



Deborah Bynum



Ervin Magic Johnson

JSUs First Lady raises nearly \$320K during lunch

By Othor Cain
Editor

Thursday, Oct 10, set the tone for what was an amazing homecoming weekend for Jackson State University (JSU).

Deborah Bynum, First Lady of Mississippi's premiere urban university, hosted her second annual

First Lady's Scholarship Luncheon.

To a sold out crowd, it was announced that the goal for the luncheon was to raise \$75K. Upon learning this news, Bynum's special guest, basketball great and entrepreneur, Ervin Magic Johnson, announced a \$100K donation

to the university and used some of his time to raise an additional \$30K by raffling off two VIP Los Angeles Lakers basketball packages, that includes floor seats, signed jerseys and dinner with the Magic Man. "Cookie (Magic's wife) and I are always happy to give back and invest into the very

schools and communities that have given us so much," Johnson said. "First Lady as long as I'm invited, you'll get a donation."

Former College of Business Dean at JSU and current president of Tennessee State University,

*First Lady
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Cop who shot and killed black woman in her home resigns



Jefferson

TriceEdneyWire.com

Aaron Dean, a Fort Worth, Texas, police officer who shot to death a black woman during what was supposed to be a wellness check, has resigned from the police department.

Interim Fort Worth police chief Ed Kraus named Dean and

announced his resignation during a news conference.

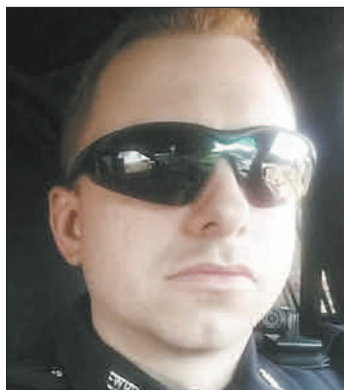
Dean shot to death Atatiana Koquice Jefferson, 28, Saturday, by firing a gun through the bedroom window of her mother's home. Jefferson died at the scene. Kraus said he intended to fire Dean, but he submitted his

resignation.

Dean faces criminal charges as well as possible civil rights violations and "no longer has the protections of state civil service law," Kraus said.

He was arrested Monday, Oct. 14 and is out on a \$200k bond.

The department had placed



Dean

Dean on administrative leave following the shooting. Dean had been a member of the Fort Worth police department since April 2018.

Dean never identified himself as a police officer and he never knocked on Jefferson's door to learn if she was okay, Kraus said.

Jefferson was playing video games with her nephew when the deadly shooting occurred. A neighbor called the police to make a wellness check because the front door was open.

Lee Merritt, the attorney for the Jefferson family, said the door was left open to cool down the house. Jefferson graduated from Xavier University and was planning to apply for medical school.

Amazon's police power sounding alarms among blacks and communities of color



NAACP President/CEO Derrick Johnson is among a string of racial justice advocates expressing concern over surveillance technology, including face recognition devices. PHOTO: SHARON FARMER/JOURNALISM ROUNDTABLE

By Hazel Trice Edney
TriceEdneyWire.com

It's no secret that Amazon has been promoting DIY (Do It Yourself) surveillance products to consumers, such as its very own smart doorbell, Ring. But what Amazon shoppers and most everyday Americans are just starting to find out is that the real target customers for these surveillance tools are police departments and other law enforcement agencies – something that should have every person of color worried.

The little we know about Amazon's surveillance tech-

nology is not good: it has been demonstrated to have racial and gender bias, and hacks have raised serious privacy concerns. As the lead local law enforcement officials, state attorneys general must suspend any partnerships with Amazon until we have more information, particularly with regards to how these technologies could impact communities of color.

Amazon has become a lightning rod for criticism as it attempts to tighten its grip around law enforcement prac-

*Amazon
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Nissan sponsors Jackson State University's Homecoming 2019

By Othor Cain
Editor

Jackson State University Let Thee Good Times Roll Homecoming 2019 was presented by Nissan. Thousands of Tiger fans, friends and alumni converged on the capital city for the highly anticipated events including a block party, scholarship luncheon, gala, various off campus activities and the ultimate match up between JSU and Alabama State that happened Saturday, Oct. 12 at 2 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

"There is nothing bigger, better or more enjoyable than a Jackson State University homecoming," said William B. Bynum Jr., president of JSU. "We are excited and enthused to have all supporters of 'Thee I Love' come together in spirited fellowship ready to showcase

their Tiger pride."

This year auto-industry giant Nissan served as the title sponsor making the collaboration the first of its kind for the vehicle manufacturer and the HBCU.

"We are thrilled to partner with Jackson State University – an organization with a rich history that serves as a transformative resource for people from all walks of life," said Rodney Francis, director, Diversity and Inclusion & Talent Acquisition, Nissan North America, Inc. "Nissan is proud to employ many graduates from Historically Black Colleges and Universities who every day make significant contributions to our business." Over 30 percent of Nissan Canton employees are JSU alums.

Bynum expressed his appreciation for Nissan's support and stressed the power of community engagement. "There is

strength in numbers, and when all work together toward one goal and one mission, then we all elevate together," he said.

Nissan has a long history of supporting HBCUs. In Mississippi alone, Nissan has invested more than \$2 million to the state's HBCUs since the Canton facility opened in 2003 – with more than half directed toward science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs.

"Supporting Jackson State University's homecoming was a natural fit, underscoring Nissan's long-standing commitment to supporting historically black colleges and universities," said Lloryn Love-Carter, manager of Corporate Communications for Nissan. "We

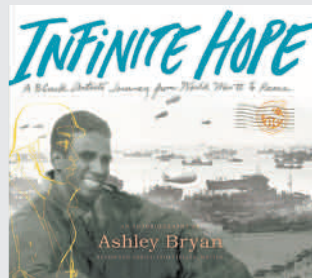
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Inside
'Power up!' Local pastor sounds wake-up call to members of the Body of Christ



Infinite Hope



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Award-winning journalist to speak at Hinds CC

He is the founder and investigative reporter for the new nonprofit, the Mississippi Center for Investigative Reporting.



Amazon

Continued from page 1

tices. Dozens of social advocacy groups, including Human Rights Watch, Color of Change and Data for Black Lives have sounded the alarm over the consequences of allowing Amazon’s surveillance tools to wrongfully target groups that advocate for justice for people of color and others. Last year, Rekognition falsely matched 28 members of Congress with criminal mugshots, disproportionately representing people of color.

Without identifying a specific company, NAACP President/CEO Derrick Johnson recently called face recognition technology “a scary proposition.”

Johnson was responding to questions from veteran journalist, Barbara Reynolds, during Richard Prince’s recent Journalism Roundtable. Reynolds expressed concern over technology “so flawed” that it doesn’t even properly represent the faces of black people.

Johnson said, concerning “face recognition technology specifically, we’ve talked to individual companies because that’s a scary proposition.” He noted that the NAACP has had ongoing discussions on the topic with the committees of Homeland Security in both the House and the Senate. “We’re in the middle of conversations with ciberexperts so that we can have a very clear policy approach dealing with – not only facial recognition – but all of the technology and how it can be used in our community against us.”

Meanwhile, researchers from Google, Facebook and Microsoft have all urged Amazon to stop selling Rekognition software to law enforcement, citing study after study that show the company’s surveillance tools simply cannot be trusted.

And what has Amazon done to address these serious allegations about racial profiling from its surveillance tools? Quietly tell law enforcement officials not to use the words “surveillance” when talking about Amazon products in public.

It is overwhelmingly clear that Amazon’s facial recognition technology is not only deeply flawed, but has the grave potential to magnify our worst racial biases if we continue to allow it to dictate policing.

Amazon’s Neighbors application similarly has put black people and other people of color at unfair risk of being targeted by law enforcement officials. Earlier this year, one review found that neighborhood watch groups using Ring footage disproportionately accused people of color of suspicious activity under the guise of law and order. Moreover, these videos are frequently accompanied by racist and verbally abusive language, demonstrating the threats these technologies pose.

Sometimes lawmakers can even be left in the dark as Amazon strikes shadowy backroom deals with local law enforcement agencies. For example, Palantir – a notorious data analytics software company hosted on Amazon Web Services that has drawn fierce backlash from hundreds of Amazon employees for its connections with immigration deportations – was secretly used by the New Orleans Police Department and was accused of overwhelmingly targeting young African-American men while having virtually no impact on reducing crime.

All of this should be setting off alarms for lawmakers and putting black communities on high alert. For his part, Senator Bernie Sanders recently came out in support of a ban on police using facial recognition technology. But much more must be done.

Giving incredibly invasive tools like Neighbors or Rekognition a greater role in our justice systems poses a threat to anyone who wants to walk the streets without the fear of being tracked and falsely targeted.

We must protect our communities of color before Amazon’s dangerous surveillance technologies become fully entrenched in our criminal justice system. All state attorneys general must immediately investigate any partnership with Amazon and bring to light how they are targeting communities of color.

First Lady

Continued from page 1

and International Basileus of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Glenda Baskin Glover served as the keynote speaker. Glover, cleverly wove together themes of empowerment, freedom, faith, giving, voting and HBCUs during her near 25-minute presentation. “Let me encourage you today, we’ve seen struggles before, we’ve faced hard times before, but we made it,” Glover said to an affirming audience of praise. “Our best days are ahead of us, so we must keep going...keep giving.”

Bynum, who is one of the first active first lady’s in recent memory at JSU, has several initiatives on campus including the Tiger Career Closet, Food Pantry and Clean Environment Campaigns, was elated at the results of the luncheon. “I am just in awe, I thank all of you for being here and for what you’ve helped us do, she said to a standing ovation. “All of the monies raised goes towards helping our students succeed at Jackson State. A grand total of \$316,535 was raised today for deserving students.”

The 11th president of JSU, William Bynum, who perhaps has a future career in the ministry, was overtaken by joy with the participation, that during his closing remarks gave a mini sermon. “Sometimes we are so consumed by the cars in our driveways that get us to and fro that we sometimes forget to thank God, ...sometimes we are so consumed by the clothes that adorn our bodies that we sometimes forget to thank God ” he said to an audience that seemingly responded in a call and response type of way that was reminiscent of Sunday morning worship.

See photos Page 5.

Homecoming

Continued from page 1

were looking for an opportunity that truly touched the hearts of the community. What better opportunity than homecoming, where students, alumni and the greater Jackson community, and beyond, gather to celebrate and reunite.”

Boasting a slew of fun-filled activities Let Thee Good Times Roll JSU Homecoming 2019 had something for everyone. Tiger favorites were the street jam, yard fest and the homecoming parade with JSU Legend and Pro Football Hall of Famer Robert Brazile as this year’s marshal. Chicago rapper G Herbo served as special guest for the homecoming step show. The homecoming concert featured Capital Records recording artist Lil Baby,

and viral sensation, LightSkin Keisha.

Nissan Canton supports nonprofit organizations that address critical issues in the community and state – from education and diversity to affordable housing and hunger. Additionally, Nissan Canton and its generous employees have given more than \$16 million in local charitable contributions since the plant opened in Mississippi more than 16 years ago. Nissan Canton employees have donated more than 10,000 volunteer hours to more than 200 nonprofit organizations in the Greater Jackson area.

Thee Good Times really did roll.

See photos Page 16 and 19.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Mr. and Miss. Jackson State University



Grant Broadway and Naysa Lynch participate in Homecoming Parade.

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Get the working group’s guide for free at entergybrightfuture.com.

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WE POWER LIFE®

‘Power up!’ Local pastor sounds wake-up call to members of the Body of Christ

Holy Temple Baptist Church celebrates 32nd-Year Church Anniversary

By Gail M. Brown
Guest Writer

Although it was slated as Holy Temple’s 32nd-Year church anniversary, God worked it into an alarming call for revival to members of the Body of Christ everywhere.

As anniversary speaker, Rev. Dr. Stanley L. Smith, pastor of Crossroads M.B. Church of Jackson, rose to the pulpit singing and swaying to the refrain from Hezekiah Walker & LFC’s popular gospel tune, “Grateful,” the congregation began to join his spiritual vibes. The refrain: “Flowing from my heart; Are the issues of my heart,” (building louder with each repeat) and then dropping into, “It’s gratefulness.”

What an awesome way to set the spiritual tone for a church anniversary. “We are truly grateful for these 32 years,” Holy Temple’s pastor of 13 years Rev. Audrey Lynne Hall later commented.

However, the congregation would soon learn that he was also being spiritually charged by God to deliver a different message (as Pastor Stanley indicated) than God had given him prior to coming.

The tall in stature man of God then took the theme but more so the theme scripture line by line and precept by precept and sounded the alarm that God is calling his people to, “Power Up!” The



Rev. Stanley Smith demonstrating the Power Up! image with Pastor Audrey Hall



Crossroads First Lady Stephanie Smith

theme was “Powering Up to God on all Levels: Physically, Mentally and Spiritually” based on the scripture from Ephesians 3:20 – “Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think according to the power that worketh in us.”

Rev. Stanley plainly pointed out that in the physical when we wake up in the mornings, we don’t just wake up and go to moving. We have to do some things, and as we do, we get a little more energy to do something else. “We are powering up!” He also re-emphasized the “Now” at the beginning of the scripture. “Now means now; not yesterday, not tomorrow, but now,” said Smith, who is also the founder of Crossroads.

In his message, he reminded us that God has given us power to stand up to the adversary. He said that when we are going through trials and tribulations, we need to



Pastor Hall (right) is standing with members of the 10 Flames of Fire of the JSU Spring 1975 Gamma Rho Chapter of AKA, Inc. From left, Toni White, Cheryl McClellan-Thompson, Rose McGee and Edna Caston

speak to the devil and say: “I am more than a conqueror in Christ Jesus. I can do all things through Christ who strengthen me. Power up!

He looked intensely at the congregation and asked the question: “Didn’t it say in the scripture that God is able to do “exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think? That’s overflow,

ya’ll. That means when he gives us more than enough, we are supposed to share.” He then demonstrated giving and sharing during a role-play exercise with members of the congregation. “See how God’s abundance works. It just keeps on giving.”

Described by his wife and First Lady Stephanie Smith as a “man who is truly after God’s

own heart,” Pastor Stanley told the church that we as a Body of Believers need to stop worrying about who is not here, and go after the un-churched. God commissioned us to do that. “It is nothing for my husband and pastor to reach out to those sleeping under the bridges. He has a heart for people,” she said.

Co-chairpersons Rose E. Mc-

Gee and Cheryl Brown say they were both encouraged by the message. “Pastor Stanley’s message was on point for such a time as this,” said McGee. “He brought the theme scripture to life where even young people could understand exactly what the Word of God was saying.”

Brown said she appreciated the reminder that we have to “Power Up to/with God to be able to handle anything that the enemy sends our way. If we Power Up, we can do what we need to do to survive.”

Deacon Chairman Edison T. Brown Jr. said the anniversary message “was truly spiritually enlightening and to put it simply, he said what needed to be said.”

Pastor Hall and the Smiths have been longtime friends. She said Holy Temple was blessed by them, their congregation, other visitors and friends for taking time to come and help celebrate its 32nd anniversary.

Asked about her thoughts on Pastor Stanley’s his message, she responded:

“Pastor Smith encouraged the body of Christ to Power Up! When you are going through difficulties, Power Up! When life beats us down, Power Up! Whatever the trials in our life are, Power Up! I was empowered by the anniversary message to never leave my power source – Jesus Christ.”

PHOTOS BY GAIL M. BROWN

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JSU First Lady's Scholarship Luncheon

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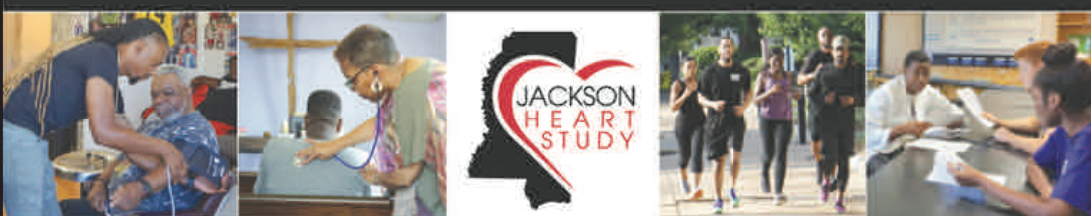


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Chastain Lady Warriors claim 2019 JPS Middle School Volleyball Championship

Mississippi Link Newswire

Congratulations to the Lady Warriors of Chastain on winning the 2019-2020 JPS Middle School Volleyball Championship. This is the team's second year in a row to win the districtwide championship in volleyball. The Lady Warriors, winners of the North Division Championship, took on the South Division Champions, the Lady Lions of Cardozo.

Chastain won back-to-back sets, 25-10 and 25-13, to capture the best two out of three series and claim the 2019 title.

Dina Smith is the head coach of the Chastain girls volleyball team. Her assistants are Tiffany Dennis and Andrew Fisher. The Lady Lions' head coach is Dhabran Hall.



2019 JPS Middle School Volleyball Champions, Chastain Middle School: Asst. girls volleyball coach Tiffany Dennis (far left), Chastain players, assistant coach Andrew Fisher (center back), and head girls volleyball coach Dina Smith (far right)

Closure of I-20 in Jackson to impact routes for JPS students and employees

Mississippi Link Newswire


The Mississippi Department of Transportation has issued a release informing the public of its plans to close a section of Interstate 20 in Jackson. The closures will impact routes to and from JPS schools and other JPS locations in the coming weeks.

The first closure period begins Friday, October 18, and the second closure begins Friday, October 25. Each of these closure periods will last for five days and therefore will extend through the first part of the subsequent work weeks. JPS families and employees are encouraged to plan in advance alternate routes to and from work, school and activities.

Details of the project are outlined in MDOT's press release copied below.


Next week, beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 18, Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) crews will close I-20 eastbound over Lynch Creek in Jackson to perform a bridge rehabilitation project.

The project, which requires two separate five-day closure periods, calls for the partial removal and replacement of both the eastbound and westbound bridge decks. The second closure will take place on the westbound side of I-20 one week later, on October 25 at 7 p.m. Each closure will begin at 7 p.m. and end

**Start your trip off right.**


MDOT has **free resources** to help you deal with traffic. Access what you need to know about road conditions, construction zones, weather and more – even locate welcome centers and rest areas.



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MDOT has provided several ways for motorists to stay informed, including MDOTtraffic.com, Facebook and Twitter.

by 6 a.m. the following Thursday.

The project will have a major impact on traffic. During construction, freight traffic will be directed to I-220 to detour around the I-20 closures. Local traffic will be directed to Highway 80. During the I-20 westbound closure, the on-ramp to I-55 north from County Line Road will close as needed to help with traffic flow on I-55 northbound.

Work will consist of removing and replacing sections of both the eastbound and westbound bridge decks. Using high-pressure water, crews will remove the existing bridge deck before placing the new deck and restriping the travel lanes.

Crews will also place rip-rap along the creek bed to prevent erosion.

Motorists are reminded to be on high alert for flagmen and roadside workers. Advance warning and detour signage will be in place for communication with the traveling public.

Motorists can stay updated on this project and others by visiting MDOTtraffic.com, downloading the free MDOT Traffic app, or liking and following @MississippiDOT on Facebook and Twitter.

For information about how to navigate highway work zones safely, visit GoMDOT.com/drivesmartms.

Parent-Teacher Conference Day moved to Monday, October 21




Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Public Schools will hold Parent-Teacher Conference Day Monday, October 21. Schools will be open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. for parents to meet with teachers to discuss student progress. Report cards will be issued on this day. There will be no school for students.

Parent-Teacher Conference Day was originally scheduled for October 14, however, the board approved a change to the calendar at its August meeting. Monday, October 14 will be a full regular school day.

For more information, contact your child's school.


Let's celebrate, appreciate and advocate for principals





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National Principals Month

October 2019

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Mississippi Link Newswire

October is National Principals Month. Throughout the month, Jackson Public Schools will be honoring JPS principals for their significant impact on the success and well-being of our students. We invite you to join us in showing appreciation for their hard work and dedication.

Let your voice be heard this month to honor, thank and advocate for all principals. You can share our posts on Facebook and Twitter, create your own, or use one of the National Principals Month e-cards. Be sure to add #ThankAPrincipal with whatever you post.

Every year in October, the American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA), the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) join forces to celebrate our nation's principals for their tireless dedication to their students and the schools they serve.

Learn more and get additional resources for celebrating National Principals Month.

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Tougaloo Spotlights

Student Spotlight

Presidential Scholar Enleyona Weir is making her time at the Eagle Queen count.

As a junior completing a dual degree in chemistry and mathematics, she is gaining valuable experiences inside and outside of the classroom. Weir is a member of many organizations, such as the American Chemistry Society, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Pre-Alumni Council and Tougaloo Marketing Team.

During the summer of 2019, the native of Portland, Jamaica conducted research at the University of Illinois as a St. Elmo Brady Scholar. In 1916, Brady, an alumnus of University of Illinois, became the first African American to receive a PhD in Chemistry in the U.S. He later founded chemistry programs at Tougaloo College and three other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

How did you learn about Tougaloo College?

I originally learned about Tougaloo College through a non- profit organization, Passport to College (PTC) which helps minority students with financial constraints to attend college, preferably HBCU. Tougaloo College was one of my top choices.

What are some of your future professional and personal goals?

I am driven to become a pharmacologist in the future. I intend to own a pharmacy and to start developing more community centers to get juveniles off the streets and into facilities where they can learn skills for employment.

How is your time as a student at Tougaloo preparing you for your career and life after college?

Tougaloo College is a small, family community, with super friendly faculty and staff. So far, I have experienced working as a scientist in a lab. Having these experiences will help me in my career, as well as help me encourage young people so they know that their voices matter.

What is one of your most memorable moments at Tougaloo or related to Tougaloo?

One of my most memorable moments at Tougaloo



Weir

College is being able to represent my culture during Humanities Week in March. I had the opportunity bring diversity to this campus.

What advice would you give to other Eaglets?

Tougaloo College is a small institution but the resources available to students seem to be never-ending. If you are a student on this campus, you are guaranteed a future, so use all the resources available and take advantage of every opportunity.

What advice would you give to any student, young or old?

The only limit in life is you limiting yourself. Every walk is a journey and every journey is a walk. You have to work to succeed; nothing in life comes easy. If you feel like the weight of life is too heavy, give it to God. This is your purpose, not your defeat. Utilize every resource given so you can give back these resources.

What are some things you enjoy doing in your free time?

In my free time, I enjoy walking, taking and editing pictures and watching TV.

Employee Spotlight

Coach Keith Barnes is the newly-appointed Director of Athletics. As he continues to serve in his role as head women's basketball coach, like he has for more than a year, some of the responsibilities of his position include developing, managing and implementing all policies and operating procedures set forth by the college, as well as, within the athletic department. Barnes manages operating procedures, in addition to coordinating recruitment, scheduling and transportation within the department. The Tougaloo alumnus is also charged with developing an accomplished basketball team, and thereby developing future leaders for our world.

What is your educational background?

M.S. Educational Administration and Supervision, Jackson State University; B.A. Economic/Business Administration '84, Tougaloo College; Mississippi Administration Certification and Teachers' Certification in Mathematics.

What is your motto for serving others?

I don't always understand the plan God has for my life but I will continue to trust him as he calls me to serve (God is my CEO).

What are some of your future professional and personal goals?

To be a beacon of light to anyone who wants to see. Try to lead by example and model the way.



Barnes

What is one of your most memorable moments at Tougaloo?

Having 4 siblings (3 enrolled, 1 residence director) on campus my first year at TC.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

Coaching, singing, watching and helping others grow to reach their capacity.

What advice would you give to current employees who may be a bit tired, but know they still need to provide good customer service to the Tougaloo community?

Stay the course, just keep providing the service within your capacity and one day that eagle you are serving will soar. Someone helped me.

Alumni Spotlight

Alumna Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw '96 is changing lives in the field of education as a founder of a charter school. Currently living in Olive Branch, MS, she is working as an education entrepreneur as the founder of nonprofit, MS Delta Academies. Shaw is adamant about increasing education options for students in underserved areas. She plans to provide opportunities that will equip and empower students to attend and graduate from college. The educator wants to plan, develop, and open schools that will provide the kind of college-ready students Tougaloo has a rich history of serving and preparing for life.

How did your time as a student at Tougaloo prepare you for your career and life after college?

Being a student at Tougaloo gave me the foundation for being an independent adult. It was at Tougaloo that I learned to prioritize my time, deepen my knowledge and think both critically and carefully. From the classes to the opportunities I experienced at Tougaloo, I learned what it truly meant to be purposeful about my trajectory in life.

When is the last time you've been to campus?

The last time – and especially the last time prior to that – remind me of such great memories. I am a life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and I was initiated right there on the campus of Tougaloo



Shaw

College into the Gamma Omicron chapter in Fall 1993. My line sisters and I convened for our 25th line reunion in November 2018, and of course we spent quality time on campus reminiscing and giving back.

What advice would you give to current eaglets?

I would say to them what I've said to the several Eaglets I've encouraged to attend this great college, "College is the absolute best time of your life; having that college experience at Tougaloo makes it even better. Understand Tougaloo for what it means historically, what it offers presently, and what you will enjoy in life from being a Tougaloo grad in the future. Do your part and the rest will be history."

Hinds CC honors Foundation Scholarship recipients

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Hinds Community College Foundation recognized 2019-2020 scholarship recipients, donors and honorees at a reception Sept. 27 at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus.

Among those recognized was Jonathan Washington of Clinton, who received the Mississippi Association of Petroleum Landmen Scholarship.

The Hinds Community College Foundation will award more than 600 scholarships during the 2019-2020 academic year. The deadline to apply for a scholarship for fall 2020, academic year 2020-2021, is Feb. 15, 2020.

As Mississippi's largest community college, Hinds Community College is a comprehensive institution offering quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career and technical programs teaching job-ready skills.

With six locations in cen-



Washington

tral Mississippi, Hinds enrolls about 12,000 students each fall semester.

To learn more, visit www.hindscc.edu or call 1.800.HindsCC.

Statement on University of Mississippi chancellor search process

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Board of Trustees followed its policies and bylaws throughout the search process for a University of Mississippi Chancellor. The board initiated its search process pursuant to IHL policy 201.0509. It is important to note that Section E. of Policy 201.0509, entitled "Recruitment," allows the board, at any point in the search process, to add additional candidates to the pool being considered without starting the process over.

Policy 201.0509 E. goes on to state that "The decision regarding whether to have any

such additional candidates reviewed by the Campus Search Advisory Committee is in the discretion of the board. Additional interviews may be conducted as desired by the board."

When the board decided October 3 to ask Dr. Glenn Boyce to discuss possibly taking the position as chancellor, and when the board interviewed Dr. Boyce for the position October 3, the board was exercising Section E. of Policy 201.0509.

The board next followed its bylaw 301.0510 D. when it voted to suspend/waive the remainder of the requirements of

its search process within Policy 201.0509 and to hire Dr. Boyce as chancellor.

Bylaw 301.0510 D. states that "A member may move to suspend any policies, bylaws or rules. A motion to suspend shall state the matter of business to be considered, must be properly seconded, and shall fail without a vote in favor of same by at least seven members of the board."

Once again, the Board of Trustees followed its policies and bylaws throughout the search process for a UM chancellor.

Hinds CC honors Foundation Scholarship recipients



Front row: Kam Jones, Back row: Alex Weathers Sr., Krystal Norwood and recipient Alex Weathers, Jr.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Hinds Community College Foundation recognized 2019-2020 scholarship recipients, donors and honorees at a reception Sept. 27 at the Muse Center on the Rankin Campus.

Among those recognized were

Alex Weathers Jr. of Vicksburg, who received the Kam Jones Scholarship. With him was his father, Alex Weathers Sr., and donors Krystal Norwood and Kam Jones.

The Hinds Community College Foundation will award more

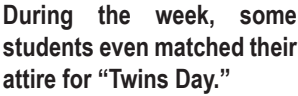
than 600 scholarships during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The deadline to apply for a scholarship for fall 2020, academic year 2020-2021, is Feb. 15, 2020.

For more information, visit www.hindscc.edu.

y L.A. Warren
umsnews.com

T-Ran said he remembers his own experience as young adult in college. “I had certain people in my life to let me know I have value. Now, today, it’s amazing to see these vibrant young adults who are going to change the industry and the world. To the students, I want to say know your value; know who you are; and remember that your rejection is your protection. So, live and not die.”



Community Shred Days announced

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippians who need to shred sensitive documents should pack them up, as three cities across the state will soon hold three Community Shred Days. Attorney General Jim Hood announced three community shred days, which is an opportunity for consumers to better protect themselves against identity theft. The events will be held October 21 in Greenville, October 28 in Jackson and October 30 in Horn Lake.

FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAYS

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LOWES

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HORNLAKE

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8:00 A.M. UNTIL THE TRUCK IS FULL

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8:00 A.M. UNTIL THE TRUCK IS FULL

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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13 Halloween safety tips from AMR medics

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The smartest Halloween goblins go trick-or-treating with safety foremost in mind. Research has found a child is more likely to be hit by a car on Halloween than on any other day of the year. Injuries from falls are also common. Paramedics at AMR give these 13 Halloween safety tips to make sure this year's trick-or-treating is scary and fun, not scary and dangerous.

- Be sure an adult stays with the children at all times. Do not let the group split up.
- Decide on a definite route and timetable before leaving your house. Finish your trip before dark.
- Costumes should be brightly-colored and reflect light. Stripe reflective tape across the front and back and on the shoes.
- Be certain the children can see where they're going. Use make-up on the kids'

faces, not masks. Masks are hard to see through and breathe through. Avoid hats, helmets, wigs and beards.

- Costumes should fit well, not so loose as to trip over or snag on things. Wear flat shoes with closed toes that are the right size for the child. Avoid over-sized shoes such a clown would wear.
- Costumes must be flame-retardant all over, including capes.
- Carry flashlights, never candles or torches. Trick-or-treat only in well-lighted areas.
- Keep at least one of each child's hands free. Instead of letting a child carry a candy bag by hand, add a strap to the bag and drape the bag over the child's shoulder. Do not wear monster gloves. Be sure the bag doesn't drag on the ground.
- Stay on sidewalks, walk facing traffic, cross streets only at intersections, don't

run across lawns and don't jump ditches.

- Approach only those houses with outside lights on. Do not go into homes of people you don't know.
- Do not eat any treats until the group returns home and an adult examines each bag. Eat nothing that is even slightly suspicious. Look for items that appear to have been unwrapped and then re-wrapped.
- Dress warmly, stay alert and keep handy a small first aid kit for scraped knees and other little injuries. If a serious injury happens, dial 911 immediately.
- Consider a Halloween party at home or attend a local well-planned haunted house, instead of taking risks with door-to-door trick-or-treating.

AMR says, "Boo!" to you, too! Serving 18 Mississippi counties, the AMR family of companies is the state's busiest ambulance service.

Alcorn State University Extension Program to honor veterans at 2019 Veterans in Agriculture Conference

Veterans in Agriculture CONFERENCE

Nov. 2, 2019

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn Jackson/Flowood

118 Laurel Park Cove, Flowood, MS 39232

For more information, contact:

Carolyn Banks

Agricultural Business Management Specialist

Alcorn State University Extension Program

601.877.6260 | cbanks@alcorn.edu

Anthony Reed

Director of Special Projects

Alcorn State University Extension Program

601.877.2305 | areed@alcorn.edu

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Alcorn State University Extension Program's Small Farm Outreach Project is working in coalition with the USDA and the Veteran Administration to host the 2019 Veterans in Agriculture Conference. The event is slated to take place Nov. 2 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Flowood, MS. The conference stems from the extension program's initiative to address the agricultural needs of veterans that are involved or interested in agriculture. Funded by the USDA's Office of Partnership and Public Engagement, the conference will serve as an opportunity for veterans to be introduced to federal and state programs, develop relationships and network with other organizations and stakeholders. The program will also cover

many of the services available to veterans, such as rancher loans, technical assistance, various educational programs, basic farmer training and more. All interested participants are invited to attend. "It important for veterans to know that there are programs and services available for those that serve or have served the United States," said Anthony Reed, director of special projects, School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. "The Alcorn State University Extension Program is dedicated to serving those that have served us." For more information, contact Carolyn Banks, agricultural business management specialist, Alcorn State University Extension Program, at cbanks@alcorn.edu or 601.877.6260. You may also contact Reed at areed@alcorn.edu or 601.877.2305.

Costumes crucial to Halloween safety, advise AMR medics

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Just how safe is your child's Halloween costume? Paramedics at American Medical Response have specific advice for buying or creating costumes that help kids avoid injury while trick-or-treating. Remember: Some researchers have said children are more likely to be struck by a vehicle on Halloween than any other day of the year. The photo with this story compares a trick-or-treater dressed safely with one dressed unsafely, namely, a commando ghou and a witch. Starting at the goblins' heads and going to their feet, notice that the safe little witch has a hat that leaves the face unobstructed while the commando wears a heavy helmet that is too large, could fall off or otherwise become a distraction. The witch wears make-up on her face, while the commando has a mask he cannot see, hear or breathe through well. Avoid wigs, beards and loose hats. The witch's cape, though black, is striped with highly-reflective tape front and back, making her much easier to see in the dark than the commando's camouflage. Her goodie bag is also striped with reflective tape. In one hand, the witch carries a flashlight. Never let a child carry a candle. It's scary to see the commando carrying, of all things, a sharp sword. The commando's other hand is occupied with a large trick-or-treat bag, which could trip him. The witch has a smaller bag hung by a shoulder strap, leaving her second hand free. Plastic monster gloves hinder the commando from using either hand freely. Knit stockings protect the witch's legs from the chill and from briars, but the commando's pants are so loose they will easily snag on bushes, fences or other objects. The witch wears sensible shoes without heels, but, if the commando's pants don't trip him, his oversize shoes will. Be sure the costume is made of flame-retardant material and is warm and sturdy enough to take lots of activity. AMR says, "Boo!" to you, too! About American Medical Response (AMR):



Operating in 19 counties, AMR companies in Mississippi are the state's busiest ambulance services. American Medical Response, Inc., America's leading provider of medical transportation, provides services in 40 states and the District of Columbia. More than 28,000 AMR paramedics, EMTs, RNs and other professionals work together to transport more than 4.8 million patients nationwide each year in critical, emergency and non-emergency situations. AMR also provides fire services through Rural Metro Fire Department, www.ruralmetrofire.com. For more information about AMR, visit www.amr.net and follow American Medical Response on Facebook @AMR_Social on Twitter and Instagram. AMR is part of the Global Medical Response family of companies. Global Medical Response, Inc. is the industry-leading air, ground, specialty and residential fire services and managed medical transportation organization. With more than 38,000 employees, we deliver compassionate, quality medical care, primarily in the areas of emergency and patient relocation services, in the United States, the District of Columbia and around the world. For more information, visit www.globalmedicalresponse.com.

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PART 2

Profile in Education Equity: Sharif El-Mekki

Leading with equity and justice

NNPA.com

Teachers too cite an environment that’s supportive and welcoming. This is contrary to what many black teachers, in particular, say about their experiences in schools. “When I come into this building, I think it’s my house. I’m home. I’m taking a trip from home to home,” said one teacher. “The reason I’ve been here so long is because of the family at Shoemaker,” said another.

That family or extended community is better known as the “ShoeCrew.” And the emphasis on the collective is a reminder that there is no one individual to credit. As in all families, each member contributes. But, teachers and students point to El-Mekki’s leadership as essential to nurturing a space where black students and black educators feel they belong and have the opportunity to thrive.

Last school year, Ed Trust traveled to Shoemaker to talk with students and teachers about El-Mekki’s leadership and what it takes to create and nurture a school where relationship building, community engagement and social justice are at the core.

Here’s what we learned: Bringing Back Freedom School

El-Mekki’s leadership is marked by his own cultural pride, a personal record of activism, and an unapologetic commitment to making sure black students have the supports and tools to do the nation-building their community requires them to do. As such, he said, “I’m always talking and walking on social justice issues, and I’m going to lead with that. I’m trying to lead with equity and justice in thought and action.”

Equity and justice are popular terms among today’s education advocates, and especially among those fighting to overturn systemic inequities and historical disadvantages.

But what does it mean to lead with equity and justice? What does it look like in action?

For El-Mekki, whose parents were Black Panther Party mem-



El-Mekki

bers and activists, it looks a lot like what he remembers from his experience at Nidhamu Sasa, a Pan African school in Philadelphia’s Germantown neighborhood. In the 1960s and ’70s, leaders in the Civil Rights, Black Panther, and Pan African movements founded freedom or liberation schools to counter the reality that the curriculum being taught in majority white educational settings often rendered African-American history, literature and culture invisible. Black teachers taught black students the importance of centering one’s racial identity, knowing one’s history, being a part of a community, and having a purpose – all with the broader goal of achieving social justice.

“Nidhamu Sasa was an option for families who were really looking to ensure their children’s whole self was honored, respected, celebrated, loved deeply by every adult in the building, from the secretary staff to the custodial to the teachers and the principals. I remember the staff and families coining it as an alternative learning experience,” he said.

El-Mekki admits that how he speaks to students today is influenced by his experience as a child. “Almost every day, I have freedom songs playing in my head when I’m engaging with students.”

He remembers this one especially about identity, community and purpose – key tenets of the freedom or liberation school model:

I went to a meeting last night, and my feeling just wasn’t right.

You know I thought that stuff about blackness just wasn’t for me.

And when I found out it was for me, I joined in the unity.

And now I’m down for the struggle for liberation.

He also remembers songs about historic Black leaders, such as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., and Sojourner Truth. But, as important, students at Nidhamu Sasa learned about and from contemporary activists – those making history at the time. Sonia Sanchez, whose child was one of El-Mekki’s schoolmates, would recite her revolutionary poetry for students. Angela Davis also visited the school and spent time with students. “We were at their feet learning right after math class or right after literature class. ... learning from folks who were using activism to try to change society,” El-Mekki said.

At Nidhamu Sasa, the teachers were not just teachers but activists, and they saw themselves as raising activists, said El-Mekki. They looked at the idea of loving black children as revolutionary – not that they really believed it

was revolutionary, he explains, but in contrast to what was happening in the world, it was.

Decades later, black children still encounter a world where accessing a high-quality education is a revolutionary act, and where the images they see daily and the lessons they are taught about their history and communities are too often more likely to demean than affirm.

But at Shoemaker, the photographs on the walls are primarily those of black scholars, activists, and influencers. The books on the shelves are those of black authors. And the inspirational quotes that line the concrete block walls feature those of black leaders. Students see mirrors, instead of just windows, said El-Mekki, referring to the idea that black students rarely see people who look like them in positions of leadership or as examples of intellectual excellence. White students, on the other hand, often only see people who look like them in such roles.

And instead of the message black students hear so often growing up in impoverished neighborhoods, i.e., to get a degree and get out, at Shoemaker the prevailing message is to “lift as you climb.” It’s another phrase that El-Mekki remembers from his own freedom schooling, and you’ll see it displayed prominently around the halls of Shoemaker – a reminder to students (and staff) of the responsibility to lead and serve their community.

“We’re bringing back freedom school,” El-Mekki said.

Lift as you climb

Others on Shoemaker’s staff had either attended schools that were built on the freedom or liberation school model or had taught in one. They too know the legacy first-hand and worked with El-Mekki and the entire team to infuse elements of the model into the school’s curriculum, culture, and overall foundation.

“It all starts with identity,” said literature teacher Njemele Tamala Anderson. Before joining

the Shoemaker team, she taught writing at an African-centered charter school and a service-learning focused school based on the freedom school model, both in Philadelphia.

Anderson started off last school year having students read sections from noted black scholar Na’im Akbar’s book, *Know Thy Self*. Akbar helped pioneer an African-centered approach to psychology. The excerpts provide a foundational framework for her class, linking education to a broader purpose in students’ lives. “You should learn your identity through your education, and your education should also equip you with power to control your resources, so that you can get your basic needs met and then also that you can help meet the needs of the community,” she said.

Seventh-grade writing teacher, Ansharaye Hines, (who is Anderson’s daughter) started the year weaving a lesson of identity, history, purpose, and community. On the first day of school last year, she told Shoemaker’s newest cohort what to expect: “You will read and write each day. You will use your voices to inspire others.” Writing, she explained, is an extension of ourselves: “We live in connection to a lot of other things. And every time we put a pencil to a paper, we are thinking about those things.”

But writing too serves a greater purpose. Authors influence those who come after them, “affect[ing] and echo[ing] throughout history for the rest of eternity, depending on how long their books last, and their words last,” she said. The assignment that day was for them to reflect on what helped them make it to seventh grade and to write a letter to younger classmates, giving them advice on how to do the same, essentially lifting as they climb.

Shoemaker’s students have internalized the “lift as you climb” motto. Juniors and seniors mentioned feeling a sense of responsibility and talked of careers in fields where they can serve.

Twelfth grader Armanie, for example, planned to be an early childhood educator focusing on mental health. “If I had the right people at the time being, I would be in a better place – not saying I’m not now, but I think my journey would have been a little smoother,” she said.

Aspiring psychiatrist and 12-grader Jaya shared a similar goal, narrowing her focus on students of color: “I think mental health is really important to serving the youth that need it most, which I think is marginalized youth, especially of color,” she said. “I want to be able to serve youth like I would have liked to be served.”

Tenth grader Kymarr wanted to help eliminate the dearth of black male educators and become a teacher. He’s following the path of one of his deans, who he said inspired him: “Seeing how much an educator inspired and influenced other kids to do good and be their best selves, I want to do the same thing.”

Social justice at its core

El-Mekki was taught early on that education and racial and social justice cannot be separated. So, it’s natural for him to use that as a guiding principle. But his legacy, as he sees it, is leading a school that does the same, one that focuses on social justice as one of “the main reasons for its existence.” Shoemaker’s staff “tends to it ... nurtures it ... spends time thinking about it as part of its school improvement plan, not separate from it,” El-Mekki said. “We are always talking about what social justice aspects do students need.”

All students are required to take the Social Justice course in the eighth grade. Gerald Dessus, who joined the staff three years ago, designed the course. It’s one of the reasons he came to Shoemaker. In fact, he had accepted a job at his “dream school,” but, after a conversation with El-Mekki, turned it down.

Read more online at www.themississippilink.com

Black News Channel (BNC) TV launches in America

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

In a joint teleconference broadcast live from the Four Seasons’ Hotel in New York’s Financial District, the Black News Channel (BNC) and the National Newspaper Publishers Association announced the official launch date and time for the nation’s first 24-hour, 7-days a week all-news TV channel that will focus on African-American news.

The new channel promises to inform, educate and empower nearly 50 million African Americans now living in the United States.

The potential for the network appears almost limitless.

BNC will immediately have the potential to reach 33 million households daily in all the major media markets across the nation.

Combined with the millions of readers who consume information from NNPA’s black-owned newspapers and media companies each week, the BNC could quickly become the top destination for all who want to consume African-American news on TV and on mobile devices.

BNC, which officially launches at 6 a.m. Friday, November 15, 2019, has agreements with Charter Communications, Comcast and DISH TV. The net-



work already has commitments for carriage in major African American hubs like Atlanta, New York City, Chicago, New Orleans, Houston, Philadelphia, Detroit, Washington, DC, Baltimore and Los Angeles.

Tallahassee, Florida, houses BNC’s headquarters, and the network will have news bureaus around the country, including Washington, D.C. and New York City.

Former Republican U.S. Congressman J.C. Watts is chairman of BNC, which is backed financially by business mogul and Jacksonville Jaguars owner Shad Khan.

“This platform will create a venue for the African-American community to have a dialogue to talk about news, education and cultural things,” stated Watts,

who added that the network has been in the planning stage for many years.

“I had an afro when I started this,” Watts referenced.

“It’s especially important to have the Black Press of America join us in this venture. I bet most people don’t realize that there are 223 African-American-owned newspapers in the NNPA, and that’s content for us,” Watts stated.

“We suffered a big blow with the loss of *Ebony* and *Jet*, publications I grew up reading. But I still read the Black Press in Oklahoma City, growing up.”

NNPA President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., who participated in the teleconference, said the NNPA’s partnership with the BNC is a profound win-win for Black America.

“This year marks the 192nd year of the Black Press of America. Black Americans striving for excellence in all fields of endeavor give life to our culture that attracts and impacts all people. We set trends for ourselves and others,” Chavis stated.

“We’re not a cursed people, and we are a blessed people. We continue to strive for excellence, and to have Shad Khan announced as a primary investor for the launch and sustainable development of the BNC is of major significance,” Chavis noted.

Kahn told NNPA Newswire that the decision to back BNC was easy once he looked at the mission and the business model.

“I am a big believer in the fact that we have a number of communities, obviously especially the African-American community, who are underserved,” stated Kahn, a magnate in the auto equipment industry.

In addition to the Jaguars, he owns the Fulham Football Club of the English Football League, All Elite Wrestling, and the Four Seasons Hotel Toronto.

“I hope that as time goes on, this becomes a bridge to connect all the cultures, including obviously south Asian. But I do believe there is an undeniable calling for everything the Black

News Channel will deliver to African-American television audiences, who have historically been underserved in an era where networks have otherwise successfully targeted news to specific demographic groups and interests. My decision to invest is an easy one because we get to answer that calling,” Kahn explained.

Both Watts and Kahn promised that BNC will give a voice to the varied experiences of African Americans and will not just tell a segment of the story but will tell the entire story.

“We will inform, educate, inspire and empower the African American community,” Watts added.

BNC will have three primary anchor teams who will host the network’s evening newscast, morning newscast, and midday D.C. Today Live broadcast. In addition to primary anchor teams, BNC also will have high-profile expert contributors who will add commentary and information to each newscast.

The network will work with historically black colleges and universities to ensure that all African Americans have a voice.

A BNC correspondent will examine life on the HBCU campuses and explain why the experiences students have at these

institutions of learning are so meaningful in the cultural development of many students’ lives. The weekly one-hour program will focus on what is happening at HBCUs that is good, positive and uplifting.

Additionally, one of the many topics will include Sickle Cell Diseases, the blood disorder that disproportionately affects African Americans.

Veteran TV anchor Kelly Wright, who will host a 6 p.m. show on BNC, said his inaugural program will include a segment on the NNPA’s missing black girls national series.

That series spotlights the more than 424,000 African-American women and girls who have gone missing in the United States over the past half-decade.

“We’re not looking to be Republican or Democrat. There will be current affairs, but we are culturally specific to the African-American community. MSNBC, Fox News, CNN may have African-American faces on their news shows, but they are not necessarily covering the community from a cultural perspective,” Watts stated. “We’re not looking to be left or right. We will be authentic and true to enriched and diverse African American experience.”



Defending the Gospel

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



As Christians, we need to be up and about our Father's business. Can the Lord depend on you to be up and about the Father's business? We have several tools that no other generation has had available to get the Gospel out. We have many forms of media today to reach people. We have the internet, printed tracts and many books. We have various means of recording the services. We have opportunities that other people have never had. I feel that many other generations that did not have the opportunities that we have available today have actually accomplished more. Can God depend on you to teach others about His

Word? Can He depend on you to do His blessed will? Will you be found with the faithful and true? First John 2:17 says, "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." Young person, can God depend on you not to give in to peer pressure? When you are around a certain crowd, do you do whatever they do? God is looking for young people who will not give in to peer pressure. Can God depend on you to put Christ first in your heart and life? Can He depend on you to set your affections on things above, not on things of this earth? Can He depend on you to reach out to others in this dark, sinful world? Again, Matthew 5:16 reads, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your

Father which is in Heaven." Can God depend on you to be the salt of the earth as the Bible says in Matthew, Chapter 5? To be the salt of the earth, you must have salt in yourself. Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its savor, wherewith can it be seasoned? Can God depend on you to act as a Christian should act? Can He depend on you to live as a Christian should live? Can He depend on you to dress as a Christian should dress? Can He depend on you to praise Him when you feel like it and praise Him when you do not feel like it? Can He depend on you to love your neighbors as yourself? Can He depend on you to allow Him to be the one who fights your battles? Can He depend on you not to embarrass the Kingdom of God? Can He depend on you to walk by faith and not by sight? Can God depend on you to stay

true to Him when things are going well and when things are going bad or are you a fair weather Christian? Can He depend on you whether you are feeling up or down to go right on and not allow your dilemma to interfere with the way you live? We find in Ezekiel 22:30 these words, "And I sought for a man among them that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none." Can He depend on you to stand up and say, "I will be that man or I will be that woman or God, if you are looking for someone, here I am, send me?" Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

When they see us... and shoot

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



Atatiana Jefferson joins a sad roll call of unarmed Black civilians shot by either on duty or off-duty police officers in recent years. The 28-year-old was fatally shot early in the morning of Oct. 12 by a Fort Worth police officer. The police were called to her home by a concerned neighbor to do a wellness check. Audio from the officer's body cam footage of the incident indicates that the police officer did not identify himself and waited only 4 seconds after giving a command before shooting the unarmed Jefferson through her bedroom window. Even as I sit here thinking about the incident, my feelings are all the more confusing because Jefferson's death is less than two weeks after the controversial murder trial of former Dallas police officer Amber Guyger who was convicted of shooting unarmed Botham Jean in his home. At this point, I just don't think it's enough to say we must pray for peace as Christians and wait for the investigation to be completed. When thinking about what to write this week, I was reminded of a column I wrote after the murder of 12 years old Tamir Rice by Cincinnati Police a few years ago. Sadly, I find myself coming back to its truth after every police shooting of an unarmed African American. And to be perfectly honest, wading through emotions like shock, disgust, disappointment, anxiety, fear, anger, frustration and hopelessness and trying to get to a place of peace is nearly impossible when thinking about the lack of accountability in the repeated killings of unarmed African Americans by armed and often white police officers. Yet, dealing with each of those emotions (sometimes at the same

time) brings me back to a scripture that might provide an answer on how to deal with these horrible injustices. James 2:14-17 is a familiar passage of scripture that focuses on the importance of having an active faith. In fact, verse 17 admonishes that "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." So, what does faith have to do with the social justice issues regarding the often-inhumane policing of the African-American communities? Everything. Faith that doing something could possibly change the obviously inequitable system is the spark that has inspired various candlelight vigils and protests. Faith also is the foundation for what has historically been the place of greatest and most transformative movements, the African American church. As expected, many pastors are serving as bridge builders between their communities and local law enforcement officials as they seek justice for the grieving families and communities. Botham Jean, Jordan Edwards and now Atatiana Jefferson. Each of these names represents more than just the loss of a life of African Americans killed for seemingly no reason by armed police officers. They represent a shameful truth that the United States is now forced to deal with. After decades of skirting the issues, America must confront police brutality, over policing of minority communities and blatant apathy concerning the death of young African Americans. And it's about time because #black-livesmatter! Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.

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The power of unity

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



I had the opportunity to speak for the closing session at the meeting of the World Conference of Mayors that was held at Tuskegee University in Alabama a few days ago. I have attended an untold number of conferences in my life, but this one was like no other. It was the most organized, the most educational and most unified conference I have ever attended.

First, I have to say that Tuskegee University is one of the most beautiful college campuses I've ever seen. It was a joy to walk around the campus and see so many buildings named for black heroes and sheroes. The conference was sponsored by the World Conference of Mayors whose founder is former Tuskegee Mayor Johnny Ford. Of course, no one refers to him as former mayor. He's always respectful of the current Mayor Tony Haygood, and Haygood seems to accept the fact that no matter who happens to have been elected to be mayor currently, Ford will always hold a special place in the heart of the people, and indeed he works for the benefit of Tuskegee in whatever he does; but his influence goes far beyond Tuskegee. He helps and influences what happens in so many other towns around the world. Not only did African Americans attend the conference, but African mayors and other leaders came from the African continent to Tuskegee.

Having worked as Chief of Staff for Washington, DC Mayor for Life Marion Barry, I've seen this admiration of a mayor before. I just never thought it existed anywhere else. I'm not easily impressed, but Ford is exceptional. Everybody seems to genuinely love him and rely on him for advice, for direction and help. He never disappoints. He always provides just what his followers need. He's a great influencer. He brings his contacts with the answers and the resources to the people who attend his conferences. I forgot to mention that there is a current president of the WCM who is Grambling's Mayor Ed Jones and with that same spirit of cooperation as Ford has with the current mayor of Tuskegee, it seems to roll over to Jones.

Honorees were plentiful. They ranged from Grammy award winner and former R&B singer Joe Simon, who has begun a National Voter Registration Drive that is supported by the WCM and the Black Towns and Settlements Alliance to Mayors of historic towns and settlements, the honorable Civil Rights Attorney Fred Gray, African leaders and the dynamic African Union Ambassador Dr. Arikana Chihombori-Quao who challenged us to learn our history and to visit and invest in Africa.

The role of African-American students at HBCU's was addressed. Students from Grambling, Spelman, Prairie View, Tuskegee and other schools did impressive presentations. The Tuskegee Dramatic Arts Department presented an informative play called "Booker T's Towns" that provided us with a lot of the history of Dr. Washington's work. Atty. Paxton Williams provided attendees with a very informative film called "George Washington Carver." All students who've had doubts about whether they could accomplish something with few resources need to see the film.

There were so many highlights. One of the most touching ones was our trip to the Tuskegee Airmen's Historic Site.

There were presenters of other events that are "must sees" such as the January 30, 2020 Eatonville Festival in Florida, the Selma to Montgomery Annual Jubilee February 27, 2020, the Tuskegee Carver Festival held in Tuskegee and the Texas Purple Hull Pea Festival in Shankleville. There was so much more. Once you've attended one, you will never want to miss a conference led by the one and only Mayor Johnny Ford.

Dr. E. Faye Williams is president of the National Congress of Black Women (nationalcongressbw.org). She's hosts of "Wake Up and Stay Woke" in remembrance of Dick Gregory on WPFW-FM 89.3.

By Marc H. Morial
Trice Edney Newswire



"The extent to which the 1960 undercount has short-changed inner-city residents of the political representation and economic assistance to which they are entitled is incalculable. Two million blacks missed in 1960 could symbolize the loss of five congressmen and scores of state legislators to the black community. Moreover, since more and more federal and state aid to cities is being allocated on a per capita basis, ghetto residents are increasingly being denied this economic support because of Census underenumeration." – Whitney M. Young, Jr., testimony to Congress, 1970

The 2020 Census could fail to count more than 4 million people, most of them black and Latino.

Among the many dire consequences of undercounting people of color is the draining of political influence from diverse communities into predominantly white communities. An unfair census will deprive communities of color of billions of

dollars in federal funding for programs like Head Start, Medicare, school lunch programs and transportation and safety infrastructure. It would interfere with the just enforcement of civil rights laws and constitutional protections like fair housing and voting rights.

The National Urban League and our civil rights allies are determined not to let this happen. And you can help.

Join us October 22, 8 p.m. eastern time, for the 2020 Census National Tele-Town Hall.

We're gathering leaders, activists, clergy and experts for a conversation on ways to make sure the black community is counted. Among the speakers is former Georgia gubernatorial candidate and activist Stacy Abrams.

Abrahams this year launched a new group, Fair Vote, that seeks to reach out to "hard-to-count populations" in Georgia before counting begins. She will be joined by the leaders of the organizing coalition, National Urban League, NAACP, National Action Network, the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, NAACP Legal Defense

Fund and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

It's easy to participate. Just visit <http://bit.ly/MakeBlackCountTel-etownhall> to register.

You can also follow our efforts to ensure a fair Census on social media, using the hashtag #Make-BlackCount. Make Black Count was the campaign conducted by the Coalition for a Black Count, a project of 13 civil rights organizations spearheaded by the National Urban League under the leadership of Whitney M. Young Jr.

"The coalition feared that many non-white Americans would be missed in the 1970 Census," Young testified to Congress. That fear was based on an evaluation of the Bureau of the Census' plans for counting minorities. In the opinion of the coalition, those plans were fraught with many serious deficiencies." Young listed these as inadequate mailing procedures, inadequate assistance for completing the complex forms, poor community educational activity about the Census and distorted publicity from the Bureau of the Census, "which tended to shift the blame for a potentially

large undercount to a 'hostile black community.'"

Sound familiar? Threats to an accurate 2020 Census include underfunding, hiring issues, inadequate testing and the lingering effects of a failed attempt to add a citizenship question.

Even though the effort to add a citizenship question was defeated, the controversy around it could intimidate some immigrants and their families from responding to the census.

Earlier this year, the non-partisan think tank Urban Institute found that a "high risk" scenario could result not only in black and Hispanic households being undercounted nationally by almost 4 percent, but also in white households being overcounted by .03 percent nationally.

This raises concerns that "one group will benefit more than it should at the expense of others," the institute's vice president and chief methodologist, Robert Santos, said.

Fight back against the short-changing of black communities. Find out how on the 2020 Census National Tele-Town Hall.

Nothing just about 'justice'

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



Twenty-one-year-old Deandre Sullivan overslept one morning. Selected to serve on a jury, he was supposed to report by 9 a.m. He didn't awaken until 11 and figured he'd have to pay a fine for his no-show. But hours after he failed to appear, he was hauled into a West Palm Beach, Florida court. There, Judge John Kastrenakus sentenced him to 10 days of incarceration, a fine, 300 hours of community service, and probation. At the time of his sentencing, the judge complained that Sullivan held the court up for 45 minutes. So for 45 minutes, he gets ten days or 240 hours.

The young man had a spotless record, was a caretaker for his disabled grandfather, and was a model citizen. He is also a young black man, the kind of man who is too often devalued by white supremacists. After all, how many businessmen or women has Kastrenakus sentenced to jail time for being jury no-shows?

Weeks after young Sullivan served his time, his sentence was vacated, and Kastrenakus offered condescending comments about the young man's future. Despite the voided conviction, his arrest record remains online. From my perspective,

Kastrenakus has no business being a judge. Maybe ten days in jail would shift his kaleidoscope and make him more compassionate.

While Sullivan overslept, Felicity Huffman overstepped her boundaries big time. She paid to get her daughters into college and was exposed for her corrupt behavior when law enforcement caught on to a college admission scam in which dozens of wealthy white parents participated.

While young black people on elite campuses are often disparaged as being "unqualified," privileged white people can hide behind their privilege and get away with it. Huffman was sentenced to a mere 14 days in jail, perhaps because she owned up to her crimes. She shed the white-girl victim tears (I'm so sorry, cause I got caught) that we are so accustomed to seeing. I am so tired of seeing folk offer sympathy, empathy and a break for crying white women.

Huffman was fined \$30,000, which is a slap on the wrist for someone of her wealth. She should have been fined an amount that pinched, if not hurt. How about a six-figure fine, used for college scholarship funds for those who are less privileged than her coddled daughters?

One of my favorite crooners, the incomparable John Legend, opined

that no good is served when Huffman spends time in jail. If the so-called system were not so unjust, I might agree. But while it serves no one to see Huffman in prison, did it serve anyone to see Sullivan there? It seems that humanistic approaches to incarceration are only rolled out when the white and privileged are caught breaking the law. Huffman got a slap on the wrist. Sullivan got a life-altering experience that he would not "wish on his worst enemy."

Who does it serve that Tonya McDowell was sentenced to five years in jail and five more of probation for enrolling her child in the wrong school? The homeless woman used a friend's address to send her child to a better school and was charged with "stealing" \$15,000 of educational services. If the delivery of education were not so uneven, would she have been forced to use someone else's address for her son to get a quality education? And to echo John Legend, who is served by her incarceration?

Chrystal Mason, a convicted felon, was leading a redeemed life when she was urged to vote in Texas in 2016. Her probation officer didn't tell her she was ineligible to vote. The people who took her ballot never asked her about her status. She was sentenced to five years in jail for illegal voting in Tarrant County,

Texas. Absolutely. Who was served by her incarceration?

Amber Guyger, who massacred the incandescent young Botham Jean in his Dallas apartment, apparently because she was too busy sexting her married lover to pay attention to her intrusion into the wrong apartment, got a slap on the wrist with a 10-year sentence for murder. She could have gotten 99 years, but the jury chose mercy instead of punishment. Who does that for black defendants? She was rewarded for her pitiful, crocodile tearful testimony with hugs, both from the murdered man's brother, but also, inappropriately, from Judge Tammy Kemp. How many black defendants did the black judge hug and gift her personal Bible?

The pattern is clear. White folks get a slap on the wrist if they are even charged for their crimes. Black people get the book thrown at them for even minor infractions. There is nothing just about justice in this country, and it is ready to get even more unjust. So when you pledge that flag for "liberty, freedom and justice for all," think about who actually experiences justice.

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

Trump's favorite dictator

By Bill Fletcher, Jr.
NNPA News Wire Columnist



Egypt, which along with Tunisia was at the heart of the 2011-2012 "Arab Spring," is in the midst of a new upsurge. It is premature to call it an uprising, but something is afoot in Egypt in opposition to the repression and corruption of the el-Sisi regime.

Abdel Fattah el-Sisi came to power in 2013 in Egypt as a re-

sult of a military-led hijacking of a massive protest against the power-grab by the administration of former President Mohamed Morsi. Instead of deepening the process of democratization in Egypt, el-Sisi and his military cohorts reversed course and re-created a strongly authoritarian state. Dissent has been largely crushed, or at least so it seemed until very recently.

When Donald Trump allegedly referred to el-Sisi as his 'favorite dictator' that said a great deal about both el-Sisi and Trump.

What it said about el-Sisi was to remind the world that his regime is among the favorite of the United States elite in its policies in the Middle East and North Africa. El-Sisi has no interest in providing assistance to the beleaguered Palestinians, is actively participating in the further destabilization of the internal situation in Libya and has worked to subvert the Sudanese Revolution.

What it said about Trump was to remind us that this is an administration that does not even pretend to have scruples. Just as

they have covered for the Saudi Arabian monarchy in the murder of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi (while he was in Istanbul), going so far as to suggest that a financial relationship between the USA and Saudi Arabia was more important than human rights, the Trump administration has been quite willing to support the repression conducted by el-Sisi. In fact, Trump applauded el-Sisi, offering the view that el-Sisi had brought order to chaos and that el-Sisi was a great leader.

El-Sisi's regime has clamped

down on non-governmental organizations, independent trade unions, and members of the press. There is nothing in this regime that would suggest an expansion on human rights and political liberties. But the point is that this is irrelevant to the Trump administration.

Despite Trump's applause of el-Sisi, thousands of Egyptians, seemingly out of nowhere, began protests against corruption and human rights abuses by the governing regime. There is no way to anticipate whether this

will be a brief episode or whether it will evolve into something that threatens the regime. What can be said, however, is that el-Sisi and Trump appear to be trying to keep a bubble – the Egyptian people – under water.

That rarely works.

Bill Fletcher Jr. is the executive editor of www.globalafricanworker.com. He is the former president of TransAfrica Forum and the author of the mystery novel *The Man Who Fell From the Sky*.

Medicare open enrollment begins October 15, 2019

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The open enrollment period for Medicare runs from October 15 through December 7, 2019 at which time you may change your Medicare health or prescription coverage for 2020.

“As insurance commissioner I take my responsibilities of protecting the consumers of this state very seriously. Never is that more true than when it comes to the ever-growing, complex issues facing seniors in Mississippi relating to their health coverage,” said Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney.

“Rising health care costs put a strain on many retirement budgets and seniors need to remain well informed to make the most economical decisions.”

While the Mississippi Insurance Department (MID) does not regulate Advantage Plans, the MID is available to answer questions if you have concerns or are confused by the open enrollment process. Consumers with questions should call 1-800-562-2957.

Medicare is a federal insurance program comprised of four parts that is administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Medicare is for people age 65 or older or for people who are under 65 with certain disabilities or End Stage Renal Disease.

There are several things you should consider during each open enrollment period:

- Read all notices you get from Medicare about upcoming changes, many of which can be found in the annual Medicare Supplement Shoppers Guide issued by MID. Yearly Medicare revisions can include such changes as out of pocket limits and prescription costs.
- Know that there are programs out there to assist you in paying for Medicare. You can find out about these programs at medicare.gov or the Division of

Aging and Adult Services of the Mississippi Department of Human Services.

Individuals who contact you about any type of private Medicare coverage:

- Must be licensed by the state. Check with the Mississippi Insurance Department to make sure the salesperson is a licensed agent.
- May not make unsolicited contact, such as door-to-door sales, cold calls or approaching you in a parking lot.
- Must make an appointment before coming to your home.
- Must arrange in advance the type of products that will be discussed during a scheduled sales appointment. At the appointment, the salesperson may not try to sell you other types of insurance coverage other than the type(s) agreed upon in advance.
- May not try to sell you non-health care related products (like a life insurance policy or an annuity) during a sales or marketing presentation of a Medicare prescription drug or Medicare Advantage plan.
- May not attempt to sell you a plan in certain health care settings, such as a doctor’s office or a pharmacy.
- May not attempt to sell you a plan at an educational event.
- May not offer you free meals at promotional or sales events.
- Do not give out personal information, such as Social Security numbers, bank account numbers or credit card numbers to anyone you have not verified as a licensed agent. People are not allowed to request such personal information in their marketing activities and cannot ask for payment over the Internet. They must send you a bill. Once you decide to purchase a plan and have verified that the agent is licensed, you may give the agent personal information to assist in enrollment and billing.

After applying for FEMA assistance, it’s important to keep in touch

The Mississippi Link Newswire

It’s important to keep in touch with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) after you have registered for disaster assistance.

Many survivors of the storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes and flooding that hit parts of Mississippi this year may be transitioning from their damaged homes to temporary rentals or other temporary housing. If you change your address, telephone number or bank account information, update that information with FEMA immediately.

Without accurate contact information on file with FEMA, you could miss important correspondence or telephone calls. Inaccurate banking information could lead to your direct-deposit

grants being delayed. If you need to make any updates to your information, call FEMA at 800-621-3362 or make updates within your online account. If your flood-damaged home is inaccessible because of road closures, evacuation orders or debris, advise FEMA once your house becomes available for inspection by a FEMA housing inspector.

If you suffered damage or loss from the storms and have not yet applied for FEMA disaster assistance, you should register right away.

You can apply by visiting www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling 800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585), 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Multilingual operators are available. The deadline to register is Nov. 19, 2019.

The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi launches new project focusing on combating youth vaping epidemic

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi has recently launched a new project Generation Free – “Break the Habit,” focusing on increasing awareness and providing education regarding vaping, while also encouraging youth to “break their vape” or participate in different activities to keep them from using E-Cigarettes.

The partnership has selected four schools to participate in the innovative program – St. Andrew’s Episcopal School, Madison Central High School, Brookhaven High School and Oxford High School.

The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi raised concerns for this being a possible epidemic ten years ago. Now, unfortunately, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Scott Gottlieb declared youth vaping an “epidemic.” Sandra Shelson, executive director of The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi, expressed concerns and need for action because, “Teenagers are becoming regular increased users; these vaping companies have targeted them by making their products more appealing through marketing tactics and the use of flavors.”

Our youth are once again being targeted by the insidious nicotine pushers and our youth vaping rates have increased at a staggeringly high rate.

More than 2 million middle school and high school students use vaping devices. Vapes are by far the most popular nicotine product among

teens. Among high school students, 27.5% reported using an e-cigarette in the previous 30 days, up from 20.8% in 2018, according to preliminary results from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s annual National Youth Tobacco Survey. Fruit, menthol and mint were by far the most popular flavors, with more than 60% of teens who vaped saying they used them.

Youth are once again being targeted by Big Tobacco Companies and are becoming addicted to nicotine, which is a dangerous drug, especially for the developing adolescent and young adult brains. In most cases, vaping products contain the amount of nicotine that is in a one pack of cigarettes.

The partnership will utilize education, prevention and

youth led activities to bring awareness to their schools and communities about the harmful effects of vaping.

Vaping has eroded away years of progress of tobacco use prevention. E-cigarettes are generally thought to be less harmful than traditional cigarettes. However, the long-term health risks are unknown.

A widespread outbreak of mysterious lung diseases including a rising number of deaths has been directly linked to vaping, this is cause for great concern.

For more information on how to get involved with The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi Generation Free “Break the Habit” Project, please visit www.generation-free.com or call 601 420-2414.

Menthol cigarettes more dangerous than flavored e-cigarettes

By Glenn Ellis
TriceEdneyWire.com



Most recently, like others in the media, I have written about what we know about the potential deadly effects of smoking flavored e-cigarettes.

It seems that each day we hear news of yet another young person whose life is cut short following their “dabbling” with vaping e-cigarettes. An outbreak of a vaping-related illness in the US has left hundreds sick and some dead.

The Surgeon General has reported that besides nicotine, e-cigarettes can contain harmful and potentially harmful ingredients, including: ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs; flavorings such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to serious lung disease; volatile organic compounds; heavy metals, such as nickel, tin and lead.

But there are two related issues that go much farther than that and take this smoking thing to a different level.

One is the consistent, unrelenting targeting of young people to become smokers. A common misperception we often hear is that cigarette smoking is an adult choice. The reality is nearly all smokers started using the highly addictive product before they were adults. In fact, 9 out of 10 cigarette smokers start before they turn 18, and 98% first try smoking by age 26. Smoking is therefore very much a youth problem. This is no coincidence. Evidence shows that the tobacco industry has targeted young people for decades.

From using cartoons in advertisements in the past to

candy-flavored tobacco products still today, the tobacco industry has multiple sketchy strategies to entice young people to get addicted to tobacco.

The second issue is the disproportionate marketing of tobacco and tobacco-related products to youth. Specifically, menthol.

Make no mistake vaping is clearly dangerous and a health hazard. But we must keep in perspective the harm from cigarette smoking. This current crisis has led not only to (as of September 19) 530 cases of lung injury from vaping reported from 38 states and 1 US territory. Vaping has accounted for seven deaths in six states, according to the CDC.

Few of us neither understand, nor appreciate, the diabolical pathway that most black smokers followed to end up being the largest menthol smokers.

Candy and fruit flavors are appealing to teens and are a key ingredient in the tobacco industry’s plans to lure them into a lifetime of addiction. Flavors mask the bad taste of tobacco, making it easier for youth to start using. This eventually prompted the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ban flavored cigarettes – excluding menthol – in 2009 under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

Now, let this sink in. We are currently in a climate where flavored e-cigarettes of all kind are either banned or proposed to be banned...except menthol.

Wondering what the big deal is about menthol?

Menthol reduces the harshness of smoke because of its cooling effects on the mouth and throat, making it more ap-

pealing and easier to smoke. There is no shortage of research that shows the deleterious impact of menthol smoking and tobacco use on the human body, yet for decades the tobacco industry has pumped copious amounts of dollars into advertising to influence the most susceptible users – young people.

Furthermore, a large number of studies show that menthol users have a higher nicotine addiction, and menthol users have a harder time quitting than non-menthol users. This is especially true for African-American and other minority populations than it is for white smokers.

In fact, despite lower smoking rates among African-American adolescents compared with other racial and ethnic groups, studies show that African-American youths who do smoke use menthol cigarettes at a very high rate. About 70 percent of African-American middle and high school students who smoke use menthol cigarettes, compared with 51 percent of their white counterparts. And while 29 percent of white smokers ages 12 and up smoke menthol cigarettes, almost 90% percent of African-American smokers use menthol products.

So, the problem is that with the growing use of e-cigarettes among youths raises serious concerns about early-age nicotine addiction, and the likelihood of these users transitioning to regular cigarettes and more African-American youths to menthol cigarettes.

According to findings from the Youth Against Menthol project from the NAACP, there are 10 times more menthol advertisements and retail promotions in black commu-

nities than in other neighborhoods.

Not only is it still too early to determine exactly what it is about vaping that has led to the lung injuries and deaths in young people; but what we do know if that menthol cigarettes are killing young African-American smokers, yet it is still legal, and allowed by the FDA.

From 2004 to 2014, as the use of non-menthol cigarettes by youth and young adults declined, the use of menthol cigarettes among these groups increased or remained constant. It’s clear that we must certainly continue the pressure for the proper regulation and/or outright restriction of e-cigarettes to protect young people from the greed of industry, but we must do something to save our children...

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

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. The reader should always consult his or her healthcare provider to determine the appropriateness of the information for their own situation or if they have any questions regarding a medical condition or treatment plan.

Glenn Ellis is a Research Bioethics Fellow at Harvard Medical School and author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. Ellis is an active media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics.

For more good health information listen to Glenn, on radio in Philadelphia; Boston; Chicago; Shreveport; Los Angeles; and Birmingham., or visit: www.glennellis.com

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS FOR THE FY2019 AUDIT OF THE JACKSON HINDS LIBRARY SYSTEM

The Jackson Hinds Library System is soliciting proposals from qualified Certified Public Accountants to perform the library system’s annual audit for the FY2019 fiscal year which ended 9/30/2019. The official RFP is available on the Jackson Hinds Library System website at: www.jhlibrary.org.

Sealed bid proposals will be accepted by the Library System beginning at 9:00 AM CDT on 10/15/19 until 12:00 Noon CDT on 11/01/19 at the following address: Audit RFP Response, Jackson Hinds Library System, 300 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39201-1705. Minority-owned firms are encouraged to apply. Responses must be received no later than 12 Noon 11/01/19 in order to be considered. The official bid opening will be conducted at 3:00 PM CDT on Friday, 11/01/19 in the Ellen Douglas Meeting Room of the Eudora Welty Library at 300 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi and will be open to the public. The Library System will take all bids into consideration in order to choose the lowest and best submission. The Firm chosen will be notified by mail and results will be posted on the JHLS website, www.jhlibrary.org. All proposals will become the property of the Jackson Hinds Library System without obligation on the Library System’s part. The audit must be submitted to the JHLS Board of Trustees no later than March 30, 2020, in order for JHLS to submit it to the Mississippi Library Commission no later than May 30, 2020. Questions may be directed by email to Justin Carter, Director of Finance at jcarter@jhlibrary.org or by phone at: 601-968-5827. All questions and answers about the bid proposal, as well as this announcement, will be posted to the website.

10/17/2019, 10/24/2019

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Advertisement for Electronic Bidding

Bid 3106 Lanier High School Exterior Window Restoration

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 2:00 P.M. (Local Prevailing Time) November 08 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for will be held at Lanier High School, 833 W. Maple St., Jackson, MS on October 24, 2019 at 2:00 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory but strongly suggested. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jbhmplans.com. Bid documents are available as paper prints or as digital copies on CD and must be purchased through the website. Cost of CD (.pdf Format) is \$50.00 per CD, non-refundable. Cost of paper prints will be listed on www.jbhmplans.com and will be non-refundable. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Kim Mathew at JBHM Architects, Phone: 601-352-2699 or Email: kmathew@jbhm.com.

10/10/2019, 10/17/2019

LEGAL

Housing Inspector: The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VI is seeking qualified applicants to fill the position of Housing Inspector. Some experience in building construction or maintenance or with property management is required. This position is responsible for performing inspections of housing units for compliance with Housing Quality Standards (HQS). Applicants should submit a letter of interest along with current resume to: Linda Durr, Human Resource Specialist, Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VI, P.O. Box 8746, Jackson, MS 39284-8746. Open until filled. EOE

10/10/2019, 10/17/2019

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11					
12				13					
14			15				16		
17					18	19			
			20	21		22	23	24	25
26	27	28		29	30				
31			32				33		
34							35		
36							37		

ACROSS

1. American Cancer Society (abbr.)
4. Papa (2 wds.)
10. Competitor
11. Give a new title
12. Paddle
13. Dodger
14. Useless
16. Finish
17. Wrangle
18. Scale note after so
20. Scale note
22. Positive
26. Time period
29. Recoil
31. Repeal
33. BB association
34. Envelope
35. Dab
36. Modifier
37. Wood chopper

DOWN

1. On foot
2. Raccoon-like animal
3. Character part
4. Mined metals
5. Even out
6. Genetic code
7. Caused
8. Prayer ending
9. Goody two shoes
15. Spoiled
19. Rainy mo.
21. Beggar
23. Singer Ronstadt
24. Remove from the packaging
25. Slide across the ice
26. Writer Bombeck
27. Study
28. Tel __ (Israel’s capital)
30. Plant
32. Roberto’s yes

© Feature Exchange

LEGAL

MDB - Jackson, MS (Sales Tax Revenue Infrastructure Project 2019) (209172) - Intent Resolution

There came on for consideration the matter of providing financing for various capital improvements for the City of Jackson, Mississippi, and after a discussion of the subject matter, Councilperson Priester offered and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, TO EITHER ISSUE SPECIAL SALES TAX REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY OR ISSUE A SPECIAL OBLIGATION BOND OF THE CITY FOR SALE TO THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK OR ENTER INTO A LOAN WITH THE MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT BANK, ALL IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED FORTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$40,000,000) TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE PURPOSE OF (A) CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING AND PAVING ROADS AND STREETS; (B) REPAIRING, RECONSTRUCTING AND RESURFACING PROJECTS BASED ON TRAFFIC PATTERNS, NEED AND USAGE; (C) PAYING THE COSTS OF WATER, SEWER AND DRAINAGE PROJECTS; AND (D) FOR OTHER AUTHORIZED PURPOSES UNDER SECTIONS 27-65-241 ET SEQ., MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, AND SECTIONS 31-25-1 ET SEQ., MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, INCLUDING FUNDING CAPITALIZED INTEREST, IF APPLICABLE AND PAYING THE COSTS OF ISSUANCE, DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF SUCH INTENTION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the “Governing Body”), acting for and on behalf of the City of Jackson, Mississippi (the “City”), is authorized by Sections 27-65-241 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the “Municipal Special Sales Tax Law”), and Sections 31-25-1 et seq., Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time (the “Bank Act” and together with the Municipal Special Sales Tax Law, the “Act”), and other applicable laws of the State of Mississippi (the “State”), to either issue special sales tax revenue bonds of the City pursuant to the Act in a total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000) (the “Bonds”), issue a special obligation bond of the City pursuant to the Act in a total aggregate principal amount of not to exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000) (the “City Bond”), or enter into a loan with the Mississippi Development Bank (the “Bank”) pursuant to the Act to borrow money from the Bank in a total principal amount not to exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000) (the “Loan”) to provide funding for (a) constructing, improving and paving roads and streets; (b) repairing, reconstructing and resurfacing projects based on traffic patterns, need and usage; (c) paying the costs of water, sewer and drainage projects; and (d) for other authorized purposes under the Act, including funding capitalized interest, if applicable, funding a debt service reserve fund, if applicable, and paying the costs of issuance (together (a) through (d) constitute, the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 3268 (2009 Regular Session) authorized, among other things, certain municipalities to impose a special sales tax of not more than one percent (1%) on the gross proceeds of sales or gross income of the business, as the case may be, derived from any of the activities taxed at the rate of seven percent (7%) or more under the Mississippi Sales Tax Law (the “Special Sales Tax”), which was codified as the Municipal Special Sales Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 2839 (2011 Regular Session) amended the Municipal Special Sales Tax Law to provide that the revenue collected pursuant to the tax levy shall be used to pay the cost of road and street repair, reconstruction and resurfacing projects based on traffic patterns, need and usage, and to pay the costs of water, sewer and drainage projects; to provide that an election required by this section shall not be held after June 30, 2014; to reduce the amount of the special tax revenue that the Mississippi Department of Revenue (the “DOR”) may retain to defray the costs incurred by the DOR in the collection of the special tax; to extend the date of repeal on this section until July 1, 2032, unless no election is held under this section prior to July 1, 2014, or, if an election is held prior to July 1, 2014, and the proposition fails, in which case this section is repealed from and after July 1, 2014; and for related purposes; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 787 (2014 Regular Session) amended the Municipal Special Sales Tax Law to provide that the Special Sales Tax shall apply to sales of tangible personal property or services sold in the municipality and shall not apply to wholesale sales of food and drink for human consumption sold to full service vending machine operators and wholesale sales of light wine, beer and alcoholic beverages; to authorize the governing authorities of any municipality that levies the special sales tax authorized under this section to incur debt for the purpose of paying the costs of road and street repair, reconstruction and resurfacing projects based on traffic patterns, need and usage, and to pay the costs of water, sewer and drainage projects authorized by this section; and to extend the repeal date on this section from July 1, 2032, to July 1, 2035; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, on October 22, 2013, adopted a resolution declaring the intention of the governing authorities of the City to impose upon all persons as a privilege for engaging or continuing in business or doing business within the City a Special Sales Tax for the purpose of paying the cost of road and street repair, reconstruction and resurfacing projects based on traffic patterns, need and usage, and to pay the costs of water, sewer and drainage projects, and calling for a referendum to be held on the question; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, on October 22, 2013, adopted a resolution providing for the calling and holding of a special election (the “Special Election”) within the City for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City the proposition of whether or not to impose upon all persons as a privilege for engaging or continuing in business or doing business within the City a Special Sales Tax for the purpose of paying the cost of road and street repair, reconstruction and resurfacing projects based on traffic patterns, need and usage, and to pay the costs of water, sewer and drainage projects, as authorized by the Municipal Special Sales Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, on January 14, 2014, held a Special Election pursuant to the resolutions adopted on October 22, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, on January 21, 2014, adopted a resolution accepting and approving the report of the Election Commissioners within and for the City concerning a Special Election held in said City on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 and declaring the result of said election in connection with the proposition of whether or not to impose a Special Sales Tax for the purpose of paying the cost of road and street repair, reconstruction and resurfacing projects based on traffic patterns, need and usage, and to pay the costs of water, sewer and drainage projects, as authorized by the Municipal Special Sales Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, the Project is in accordance with and in furtherance of the provisions of the Act; and

WHEREAS, as of October 1, 2019, the assessed value of all taxable property within the City, according to the last completed assessment for taxation, was \$1,275,951,918, and the City had outstanding bonded and floating indebtedness of the City as subject to the twenty percent (20%) debt limit prescribed by Section 21-33-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time, is in the amount of not greater than \$116,621,000; and

WHEREAS, if applicable, neither the Bonds, the City Bond nor the Loan, when added to the outstanding bonded indebtedness of the City, will result in indebtedness, both bonded and floating, exclusive of debt not subject to the aforesaid twenty percent (20%) debt limit prescribed by Section 21-33-303, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time, in excess of twenty percent (20%) of the assessed value of all taxable property within the City, and will not exceed any constitutional or statutory

limitation upon indebtedness which may be incurred by the City; and

WHEREAS, there has been no increase in said bonded and floating indebtedness of the City since October 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest of the City for the Governing Body to provide funding for the costs of the Project by borrowing money through the issuance of the Bonds, through the issuance of the City Bond or by entering into the Loan; and

WHEREAS, the City reasonably expects that it will incur expenditures in connection with the Project for which the City intends to reimburse itself with the proceeds of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan. This declaration of official intent to reimburse expenditures made prior to the issuance of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan in anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan is made pursuant to Department of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2 (the “Reimbursement Regulations”). The Project for which such expenditures are made is the same as described herein. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for the Project is the amount herein set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is authorized and empowered by the Act to issue the Bonds, to issue the City Bond or to enter into the Loan for the purposes herein set forth and there are no other available funds on hand or available from regular sources of income for such purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY, ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, AS FOLLOWS:

The Governing Body, acting for and on behalf of the City, hereby declares its intention to issue and sell the Bonds, to issue and sell the City Bond or to enter into the Loan, all in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000).

The Bonds or the City Bond will be issued or the Loan will be entered into for the purpose of financing the Project, as authorized by the Act.

The Bonds or the City Bond may be issued in one or more series and, if issued, will be special obligations of the City payable solely from and secured by the Special Sales Tax revenues and revenues of the Project. The Loan will be payable from the Special Sales Tax revenues of the City and, specifically under Section 31-25-28 of the Bank Act, will not constitute an indebtedness of the City within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory restrictions, limitations, or provisions, and the taxing power of the City will not be pledged to the payment of the Loan. Except for the Special Sales Tax or other required collateral of the Bank, the taxing power of the City will not be pledged to the payment of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan. No special tax, other than the Special Sales Tax, will be levied by the City for the payment of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan.

The Governing Body proposes to direct the issuance of all or any portion of the Bonds or the City Bond or to authorize the Loan in the amount and for the purposes and secured as aforesaid at a meeting of the Governing Body to be held at its usual meeting place located at the City Hall in the City, located at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, at the hour of 10:00 o’clock a.m. on October 29, 2019, or at some meeting or meetings subsequent thereto; provided, however, that if ten percent (10%) or Fifteen Hundred (1500), whichever is less, of the qualified electors of the City shall file a written protest with the City Clerk of the City (the “City Clerk”) against the issuance of the Bonds or the City Bond or the authorization of the Loan on or before 10:00 o’clock a.m. on October 29, 2019, then the Bonds or the City Bond shall not be issued or the Loan shall not be entered into unless approved at an election on the question thereof called and held as is provided by law; provided, further that if no protest is filed, then the Bonds or the City Bond may be issued and sold in one or more series or the City may enter into the Loan without an election on the question of the issuance thereof at any time within a period of two (2) years after October 29, 2019.

In full compliance with the Section 21-33-307, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time, the City Clerk is hereby directed to publish a copy of this resolution once a week for at least three (3) consecutive weeks in The Mississippi Link and The Clarion Ledger, both newspapers published in and having a general circulation in the City and qualified under the provisions of Section 13-3-31, Mississippi Code of 1972, as amended and supplemented from time to time, with the first publication being not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the date set forth in Section 4 of this resolution, and the last publication being made not more than seven (7) days prior to such date.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to procure from the publishers of the aforesaid newspapers the customary proof of the publication of this resolution and the required notice and have the same before the Governing Body on the date and hour specified in Section 4 hereof.

The City hereby declares its official intent to reimburse itself from the proceeds of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan for expenses incurred with respect to the Project subsequent to the date of this resolution. This declaration of official intent to reimburse expenditures made prior to the issuance of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan in anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan is made pursuant to the Reimbursement Regulations. The Project for which such expenditures are made is the same as described herein. The Bonds, the City Bond or the Loan will not exceed the aggregate principal amount of Forty Million Dollars (\$40,000,000).

The City hereby ratifies and confirms the referendum duly called and held on January 14, 2014, by which a majority of at least three-fifths (60%) of the qualified electors of the City who voted in the election for the levy of the Special Sales Tax was achieved.

If any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any of the other provisions of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision or provisions had not been contained herein.

Councilperson Banks seconded the motion to adopt the foregoing resolution, and the question being put to a roll call vote, the result was as follows:

COUNCILPERSON	YEA	NAY
Ashby Foote	X	
Melvin Priester, Jr.	X	
Kenneth I. Stokes (Absent)		
De’Keither Stamps (Absent)		
Charles Tillman	X	
Aaron Banks	X	
Virgi Lindsay	X	

The President of the Council then declared the resolution passes and adopted this the 1st day of October 2019.

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Virgi Lindsay
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

/s/ Chokwe Antar Lumumba
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Kristi Moore
CITY CLERK

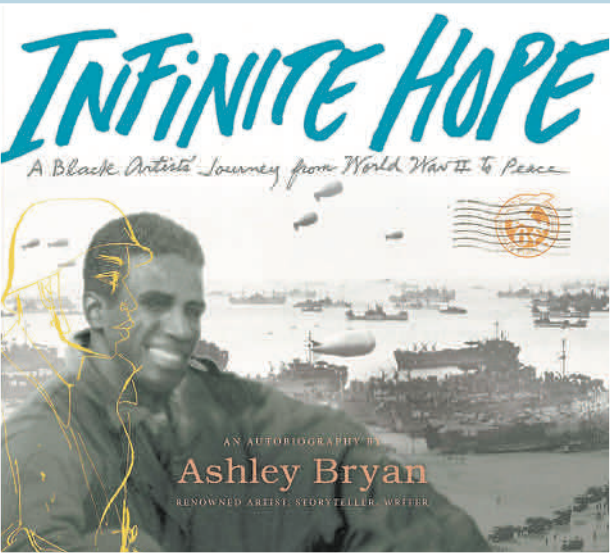
10/3/2019, 10/10/2019, 10/17/2019, 10/24/2019

JSU Homecoming Parade 2019

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PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON





BOOK REVIEW:

“INFINITE HOPE:
A BLACK ARTIST’S JOURNEY FROM
WORLD WAR II TO PEACE”

BY ASHLEY BRYAN

C.2019, ATHENEUM BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

\$21.99 / \$29.99 CANADA • 108 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Before you even begin to take notes, the page is full of doodles.

You can’t help it: it’s human nature to scribble stars and squiggles, to write your name, make boxes around words, and draw silly faces. If there’s a pen in your hand, you use it, right? And in “Infinite Hope” by Ashley Bryan, one man used a pen to stay alive.

Like every child with some crayons and paper, Ashley Bryan loved to make art. Even

his teachers noticed his talent and they nurtured it but alas, Bryan couldn’t land a scholarship to art colleges because of the color of his skin. It was the early 1940s, and Jim Crow laws didn’t allow it.

On the advice of others, Bryan applied to The Cooper Union in New York City and he loved it there. The school helped grow his talents and he was eager for the future – but then, at age nineteen, he received his draft notice.

Bryan was headed for World War II.

For someone who grew up in the North, Basic Training was quite unexpected. Men at the military induction center were told “Whites on one side. Blacks on the other,” and Bryan was shocked. It took a minute to understand that the military was segregated but, like all black soldiers then, he hoped that serving during war-time might lead to “equal treatment for all.”

Sometimes, soldiering was boring, so Bryan drew. He sketched fellow soldiers, their bunks and their jobs. He drew

the children who befriended him near his first post in Boston. He painted pictures of the docks. When he went overseas, he sketched castles in Scotland and villages in the countryside. He wrote letters home to his cousin, Eva, and he drew card games and cold mornings until June 2, 1944, when Bryan and his brothers-in-arms were sent to Normandy. There, he drew cathedrals, people, despair and destruction. He wrote to Eva about what he saw and when the war was over, that was that. “I left my drawings in the

map-case bureau for forty years...”

Readers looking for “Infinite Hope” may be left scratching their heads. It’s likely to be found in the teen or even the kids’ section of your local library or bookstore – and yet, this book is absolutely perfect for any adult.

Without a lot of narrative, author-illustrator Ashley Bryan tells a tale of segregation, war, racism and horror but while it’s vividly told, readers aren’t left aching: threaded in with every chapter of Bryan’s life




is a sense of joy. He takes obvious delight in the people he meets and he has his art: soaring sketches, pensive portraits, and single lines drawn thick to depict the chaos of war. These are accompanied, collage-like, with letters home that are multi-layered over the art and that will leave an impact on newly-aware teens and adults who remember all too well.


Either way, give “Infinite Hope” and then borrow it back to see yourself. Any reader ages 15 to grandpa, will be quickly drawn in.

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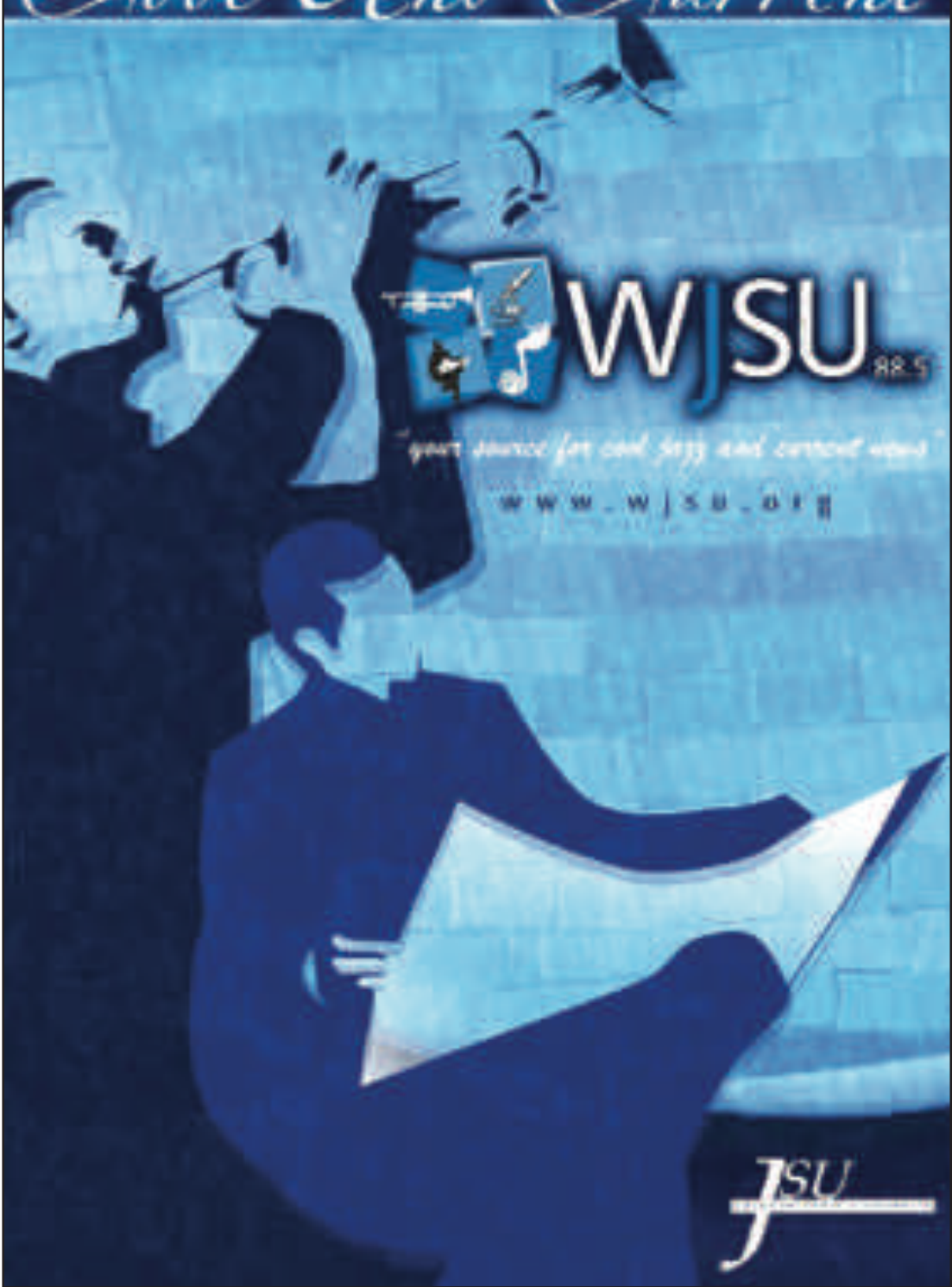
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Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science invites community to attend Open House and Ranking Reception

Mississippi Link Newswire

In honor of being ranked the No. 1 faculty in the nation for three consecutive years, Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science is hosting a Ranking Reception following its annual Open House Oct. 21.

During the Open House from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Hooper Lobby on campus, various teachers will host sessions where attendees can learn more about the curriculum and programs offered at MSMS. Afterward, the Ranking Reception is set to take place at 4 p.m. in the Hogarth W Room. Admission is free, and the public is encouraged to attend.

“It’s important for the community to see what we do and why we are so special, and this Open House gives MSMS the chance to open its doors to the public and tell everyone about all of the great opportunities we have here for students,” said Kayla Hester, a social science instructor at MSMS.

Out of 19,112 schools across the nation, Niche.com named MSMS the No. 1 High School with the Best Teachers in America since 2016. Additionally, the institution has been ranked the 6th Best Public High School in America, surpassing 19,313 other schools for two years in a row.

“The magic of MSMS happens through an immense amount of work through preparation, presentation and perseverance of our faculty,” said Kelly Brown, the director for Academic Affairs. “This group of men and women have dedicated themselves to being lifelong learners and



Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science students posing in front of last year's ranking poster.

share this passion with our students. It is an honor to work alongside the No.1 ranked faculty in public school education.”

After combining data from a variety of sources including survey results from students and parents, Niche

applies a “series of steps to ensure statistical rigor and useful guidance” to rank each school.

Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science is Mississippi’s only public, residential high school specifically designed to meet the needs of the state’s most academically gifted

and talented high school juniors and seniors from all corners of the Magnolia State.

To learn more about MSMS, visit themsms.org.

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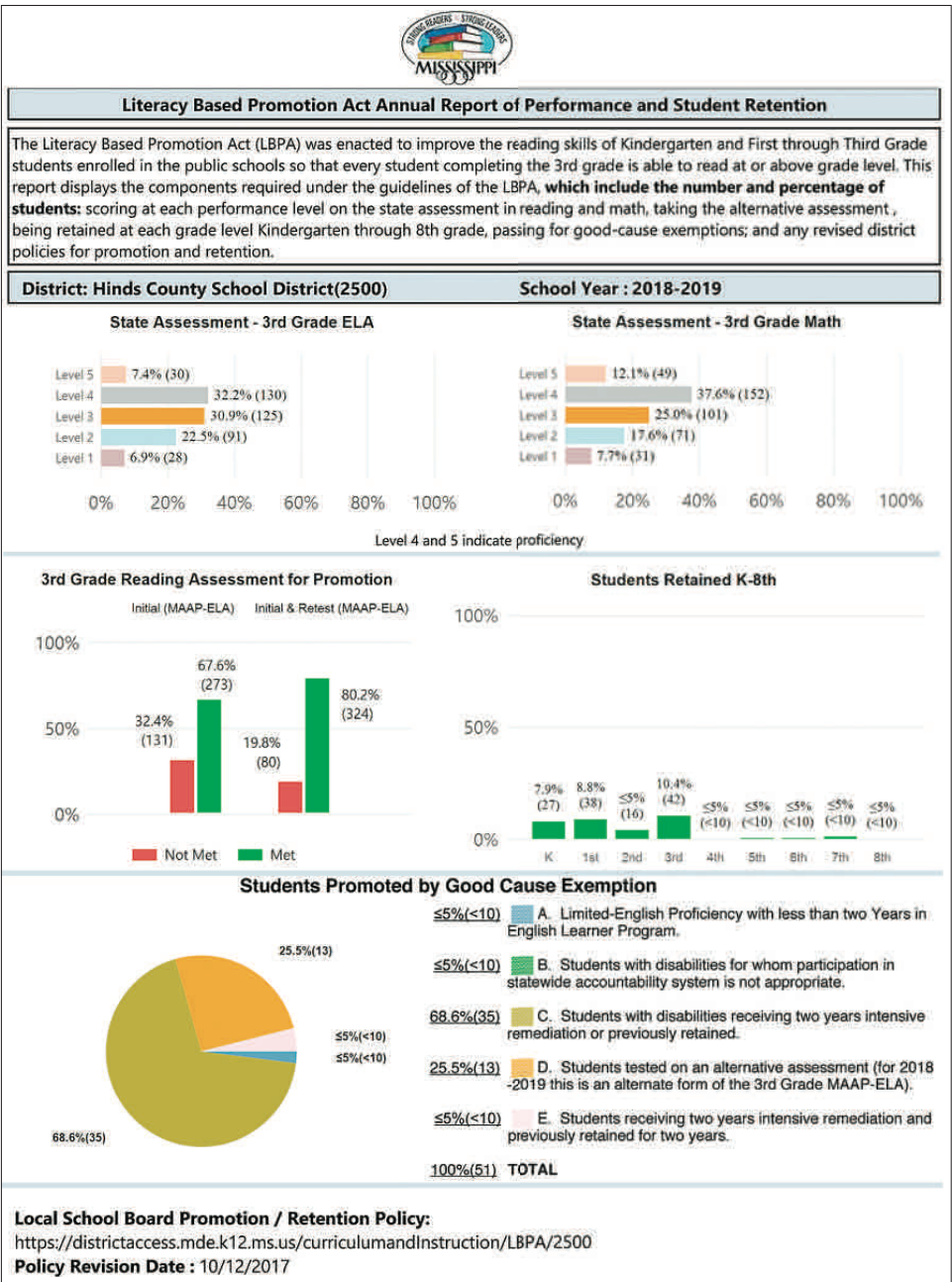
PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HCSD 2018-2019 Literacy-Based Promotion Act Report of Performance released



HCSD 2018-2019 district's scores.

GRE Substitute Teacher Jackye Terrence recognized as Substitute of the Month for September 2019



Toby Price, assistant principal, Jackye Terrence, substitute teacher – GRE; Carolyn Samuel, board secretary

GRE Teacher Assistant Audrey Brown recognized as Employee of the Month for September 2019



Toby Price, assistant principal; Audrey Brown, teacher assistant – GRE; Carolyn Samuel, board secretary

GRE Bus Driver Patricia Nelson recognized as Bus Driver of the Month for September 2019



Toby Price, assistant principal; Patricia Nelson, driver – GRE; Carolyn Samuel, board secretary

HCSD Intramural Basketball League off and running

The HCSD Intramural program is off to a good start again this year. The program is setup through the district's athletic program with Daryl Jones, athletic director. The Intramural Program is run by coach Chris Stephen, owner and coordinator with the Sports Paradise Program which offers a variety of intramural sports to the HCSD 2nd-6th graders. Schools participating in the program include BEEMS, BMS, CMS, GRE, GRI, RES and UEMS. Stephen stated that his primary focus is to introduce and develop fundamental skills while allowing students to have fun and get physical exercise without the pressures of winning.



Clinton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority talked with the HCSD Board about the Red Jacket Initiative

