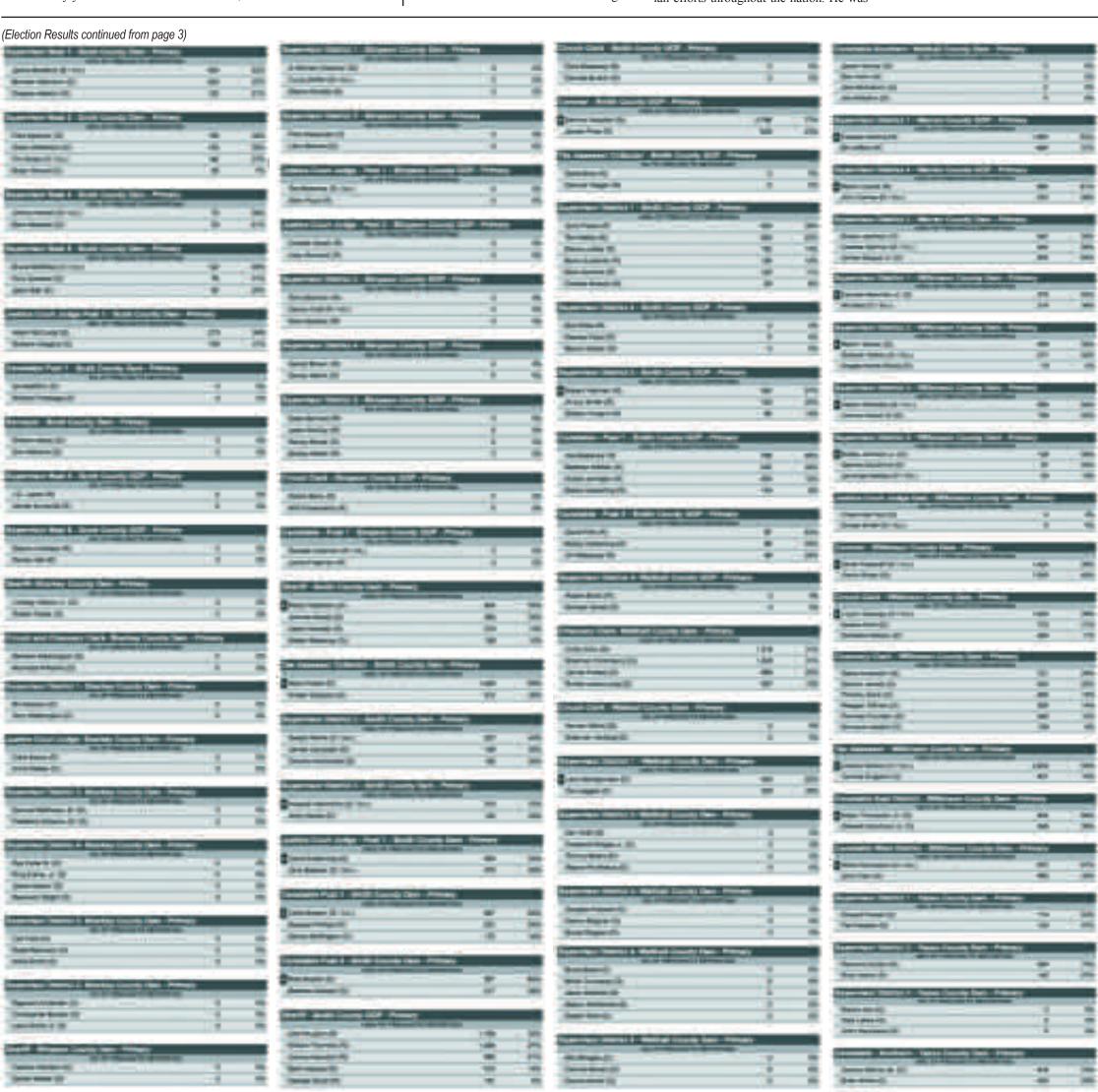
a member of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, 100 Black Men of Jackson, and Jackson Chamber of Commerce.

B.T's business acumen led to his service on numerous boards and committees, including National Job Corps Coalition, BancorpSouth Advisory, Deposit Guaranty Bank Advisory, Tougaloo College Board of Trustees, the Children's Health Forum, Mississippi Economic Council's Blueprint Mississippi, the Jackson Evers International Airport Authority. He was also actively engaged as a member of Beta Gamma Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, life member of the NAACP and a member of New Hope Baptist Church.

Cherishing his memory and honoring his legacy are daughters, Irene T. Jones, Jackson, Mississippi, and Ilene Jones Fraser (Lionel III) and grandsons Lionel B. Fraser IV and Booker T. Jones Fraser of Shreveport, Louisiana; sister Norcene Jones McDaniels, Chicago, Illinois. B.T.'s life touched and inspired many along his journey. His generous spirit and progressive ideas leave a lasting legacy for generations to come, for his living was definitely not in vain.

Services were held at New Hope Baptist Church, 5202 Watkins Drive, Jackson, MS, Saturday, August 3, 2019 at 2 p.m. with burial Monday, August 5, West Tennessee Military Cemetery.

Donations are accepted to The Booker T Jones Educational Fund in care of the Foundation for the MidSouth (FMS), 134 East Amite Street, Jackson, MS 39201. You may also donate online at www.fnd-midsouth.org



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**AUGUST 8, 2019** 

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK • 5

# **Rho Lambda Omega Chapter** hosts Celebrity Lip Sync Battle to raise funds for HBCUs

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Rho Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will host a Celebrity Lip Sync Battle to raise funds for Mississippi HBCU's.

The Celebrity Lip Sync Battle will be Thursday, August 8, 2019, 7:08 p.m. at The Hideaway (5100 I-55 N Frontage Road, Jackson).

This event is open to the public. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ aka-celebrity-lip-sync-battletickets-64038638291. Food will be available for purchase and a full bar.

#### Meet the "Celebrities"

#### **Contestants**

- Inez Doe, Celebrity Hair Stylist/Lifetime's Bring It!
- Mike Espy Jr. and D1 Fitness, Pro Athletic

#### **Trainers**

- Amy Mart, Community Activist
- Pastor Roderick 'Pastor Rich' Richardson, Pastor/Author
- J Struktuur, Celebrity Makeup Artist
- · Angela Williams, Attorney At Law
- Tony Yarber, Former Mayor of Jackson

#### **Judges**

· Christiana, 99 Jams Morn-

ing Show

- Rob Benson, Graphic Artist • Tambra Cherie, 977 FM Midday Diva
- Jewell Hillery, WAPT An-
- Nic Lott, Public Service Commissioner Candidate
- Crystal Wise Martin, Hinds

• Chancery Judge Kwasi Mccoy, 977 FM Program Director.

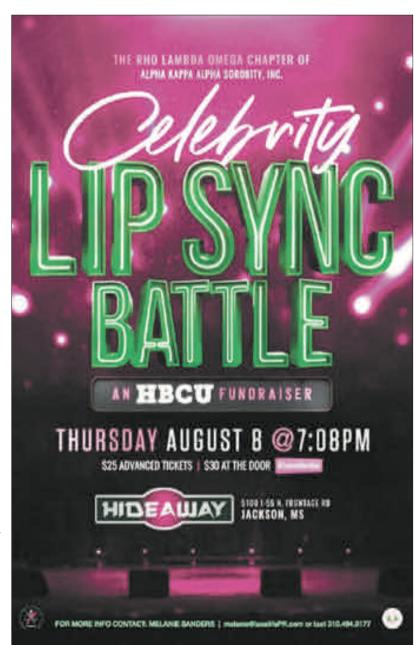
The goal of the Celebrity Lip Sync Battle is to support Alpha Kappa Alpha's national campaign for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. "HBCU for Life: A Call to Action" will continue its focus to highlight HBCUs and their contribution to the sorority and society.

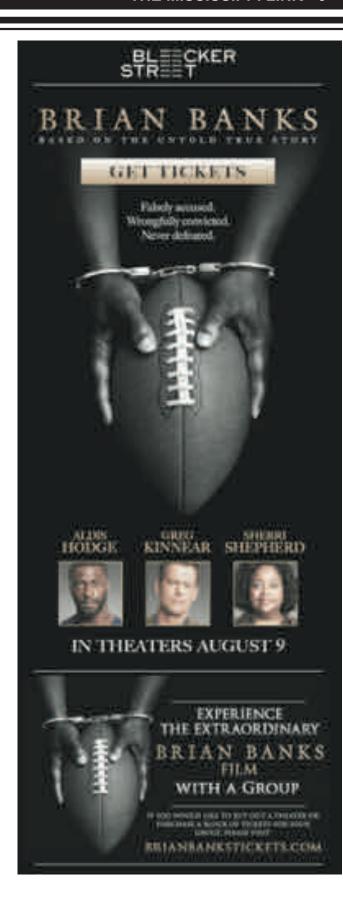
A portion of the events proceeds will go to benefit Mississippi's HBCUs: Alcorn State University; Jackson State University; Mississippi Valley State University; Tougaloo College; and Rust College.

This event is made possible by a grant from the Ebony Pearls Foundation, Inc.

For more information on this event, contact 310.494.6177 or visit www.rloaka.org.

For more information on Rho Lambda Omega and its activities, please contact Kimberly Smith Russ at (601) 918-5605 or by email: president@rloaka.







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# **our Mississipp**

#### MISSISSIPPI'S MOST INFLUENTIAL AFRICAN AMERICANS AWARDS GALA & RECEPTION

Get you tickets today for this spectacular event before they sell out!

6 P.M. Friday, August 23, 2019 Jackson Hilton on County Line Road

#### Join us as we celebrate 25 of Mississippi's Most Influential African Americans.

Fred Banks David Beckley Rodney Bennett Michael Booker Betina Brandon Bernard Bridges William Bynum Jasmin Chapman Wilbur Colom

Ronnie Crudup Nettie Davis Janell Edwards Moses Feagin George Flaggs Juanita Gambrell Floyd Chris Gillard Hozay Hausley Carla Lewis

Kenneth Mayfield Mitzi Dease Paige Carlton Reeves Dorothy Shaw LeRoy Walker Primus Wheeler Dorothy Wilson

These individuals were selected by an independent panel of business and community leaders, from across the state, from dozens of nominations received from the public

The event will also do a tribute to six outstanding Mississippians whom we're honoring as Legacies. These individuals are: John Perkins, Flonzie Brown Wright, W.C. Gorden, Alyce Clarke, Don Cole, John James.



#### RESERVED TABLE OF 10: \$1,000 RESERVED TICKET: \$100 each

Tickets can be ordered online at www.ourmissmag.com or by calling Wesley Wells (662)844-2602



Mistress of Ceremonies WAPT's Erin Pickens

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Call (662) 844-2602 for more information.

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# **Transformative strategic** plan announced for JPS

Mississippi Link Newswire

After more than 18 months of community engagement, visioning, research and planning, Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant, Jackson Mayor Chokwe A. Lumumba, the Jackson Public School District (JPS) and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) celebrated the completion of a historic effort to support the school district in transforming the educational system in Jackson, Mississippi.

The official release of JPS's five-year strategic plan marks the completion of the work of the Better Together Commission and the fulfillment of its objectives supporting "quality education for all children" in JPS.

In late 2017, this group of partners identified an unprecedented pathway to support transformative change for the state's second-largest school district with a goal of ensuring every JPS student receives a high-quality education.

One of the first steps was appointing 15 community leaders to the Better Together Commission – an independent group of citizens who led and guided the overall efforts to understand residents' hopes, aspirations and ideas for supporting transformation throughout JPS. Leaders from the education, business, healthcare, nonprofit and philanthropic sectors worked together to facilitate meaningful conversations and in-depth research. These efforts all aimed to identify concrete, long-term solutions to improve educational outcomes in the district.

"I am grateful for the individuals serving on the Better Together Commission and their accomplishments in helping identify qualified leadership and commissioning an assessment of the Jackson Public School District," said Bryant. "The dedicated work of the commission has culminated in a five-year strategic plan that will help achieve sustainable change and improved outcomes for children."

Thousands of Jackson residents engaged in community events held across the city, including listening sessions in each of the city's seven wards, two youth summits, a series of stakeholder meetings, a family literacy event at the Jackson Zoo, a telephone poll and a community-wide canvassing effort. Through these activities, residents expressed their desire to support long-term efforts that will increase access to early childhood education, improve parent engagement and enhance the overall quality of learning environments throughout the district. They also shared a firm belief that teachers are one

1 year



JPS Superintendent Errick L. Greene shares the district's strategic plan for educating JPS scholars for the next five years.



Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba with Provine standout scholar-athlete Kelvin Gardner at the Strategic Plan Launch held



Participating in the Strategic Plan Community Meeting at Kirksey Middle School are (from left) Michael Cormack, JPS Chief of Staff; JPS scholars Jaiden Vaughan of Callaway High School and MacKenzie Williams of Murrah High School; Errick L. Greene, JPS superintendent; Jeanne Middleton Hairston, JPS Board president; Rhea C. Williams-Bishop, W.K. Kellogg Foundation Director of Programs; and Robert Blaine, City of Jackson chief administrative officer.

of thegreatest strengths of the ers. school district.

"I am tremendously proud of the work of the Better Together Commission. Out of what was one of the greatest challenges that our school district has ever faced, we were able to demonstrate operational unity, bring people together across various lines of political ideology and affiliations in order to work for the benefit of our children," Lumumba said. "We all agree that we have an opportunity for a transformational school district and that Jackson needs to be the light of intellectual capital for our state and country. The citizens also have played the most critical role in this endeavor because we know that while we can bring in individuals with an understanding of policy and curriculum, that none of this would be successful without the buy-in from our parents and our chil-

In addition, the commission worked with Insight Education Group to conduct a student-centered study of the district. This research emphasized the need to leverage the current strength of the district by establishing clear, rigorous expectations for district staff, supporting the consistent delivery of standards-based instruction in the classroom and increasing the capacity of teach-

"Community engagement is essential to creating lasting change on behalf of children," said La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. "The combination of community voices and the Better Together Commission's cross-sector partnership is opening a new pathway for Jackson's children, their families and the entire commu-

JPS' strategic action plan details the district's overarching commitments over the next five years, which were informed by the research and community engagement activities conducted throughout the process. For example, the district has committed to expanding the number of pre-kindergarten seats for 4-year-old students and partnering with other early learning providers to ensure all children are exposed to positive learning experiences that will prepare them for success in school and life at an early age.

Additionally, the district announced its plan to create a teaching and learning professional development center and a high school teacher preparatory academy, which are investments in what many residents believe to be the district's greatest strength: its teachers.

**\$96** 

subscription

#### **2019 BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASICS**

We have compiled essential Backto-School information that will not only help JPS scholars and their families get prepared for the start of school but it will also serve



as a useful reference throughout the school

#### **Superintendent's First Day Hotline**

School starts for JPS students Wednesday, August 7. As we have done for several years now, we will be operating the Superintendent's



Hotline on the first two days of school. District staff and volunteers will be taking your calls from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. each day to help you with everything from registration to transportation. The Superintendent's Hotline phone number is (601) 987-2781.

#### **Student Uniforms**

Did you know Jackson Public Schools has a Mandatory Dress Code policy? The JPS School Board approved a uniform policy for all JPS elementary and middle school scholars. In general, tops must be navy blue or white and almost any style but not T-shirts or sleeveless and the must be tucked into pants. Bottoms must be tan khaki or navy blue and at least knee-length. Many pants and skirt styles are acceptable but must be fitted at the waist and students must wear a belt with pants. Although our high school scholars aren't required to wear uniforms, the District's code of conduct and student handbook details expectations for the school attire of our high school scholars. A hard copy handbook will be made available to each student. We encourage parents, guardians and mentors to talk with students about these expectations. Visit the JPS Scholars section of our website for links to Student Uniform page.

#### **School Transportation**

JPS school buses provide transportation for students to their schools and homes. Buses also provide round-trip transportation for students attending special programs, such as the Academic and Performing Arts Complex. the three International Baccalaureate schools, and the McWillie Montessori school. Once scholars are registered for school, families should receive students' bus schedules in the mail. Contact the Transportation Department at one of the numbers below to inquire about bus schedules.

Transportation Phone Numbers Central: (601) 960-8919 North: (601) 987-3587 South: (601) 960-5404

#### **Back-to-School Open House and New Student Orientation Events**

JPS Elementary School Open House -Monday, August 5, 3-6 p.m. at all JPS elementary schools.

JPS Middle School New Student Orientation -Sunday, August 4, 2-4 p.m. at all JPS middle

JPS High School New Student Orientation - Sunday, August 4, 4-6 p.m. at all JPS high



#### **School Supplies**

JPS Elementary School Open House - Got supplies? All JPS scholars are required to have a library card as well as pencils and paper every school day. Basic school supplies for each elementary grade are available on our School Supplies page. If your child is headed to middle school or high school, consult his or her teacher about the supplies they will need.

#### **School Meals & Menus**

Jackson Public Schools offers nutritious breakfast and lunch meals to JPS scholars each and every school day. As participants in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP), we are able to provide meals at no cost to students.



#### **Summer Reading**

We require summer reading for one important reason: it is the greatest predictor of your child's success in school. Start early and read with your children at all age levels. When we say "get caught reading," it means reading should be a family affair and an enjoyable experience. Each year, we provide required and recommended book titles and reading logs to help families and scholars develop good reading skills. Summer reading prevents summer learning loss and gives scholars opportunities to continue learning during the summer months.

Check out our Summer Reading page to get required and recommended reading lists and reading logs to make sure your JPS scholar is ready on day one.

Stay Informed

Choose the best way to stay informed about what is going on in Jackson Public Schools. Follow us on our social media sites or sign up for phone notifications.

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### The Mississippi Link TM

#### Volume 25 • Number 42

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







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

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

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

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

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# Seven Mississippi students awarded **Entergy Community Power scholarships**

Program recognizes academic excellence, commitment to community service









Manning

The Mississippi Link Newswire

This fall, seven Mississippi high school graduates will attend college with a little help from Entergy. Children of Entergy Mississippi employees, each received a \$5,000 Community Power scholarship. The award recognizes their community service, academic achievements, leadership and work ex-

"These recipients already contribute to their communities in meaningful ways," said Haley Fisackerly, Entergy Mississippi president and chief executive officer. "Entergy's Community Power Scholarship program recognizes young people for their philanthropic spirit and helps them become educated members of society.'

The students are:

Anna Kathryn Becker, daughter of Ann Day Becker, manager of corporate sustainability. She will attend Tulane University in New Orleans to study architec-

Clara Ann Gibbs, daughter of

Derek Gibbs, enterprise architect. She will study mechanical engineering at the University of Alabama then attend law school.

Jordyn Manning, daughter of Adrienne Manning, senior specialty clerk. She will pursue major in math while completing a degree in computer graphic design and engineering, and a master's degree in business ad-



Richards

Robert Mitchell, control room supervisor at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. She will attend Duke University where she plans to



ment coordinator. His college plans include studies in the area of law, public policy and/or mu-

Brantlee Richards, daughter of Michael Richards, electrical technician at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. She plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Colby Wynn, son of Jimmy

ship is a fundamental element in developing a pipeline of future talent in our workforce to expand economic development and meet customers' needs. Since 2003, company shareholders have contributed more

than \$2.7 million to 547 recipients for the one-time scholar-

Entergy Mississippi, LLC provides electricity to approximately 450,000 customers in 45 counties. Entergy Corporation (NYSE: ETR) is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity, including nearly 9,000 megawatts of nuclear power.

Entergy delivers electricity to 2.9 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

Entergy has annual revenues of \$11 billion and nearly 13,700

# Hinds CC sonography grads pass certifications, graduate job-ready

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds Community College's Diagnostic Medical Sonography Class of 2019 passed key industry certifications this summer, enabling five graduates to pursue a nearly limitless list of career opportunities.

Kashayla Edwards of Mount Olive, Linda Holley of Natchez, Lindsey Jeselink of Clinton, Kacie McCluskey of Greenwood and Alexis Rader of Vicksburg, passed both the Sonography Principals & Instrumentation Physics Certification and Abdominal Sonography Certification exams given by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (ARDMS) prior to graduation.

The five women graduated as Board Certified Sonographers with credentials that allow them to work almost anywhere in the world, said program director Lesa Wilson.

"In addition, all students have been hired in sonography positions," Wilson said. "These students are amazing and inspir-

They earned credentials during summer graduation ceremonies Aug. 2 at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus, where they were among 572 students

who earned 672 credentials from the college. Many students earned more than one creden-

Summer graduation ceremonies were Aug. 2 at the Muse

Center on the Rankin Campus as students earn career or technical certificates and associate degrees from Hinds Community College.

Speaking to academic and

From left, Lindsey Jeselink, Alexis Rader, Lesa Wilson, program director, Kashayla Edwards, Linda Holley and Kacie McCluskey

technical graduates was Steve Gaines, who represents District 4 on the Rankin County Board of Supervisors. Gaines implored graduates to be unafraid of new challenges in life and maintain

good character.

"Turn your fear of facing something new, different, unusual or challenging into an opportunity to become more of who God created you to be,"

Gaines said.

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE/APRIL GARON

"Do the right thing when no one is looking. Allowing yourself to do small wrong things will slowly chip away at your character."



ministration.

Julia Mitchell, daughter of the pre-med curriculum.

Zeke Morgan, son of Jill Morgan, fleet continuous improve-



Wynn, chemistry and environmental manager at Grand Gulf Nuclear Station. He plans to major in computer science and minor in marketing.

The community scholarship program supports Entergy's mission to provide value to customers, employees, communities and owners. The scholar-

# Goldman Sachs, BlackRock: CSET student attends 2 back-to-back elite NYC programs

By L.A. Warren isumsnews.com

JSU junior Enoma Erevimwen was one of only 73 students out of 1,500 applicants nationwide chosen to spend a week in New York at a Goldman Sachs program learning essential skills for promising diverse software engineers.

It was one of two programs he attended within two weeks. The other one was BlackRock, which is a three-day event that teaches students how economic factors can impact investments.

Ereyimwen, a native of Nigeria, is a double major in Jackson State University's College of Science, Engineering and Technology. He's seeking degrees in computer engineering and biomedical engineering. He described "Goldman Sachs Engineering Essentials 2019" as a "transforming experience."

Activities during the week involved creating an application for stock visualization; cybersecurity; user-interface framework; HackerRank technology for competitive programming challenges; networking; and an overview of Goldman Sachs.

#### This program is "a must"

"I walked out of this program with a better grasp of how Goldman Sachs innovates in the financial services arena as well as how crucial of a role technology plays in its company," said Ereyimwen. "I was blessed by this program. The week I spent there was great. I learned more than what most people are taught in school. I recommend it for everybody; it's a must."

He credits the success of the program to recruiters who organized the event and said his interaction with other high achievers left an indelible mark on him. He described his peers as "incredibly intelligent, dynamic and diverse."

In fact, most of them were from top U.S. schools: Columbia, Duke, Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, University of California-Berkeley, University of Florida, University of Texas-Austin and Yale. In all, 45 universities were repre-

Despite the reputation of those larger institutions and their more advanced programming curriculum, Ereyimwen made sure that JSU stood out. "I worked as hard as everybody else," he said. Still, he said he was surprised to be among such an elite group, especially since he had applied for the program



Jackson State University junior Enoma Ereyimwen, third from left on front row, joins peers from elite U.S. schools. The engineering student in JSU's College of Science, Engineering and Technology spent several days in New York in an intensive program for diverse students sponsored by Goldman Sachs.



Ereyimwen presents information from his team about an application used for the gathering stock market data. At JSU, he's pursuing a double major in computer engineering and biomedical engineering.

just three days before the deadline.

He said he learned about the program

through a friend who sent him a link

to the Goldman Sachs website. After

a video interview that included tough

questions about his scientific knowl-

edge, HackerRank experience and other

During a competitive event, he helped

topics, he was accepted by organizers.

his team build an application to analyze

stock market data. The application was

split into two main parts – the front-end

and the back-end. Ereyimwen assisted

with the latter and explained the process

in front of dozens of skilled program-

mers. The entire project had to be com-

pleted within 24 hours. They succeeded.

More than just luck



With a scenic background, participants in the Goldman Sachs program earn some downtime.



**New York Harbor.** 

"With Goldman Sachs' staff, it was a privilege to be among so many great minds. They were sociable and interactive with all students. Even now, we stay in contact. The recruiters there were one in a million. I've never seen people who were so passionate about others. They really care about us. They designed a program that provided each of us with mentors."

Ereyimwen's experience didn't just stop there. Immediately after Goodman Sachs Engineering Essentials 2019, he participated in another New York analyst program called the BlackRock 2019 HBCU Asset Management Uncovered. The three-day event provided lessons on how different economic factors influence investments, and everything that Ereyimwen learned at Goldman Sachs put him well ahead of other attendees at BlackRock.

Aside from JSU, BlackRock participants included HBCU students from Alcorn State University, Benedict College, Claflin University, Florida A&M University, Howard University, Hampton University, Morehouse College, Morgan State University, North Carolina A&T University and Philander Smith College.

Ereyimwen said the knowledge gained from BlackRock was essential. "We learned about business and stocks and how they apply to the real world." Also, they addressed program applica-



After his presentation, Ereyimwen ferries across

tions and investments.

After experiencing two separate competitive programs back to back, Erevimwen said he feels even more confident about his future career. Equally so, he was impressed with the work ethic of those he encountered, along with the energy of the Big Apple.

Having been born on a different continent, Erevimwen was particularly captivated with the view of the Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island in New York Harbor and the towering skyscrapers. These, too, he said made him realize he was in a place that depicted the Ameri-

"Even now, I'm preparing to go back there," he said.

# Student ventures into Illinois forest to teach youth about environment, good work habits

By L.A. Warren jsumsnews.com

Each summer, a Jackson State University senior industrial technology management student returns to his Illinois hometown to teach at-risk youth important environmental lessons and job skills as they cut thick undergrowth and haul away branches from a forest.

Antonio Richardson, 21, of Dolton, Illinois, just completed his eighth "tour of duty." In the fall, he'll return to JSU in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology.

Richardson said his summer experience helped him settle on a degree program at JSU. He started in biology but eventually switched to industrial technology – a field that helps eliminate waste in the production process by implementing new technology. He believes his current major also branches out into forest preserve, technical areas and behindthe-scenes work.

He was 15 when he entered the forest preserve program that allowed him to begin earning summer wages. Back then, he was living on the eastside of Chicago in an area that "wasn't that great of a neighborhood." For eight



Jackson State University CSET student Antonio Richardson, fifth from left, just completed his annual pilgrimage to a forest in the Chicago area, where he helped Illinois teenagers learn about the environment and conservation. The 21-year-old team leader is studying industrial technology in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology and is a native of Illinois. He works with a forest preserve program in Cook County that provides a summer job to at-risk youth that is fun and educational, yet involves some labor.

consecutive summers, he's been going back to Illinois to work with the program. Now, however, he's a team leader working for the state's Forest Preserve Experience jobs program.

The program has helped a number of families that live in public housing as well as those who use vouchers from the Housing Authority of Cook County in Illinois.

#### 'An ambitious kid'

While some youth may have had worst experiences growing up than his family, Richardson recalls that "things hadn't always been the best for my family. But, I stuck with the program because I was always an ambitious kid." In fact, Richardson wanted to work so that he could begin earning money for his first car. "I never cared about the little things such as clothes and shoes." He said those are important, but his desire for a car drove him to apply. Richardson said the forest pre-

serve program includes male and female teens from throughout the Chicago area. Participants, ages 14-19, work with high school crewmembers from 7:30 a.m. to

12:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. They

helped eradicate invasive species such as buckthorn and honeysuckle in the forest.

"We try to teach the youth about the importance of forest conservation and how to execute it," Richardson said. "For many, it's their first jobs, so we don't overwork them. We make the experience fun and educational. We introduce them to the working field, even if it's not the field they prefer. We assist them with developing good job skills and working habits."

As a team leader, Richardson has seen a lot of kids struggle.

He cautions against brushing them off, though. Rather, he said, individuals should try to understand why some youth act out in menacing ways. "Coming from where I came from, I try to keep an open mind. When I see misbehaving kids in a working environment it makes me get more involved. I'm going to try to understand the student and allow him to understand me and where I'm coming from."

#### **Practicing intervention**

He recalls a student named Tommy who had some behavioral issues and almost got kicked out of the program. Richardson's supervisor asked him to intervene. The result was profound.

Eventually, Tommy would open up about his problems. The youth was determined because he walked to work daily and always arrived on time. But he had no resources. So, Richardson helped Tommy set up a bank account. "A lot of kids don't have anybody to help them. After spending time with him, Tommy realized he was not alone. He did an entire turnaround," Richardson explained.

Overall, Richardson said the current program is changing the lives of many other youth. It's not

just all work; it's fun and educa-

"Preserve staff workers are teaching kids how to identify various types of trees and other vegetation. The young workers learn to avoid poison ivy and other plants. Also, they develop professional skills and understand the importance of arriving at a job on time and being prepared for work," Richardson said.

He added, "They learn how to work together in teams and treat co-workers with respect. I always tell my kids you can do what you want to do as long as you get up and do it. If you work toward something, even if it's a half step, you'll progress throughout the

Richardson said, "Ultimately, the sole benefit for me in this program and why I come back is that my co-workers and I recognize what needs to be done for these kids – even if the youth hate the program and never want to do it again. The important thing is that they walk away a better person. I cherish all my youth and make them feel important. I let them know that if you're trying to be the best, then you are the best."

# Mississippi receives settlements from Fiat, Bosch for violations

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi will receive a total of \$770,540 from two separate multistate settlements reached between Attorney General Jim Hood, 51 attorneys general, Fiat Chrysler, and engineering company Bosch over the companies' alleged undermining of auto emissions regulations for more than a decade.

The settlements, which are separate but related, stem from a case concerning software emissions equipment. The equipment, known as a "defeat device," was intended to measure the amount of pollution released by a car and alert when the emissions were higher than industry standards. Bosch supplied defeat devices to Fiat Chrysler who manipulated the devices, causing the emissions to test improperly in new vehicles, therefore allowing a vehicle to pass an emissions test when it would have otherwise failed. These devices were only placed in diesel vehicles.

Hood alleges that Bosch continued to assist Fiat Chrysler as they implemented the defeat devices and concealed their misconduct from regulators and the public.

The attorneys general allege that Fiat Chrysler cheated on federal and state emissions tests by calibrating the vehicles' software to conceal that

the vehicles emitted higher than permitted levels of harmful nitrogen oxides (NOx) in real-world driving conditions, and misled consumers by falsely claiming the "Eco-Diesel"-branded Jeep SUVs and Ram 1500 trucks were environmentally friendly and compliant with the law in all 50 states. There were 728 vehicles affected in Mississippi.

"Corporations have a responsibility to ensure regulatory and legal compliance in the automotive industry, and this settlement establishes the important precedent that those who knowingly go along with their clients' wrongful conduct will be held accountable," Hood said. "Knowingly misleading innocent consumers is a low point of greed for companies, and I'm glad these companies are not only changing their practices but properly reimbursing their customers through a private class action

The total settlement amount to all participating states is \$72.5 million with Fiat Chrysler and \$98.7 million from Bosch. In Mississippi, Fiat Chrysler will pay the state \$455,000 in monetary payments under Mississippi's consumer protection laws for deceptively and unfairly marketing, selling and leasing the vehicles to consumers. Bosch

will pay \$315,540.

The Bosch agreement also includes precedent-setting injunctive terms and requires Bosch to maintain robust processes to monitor compliance and to refuse to accommodate requests for software development and programming that could result in the installation of defeat device software.

Fiat Chrysler will be prohibited from engaging in future unfair or deceptive acts and practices in connection with its dealings with consumers and require Fiat Chrysler to carry out its obligations under a related class action settlement agreement in the Multidistrict Litigation pending in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, which includes restitution.

The proposed settlements with Fiat Chrysler follow earlier comprehensive settlements reached between Mississippi, along with other state, federal and private actors, and Volkswagen for equipping, marketing, selling and leasing more than 570,000 Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche diesel vehicles with illegal defeat devices.

Under those settlements, Volkswagen paid the state of Mississippi monetary payments of \$2.5 million, fixed or repurchased the affected vehicles, and paid restitution to Mississippi consumers.

# Congressman Bennie G. Thompson D-MS 2nd District

#### \$75,000 to Mississippi Second Congressional District from USDA Rural Development

United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) announced the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development has awarded \$75,000 in Rural Business Development Grant to Communities Unlimited, Inc.

This Rural Development

investment will be used to provide technical assistance and business training to 36 small businesses operating in 52 Mississippi counties.

The technical assistance provided through this program will include, cash flow management, set-up and use of bookkeeping and accounting systems, understanding financial statements, social media and digital marketing strategies, feasibility studies, business plans and turnaround strategies.

For more information contact Ines Polonius at 479-443-2700.

#### \$1,075,000 awarded to Jackson State University

United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) announced the National Science Foundation has awarded \$1,075,000 to Jackson State University.

This project, entitled "LS-MAMP Bridge to the Doctor-

ate," is under the direction of William Bynum. The Louis Stokes Mississippi Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-MAMP) Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) is a program that is committed and determined to aggressively answer the call for increasing the number of underrepresented minority PhD recipients in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

For more information contact William Bynum at (601)979-2008.

# \$218,000 to Mississippi Second Congressional District from USDA Rural Development

United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) announced the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development has awarded Rural Business Development Grants to communities in the Mississippi second Congressional District. • City of Clarksdale received \$53,798 in grant funds to purchase and install restaurant equipment for a small emerging business in Coahoma County, Mississippi.

• City of Sardis received \$164,202 in grant funds to provide technical assistance

to conduct a Market Research Assessment, Master Plan update of the Project Economic Impact and Feasibility Study for the proposed future development of the Sardis Lake Recreation and Tourism Complex located at Sardis Lake in Panola County, Mississippi.

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# Sixteen Mississippi restaurants get Wine Spectator awards

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Sixteen Mississippi restaurants have received 2019 awards from Wine Spectator magazine.

The respected journal has three levels of awards, in descending order, Grand Award, Best of Award of Excellence, and Award of Excellence.

Three of the Mississippi restaurants received the Best Award of Excellence – CAET, which recently moved from Fondren to the Renaissance at Colony Park in Ridgeland, Koestler Prime, also located in the Renaissance and Thirty-Two in Biloxi.

Three Jackson restaurants received the Award of Excellence – Bravo!, Char Restaurant, both in the Highland Village, and Estelle Wine Bar and Bistro in the Westin hotel in downtown.



Also receiving the Award of Excellence were: Walker's Drive-In in the Fondren area of Jackson, the Manship Wood-Fired Kitchen in the Belhaven area of Jackson and in Biloxi: BR Prime Steakhouse; JIA at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino; Morton's, the Steakhouse; Ruth's Chris Steak House and Stalla Italian Kitchen.

Restaurant Tyler in Starkville received an Award of Excel-

67

lence.

The Castle Restaurant and Pub in Natchez was given an Award of Excellence; however, the establishment has since closed as part of the foreclosure on the Dunleith Historic Inn.

Across all 50 states and 79 countries, 100 restaurants received the top recognition, the Grand Award; 1,244 got the second place award and 2,447 got the third-place award.

# Vicksburg residents to see reduced utility bills

The Mississippi Link Newswire

On Friday, Vicksburg Mayor George Flaggs Jr. announced that city residents would begin to see lower utility bills in October 2019.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved a special fee in April of 2015, to help cover the potential cost of improvements to the city's sewer system

required by an Environmental Protection Agency consent decree.

In December 2016, the City of Vicksburg contracted with Water Company of America (WCA) to identify unbilled water and sewer revenues for the city. WCA discovered a total estimated six-year increase in revenues of \$2.8 million with WCA's

share being \$1.2 million and the City's share being \$1.6 million allowing for the special fee to be lifted for residential customers.

"These are dollars going into the pockets and banks of the residential customers; it's a rebate,' Flaggs said. "If we find more money, we'll remove the special fee for industrial customers as well."

# **After hate-filled massacres: NAACP blames Trump** for fueling 'racism, bigotry and white supremacy'

TriceEdneyWire.com

President Donald Trump, in the wake of mass shootings that killed at least 31 people over the weekend, called for a unified condemnation of "racism, bigotry and white supremacy" while he has consistently promoted and supported racism, bigotry and white supremacy.

At least 22 were killed and more than 20 injured at a Walmart in El Paso Texas Saturday as parents and children ventured out for back-toschool shopping.

Dallas resident, Patrick Crusius, 21, was arrested in the shootings. According to authorities and widespread reports, Crusius wrote a manifesto claiming responsibility for the attack and railing against what he described as a "Hispanic invasion of Texas," using language mirroring Trump's language describing "invasion" immigrants.

Crusius also reportedly told authorities that he had intended to kill as many Mexicans as he could. At least 18 Mexican nationals were shot. Nine died, reports say.

Federal investigators, including the FBI, have classified the case as domestic terrorism.

Less than 15 hours later, another white male opened fire at a bar in Dayton, Ohio, killing nine people, six of them black. Twenty-seven others were injured in Dayton. The shooter, Connor Betts, 24, was shot dead by responding officers.

"The shooter in El Paso posted a manifesto online consumed by racist hate. In one voice, our nation must condemn racism, bigotry and white supremacy," Trump said in a televised speech from the White House Monday morning. "These sinister ideologies must be defeated. Hate has no place in America. Hatred warps the mind, ravages the heart and devours the soul. We have asked the FBI to identify all further resources they need to investigate and disrupt hate crimes and domestic terrorism – whatever they need."

Ironically, Trump also called the Internet "a dangerous avenue to radicalize disturbed minds and perform demented acts" and described it as a place with "dark recesses."

But some - including the NAACP – believe it has been clearly Trump himself who has



Dayton, Ohio victims. CREDIT: CBS News

used social media – mainly Twitter - to fuel racism, white supremacy and bigotry throughout the nation and around the world through his attacks on people of color, portraying them as less than human.

Following the recent shootings, NAACP President Derrick Johnson called out Trump's own hate-filled behavior on the Internet over past years, months, weeks and days.

"These tragic shootings are stark reminders of the dangers that plague our communities under the resurgence of white nationalism, domestic terrorism, intolerance and racial hatred germinating from the White House," wrote Johnson in a statement.

Other civil rights leaders chimed in, appearing to be at a loss for answers.

"When is Enough, enough?" asked Melanie Campbell, president/CEO of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) and Convener of the Black Women's Roundtable (BWR). "Gun violence in America must end, and it must end now. How many more lives must be lost by senseless gun violence for elected officials to step up and lead?"

Campbell issued the following statistics on gun violence to date

There have been 253 mass shootings in America in 216 days of this year. That is more than one mass shooting per day for 2019. And we still have five more months to go this year.

According to the Gun Violence Archive, to date, the total number of gun-related incidents in this country now stands at 33,076, resulting in 8,744 deaths and 17,366 injuries.

The number of youths killed, ages 1 to 17, now stands at 2,197.

"This is absolute insanity for a so-called 'civilized' nation. The shootings in El Paso and Dayton were senseless acts of hate that could possibly have been prevented had there been laws in place to control access to high powered, rapid-fire, military grade weapons. The National Coalition on Black Civic Participation and the Black Women's Roundtable strongly urges the U.S. Senate to come off vacation and deal with this crisis by passing a national common sense gun safety law now."

In Trump's speech, he mentioned mental illness that leads to gun violence, but said nothing about his own hateful tweets.

He said, "We must reform our mental health laws to better identify mentally disturbed individuals who may commit acts of violence and make sure those people not only get treatment, but, when necessary, involuntary confinement."

He said he is directing the Department of Justice to work in

"partnership with local, state and federal agencies, as well as social media companies, to develop tools that can detect mass shooters before they strike."

He said the "glorification of violence in our society" through "gruesome and grisly video games" must end.

He added,"We must make sure that those judged to pose a grave risk to public safety do not have access to firearms, and that, if they do, those firearms can be taken through rapid due process. That is why I have called for red flag laws, also known as extreme risk protection orders."

Finally, Trump said he was "directing the Department of Justice to propose legislation ensuring that those who commit hate crimes and mass murders face the death penalty, and that this capital punishment be delivered quickly, decisively, and without years of needless de-

Still civil rights leaders lay blame for the El Paso and Dayton massacres squarely at Trump's

Johnson wrote: "The NAACP is calling on the Trump administration to cease its use of divisive and discriminatory rhetoric which fuel these unconscionable attacks and allot resources to combat the rise of domestic terrorism and hate crimes."

#### First, look in the mirror, Mr. President, to quell America's deadly violence

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



The horrifying and heartbreaking news of the domestic terrorist attacks in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, in less than 24 hours over the weekend reached me while I was in Poland, a country haunted by the deadly power of politically irresponsible and racist

I was participating in a series of events commemorating the 75th anniversary of the mass murder at Auschwitz-Birkenau death factory near Krakow, where in one night the Nazis killed more than 4,000 Roma and Sinti men, women and children, classified and persecuted by the Nazis as "Gypsies," aliens, undocumented and other.

The motivation of the young white killer in Dayton is unclear. But in El Paso, a 21-yearold white man apparently posted to social media a hate-filled, anti-immigrant rant before driving nine hours and 600 miles from the Dallas area to a Walmart, where you can see Mexico from the parking



Trump

lot, to kill as many brown-skinned people as possible.

Wielding a semiautomatic, military-style rife – a weapon of mass destruction – the Texas shooter killed 20 people and wounded dozens more in a matter of minutes. The death toll in the El Paso shooting now

The scourge of homegrown racial terrorism is not new. Since the birth of the klan during Reconstruction, to the White Citizen's Councils of the '60s to Timothy McVeigh's slaughter of 168 people, including 19 children, in Oklahoma City, the radical and racist right has used guns and bombs to intimidate and spread fear.

President Donald Trump said many of the right things at the White House Monday morning in condemning the shootings, racism, bigotry and white supremacy. Better late than never. Now he must do the right thing. He can start by looking at the man in the mirror. He must end his use of racially charged (often racist) rhetoric and tweets for political gain. It is divisive, dangerous and diversionary. I think he is better than that. I know the country is.

The president should also clean the swamp inside his administration. During his campaign and in the White House – the people's house – Trump has surrounded himself with racial ideologues, including his immigrant-bashing speech writer Stephen Miller, a close college friend of Richard Spencer, who, along with former KKK leader and Trump endorser, David Duke, were organizers of the demonstrations in Charlottesville where hundreds of neo-Nazis marched through the streets, chanting, "Jews will not replace

Racism is a pathology. It is unscientific. It is immoral. It is a sickness. It is deadly. The ideology of white supremacy is spewing hate, anti-immigrant and racially polarizing rhetoric. It is cannon fodder for these mass killings. These are not killings of passion, but political killings. Calling the shooters mentally ill is dismissing their plan of action, their ideology of supremacy and hate. They are at war. They know what they're doing and why.

We have a gun crisis, a hate crisis and a leadership crisis. Trump must use his bully pulpit for something more than bullying. He must lead the way with action, not just words, in the passage of tough, meaningful gun control and an immediate ban on the militarystyle weapons used by both killers in El Paso and

He must demand his fellow Republicans do the same. The House has passed gun legislation that would likely reduce such mass killings in the future, but Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has refused to bring it before the Senate for a vote. Mr. President, start twisting arms. These political acts of domestic terrorism are an attempt to undercut our democracy. The combination of well-armed white nationalists and white supremacists, and a multiracial democracy, can-

The president must take a moral stand for humanity and curb his ugly rhetoric. His FBI must clamp down on right-wing, white nationalist groups inspiring and committing these acts of violence. He must join the American people who are demanding sensible gun safety measures.

Prayers and condolences are not enough. We need action. We need gun control. We need the political will and moral leadership to stop the violence, save the children – and the country.

# Ronald Reagan's secret past

By E. Faye Williams

Trice Edney Newswire



While Presidential Candidate Joe Biden is struggling with being confronted with his past, let's not forget that there were pol-

iticians with far worse records of racism than Joe. Most of us have been able to witness Joe's evolution to become a better person. One might say, he learned from his experiences, and became someone who is much loved by many of the very people who were hurt by his earlier position on several issues such as criminal justice. I can forgive people who do better when they know better.

I think that describes Biden. I have no doubt that he has learned from the error of his ways and he has become a much better person. When you know better, you are charged with doing better, and I think that fits Biden. Surely President Barack Obama knew about Biden's past, and still selected him turned out to be a good choice and that's why so many black people are now supporting him.

Now let's take a look at another politician from not too long ago -President Ronald Reagan. He was our 40th president, and is often admired and quoted by many on both sides of the aisle. I was never impressed by him, but many were.

I met Reagan in 1984 when I visited him at the White House with Grambling's Coach Eddie Robinson. While I didn't formally meet him then, I ran into him in Detroit at the Republican Convention and had an opportunity to size him up. I didn't find him impressive either time. Yet, I knew people who treated him like he was a close second to God. I never thought of him as a particularly smart person; but until today many (white) people speak of him in glowing terms.

We can't measure him against Biden. They're very different people. Let's measure him beside Trump. Trump recently disrespect-

to become his vice-president. He ed African leaders with very offensive terms. Reagan disparaged African delegates to the United Nations. A few days ago, The Atlantic published an article where Reagan in one of his racist conversations with a questionable character named Richard Nixon tried to convince us when he got caught that he was not a crook.

Once Reagan vented his frustrations about African leaders to Nixon saying, "To see those monkeys from those African countries - damn them, they're still uncomfortable wearing shoes."

As Trump was campaigning for president, he ran off statistics disparaging the way some black people live. In an effort to get black people's support, he asked, "What have they got to lose?" Recently he referred to cities where there are many black people in derogatory terms. His reference to Baltimore as rat infested, and he couldn't understand how any humans could live there – was his way of dehumanizing black peo-

ple. A few years earlier, Reagan

claimed minorities were better off under him – just the way Trump

Trump claims not to have a racist bone in his body, but it's obvious there's racism in his heart while accusing Cong. Elijah Cummings of being racist. Reagan was quoted as resorting to the old standby of turning the problem back to black people because surely, he wasn't racist! He challenged NAACP'S Ben Hooks to imagine looking into his (Reagan's) heart, and he would find not a trace of prejudice or bigotry there. No, it's always the fault of the accuser.

One of Reagan's defenders denied that he was racist - just backward in some ways on racial issues. That sounds like racism to me. Listening to these secret tapes, maybe that statue at DCA should be retired to another place.

E. Faye Williams is National President to the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. and host of "Wake Up and Stay Woke" for WPFW-FM 89.3.

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**AUGUST 8, 2019** 

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK • 11

# Hospitality

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

mans 12:19, "Dearly beloved,

avenge not yourselves, but rath-

er give place unto wrath: For it

is written, vengeance is mine: I

What was the writer saying?

The Lord will take care of situ-

ations; He will mete out ven-

geance. Just serve Him. Do not

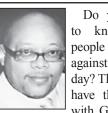
judge your brothers or your sis-

ters; leave them with God. This

Some people overstep these

is 'Thus saith the Lord.'"

will repay, saith the Lord."



Do you want strike them dead; nothing has to know why happened to them. Everything may look as if things are going move against others togreat, but it is not over yet. Venday? They do not geance belongs in the hand of have the power the Lord. Forgiveness involves with God or the both attitudes and actions. If faith to let God take care of it. you find it difficult to feel for-Therefore, they make moves giving toward someone who has hurt you try responding with to gain carnal support because kind actions. If appropriate, tell they dare not pray against them. The Scripture still says in Rothis person that you would like

> you will discover that right actions lead to right feelings. If we love someone the way Christ loves us, we will be willing to forgive. If we have experienced God's grace, we will want to pass it on to others. And remember, grace is underserved favor. By giving an enemy a

drink, we're not excusing his

to heal your relationship. Lend a

helping hand. Send him or a gift.

Smile at him or her. Many times

Scriptures and think nothing of

it. Why? Because God did not

misdeeds. We're recognizing him, forgiving him and loving him in spite of his sins, just as Christ did for us.

Whenever you get a competitive spirit, you have lost the Spirit of God. When you are fleshly instead of spirit led, you may make a few bad mistakes. God may allow that just to knock some of the hot air out

We read in 3rd John 1-4: "The elder unto the well beloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth. Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in

Faithful Christian teachers and missionaries need our support. Whenever you can extend hospitality to others, it will make you a partner in their ministry. Christian leaders must shun pride and its effects on them. Be careful not to misuse your position of leadership. Don't take for granted Christian workers who serve faithfully.

Be sure to encourage them so they won't grow weary of serving. If we are to live in the truth of the gospel, we must look for ways to support pastors, Christian workers and missionaries

All Christians should work together to support God's work, both at home and around the

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,

# **No Words**

By Shewanda Riley Columnist



The senseless deaths due to gun violence over the past week are emotionally overwhelming. Combined, the mass

shootings at the Gilroy Garlic Festival, Walmarts in South Haven, Mississippi and El Paso, as well as the Oregon St. Bar in Dayton have left 36 people dead and 76 people injured.

Like so many, I am beyond horrified when it appears that in the case of two of the mass shootings, the shooters were influenced by the hateful and racist words of the current president of the United States. In fact, at least one of the shooters posted a "manifesto" where he used the same racist language as the presi-

When tragedies like this happen, it's always interesting to me how many Christians will reduce the solution down to the fact that the shooters needed salvation. Others like Texas Lt. Governor Dan Patrick assert that these acts of violence occur because we took prayer out of school.

As Christians, we know that giving your life to Christ is the key to getting into Heaven However, in a few instances, the shooters proudly proclaimed that they were Christian.

So, this leads me to this question: If the shooters are Christian and they still commit the crime, what does that mean?

Some would say that this means that they really weren't Christian in the first place. Others would say that this means that even though they were Christian, they needed to be set free from sense to me right now.

Moreover, it just doesn't feel like it's enough to write once again about the power of forgiveness after another mass shooting.

Things seem different now. It seems like instead of saying "Forgive," we as Christians should be saying "Fight" in response to the racist language coming from the highest levels of government that seem to encourage this violence.

But how do we fight? Pray for our nation and for God to heal our country's deep wounds of racism and intolerance? Absolutely. But, once again, I wonder if that will be enough. Proverbs 21:7 warns, "The violence of the wicked will destroy them, Because they refuse to do justice."

Seeing those communities traumatized by senseless gun violence makes me think about the eerie silence from high profile evangelicals about the recent spike in violent racist crimes.

The same conservative Christians who so boldly proclaimed that we should pray for Supreme Court justice nominee Brett Kavanaugh, have been slow to publicly condemn the racist violence.

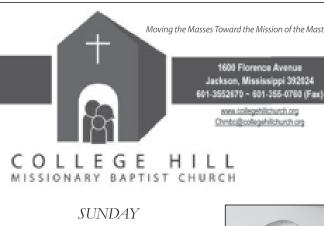
My question is why are they silent after a week where it is clear that there is a connection between the racist language of the president and the alarming increase in racist violence in our country? Why are they not condemning these horrible acts and the dangerously deceitful rhetoric that obviously lead to them?

The silence is deafening...and speaks volumes in and of itself.

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 prespirits of rage or violence. Nei- servedbypurpose@gmail.com ther of those answers make much or follow her on Twitter @she-

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS REIGNING

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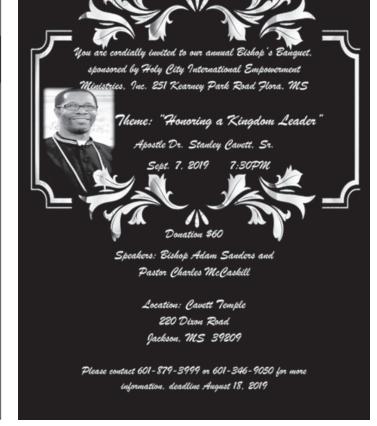


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#### What goes up, must come down, but when?

By Julianne Malveaux NNPA News Wire Columnist



President Barack Obama and his team masterfully designed an economic recovery from the George W Bush-induced Great Recession of 2008. The man who now leads our country inherited the Obama recovery and claims credit for our robust

economy whenever he opens his mouth. There are signs that the ten-year expansion is slowing, and that our 45th president may be squandering the gift

There is much to object to about 45's presidency - his hateful racial rhetoric, his attacks on women and people of color, his appointment of extremely young and inexperienced members of the federal judiciary, his rollback of environmental protections, his attacks on public education and more. But his economic stewardship, an arena he claims to have mastered, is as repulsive as his non-economic stewardship. Indeed, many of his minions have, albeit gently, criticized the ways he has managed the

His trade wars, especially with China, may stand at the top of the list. He says that China will pay when he, most recently, announced that he would impose a ten percent tariff on \$300 billion worth of imports from China. The Chinese won't pay. US consumers will. And US producers and manufacturers will also pay when China retaliates against us, as they have promised to do. To be sure, China has been a "bad actor" in trade relationships with the United States. But 45's intemperate and illadvised tantrum will not only affect many in the United States (including farmers, manufacturers, and consumers) but may also play a role in slowing down the world economy.

For the first time in a decade, the Federal Reserve has reduced the interest rate by a quarter-point. Cutting the interest rate during the early recovery from the Great Recession was an effective way to lower the cost of money and, theoretically, put more money into the economy for expansion. In reality, cheaper money didn't trickle down to homeowners or consumers, but it did generate GDP growth. Now, growth is slowing, partly because of Trump's trade wars, and partly because his tax cuts have not trickled down and people don't have as much money to spend as they'd like. Interest rate cuts are a clear sign that our nation's bankers are not confi-

Many of 45's allies tout low unemployment rates as evidence of economic strength. And the July 3.7 percent unemployment rate, unchanged from June is, indeed, a ten year low. The black unemployment rate, too, is at an all-time low. And last month, 164,000 more jobs were created, labor force participation rose, and the number of discouraged workers declined. Why aren't some of us celebrating? Firstly, because wage growth is slow. In a tight labor market, with low unemployment rates, wages should be increasing by more than the 3 percent annual rate they are growing at now. Further, although there is slight improvement in labor force participation, and fewer workers holding part-time work for economic reasons, tepid wage growth suggests that while jobs are available, they aren't necessarily good-paying jobs.

What does it take to increase wages?

Slow wage growth and a slowing economy are likely to lead to a new recession. Economist Heather Boushey says that increasing inequality makes a recession more possible than it otherwise might be. And this administration does not mind increasing inequality. Most recently, they have proposed cuts to food stamp programs that will leave at least three million people - low-income workers and their children, people with disabilities and some older Americans, vulnerable to hunger. The Senate just passed a budget that will increase military spending by more than \$750 billion and will cut spending on

Economic expansion depends on people spending money, and too many have little to spend. The food stamp cuts give some even less. Increased prices of good imported from China gives them less to spend. And the administration team that touts economic strength, on the one hand, is undermining both growth and poverty alleviation, on the other.

What goes up must come down. Can the 45 economic team manipulate the economy to continue expansion through the 2020 election, or will attacks on the poor result in less spending, less expansion, and an economic catastrophe?

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

# No Justice for Eric Garner

#### NYPD must terminate officer who used excessive force

By Marc H. Morial President and CEO National Urban League



"It was Eric and my family five years ago, but it could be you and yours today or tomorrow. They want all of us to believe that we didn't

see what we saw on that video, but our eyes do not deceive us ... Eric is no longer able to speak so I will be his voice and you will hear me." -Gwen Carr, Eric Garner's mother.

Eric Garner died pleading for his life on a New York City sidewalk. The chokehold that triggered his fatal asthma attack was illegal. Eleven times, Garner said he couldn't breathe, and Officer Daniel Pantaleo did not loosen his strangling, illegal grip on Garner's neck.

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

When U.S. Attorney General Wil-

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

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

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

Not only has Pantaleo escaped accountability, he has received a substantial raise in his pay since Gar-

Sadly, police officers are rarely

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

In the wake of the death of Garner and other unarmed people of color who died violently at the hands of police officers, the National Urban League promulgated a 10-Point Plan for Police Reform and Accountability, elements of which were incorporated into the final report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. One of the key recommendations is "external and independent investigations and prosecutions of officer-involved shootings and other use of force situations and in-custody deaths."

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

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

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

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

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

# The paradox of love: Trump's **United States of hate**

By Dr. Keith Magee Trice Edney Newswire



America is experiencing the most perilous of times in recent history as the result of its president, Donald Trump.

Even though Monday morning he stepped forward to speak against the weekend's hate crimes, it lacks residence because of the hate that has been reverberating since his stance against the Central Park Five, his ascendance in the GOP with the birther inquisition of Barack Obama and not immediately condemning the chants of "send her back" aimed at four congressional women of Congress for doing their job.

It remains jarring how he and the leadership of the GOP lack human decency by caging children at the border and proclaiming that Baltimore is a predominately African-American city where no humans should live. These hateful words are intentional verbal terrorism to inflame his base and continue to label some human beings as unworthy of being in the same race as white Americans. What is equally puzzling is the silence of the white evangelical church in which 81 percent supports and believes that he has been called by God.

These blatant domestic terrorist attacks, being exercised by white supremacists best known as the Ku Klux Klan and the Nazis, are embedded deeply in how they understand God, practice Christianity and see humanity. And, yet, there are other social justice faith leaders who are grappling with this torture and how to convey God's message, resulting in a divided gospel.

In the New Testament gospel of Mark 12:28-33, a scholar and scribe, out of curiosity, questioned Jesus, 'which out of all the commandments is the most important?' Jesus responds with two statements. The first is how you are to love the "Lord your God with all your heart, your mind, your soul and your strength." The second one is to"

love your neighbor like you love yourself.' The implication is very powerful because what it means is to be authentically a follower of Jesus; it means I have to know how to love me before I can love you.

I recently had a rather challenging dinner conversation with a young Jewish member of the GOP, who I consider close family. He questioned why continuously refer to this president as "it." He asked, "as a Christian (that believes in the same teaching in the Torah) isn't the fundamental teaching of our faith love? If so, are you not being equally divisive in referring to Donald Trump as an "it" and the GOP as them?" My rapid response was human beings don't spark flames of hatred. They would not find any justification in anyone that assembles to chant Jews will not replace us, say that there were very fine people on both sides, call Mexican's rapists and target Muslims. Those who have a soul would condemn the acrimony so that it

wouldn't ignite a fire. The Civil rights movement wasn't driven by policy experts. It was accomplished by people who actually practiced their faith in love. The movement was filled with the love of Imams and Rabbis, Catholic and Orthodox priests, Unitarians and Muslim, Baptist and Hindus, and Atheist and Quakers. There were black women frying chicken, white women making cold cut sandwiches, gay men organizing and lesbian women strategizing. They galvanized to enact laws because there were racist white Americans who lacked civility. The laws had to be created to protect those whom they dehumanized with Jim Crown, the violence of rape and torture of

The preaching of "whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also," is no longer applicable in these times. There's no longer the tolerance to mount a non-violence movement of foot soldiers in protest when the evidence is clear that this venom embodied in these white-skin in-

dividuals is filled with intentional rage, injustice and violence, against everyone that isn't a pure American of Anglo-Saxon decent. Yes, there are few who blacks that are getting passes but I learned early in life that there was no difference between house slaves and those in the field. The white supremacist groups categorically deem them all as subhu-

After I stepped away and reflected on my dinner conversation, I realized that my retort to these times have caused me to depart from the most essential and guiding principle of my faith. With all that the race baited massacres in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio by white males ages 21 and 24 in the last 48 hours, I'm wrestling with how do you continue to offer love to those who are responsible for the spillage of your brother's blood on the ground?

How do, I, as a social justice intellectual and faith leader provide guidance that teaches how to love those who persecute you, speak all manner of evil against you?

How do I lean in to find similarity with those who say that they believe in the same Jesus that many non-white Americans serve?

If this gospel can't unite us, especially, in times like this, then what

Anger and love have no limits especially when it is seeded in fear and one's misappropriated religion. The scribes were so caught up on the rules, which made up the religion, that they had fallen short on knowing how to have relationship with God, themselves and their

There is no negating the reality of the fear of a group of white Americans being left in poverty. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, white people are 52 percent of people lifted from poverty by safety-net programs, while black people made up less than a quarter of that share. When it comes to receiving Medicaid, whites make up about 43 percent of recipients, Hispanics about 30 percent, African Americans 18 percent, with 9 percent identified as other. It is obvious that their concerns are valid.

However, it is unfortunate that their anger is misappropriated. It should be directed towards white men, like Donald Trump, who are more focused on their own wealth than strengthening and providing economic opportunities for these white Americans.

When I awakened Sunday morning I learned of the incident in Dayton, Ohio, where I graduated high school. My close group of friends immediately began to check on those who still reside there. We learned of several recent insistences of targeted violence in Dayton.

When I learned that one of my sister-friends and her family were literally next door to where the shooting happened, I began to weep because she's family. In our group of five, who have been friends now over 35 years, I'm the only African American. And, yes, race shows up because we have fluid conversations. However, what has kept our bond with our religious, sexuality and political party difference is

It was then that I realized that perhaps the answer is larger than what's in the written text and man-made doctrines. The defining moments to overcome hate will be from what is written with love in our hearts. Maybe we can organize a healing, peace and love march with American presidents; Baraka and Michelle Obama standing alongside George W. and Laura Bush. Though they had many differences, they served the Unites States of America honoring a commitment of justice, equality and

Keith Magee is a public intellectual with a focus on social justice and theology. He is Senior Fellow in Culture and Justice at the University College London and lead pastor at The Berachah Church, Dorchester Centre, MA. For more information visit www.4justicesake. org or follow him on social media

# **Are Trump's top Medicaid regulators** ignoring major problems?

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The ranking member of the Senate health committee has complained for months about the Trump administration's failure to look into Medicaid contractors that have reaped big profits while sometimes failing to provide crucial patient services.

So last week, Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., called in the top boss of Centene, the nation's largest Medicaid managed care company. He wanted to question the company about reports that its Texas subsidiary denied life-sustaining care to sick and disabled children - in one case, leaving a baby in foster care to suffer a catastrophic brain injury.

The meeting with longtime Centene CEO Michael Neidorff did not go well, according to

"I thought they would try to persuade me that they were going to do better, but they didn't seem interested in that at all," Casey told ProPublica and The Dallas Morning News in an interview. "I just couldn't believe it."

Casey said the Centene official denied providing inadequate care and cast blame for failures on foster parents and nurses.

Centene declined to make Neidorff available for an interview and emailed a brief statement in response to questions about the meeting with Casey.

"Centene and its subsidiaries care deeply about each and every member we serve," the email read. "We work tirelessly to ensure we provide the appropriate level of care for our members."

Under Neidorff. Centene has grown from a tiny health network in the Midwest into a \$60-billion-a-year health care empire, backed almost entirely with taxpayer money. The company cares for more than 8.5 million Medicaid patients.

The company came under criticism last year after an eight-part investigation published in the Morning News examined whether Centene and other Medicaid managed care companies were skimping on care to bolster profits. The series raised questions about Centene's Texas subsidiary, Superior HealthPlan, and its handling of the case of D'ashon Morris, a Texas toddler who was born with severe defects and was living in a foster home.

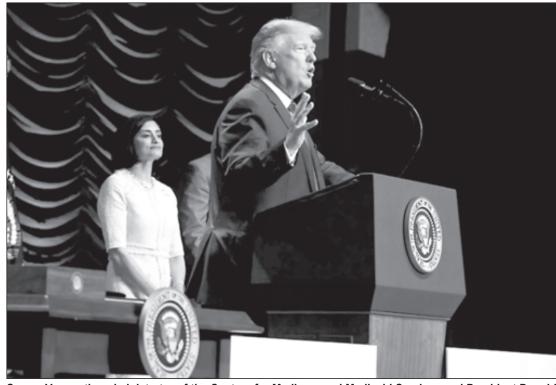
The series, titled "Pain & Profit," reported that D'ashon was denied 24/7 nursing care and suffered brain damage after a medical incident that occurred while he did not have his nurse around.

The Morning News reported that state health officials had found the Centene subsidiary in violation of state and federal Medicaid rules and recommended the company face steep fines for what happened to the child. But top Texas health officials never assessed those fines, the Morning News reported.

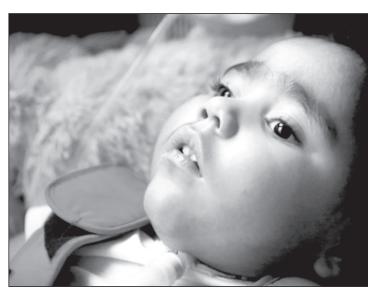
D'ashon's adoptive mother sued the Centene subsidiary in Texas state court. That case is tied up in the Texas appeals court, where the Centene subsidiary has argued that the lawsuit should be dismissed because D'ashon and his mother are stifling the company's right to free speech.

During hearings in the state capitol, Superior representatives denied that the company's refusal to provide 24/7 nursing was improper.

After his meeting with the Centene official, Casey sent a strongly worded letter to Seema Verma, a former health con-



Seema Verma, the administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and President Donald Trump at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, July 10, in Washington, D.C. EVAN



The Dallas Morning News reported that D'ashon Morris, a Texas toddler, was denied 24/7 nursing care and suffered brain damage after a medical incident that occurred while he did not have his nurse around. TOM FOX/THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS



Sen. Bob Casey, D-Pa., speaks during a news conference on protecting Medicaid at the Capitol on April 30, 2019. Tom Williams/CQ Roll Call

sultant appointed by President Donald Trump to run the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Ser-

In the letter, Casey called Centene's response to questions about D'ashon's case "callous."

He also asked Medicaid officials to dig further into Centene's business practices and to provide documentation on any response to the Morning News investiga-

"It's another indication that the regulatory approach here by the administration is, at best, suspect," Casey said.

A CMS spokesman said that Texas officials have shared with the agency an "action plan they intended to take to address the concerns raised," adding that CMS is in regular communication to ensure the state improves.

"CMS has received Sen. Casey's letter and will respond to his office directly," spokesman Brian Leshak said in an email.

Casey's position as the top Democrat on two Senate panels overseeing federal health programs gives him the standing to raise questions about the Medicaid managed care system.

It's not unusual for company officials facing a federal audit or investigation to meet with

members of Congress to address concerns, but it is unusual for such meetings to spill into public

Casey said he sent the letter to CMS because of what he called Centene's "cold and clinical" defense of what happened in D'ashon's case. He said it gave him concern about how the company cares for other patients and what, if anything, regulators are doing when things go wrong.

Last month, more than a year after the Morning News story was published, Centene officials provided Casey's office with a one-page rebuttal titled: "The Dallas Morning News got it wrong."

The company's explanations include that D'ashon's foster mother was a trained nurse. But, as the Morning News reported, she was on an approved vacation at the time of D'ashon's injury, and he had been placed in a different foster home.

The company also said D'ashon's foster mother should have restrained the baby, but the Morning News previously reported that Texas foster care officials confirmed restraints would have required a doctor's order,

which she did not have. "It was all blame shifting and pointing to other factors," Casey said of Centene's letter.

Casey said the meeting left him wondering why federal regulators weren't doing more.

"It might even be worse than asleep at the wheel," he said of CMS under Verma's watch.

"They may be awake at the wheel but choosing consciously to say, 'We're going the other direction.""

Without commenting on specific cases, the CMS spokesman said the agency routinely monitors states and intervenes when necessary.

Problems with this privatized Medicaid model have grabbed headlines in other states, too. And advocates in those states said they haven't heard much from CMS, which they say is a shift from the Obama administration.

In Iowa, for instance, The Des Moines Register reported failures to provide care and chronicled patients who had been caught in that state's broken medical appeals system.

Rob Sand, Iowa's state auditor, wrote to state officials in June that two large managed care companies had "significantly harmed" two paraplegic patients by refusing to provide services they needed.

Mary Nelle Trefz, of Iowa's Child and Family Policy Center, said she's been shocked to hear nothing about that from CMS.

"I don't feel, or can't observe, or point to anything, where CMS has stepped in to provide that oversight and accountability," she said.

In March, California's state auditor found that millions of children in that state's privatized Medicaid system weren't being provided services that taxpayers had paid for. Auditor Elaine Howle blamed California health officials' "deficient oversight of the managed care plans."

Andy Schneider, a researcher at Georgetown's Center for Children and Families, and a former top adviser to CMS under the Obama administration, said these episodes come at an inconvenient time for the Trump administration, which is focused on reducing regulation and creating additional eligibility hurdles like work requirements.

CMS has taken a hands-off approach compared with the previous administration, he said.

"These are reports coming from reputable media sources," he said. "They're very concerning, they have to do with the operation of the program, they suggest that something is wrong."

#### **Forrest General** first to use new compound to illuminate brain tumors



Clatterbuck

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Forrest General became the first hospital in Mississippi to use Gleolan<sup>TM</sup> (aminolevulinic acid HCl) for enhanced visualization of high-grade gliomas (including glioblastomas), or tumors occurring in the glial cells of the brain. This solution causes tumor cells to glow red under blue light allowing the neurosurgeon to remove as much of the tumor as possible without affecting healthy brain cells.

"The great genius of this compound is that it allows me to know when I've removed all of the gross tumor. With these kinds of brain tumors, we're not curing the patients with surgery, but there is compelling data that patient outcomes are better the more of the tumor you get out. So as a surgeon, I can be as aggressive as possible in terms of getting the tumor out, while avoiding causing major problems. Some organs, like the liver, can still function if half of the organ is removed to get rid of a tumor. The brain does not work that way, so we have to preserve as much functioning brain as possible," said Richard Clatterbuck, MD, PhD, neurosurgeon, Forrest General/Hattiesburg Clinic.

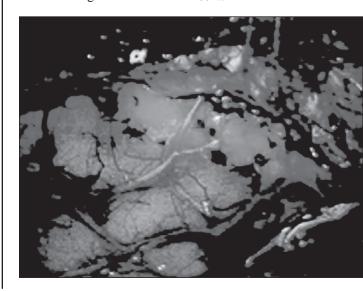
Gleolan is a lyophilized powder, which is reconstituted with drinking water and administered orally to the patient. The brain selectively absorbs the gleolan into cells

where the normal barrier has failed. Once the solution is taken in to the tumor, the tumor breaks it down into a second compound called protoporphyrin IX (PpIX). The surgeon then applies the blue light and views the brain using the appropriate filters, which cause the cells containing the compound to turn bright red and stand out against the blue background.

Gleolan is only FDA approved for use in high-grade brain malignancies - grade 3 and grade 4 primary brain tumor resections. According to a press release from NX Development Corp. (NXDC), "There are 4 grades of glioma, with Grades III and IV being the most aggressive. Glioblastoma, a type of Grade IV glioma, has the highest incidence of mortality with the potential to spread rapidly."

"As an organization, Forrest General believes patients in Mississippi should have access to the same benefits as people anywhere else in the world. That's why we always strive to offer the latest technologies when they benefit our patients. It's really a matter of trying to do the right thing for the people who trust us with

their health," said Clatterbuck. For more information about the Forrest General Cancer Center or other treatment options available at Forrest General, visit forrestgeneral.



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Sealed, written formal Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) August 22, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

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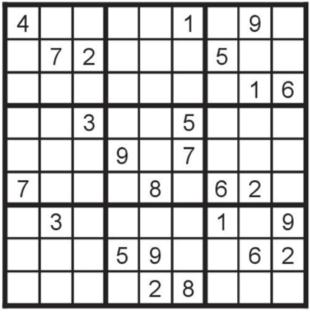
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#### Sudoku

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.



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#### Cryptogram

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

Hint: Quote by Muhammad Ali

TE E E TE TE TO TE 

ZIML UE U SQUYNIFG

#### **Sudoku Solution**

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

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#### **Crossword Solution**

Α	R	Е	S			Н	1	F	1
D	Α	L	1		Α	I	D	Е	S
D	1	S	С		S	M	Е	L	L
S	L	Е	1	G	Н		Α	L	Ε
			┙	0	0	K	S	Α	Т
Н	Е	Ν	Υ	Α	R	D			
0	D	Е		D	Е	L	Η	Α	S
L	Е	V	Е	E		Α	R	Е	Α
Е	М	Е	Ν	D		Ν	Е	0	Ν
D	Α	R	D			G	Е	N	Е
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#### Cryptogram Solution

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ UDSXLMKQIPBZYGFNVOEAHWRTJC

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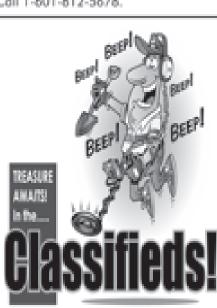
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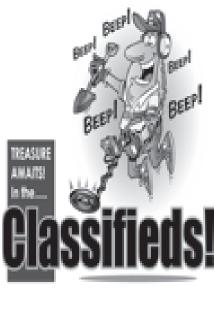
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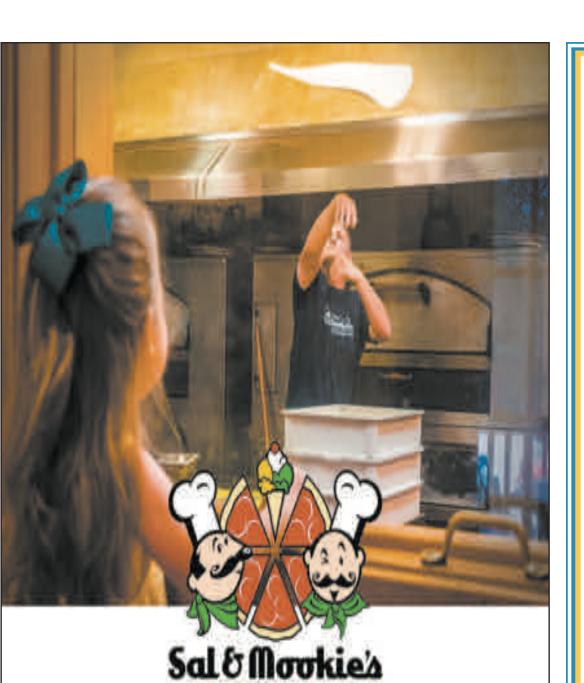
## PHOTOS OF THE WEEK





On Saturday, July 13, 2019 the ladies of Alpha Delta Zeta in collaboration with the Jackson Medical Mall, volunteered in community service in the Jump Start Back to School Jam.





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# THANK YOU

Being an effective leader involves listening to constituents, translating their concerns into workable suggestions,



and building an effective way of implementation. With sincere gratitude, I am immensely grateful to the family, friends and loyal supporters who so generously contributed their time and effort to our campaign during this election season. To the citizens of Hinds County, not only have you entrusted me with the responsibility as your Tax Collector, but you also provided me with innovative ideas and feedback by making a difference in Hinds County. I will continue to do everything I can to maintain the trust you placed in me through your vote as your Hinds County Tax Collector. My tenure as Tax Collector could not happen without the involvement of openness and I am deeply moved by the expression of confidence from you, the citizens of Hinds County. Thank you from the bottom of my heart and I look forward to continuing to serve as your Hinds County Tax Collector with compassion, honesty, integrity and transparency.

Eddie J. Fair
Hinds County Tax Collector

# Acclaimed actress, gospel artist electrify HCCSD's **Back-to-School Convocation 2019**

Mississippi Link Newswire

More than 600 employees, community leaders and stakeholders of the Holmes County Consolidated School District were energized for back-toschool readiness by In the Heat of the Night star Tommie Tonea Stewart and gospel recording artist Zacardi Cortez.

Stewart, a Greenwood, Miss. native and recently retired award-winning dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts of Alabama State University, served as the motivational speaker for the district's back-to-school convocation Aug. 1.

A Jackson State University alumnae, Stewart also reigned as Miss JSU and later served as an educator in the JSU Speech and Dramatic Arts De-

Cortez, 33, a Houston, Texas native, widely known for his popular recording, You Don't Know, performed a mini concert of several of his recorded songs and stirred up the crowd with his invigorating lyrics. He said that the HCCSD Convocation was "awesome," and that "it needs to be done this way around the world."

Both guests elevated the level of optimism and energy in the packed Deborah C. Mason Hall on Saints Academy Campus. School employees, adorned with t-shirts identifying their school or mission for the new school year, cheered and applauded.

"What is your WHY?" stood out from among the shirts with school mascots and logos as a call for educators to know their motivating force for doing the work of educating the citizens of tomorrow.

Stewart's speech ranged widely from song lyrics to Bible stories to poems by notable authors Maya Angelou and Langston Hughes, among others. She called on educators to "teach tolerance and do what you can to help others because at some point, someone helped you." She urged everyone to remember the past and to use it as a foundation for moving into the future. She exhorted educators to "facilitate and pull people together using their gifts to acknowledge strengths and recognize talent."

She also entreated everyone to "rise up, stand up and be about the business of educating children." She stressed the need for teamwork, for the support of universities in developing teachers, of communities to support the superintendent and the schools - that it is "not time to pay lip service, but rather, time to pay life service."

"Get the funding we need from agencies such as the state Department of Education and the legislature's discretionary funds," she said.

She told of how cleaning up the Sugar Ditch area in the Delta paved the way for the economic development of Tunica and its casinos and resorts which lifted Tunica county out of its designation as poorest county in Mississippi the spot now held by Holmes

Stewart called on Holmes County businesses and banks to give funds to the schools to support the needs of the chil-



HCCSD Superintendent James Henderson, Board of Education members Elder William Dean Jr., April Jones, Tommie Stewart, Louise Winters, Anthony Anderson and Rayford Horton



Zacardi Cortez



Lexington mayor Robin McCrory



**Doretha Draine Wiley** 



**HCCSD Superintendent James L. Henderson** 



Elder Dean, Dr. Stewart, Zelpha Whatley

their way is already planned by God – that it is not about

Her keynote was packed with a wealth of wisdom and life experiences that helped lead to many of her accomplishments. She has many acting credits in TV and film and is even more accomplished as an academic. She was the first African-American female to receive a doctorate from the Florida State University School of Theatre and the first McKnight Doctoral Fellow in Theatre Arts.

The audience applauded often as she wove music into her personal stories and exhortations. She even shared how school cafeteria staff kept her from going hungry following the death of her mother by giving her food to take home. An elderly teacher informally employed her as a chauffeur during high school, which gave her access to a car and enabled her to get to necessary events, rehearsals and appointments.

She said everyone needs to be educated to the needs of children: exposure to home and community violence, suicide, drugs, poverty, homelessness and hunger.

"Children need to feel safe - not thrown away - and they need to hear everyone in their lives telling them of their worth. Adults should let children know that the difficulties

of the present will pass, that

who you become; it is about the seeds planted by others,"

She called on the teachers to remember their responsibilities to children: "be a calm wind to inspire, counsel, encourage and believe in their talents – it is in your hands."

The inspirational convocation ignited cheers and encouraged both staff and district leadership.

Board of Education President Rev. Anthony Anderson fired up the staff by urging them to "do all that we can to educate our children because our children are the future and without them, we will perish." He encouraged everyone from "the custodians to the Board of Education to do our jobs to achieve great success." Anderson pledged to "stay in his lane" as board president and to "work in tandem with the superintendent to keep things working smoothly."

The roll call of schools, in addition to recognizing principals and school staff, turned into a cheerful sing-along, using the district's refrain 'It's that Time!' facilitated by the Jamie Kyles, as he led everyone in singing: It's that time, ya'll ... for our students to achieve It's that time, ya'll ...

we are the ones who hold the keys It's that time, ya'll ... to give our all and do our best It's that time, ya'll ... let's show the world we can hang with the

Closing out the convocation, Superintendent James L. Henderson, a JSU student of Dr. Stewart's, shared a personal story of how she taught him an important life lesson: Stop acting and Be. He extended that to "Be about the business of educating kids. Establish relationships with students in order to follow up with relevance and rigor in lessons."

Henderson extended the practice, established at the 2018 Convocation, of recognizing employees and district stakeholders with the Extra Mile Award.

District vendor SAMAC's founder and CEO, Shannon Greer, donated funds so that the awardees received \$500 honorariums. Hannah Brooks, payroll clerk, was recognized for delaying her retirement in order to help the business department facilitate the conversion from the former finance system to a new one, and in so doing, seamlessly managed the payrolls over the summer

High school band director, Stefan Mathis, was appreciated for his tireless preparation and travel with the band to perform, compete and represent Holmes County in several states across the southern region - including a performance of the national anthem at a New Orleans Pelicans basketball game. Straight Talk radio talk show host Zelpha Whatley was acknowledged for her work with youth and her support of the district's goals. Andy Hallmon was commended for his generosity in December 2018 when he donated gifts and awards for student achievement at all of the district's schools.

The superintendent announced that every teacher would receive a new laptop before the start of classes Aug. 7. He also underscored the investment the district is making into its teachers. He spoke briefly about the bond referendum on the general election ballot Nov. 5 and described how funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency will combine with the \$16.6 million from the bond to build up to three new stateof-the-art schools for Holmes County students.

Henderson reminded the listeners that he "has work to do. And, I'm going to get it done. Everything I do is in the best interests of children. There's no better place than Holmes County, Mississippi because

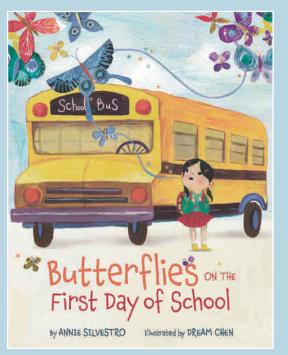
it's home to me." Lexington Mayor Robin Mc-Crory said that all she had to add to the inspiring and entertaining presentations of the day was "period. Exclamation point!" She announced that new roads were going to be installed from Highway 12 to the district's Educational Support Center and Career Technical Center on Olive St. She also announced the Helping Hero grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi would fund monthly visits by uniformed police officers to each school to discuss healthy life choices.

Holmes County Consolidated School District staff, guests, Board of Education members and community stakeholders were energized and challenged by the events of the morning and left the convocation galvanized to take on the work of educating the youth of the county to prepare students for the global community in which they must engage as successful citizens in the coming years.

For more information, contact HCCSD Chief of Staff and Media Spokesperson Deborah Antoine at dantoine@ holmesccsd.org or (662) 834-



Mayor McCrory, Dr. Allen Stewart, Dr. Tommie Stewart



**ILLUSTRATED BY DREAM CHEN** 6.95 / \$22.95 CANADA • 32 PAGES

#### By Terri Schlichenmeyer Columnist

Your new backpack can't hold

another thing. There are tissues in there, in

case you sneeze. Pencils, maybe some crayons for drawing. You have room for a notebook, too, and everything you'll need to carry for your big day. And in "Butterflies on the First Day of School" by Annie Silvestro, illustrated by Dream Chen, you might be toting something else,

day of school and Rosie was excited. She had a new backpack and "she loved it with all her heart." She danced around the room, pretended like she was in class, practiced making her letters on a piece of paper, and said her teacher's name, so she'd be really good at it.

But the night before her first day of school, Rosie was really nervous.

On the morning of her first day of school, Rosie didn't feel so good. She told her mother that

Rosie's dad said she'd be fine. Rosie's mom said it, too, adding that Rosie just had butterflies in her stomach.

Rosie had never heard of such a thing but when another girl sat next to her on the way to school, Rosie was sure she saw a butterfly escape from her own mouth. Two more fell out when she

began talking to the girl She felt more butterflies in her stomach a little later, when it

became her turn to talk in class. That was okay, though: as soon was and what she liked to do, the class laughed and three butterflies "flitted into the air."

That made her feel not-sonervous anymore and for the rest of the day, she painted and played, and she felt much better by recess. She felt well enough to play tag with her new friends, until she saw another little girl beneath the playground tree.

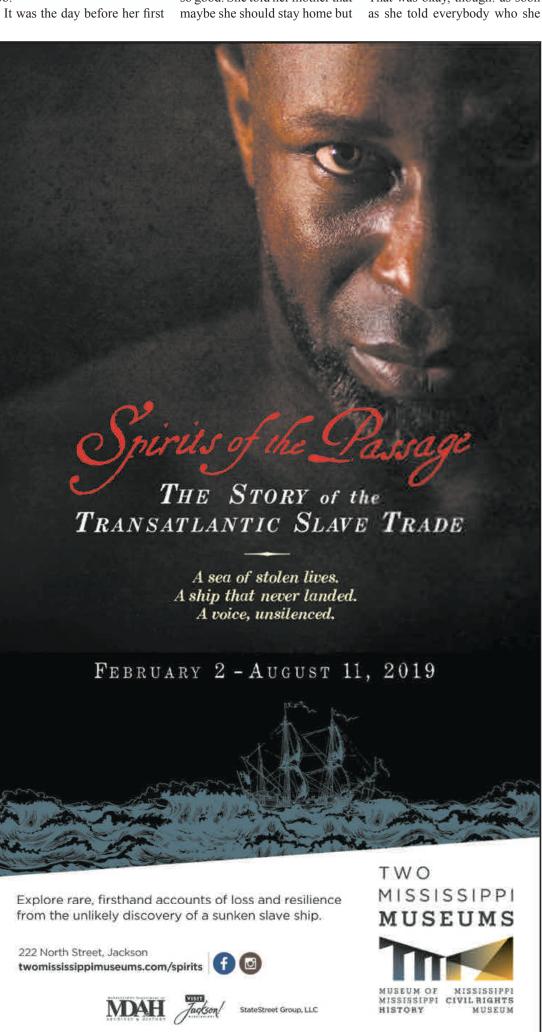
The girl was holding both hands over her belly, and Rosie knew what that meant: someone else had butterflies in her stomach, too, and Rosie knew exactly how to get them out...

When it comes to going to school for the first time, no matter how much you prepare, you really can't. Somebody's always going to be a little scared, but "Butterflies on the First Day of School" will help soothe those belly-flutters.

Author Annie Silvestro tickles at a child's imagination with the idea of real butterflies in a little girl's tummy, and she does it in such an appealing, matterof-fact way that even adults will be charmed.

Colorful artwork by Dream Chen shows gauzy butterflies being let loose every time something good happens to little Rosie, and that imagery helps make this a gentle, happy story of literally letting go of fears, and ultimately, of finding friends to boost one's confidence.

For 5-to-7-year-olds who are going to school for the first time, or for kids who are starting at a new school, this book is just perfect. "Butterflies on the First Day of School" carries a lot of goodness.



#### **Crossword Puzzle** 11 13 14 17 19 28 28 29 30 32 31 DOWN ACROSS 1. Greek god of war Totals 5. High fidelity sound system 2. Vilify Painter of melting clocks 3. Otherwise 10. Assistants 4. Italian region Pronoum. 11. Phonograph record 12. Odor Thoughts 7. Slang term for man 13. Sled Tiny island Lager 16. Peers (2 wds.) No longer at sea 18. Yard for hens (2 wds.) Urged on. 21. Poem of praise 17. Musician (3 wds.) 22. Greek D's up (hiding) Dyke Swelling 28. Realm 20. Not ever Make corrections to 23. Ash 30. No. 24. Long time 25. Sound Shina 32. Heredity component 27. Tip

**SEE SOLUTION ON PAGE 15** 

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# **Hinds County School District Weekly Update**

#### **ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE**

# **Hinds County School District welcomes** its newly appointed administrators



Cindy Thames will be joining the Raymond High School Administrative Team. Thames has more the 24 years' experience in the educational field. She has earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in special education and a specialist in

educational administrations from the University of Southern Mississippi and in March 2018 she received her doctorate in special education from Northcentral University. Thames and her husband, Tommy, have 7 children. They reside in Florence, MS.



Bobbi Burdett is serving as the curriculum coordinator at Hinds County School District. She is entering her 30th year as an educator, all of which have been completed here in Mississippi. After earning a B.A. in elementary education from Southeastern Louisiana

University, she worked as a classroom teacher for 7 years before attending Mississippi College where she received a Master's Degrees in both school counseling and school psychometry. Subsequently, she served as a district test coordinator, psychometrist, school counselor and assistant principal. She also served 7 years as the principal at North Pike Elementary in Summit, MS.



Sandra Kyles is coming to Hinds County School District as a curriculum coordinator K-5th where she will provide teachers professional development in reading, writing and math and support classroom instruction in these areas. Kyles has worked as a kindergarten,

second and third grade teacher. She has been a K-2 literacy coach for the America's Choice School Design and a K-5 literacy coach and interventionist working closely with the MTSS process. Kyles also served as a regional literacy coordinator for the Mississippi State Department of Education where she conducted and facilitated statewide professional developments and school and district PLCs. She is the mother of Aubrei and Carson, and her favorite pass time is relaxing and reading books.



Toby Price will serve as the new assistant principal at GRE this year. Price has been in education for seventeen years. He served as a principal for ten years, taught first grade, fourth grade and fifth grade. He loves reading, super heroes, Star Wars and other super geeky things. Price believes that it is his

job or mission to make school a place where kids want to be and where teachers want to teach....Everything we encounter at school, work and life is a GET TO not a HAVE

Price and his wife, Leah have been married for eighteen years and they have three children.



Holly Blackwell will be serving as a new assistant principal at Terry High School. Blackwell believes that every student should be given an equal and fair opportunity for everything in life, especially education. Blackwell's goal is to ensure that scholars receive a high-

quality education with professional and certified staff members, while learning to be productive citizens in society.

Blackwell is from Vicksburg, Mississippi and is a graduate of Belhaven College, with a degree in elementary education. Blackwell began teaching in Vicksburg, MS, in 1999. She also attended Jackson State University and earned a degree in educational leadership in 2014. She is currently a Ph.D. student at Jackson State University majoring in educational leadership with a concentration in exceptional education.

Holly is the mother to beautiful 22 year old Brooke Rigsby and she has a Chihuahua named Meeshi that she adores.

## **HCSD Employees Recognized for Achievement**

#### Congratulations to coach Daryl Jones, HCSD athletic director



The Mississippi Athletic Administrators Association and the Mississippi High School Activities Associations are proud to announce that Daryl Jones of the Hinds County School District recently earned his NIAAA Certified Athletic Administrator (CAA) designations.

The NIAAA Certification Program is a voluntary professional service to athletic administrators and is based on the premises of continuing education, professional growth and program development in the vocation of interscholastic athletic administration. It recognizes and incorporates the professional development opportunities

provided by the Leadership Training Institute. The attainment of professional certification demonstrates the completion of a comprehensive plan for selfimprovement that will enhance the ability of the athletic administrator to better serve the school, community and profession.

Jones is entering his sixth year as a full-time athletic administrator. Jones served 3 years as athletic director in the Canton Public School District before moving over to serves as athletic director in the Hinds County School District. Jones, who holds a M.S. in education leadership has 9 years of experience as

a school administrator as well. He has worked as an assistant principal in the Jackson Public School District, Hinds County School District and Columbus Municipal School District.

Jones has over 20 years of football coaching experience from the middle school level to the college level; with 18 of those years being a high school head coach.

Jones is married to his high school sweetheart Mona Lisa. They have been married for 28 years and have two children, Daryl Jr. and Alea.

#### Congratulation to Nancy Tillman, HCSD English Learning coordinator



Congratulations to Nancy Tillman for earning her certification as an English as Second Language teacher. ESL teachers work with English Language Learners (ELLs), or those students for whom English is not their primary language. ESL teachers work with ELLs to help them acquire fluency in English, both spoken and in the written word. ESL teachers, who may work with students of all ages, from kindergarten through twelfth grade, must achieve statespecific credentials in ESL if they work in a public-school setting.

ESL teachers also serve as a cultural bridge for students, linking a student's native culture with their new cultural

experience in the United States. As such, ESL teachers help students recognize the similarities between the two cultures.

Tillman is entering her 3rd year as the Hinds County School District English Learner coordinator. Tillman has worked

as a state testing U.S. history teacher for three years and one year as a Spanish teacher at Terry High School. She also worked for the Clinton School District, Jackson Public School

District and Harrison County School District. Tillman served as an assistant

power lifting coach, coached an

award-winning dance team, sponsored

the Junior Leadership Program and

GearUp Mississippi. Tillman was also instrumental in starting the Prom Closet for Harrison Central High School, Murrah High School and Terry High School.

She is a U.S. Army veteran, she served in HHB DIVARITY Baumholder Germany, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Hovey Korea, 3 tours in Ft. Polk Louisiana and served as a drill sargent in Ft. Dix, New Jersey during Desert Storm.

Married to Lonnie Tillman, they have three children, Freddie La Chanta James, Sesilie Garcia, Derrell D. Jordan and 9 grandchildren.