Vol. 26, No. 1

October 24 - 30, 2019



# Celebrating 26 years, our work isn't done

### Why the Black Press is needed now more than ever

By Othor Cain

This month The Mississippi Link turns 26! By any standard, that's a major accomplishment. I wanted to use the word 'milestone,' but that's regulated to numbers like 25, 30, 50 etc. None-the-less we are thrilled to publish this paper every week even at times when it seems like an impossible task.

Our mission is different.

For years, newsrooms across America have had a problem with a lack of diversity and inclusion. People of color are underrepresented among news organizations, which do not reflect the makeup of the general population and have made little progress in the past decade.

In 1979, the American Society of News Editors (ASNE) pledged that, by the year 2000, the percentage of racial and ethnic minorities in newsrooms would match that of the population at large. Noting that this was "the right thing to do" and in the "industry's economic self-interest," ASNE stressed the particular importance of lifting people of color into management.

Newspapers have failed spectacularly at achieving that goal.

According to the Census Bureau, racial and ethnic minorities make up about 40 percent of the US population, yet journalists of color comprised of only 12 percent of newspaper editorial staff in 2000, and by 2017 that figure had edged up only slightly, to a little less than 17 percent, according to the ASNE Newsroom Employment Diversity Survey.

An even harder truth is that only 13 percent of leadership in newsrooms across the country are people of color.

In the City of Jackson, a majority-minority city, where according to the website datausa. io, its population is 170 thousand people, of that, 81.4 percent are black/African American. Yet, the diversity in newsroom leadership pales in comparison. Of the four TV stations in the metro, only one (WJTV) has a person of color (Asian-male) leading its newsroom as news director and only one (Fox40) has a person of color (black-female) serving in the role of general manager.

WAPT has a black male operating in the role of assistant news director and both WAPT and WJTV have black assignment editors/managers. WLBT/ Fox40 share two black executive

producers (one male and one female) and an African American serves as manager of operations for the NBC/FOX affiliates.

The numbers are better with on air talent at each of the stations with WLBT leading the way. WLBT has at the helm of its evening newscasts (5/6/10) two black news anchors which is a rare find across the country. WAPT has a black male news anchor at 5 p.m. and at 6 and 10 p.m. an Asian female anchors. WJTV has a black male anchor at 5/6/10. Fox 40 has a black female anchor for its evening newscasts. All four stations have several minority reporters and black anchors in the earlier

At press time, Sam Hall, with the state's only statewide newspaper, The Clarion Ledger, had not responded to our email request, seeking diversity infor-

It's been more than 190 years since the creation of the Black Press and it is as relevant as ever.

In the absence of an inclusive environment, the quality of journalism suffers. Certain stories are simply not reported, or are told without the nuance or perspective the circumstances re-

quire. The Black Press has filled that void for generations. And with the advent of digital platforms, a baton has been passed to black millennial writers and journalists to continue presenting narratives, with underrepresented points of views, that would otherwise go missing and do not necessarily reflect the white men who dominate the industry.

When the mainstream media covers a particular issue, the Black Press may cover it with a completely different angle - if not a different issue altogether. For example, the local black press rejected the mainstream media narrative that Republican Governor Phil Bryant simply invited President Donald Trump to Mississippi to attend the opening of The Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, just as a kind gesture, reporting instead on the boycott of Trump's visit and covering related museum events hosted by local elected officials.

From its inception, the Black Press has been a change agent by shining a light on the plight of blacks and giving them the power to write and report on

> 26 Years Continued on page 3



# Happy 6th Birthday Katrina Myricks

#### Breast cancer thriver still going strong



By Othor Cain

Editor

A thriver in education, Katrina Myricks is a business professor at Holmes Community College. A thriver in community service, Myricks is a former chapter president of the Madison County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. and the National Coalition of the 100 Black Women Central Mississippi Chapter. A thriver in the beauty world, Myricks is a pageant coach and a previous title holder.

Simply put, Myricks thrives!

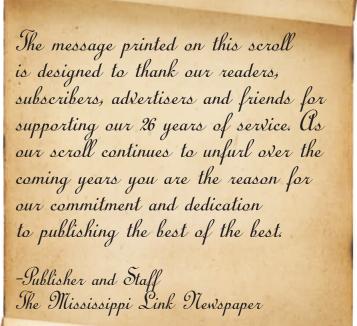
Today, the married mother of one daughter is a thriver in the fight against breast cancer. "I'm six years in...praise God," she said during a telephone inter-

With no history of breast cancer in her family and having recently lost two

friends to breast cancer, Myricks said the news "took me off my feet." The old saying, "It happens in three's" overwhelmed her. She didn't tell her family – husband and daughter - for nearly a week as she tried to digest the news herself. The lump found in her breast turned out to be triple negative breast cancer. This type of breast cancer primarily affects African-American women and if not treated can be one of the most progressive forms of breast cancer.

Naturally, Myricks was taken aback when she received this news. "I remember walking in the doctor's office and a screen was up with a film of someone's breast and I could tell that person had cancer," she said. "Little did I know that

**Breast Cancer** Continued on page 3



### **NAACP** president: Rep. Elijah Cummings was our champion for Civil Rights



**Cummings PHOTO: NAACP** 

By Derrick Johnson President and CEO, NAACP

The world has lost a champion for civil rights, an esteemed activist, and a titanic figure in the fight for justice and democracy in America. At the NAACP, we have lost a lifetime member and friend to our organization who tirelessly worked to improve the lives of African Americans.

From his days in the Maryland General Assembly to his key role in the Trump impeachment inquiry as chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, Congressman Elijah Cummings (D-MD) dedicated his life to combating oppression in all its forms - and holding oppressors account-

The pursuit of civil rights was not just Cummings' passion, it was his life's work. Cummings first strived for justice at age 11, when he helped integrate a local swimming pool in Baltimore, organizing protests with the help of the local NAACP.

As a Maryland assembly-

man, Cummings banned alcohol and tobacco ads on innercity billboards in Baltimore, and in 2003, Cummings chaired the Congressional Black Caucus, shining a light on the issues most important to people of color.

In Washington, Cummings spent his career championing policies protecting civil rights and demanding justice. In 2015 after the death of Freddie Gray, Cummings took to the streets of Baltimore in protest and spoke at Gray's funeral, demanding "justice, oceans of it."

Cummings knew that the road to equality and fairness would be long, but worth taking and he leaves behind a legacy of fighting oppression and brutality in all its forms.

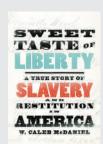
As a member of the NAACP during his time in Congress, Cummings worked alongside the organization to address issues like racial profiling, election protection, voting expansion, expanding healthcare to

> Cummings Continued on page 3

**Trustmark gives** \$1.05 million to support Mississippi's children and youth



**Sweet Taste** of Liberty



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# **Antwone Muhammad** explains how cancer saved his life

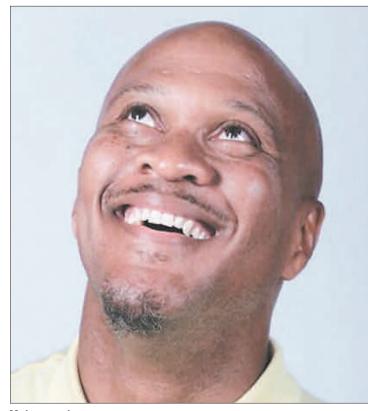
By Eddy "Precise" Lamarre Rollingout.com

According to the American Cancer Society, about 2,670 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. The lifetime chance of getting breast cancer in the United States for men is 1 in 833.

Chicago hip-hop artist Antwone Muhammad was diagnosed with breast cancer in December of 2013. In June of 2014 after surgery and chemotherapy, he went into remission. In June of 2019, his cancer recurred. Muhammad remains a beacon of light as he continues to fight. Rolling Out spoke with Muhammad about his battle, his new book, and the fundraiser he is having this

**RO:** What were your initial feelings when you were diagnosed with cancer again?

**AM:** It hurt because so much has happened in the past year but I prayed and I trust that I will be victorious again with God's help and support of family and friends.



**RO:** What are some of the cancer. It's largely viewed as a misconceptions when it comes to men and this disease?

**AM:** The main misconception is that men can't get breast

woman's illness. This illness affects 1 percent of men.

**RO:** What were some of the symptoms that caused you to take notice?

AM: I started feeling sensitivity on the left side of my chest on my nipple. Soon after, brown fluid started discharging from my chest. This led me to [go to] the emergency room [and] after a series of tests, I was diagnosed with stage three breast cancer.

**RO:** Talk about your book Cancer Saved My Life. Why did you decide to write the book and why that title?

AM: I feel sharing my experience can help others in their journey and possibly can prevent someone from having a similar experience. The title is important because people only change for three reasons. There are three levels of change. Level one is when we know enough to be able to change. This is when a person has empowered themselves to change. This is the best place to make a change but hardly anyone does. Next is level two. This is when you have to ask yourself, "do I care enough to want to change?" We ask this after

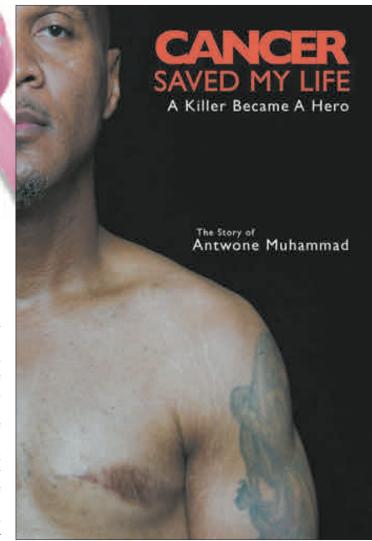


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTWONE MUHAMMAD

we know enough to change but still have not made the change due to excuses or stalling. Last is level three. When we hurt enough to have to change. This is where most make a change. Cancer was that pain for me. It forced me to make changes that have and [are] saving my life. I'm urging people to empower yourself at level one so something like cancer will not have to save you. Save yourself by being proactive [about] illness

instead of reactive.

RO: You did the Fundraiser" at the Promontory Oct. 20. What did people get?

AM: People got a healing experience which is why we chose this name. We made those in attendance feel as though they were closer to having peace and better health of mind, body and spirit after leaving the event.

This article originally appeared in RollingOut.com.



#### Breast Cancer



Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk 2013



Cancer Walk 2014



First time without a wig Myricks at National Delta Sigma Theta Convention



Myricks and daughter Kaitlin (left) at Pink Out Pep Rally

I was 'that' person."

It was the mammogram that caught it. Myricks has been having regular routine mammograms since the age of 40. "I had a mammogram in December of 2012 and they called me in January 2013 to come back to get another test done that confirmed I had breast cancer," she said. "The news was shocking...so much so that I asked them to 'say that' again."

Her only reaction after that was to fall on her knees and cry out to God. A thriving person of faith, Myricks is a member of New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson. "I know it sounds like a cliche but my faith was a very large part not only in my recovery, but during the process and I realize today that it was indeed a process that I had to go through," she said. "God chose me." Her 11-year old daughter at the time also helped her lean on her faith. "I would be less than honest if I said that I never had moments of uncertainty or moments of darkness, but my daughter helped me realize that God was in control," she said. "Kaitlin put a pink bora around my neck and said, mom, God told me to tell you you're going to be OK." That was the end of Myricks' pity party.

After the surgery, Myricks endured eight rounds of chemotherapy, had eight injections to help improve her immune system, and had 36 rounds of radiation. Myricks is a thriver.

Today she encourages women to listen to their bodies and their doctors. "If you're going through this, I encourage you to stay connected to your doctors and your faith," she said. "Don't turn to the internet or any other self-proclaimed doctors. Get you a support group of people that will lean in with you."

### Hampton, you rock

By Wanda Griffin Brown facebook post

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. My life has been filled with many women who have faced and fought against this dreaded disease. Some women have beat it. Some are still fighting. Some succumbed on this side to live eternally in heaven.

Friends, acquaintances and others,

"When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this: You haven't."

Jackie Hampton, a writer, awesome speaker, and a diligent servant of Christ, is a survivor. During the 30 years I've known her, I found reason to go on when I should have or could have given up, by observing her strength and remarkable Hampton motivation.



As a Christian, Hampton embodies John 13:35: 'By this everyone will know that you are Christians by the love shown one to another." She loves God and she knows without a doubt that He loves her. But, her love does not stop there. Every person she comes in contact with is lifted by the love she exemplifies through her willingness to help with encouraging words and deeds. Thank you, Strong Sister, for shining bright. You really rock.

#### **Cummings**

Continued from page 1

all Americans, housing access and investment in high quality learning from pre-k to 12 and higher education. He was also instrumental in removing the citizenship question from the 2020 Census, which would have substantially undercounted African Americans and other people of color in communities na-

Elijah was on the frontlines of advancing so much of what makes America the bedrock for the civil rights movement. Yet, while he worked with NAACP leaders on a national and local level on an array of social issues, we remember him most for his fervent fight to protect the voting rights of black people in I still recall the passionate speech he delivered earlier this year in support of

made to his dying 92-year-old mother, a former sharecropper who had lived through the painful time in our country's history where black people were terrorized while seeking the right to vote. He promised her he would "not let them take our votes away from us," and at the NAACP, we will honor that promise. We will uphold Elijah's legacy

H.R. 1, also known as the "For the People Act," where he shared a promise he

by fighting to strengthen our nation's democracy and protecting the rights of Americans to cast a free and unfettered vote – and to be certain their vote is

We will continue to resist attacks on our communities and will fight for fundamental structural changes to our political system to restore the balance of power back to the people, ensuring that Elijah's last wishes, as well as his mother's, are fulfilled.

#### 26 Years

Continued from page 1 their own narratives.

It is no wonder when Trump, who just this week, used the word 'lynching' out of context and as a result, fired up a base of people all too familiar with the horror stories of that word. For it was just in the 1890s, when journalist Ida B. Wells led a campaign against lynching at considerable personal risk. Born a slave, in 1862 in Holly Springs, Mississippi, she wrote about the injustices of racial segregation in the south. A mob stormed the office of her newspaper, destroying all of her equipment. Fortunately, Wells had been traveling to New York City at the time. She was warned that she would be killed if she ever returned to Memphis.

Over the years the list of contributors to the black press who have lent their talents as publishers, editors, journalists, columnists and cartoonists has included the greatest names in American history. Among them are Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells Barnett, Langston Hughes, Romare Bearden, James Weldon Johnson, Mary McLeod Bethune and Daisy Bates.

It is my hope that the Black Press would get back to its core mission and continue serving a population of underserved people of color and be always mindful of the core mission of the original founders of the Black Press, "Too long have others spoken for us ... We wish to plead our own cause."

Thank you for trusting us for 26 years...here's to 26 more!



# Shining more light on solar.



Entergy Mississippi is committed to providing affordable, reliable and clean power to Mississippians for generations to come. So we're making it easier for our customers to self-generate solar electricity and incorporate solar power into our power grid. Thanks to net metering, registered solar users earn credit for excess solar energy sent back to the grid.

The Mississippi Public Service Commission is making it easier to understand how solar can work for you. "A Consumer's Guide to Solar Power in Mississippi" provides information on how solar and net metering work, and the details you need to consider before purchasing or leasing hardware.

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

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**OCTOBER 24 - 30, 2019** 

www.mississippilink.com

# Historic First: Student on Board of Education

Mississippi Link Newswire

Holmes County Central High School senior Justin Smith is the first Holmes County student to serve as the student representative to the Board of Education. Superintendent of Schools James L. Henderson wants the students of Holmes County to have a voice in what is decided on their behalf.

The position of student representative will provide a link between the student body and the board. The interview team unanimously selected Smith based on his interview and academic standing.

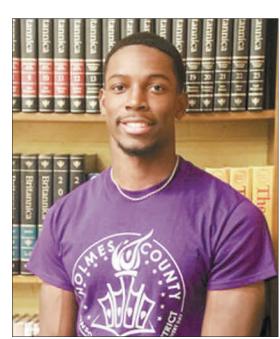
Smith said, "This position is an absolute high honor. Not only do I represent my classmates, but every student in the HCCSD. As a representative at this level, I believe now the students have a louder voice. The opinions, ideas and concerns of my peers can be pushed forward."

Smith has been a quarterback for 4 years while maintaining a 3.6 grade point average. In 2018 he was named 1st team All-District Quarterback. He is a member of the National Honor Society at HCCHS and serves on his youth board at his church. He hasn't decided on a university yet, but he plans to enter college as a pre-medicine major.

When asked how he will balance all of his roles, Smith said, "As a football player, there are sacrifices that I have to make to excel both on the field and in the classroom. As the student representative, I will have to make more sacrifices and prioritize well."

As the student representative to the Board of Education, Smith will provide student insight and perspective, serve as a liaison to the students of Holmes County High School, and report to students about the work of the School District and the Board of Education. He will sit at the board table and provide a monthly report on behalf of all of the students in the district.

The student representative does not vote on board decisions, but the representative's input is valued in the pre-vote discussion of motions. Smith says the role will "be very beneficial to



Smith

me in a way that will increase my social skills and awareness. The duties of this role will assist and sharpen my listening and speaking skills. I will be more knowledgeable, which will lead me to develop solutions that will better shape our school district."

"The board needs to know how their decisions impact students' educational lives," Henderson told the Superintendent's Student Advisory Roundtable recently at their monthly meeting. The Roundtable group of seventeen 9th-12th grade students meets with the superintendent to discuss their concerns about the high school and educational initiatives.

The October 9 meeting featured dialogue on bullying, the block schedule, a desire for more academic extracurricular clubs, a need for student government, increased parental involvement and dissatisfaction with school lunches.

Smith is one of 10 seniors on the Roundtable. For more information contact media spokesperson Deborah Antoine by email: dantoine@holmesccsd.org, or call 662 854-3447.





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# **Lance Bass surprises two** JPS teachers live on 'GMA'



Frankie Johnson and Chantel Evans-Gatewood accept a \$15,000 check presented by Lance Bass and Cameo. The funds will be used to support Performing Arts programs at Wingfield High School.

Mississippi Link Newswire

Two dynamic teachers at Wingfield High School received an exciting honor October 17 and the whole thing was carried live on national television and social media.

Good Morning America followed NSYNC member and Mississippian Lance Bass to Jackson for the special presen-

Johnson and Evans-Gatewood are history teachers at Wingfield High School who use their abilities and resources to make things happen for the students at the school.

# **Attendance Matters:** Strive for less than five

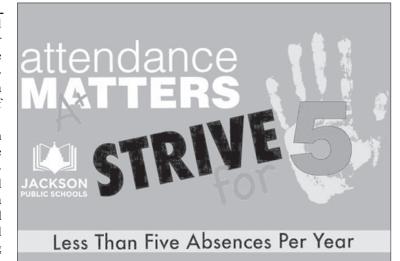
Mississippi Link Newswire

Did you know that poor school attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade and that chronic absence becomes a factor in a student's decision to drop out of school as early as the sixth grade?

Recognizing the connection between good school attendance and academic achievement, Jackson Public Schools has initiated "Strive for Less Than Five," a campaign designed to educate and motivate the district's students and employees to commit to limiting absences from school to less than five days this year.

The good news is that as students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects. Good school attendance means students don't miss vital classroom instruction and information, and at test time, they have more confidence to be successful.

Chronic student absence impacts the whole District. Mississippi law requires students to be in attendance 63% of the school day to be counted as present. So, if students are not at school for 63% of the school day they will be counted as absent, and they will not be



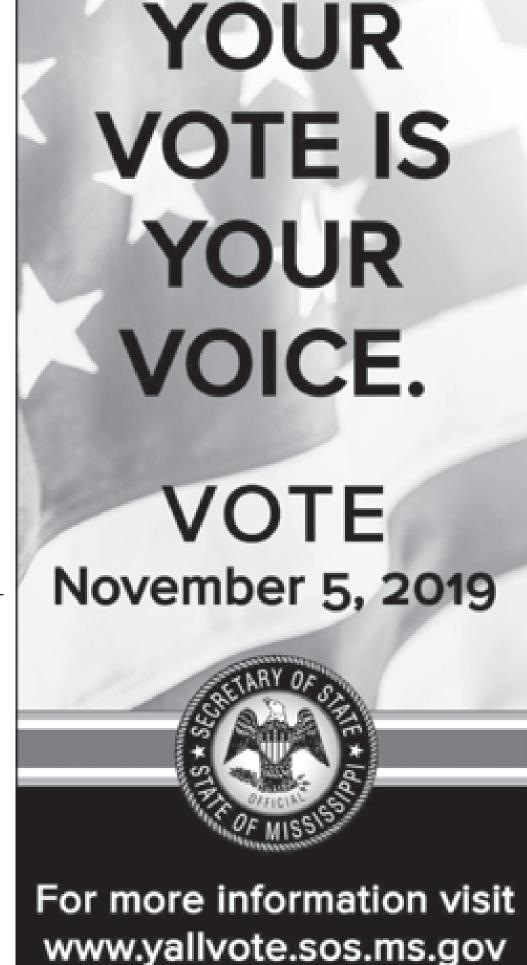
counted toward the district's average daily attendance, which is a factor used to determine funding for public schools.

Everyone can help improve student attendance and the resulting positive outcomes for our students. Parents can mitigate absences by deferring early dismissals of students until after 2 p.m. for appointments and other necessary activities.

Members of the community can also play a big role in reducing chronic absences. A caring adult who shows an interest in a scholar's school attendance impacts

how they value school. According to AttendanceWorks. org, students who have a mentor are more likely to be involved in extracurricular activities, graduate from high school and enroll in

college. Chronic absence can be solved when we work together. Addressing the issue takes our commitment and collaboration. As we do, we will see graduation rates improve, academic achievement increase and young people in our community will have the best chance at success in their adult



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# Millsaps College dedicates Selby & Richard McRae Christian Center

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Following two years of renovation, the iconic Christian Center at Millsaps College was officially re-dedicated October 16, 2019 as the Selby & Richard McRae Christian Center. An audience of more than 100 donors, alumni, students, faculty and staff gathered in the new Yates Chapel to celebrate the building's rebirth as the vibrant home for the humanities and, in the Wesleyan tradition of the College's Methodist roots, the spiritual and reflective space for faith traditions at Millsaps.

"Together, we came to believe that the christian center could be restored, and today we celebrate a transformative renovation that provides a state of the art facility for our students, faculty and staff; a renovation done with the deep care that will enliven our campus for decades to come," said Robert W. Pearigen, president of Millsaps. "We have made a bold claim about the importance of the humanities to an educated citizenry and the value associated with continued learning in history, literature, philosophy and religious and classical studies. We have embodied our commitment to the complementary values of faith and reason in a beautiful sacred space surrounded by centers of learning and discovery. And, we have made a compelling statement that preservation can, indeed, lead to transformation and new incarnation, all for the sake of our most important asset – our current and future students."

The christian center was originally constructed in 1950 and dedicated to "all Millsaps students who served in the armed forces of their country during World War II." Since that time, it has been a focal point on campus, housing the college's humanities program and serving as the venue for productions by the Millsaps Players, concerts by the Millsaps Singers, public lectures by Senator Robert F. Kennedy and Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, readings by Truman Capote and Tennessee Williams, and appearances by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and noted anthropologist Jane Goodall.

Pearigen celebrated the generous contributions from key donors for the renovation effort. The Selby & Richard McRae Foundation was an



Hope Carter, vice president for Institutional Advancement, Millsaps College; Charles Lathem, Millsaps College trustee and alumnus; Robert W. Pearigen, president of Millsaps College



Pearigen, William Yates, Nancy Yates and Bill Yates



Pearigen, Helen Rogers (Class of 1942), Phoebe Pearigen

early lead donor on the project and additional support was provided by the William G. Yates Family (designated for the Yates Chapel), Millsaps

alumnus and current Trustee Chuck Lathem (for the Lathem Memorial Lobby), the Madeleine and James McMullan Foundation (for the McMullan

Lecture Hall), and alumnus and current Trustee Mark Freeman and his wife Tara, also a Millsaps graduate (for the Freeman Commons)

# Hinds CC Jackson Campus-ATC inducts new PTK members

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Alpha Zeta Omega Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Hinds Community College held a ceremony Oct. 18 at the Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center to induct new members for the fall 2019 semester.

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for community and junior college students. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is extended to students who have a 3.5 cumulative grade point average or above on 12 or more transferable credit hours. There are more than 1,285 Phi Theta Kappa chapters throughout the United States and abroad.



Inductees include, front, from left, Dr. Phatia McClellan, adviser, Zakyiah Moffett, of Jackson, Ciara McRaven, of Durant, Shania Green, of Jackson, Arnesa Henderson, of Jackson and Michael Evilsizor, of Brandon; back, from left, Ashley Saffold, of Greenwood; Erik Partee, of Jackson; Stacy Parker, of Jackson and Tarreanna Ricks, of Jackson. Also inducted but not pictured are Lichelle Brown, Lois Brown, Tammy Falls-Puryear, Kasandra Pearl, John Perkins and Olivia Stewart.

# Hinds CC a vital training ground for work-ready employees



Trunnell

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Devin Trunnell is only a little more than a year removed from his Clinton Christian Academy graduation, but has already accomplished a lot at Hinds Community College.

The former high school football player is concentrating on his career goals as he takes heavy course loads to finish his credential in industrial mechanics & maintenance program. That's a field that combines electromechanical technology and automation and gets students trained for the modern-day manufacturing setting.

He has had some stumbling blocks along the way that Hinds has helped him smooth

"I lost my dad during my 11th grade year, which was about a year after our house in Jackson burned down, so it's been one thing after another," said Trunnell, 19. "My mom, sister and I moved to Clinton after that to have another place to live.

"Some family members let me know about the Hinds program after they heard about Continental Tire coming here," he said. "They told me you could start working right away at an increased rate."

He has become a role model for his classmates, who gather around him to ask how he has accomplished so much. He has already had two successful internships – one at Nissan's Canton plant and the other with Veolia, which contracts with the City of Jackson on wastewater treatment.

The college's partnerships with business and industries such as those, coupled with hands-on classroom instruction at Hinds, has set Trunnell up for success in ways he didn't think possible just a few years ago.

Instructors have taken note of Trunnell's motivation to succeed despite having to juggle having a leadership role in his family.

"Devin is taking advantage

of opportunities of the program and industry to learn as much as he can about his craft," said David Creel, district director of manufacturing training at Hinds. "Devin will make some company an excellent technician but as importantly, he will make them an excellent em-

ployee."
He's also attending Hinds on the Southern Insurance Group scholarship, one of the roughly 100 scholarships available through the Hinds Community College Foundation.

"Being on scholarship means less financial worries," he said. "When you have to pay something down, it limits your choices after school."

For Trunnell, it means having more time to focus on studies, such as learning how to work modern-day equipment such as PLCs, or programmable logic controllers.

"I'm learning about the machinery I'll see in the work-place, plus getting familiar with doing preventive maintenance," he said. "If you catch things early before they break down with things like PLCs, it'll save time and money."

He's channeling the kind of resiliency he has shown in his personal life while in the classroom, which will serve him well in the workforce.

"I have witnessed Devin tackle a challenge in the class-room and used it as an opportunity to grow and learn from it," said Andrea Jackson, his instructor in his electro-mechanical technology class last term. "I believe Devin will find continual academic success throughout his educational career and beyond."

With a solid start at Hinds, Trunnell's options are wide open for earning a living while he contemplates growing his academic resume'.

"People in the industry I've interned around have told me it's hard to find good maintenance people nowadays, as a lot of them are retiring," he said. "So, there's a lot of need for it"

# Relief items arrive on islands; campus helps JSU Bahamas students, others after hurricane

By L.A. Warren jsumsnews.com

floodwaters.

Bahamas relief supplies collected on campus have arrived in the West Indies nation after deadly Hurricane Dorian stranded many and left a JSU Bahamian student heartbroken last month when an estimated 40-foot wave snatched her aunt from a coconut tree the family had climbed to escape rising

Jackson State University's International Student Association partnered with the LeFleur's Bluff Chapter of The Links Inc. to help those impacted by the historic storm. A service organization called Peace and Pearls also donated items.

In addition, a number of JSU international students, who represent more than 60 countries, aided in the collection of toiletries donated by students, faculty, staff and the community. Among them was doctoral student Tameka Stewart of Freeport, the main city on Grand Bahama.

Immediately after the storm struck, Stewart reached out to the International Student Association to organize a Bahamas relief effort. After connecting with Shameka Reed, international marketing and recruitment specialist for JSU Global, she learned that the group already had been planning a relief drive for weeks.

The collaboration worked out because Stewart, studying behavioral health in JSU's School of Public Health, added a face to the horrific conditions on her native island off the Florida

She recounted the trauma and tragedy that resulted from Dorian.

"I'm from the island that was hit last and where the storm sat for two days. It first hit Abaco and devasted that island. It was pretty much flat-lined. Many people died – over a couple thousands – in spite of the reports. Many have not been found," Stewart said.

"When it came to Freeport where I'm from, my mother lost everything. The house structures are still standing, but everything was washed up from the surges. My auntie lost her life. My Aunt Daisy and Uncle Patrick were on their roof waiting for boats to come. It got so bad that when the surges came – Uncle Patrick said it was a 40-foot wave – they were able to climb into a coconut tree. They stayed there for three days," she explained.

"After the second wave, Daisy couldn't hold on any longer and could not swim. We have not located Daisy's body," said a tearful Stewart, pausing to control her emotions. "She is considered dead because of the time and what happened. This is my personal story, but I've heard lots of other stories."

Immediately, Stewart joined the effort already underway by Reed and the International Student Association.

"I wanted to collaborate with her because I had some material I wanted to get out to Jackson State. This has been really hard. It's the worst ever in our country," Stewart said. "I want to thank Jackson State and Mississippi, in general."

Meanwhile, Reed acknowledged support from The Links, Peace and Pearls and campus participants.

"They wanted to do something impactful to help out with the effort in the Bahamas after the recent devastation."

the recent devastation."

She said JSU has almost a half-dozen students from the



Jackson State University's International Student Association assisted with collecting items that were dispatched to the Bahamas. The nation was ravaged by the deadliest hurricane on record to strike the area. PHOTOS BY L.A. WARREN/JSU



JSU Bahamian student Tameka Stewart discusses the loss of her aunt during Hurricane Dorian. Stewart is a doctoral student studying behavioral health in JSU's School of Public Health.



Members of the LeFleur's Bluff Chapter of The Links Inc. packaged items slated for the Bahamas that was shipped by couriers. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LINKS



The Links and JSU's International Student Association partnered to bring relief to the thousands whose lives were shattered by Porian



During the campus collection, The Links expressed compassion for those impacted. Members encouraged JSU Bahamian student Stewart, center, whose family also was affected by the ferocious storm. Stewart is from Freeport.



A service organization called Peace and Pearls also donated items to victims of the storm.

Bahamas. "Their families have definitely been impacted by the storm. Emotionally, it's getting better day by day. But it's as best as can be expected. They feel helpless. They're upset because their dad, mom and other relatives just need simple things such as water. It's definitely having an emotional effect," Reed said.

Andrew Evans-Onwujurum of Nigeria was one of the many volunteers with the International Student Association. He's from a part of the world that has seen its own struggles, so he understands the importance of extending a helping hand. "I love reaching out to help our brothers and sisters in the Bahamas who have been affected by this hurricane disaster," he said.

Linda Smith, vice president of the LeFleur's organization, said, "All Links chapters throughout the United States are doing this. We want to give back. We thank JSU for part-

nering with us to send needed items to the Bahamas."

Brinkley Middle School and Mount Helm Baptist Church assisted the local chapter with collections, and the School of Public Health supported its student (Stewart) and her efforts to ease burdens in her homeland.

Yolanda Ratcliff, a JSU alum and founder of Peace and Pearls, showed up with a supporter who helped deliver bags of toiletries. Peace and Pearls is a group that lets single parents know "you can make it," Ratcliff said.

Ratcliff understands the pain of loss and inconvenience because she, too, has experienced the aftermath of a disaster. In 2011, her Clinton home was damaged by a tornado. "I know what it's like not to have toothpaste, water and lights when your normal way of life is taken away from you instantly. So, I am compelled to give back,"



# My prostate and thyroid cancer

**Dr. Glenn Mollette**Syndicated Columnist

I never wanted cancer – who does? Within four months I was diagnosed with thyroid cancer and prostate cancer.

Last October 26, my entire thyroid was removed with four malignant nodules. I dreaded that surgery because I knew speech and singing complications could happen because of the proximity of the thyroid to the vocal cords. Some people end up with paralyzed vocal cords for a lifetime. The surgeon assured me he would take his time and utilize extreme caution in protecting my vocal cords but reminded me that the cancer had to be the priority.

By the middle of December 2018 my voice was gaining strength and I was starting to exercise a little bit and was overall feeling good. I then had my annual blood work done. The telephone call came from my doctor's nurse telling me everything looked good except my PSA was 4.7. This was the highest it had ever been in my life. The prior year had been 3.7. I was told that PSA numbers can sometimes fluctuate and that we would need to do another blood test. Three weeks later I did another one on December 27 and found out my score had risen to 5.9. I called my wife who was visiting in Kentucky to tell her, "I'm in

trouble.' We decided to act immediately, however, finding a urologist during the Christmas holidays was difficult. I tried six or seven in Evansville, Indiana and Louisville, Kentucky. I ended up finding a doctor named David Levy from Cleveland Clinic. His receptionist said, "He has one opening December 31st, at 2:30." I explained to her my diagnosis and she explained the only way you and the doctor will know is by a prostate biopsy." I already had heard fearful reports about prostate biopsies. She very calmly assured me that he had a very gentle technique, and few ever complained. I booked the appointment. I hung up and called my wife back to tell her how we would be celebrating New Year's Eve.

New Year's Eve I met Dr. Levy and he spent quite a bit of time asking me questions and explained we won't know anything until I do the biopsy. They got me ready and he removed 18 pieces of my prostate, one small sample at a time. Almost every time he would remove a piece he would say, "Did you feel that?" And every time I said, "Yea, I felt it!" At that moment that's not really what I wanted to say however, somehow by the grace of God I managed to control my mouth. Levy would later explain that often many urologists only take 12 samples, but they miss the cancer by taking too few. "If it's in there we need to find it," he explained.

I walked out of the urologist's office a little sore but was able to drive back to our hotel where I managed to eat dinner and we later found a movie on television that I halfway watched.

On January 4, 7:30 in the morning, my cell phone was ringing, and I braced myself as I knew it was Dr. Levy. He began by asking me how I was doing today, and I said, "Dr. Levy, go ahead and tell me the report." "You have two cancers out of 18 samples he reported. One cancer is a 3+3 for a Gleason score of six which is not too bad. However, you have one

that is a 3+4 for a Gleason score of 7 or stage 2 cancer which is very concerning. We can monitor and do active surveillance, or we can do a procedure. I don't recommend surgery for you, but I do recommend either cryotherapy (freeze treatment) or brachytherapy (radiation

seed implant). However, I need to do an MRI and it will be 10 weeks before your prostate will be healed enough to do an accurate MRI. The MRI will show us more if the cancer is spread or if it's still contained in the prostate.

The next ten weeks were agony as I read everything I could find about cancer, treatments, supplements, procedures, side effects, nutrition all mixed with worry. I watched my dear friend die a slow death from prostate cancer just a couple of years ago, so I know prostate cancer can be deadly.

In March I had an MRI and found out the cancer was still contained to the prostate. I elected to do the Brachytherapy radiation seed implant procedure by Dr. Jay Ciezki of Cleveland Clinic who does over 300 procedures a year. Years ago, my father-in-law had the procedure done and so I was already a little familiar with it. After the procedure I never stopped walking, working or trying to be active but for a month I was sore and there were side effects, but they weren't unbearable.

Recently, the new blood work revealed my PSA is now .71. The lowest it's ever been in my life. I still have my prostate which will make PSA. "Everything" is working well. I am back to jogging a couple of miles, working and overall things are normal.

One thing that has changed is my awareness and respect...fear of cancer. Cancer can and does recur. My radiation oncologist doesn't think I'll ever have it in my prostate again, but he said there's always a chance it can show up somewhere else later.

I will have to give my urologist, Dr. Levy, credit for laying out in detail everything I should and should not eat for the rest of my life plus an array of vitamin supplements he strongly suggested I take every day.

While I feel great today, I know my fortunate outcomes are by God's grace and the decision to move forward with two surgeries as soon as possible. I do know that all of this is a comma until next time or something else. I have to be real. These bodies are not made to last forever. There is always something around the corner that will test us or will kill us. Life is short. We have to do the best we can with whatever we know to do and trust God with the results.

Keep in mind God gives us brains. Have regular medical checkups, bloodwork and pay attention. Don't go to a lazy doctor. A dear friend recently died from liver disease because her doctor kept telling her not to worry about it and that she would be okay. Never hesitate to get a second opinion. Putting off taking care of something does not make it go away. The chances are good it will only get worse.

Remember, with good care and treatments we aren't going to live forever but we might get to extend our lives and do a few more things we enjoy like spending time with our families, hobbies, living out our faith or collecting some of our hard-earned Social Security money

# Urine tests and antibiotics in the elderly

By Glenn Ellis TriceEdneyWire.com



Regardless of how healthy you may be otherwise, the most common infection that affect seniors and the

elderly are in the urinary tract.

This can range from urinary incontinence, bladder infection, to even increasing the risk of kidney problems.

Now, before you get carried away, please keep in mind that we are talking about issues associated with aging...in other words, it only happens if you live long enough. Sure, people can have urinary issues at any point in life, but, again, we're talking about aging and the elderly.

In fact, the urinary tract isn't the only thing that comes along with aging. As you grow older, you will have other changes, including: the bones, muscles, and joints; the male reproductive system; the female reproductive system; and in most of your organs, tissues, and cells.

Specifically, I'd like to address new finding that look at the problem with urine tests that result in elderly patients being prescribed an antibiotic. It seems that we are now finding out, that in most cases, this is not only of little to no benefit, it can actually cause problems.

It's no secret that we have a serious problem with the over-prescribing of antibiotics in this country. In some situations, when a patient goes to the doctor before the test results are back, they are already prescribed and taking an antibiotic. The problem has gotten so out of hand that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) says that more than 70% of the bacteria responsible for the 2 million infections you can get while in a US hospital are resistant to at least one commonly used antibiotic. It gets worse; 20% to 50% of antibiotics prescribed in hospitals are found (after the fact) to be unnecessary or inappropriate.

With the overuse or overprescribing of antibiotics, we can not only increase our resistance to antibiotics when you really need them, but can increase the severity of the condition you first complained about, how long you'll be sick, increasing your risk of complications, and most importantly, prevent a situation that may have resolved itself on its own without an antibiotic.

Which leads me to the original point of this column.

The latest research on the topic has found that seniors and the elderly are asked to provide urine samples routinely. In the past, when a urine specimen tested positive – even when no symptoms of infection were present – doctors were taught that treatment with antibiotics was the right approach. We know now that is wrong.

As first reported in the *New York Times*, a task force concluded last month that for virtually everyone except pregnant women, screening for and treating asymptomatic bacteriuria provides no benefit and has potential harms.

What we are learning now is that many urine samples will

reveal results showing the presence of bacteria, but this does not mean there is an infection. This practice happens all too often in the elderly, especially those in nursing homes.

It doesn't help when most of us, like most doctors, expect to use an antibiotic on the slightest hint that there could be an infection of any kind; whether it's a cold, sinus infection, rash, and yes, a urinary tract infection.

Urinary tract infections hap-

pen when germs get into the urethra and travel up into the bladder and kidneys. When you have a UTI, the lining of the bladder and urethra become red and irritated just as your throat does when you have a cold. The irritation can cause pain in your lower abdomen pelvic area and even lower back, and will usually make you feel like urinating more often. Burning or pain when urinating is the most common symptom. You may even feel a strong urge or need to urinate but only get a few drops. This is because the bladder is so irritated that it makes you feel like you have to urinate, even when you don't have much urine in your bladder. At times, you may lose control and leak urine. You may also find that your urine smells bad and is

Further complicating things is the fact that somewhere between 40 percent-60 percent of all women will experience at least one urinary tract infection during their lifetime. Add to that, is the connection between urinary tract infections and dementia.

Often, a senior of elderly person may suddenly become confused, hallucinate, or have a drastic change in behavior. Mistakenly, this can be considered to be dementia or Alzheimer's even though urinary tract infections can make dementia or Alzheimer's worse, it is not necessarily the case.

In a younger person, the urinary tract infection would likely reveal itself with painful symptoms. In older people, it shows up as confusion, agitation or withdrawal.

So, as you can see, there is a plethora of reasons why the medical profession, as well as patients and families, can find themselves on an antibiotic to treat a "urinary tract infection."

The takeaway is to know that we have reached a point in routine healthcare where we have to ask questions; even when it comes to being asked by a doctor to "pee in a cup."

Taking unnecessary antibiotics is a problem for many reasons; not the least of them being that it could be harmful to your health.

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

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

For more good health information visit: www.glennellis.com

# This flu season UMMC experts plan to call the shots

The Mississippi Link Newswire

When Australia coughs, America listens.

"Australia's flu season can be a precursor to ours in the United States," said Jason Smith, manager of emergency services at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

"We're watching the trends and patterns to see how they may correlate here in the U.S. and how that may affect the Medical Center. In Mississippi, the flu season has already begun."

At UMMC, the impact of a major flu epidemic on operations is comparable to that of a ruinous tornado's aftermath, or a "security event involving a weapon," Smith said.

No wonder, then, that UMMC coordinated not only a flu vaccination "blitz" Tuesday, but is also staging an information offensive to allay the anticipated assault from the bug. Because the news from Australia is not good.

Already in the midst of spring, that upside down world endured a worrisome flu season during the virus' peak, including the winter months of June to August.

"They're ending their season now," said Sheila Fletcher, director of infection prevention at UMMC. "They started seeing cases earlier this year than usual."

Fletcher's infection prevention team is helping spread the word about ways to prevent spreading the flu; the tips are



Anna Barnes, left, physical therapist, is armed against the flu with a vaccination from Austin Fitts, third-year pharmacy student.

for visitors, as well as employees: use hand sanitizers, wear face masks when appropriate,

cover your coughs and sneezes.

This work involves, among other things, putting up educational posters and wall "clings" around the campus, not least of all in the areas of pediatric care. The number of influenza-associated deaths for the 2018-2019 flu season – 61,200 in the United States – included 138 children, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As the CDC also noted, the previous flu season may not have set a record for severity, but it was the longest in a decade. Officially, it started Oct. 1, 2018 and ended in May.

Influenza is no respecter of calendars; it does not care if it's hot outside. But as colder weather sets in, people tend to huddle indoors, and are more

likely to accidentally shake hands with the flu.

Right now, the medical center is focused on "prevention and surveillance," said Smith, who has discussed with Fletcher ways to curtail the contagion across campus. "It's not just the health care side that's affected; it's the entire institution." A preparedness exercise being developed for November will bring that point home to the medical center's leadership, not only to those in health care, but also to those in areas such as human resources, supply chain and more.

For physicians like Dr. John McCarter, preparations include trying to make sure vendors of ventilators and other breathing equipment will be able to cope with extra orders if needed.

"It means being able to set aside day surgery and certain post-surgery units for a surfeit of flu patients, if there is a shortage of beds," said Mc-Carter, associate professor of emergency medicine.

The risk of a shortage is most likely at season's peak, which, in Mississippi, is usually late in the fall or early winter. But it could last into March or later. "Last year we had a relatively mild flu season; but we expect it will be extensive this year," Smith said.

To sidestep surprises, medical center experts turn to the Mississippi State Department of Health and the CDC to help track the flu's progress, not just in the Jackson area, but also across the state and even the southeast region.

"We accept patient transfers from hospitals throughout the state daily, which could increase our flu season load," Smith said. "We do see an increase in transfers when the flu

To cope with that load, it's vital that employees protect themselves. "If health care providers miss work because they're sick with the flu, that puts a further strain on the health care system," Smith said

Coming to work while sick is no good either, McCarter said. "Medical professionals are focused on wanting to help, so they can lose awareness that they may be helping to transmit disease. But they should stay home.

Read more online at www.themississippilink.com

# Breast cancer screenings can save lives



Linda Smith of Jackson talks with Suzanne Edwards, UMMC mammography technologist.



Cindy Ayers-Elliott, CEO of Foot **Print Farms** 



**McKinney** 



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The Mississippi Link Newswire

Getting screened for breast cancer by University of Mississippi Medical Center caregivers, Cindy Ayers-Elliott says, could have saved her life.

Ayers-Elliott, a Jackson resident and full-time farmer, hadn't gone in for a mammogram in two years. She took advantage of the See, Test and Treat program, a part of the College of American Pathologists Foundation offered annually at UMMC's Cancer Center and Research Institute at the Jackson Medical Mall.

The free breast and cervical cancer screens especially target uninsured and underinsured women. Ayers-Elliott, a former investment banker, got unsettling news after her mammo-

"There was a little mass showing," she said. "I had to do another screening. UMMC made it all so seamless and easy. They reached back to my last mammogram and were able to compare the scans to make a better decision on what to do."

The second scan confirmed the mass was fatty tissue, not cancer, but it strengthened Ayers-Elliott's resolve never to miss another annual mammo-

Her message drives home the purpose of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Observed every October and organized by major breast cancer charities nationwide, it strives to raise awareness about the importance of finding breast cancer early through screenings such as a mammogram.

Dr. Shawn McKinney, associate professor of surgery and a fellowship-trained breast surgeon, said breast cancer screenings can detect cancer in its earliest, most treatable stage.

"It is important for women to get regular yearly screening mammography in order for the radiologist to compare the images and potentially pick up subtle changes before symptoms arise such as a palpable mass," McKinney said.

A mammogram is an X-ray of the breast that detects breast changes. In a process that should take no more than 20 minutes, the breast is compressed between two plastic plates for a few seconds while an X-ray is taken. It's repositioned and compressed again several times to take different views. Suspicious readings could mean dense or fatty breast tissue, a cyst, an abscess or a tumor, which could be benign or cancerous.

The Medical Center also offers three-dimensional mammograms, capturing multiple slices of the breast at different angles, then bringing them together to create crystal-clear images that reconstruct the patient's breast.

Breast cancer develops from cells in the breast, with the most common sign a new lump or mass. Other signs include swelling of part of a breast, even if no lump is present; skin irritation or dimpling; nipple pain or retraction; redness or scaly appearance of the nipple or breast skin; or a discharge other than breast milk.

The American Cancer Society estimates that this year, there will be 268,600 new cases of breast cancer in women and 2,670 in men. Deaths caused by breast cancer this year are estimated at 41,760 for women and 500 for men. And, the society says, the five-year relative survival rate for a breast cancer that hasn't yet spread is 99 percent, and for that same time period for all breast cancer stages combined, 92 percent for white women and 83 percent for Afri-

The Medical Center follows the guidelines of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, which recommends that women of average risk for breast cancer get a breast exam every year beginning at age 25,

and an annual screening begin-

ning at age 40.

can-American women.



# Fannie Lou Hamer died of untreated breast cancer

By Julianne Malveaux NNPA Newswire Contributor

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the proliferation of pink ribbons is about to start. Predatory capitalists will make breast cancer their cause, producing pink t-shirts, pocketbooks, everything. It's a mixed blessing, this awareness, because too many will make this both a marketing and a profitmaking opportunity, while others will wonder how they can use their health insurance to afford a mammogram.

Health equity is a major issue, and there is a gap in health care and health access. It is especially sharp when we address the issue of breast cancer.

While black women get breast cancer at a lower rate than white women, we are 42 percent more likely to die from it. And young black women, those under 35, are twice as likely as white women to get breast cancer, and three times as likely to die from it. Black women are also three times as likely as white women to get triple-negative breast cancer, an especially aggressive form of breast cancer.

I am privileged to know Ricki Fairley, a triple-negative breast cancer survivor, and marketing maven who now holds a lead-



Muhammad

#### **COMMENTARY**

ership role at the nation's oldest and largest black women's breast cancer network group.

Sister's Network, describes itself as a "survivorship organization" that provides support for black women who are diagnosed with breast cancer. Fairley only recently joined the organization as its vice president for Strategic Partnerships and National Programs, and she is on a mission to raise awareness about breast cancer in the African-American community.

Propelled by her own survi-

vorship story, but also by the many women she has provided support for, she is passionate about the reasons that African-American women must be informed and engaged around breast cancer issues.

Our civil rights icon, Fannie Lou Hamer, died of untreated breast cancer. She was just 59 when she made her transition, and one can only speculate about why this fearless leader had an untreated disease. Her untreated breast cancer was not the first collision she experienced with our racist health care system. At 44, she had surgery

to remove a tumor, and the hospital also gave her a hysterectomy without her consent.

These unconsented sterilizations happened to lots of black women in southern states. It eroded the trust that many black women had in our health care system. Had Hamer noticed a lump, would she be inclined to return to the health care system that had already oppressed her? Probably not.

Hamer was poor and vocally black in the South. Serena Williams is wealthy, black and an international superstar. Despite her privilege, Williams also ex-

the health care system treats black women. Williams might have died giving birth to her daughter, Alexandra.

Because Williams was gracious enough to share her story, we are reminded that black women are all too often ignored or dismissed by healthcare pro-

Racial bias in the medical field is not only real, but also life-threatening. Reference Fannie Lou Hamer. Ask Serena Williams. Consider the thousands of black women that are being sidelined by a health care system that does not hear our voices.

What must we do to ensure that black women don't carry the heavy burden of health disparities? We must be mindful and aware of the risks of breast cancer. We must talk about breast care with our sisters and our young 'uns. We must engage in a policy conversation about the ways health insurance can support our breast health. Too often, health insurance covers some, but not all, of the cost of screening. We must engage our civic organizations in breast health education.

We must remember Hamer, who said she was "sick and tired

perienced the differential way of being sick and tired." That means as tired as we are of being tired, we must also be committed to taking care of ourselves. Too many studies say that black women ignore self-care for the care of others.

> Hamer was a leader and an icon. She was also a black woman who gave voice to her tiredness and the way it impacted her. In saying that she was "sick and tired of being sick and tired," she challenged us all to be less sick, less tired and more self-aware. If we celebrate her, we must hear her.

> The health care system is biased against black women, and we must take our health care in our own hands. Neither sick, nor tired, just empowered. And in October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, be supportive of organizations like the Sister's Network, an organization that provides opportunities and services for the black women who are diagnosed with breast cancer. We must do this in the name of Fannie Lou Hamer.

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



# 'I shall live and not die!' The battle cry to overcoming breast cancer

### Local pastor shares her testimony

By Rev. Audray Hall
Pastor of Holy Temple MB Church,
Special to The Mississippi Link

September 20, 2010 will forever be etched in my memory. In August of that year, I had my yearly mammogram. I never miss a year because of the extensive history of breast cancer in my family, including my older sister. My brother had colon cancer, and my father succumbed to lung cancer at the young age of 49. So I had a

paternal side.

After my August 2010 mammogram, I remember driving down the road on my way to work when I received a call from my OB/GYN's office stating, 'Audrey, we need you to go back for a follow-up on your recent test. Don't be alarmed it's probably nothing. However, let's err on the side of being proactive.'

family history of cancer on my

I was not really alarmed because I remembered that I had fallen down a set of steps at a local church after a revival, and I was pretty banged up on my left side. I thought to myself, 'they are seeing bruises in my chest cavity.' It was sore.

I went in, and they redid my mammogram. I could tell by the technician's face, something was wrong. I asked what is it? She said your test is showing something 'different than last year's. Let's walk over to the other room and do a sonogram,' still not bothered, I said okay. After the sonogram, she said don't be alarmed. 'We are going to schedule you for a biopsy tomorrow.' I said tomorrow? She said, 'tomorrow.'

I went back the next day, and

had the biopsy. The technician said we will have your results in a few days. Your doctor will call you. By this time, my OB/GYN had sent me to see a surgeon.

August 18, 2010, I went to my appointment to the sur-

geon's office. He came in the room, with the best bedside manners ever, grabbed my hands and said, Audrey I didn't think it would be cancer but it is. It was at that point that I felt weak on the examination table.

The first time during this entire series of appointments.

We went over my options.

He said with your family history, 'I suggest a mastectomy.' He reiterated, 'as a matter of fact, I strongly suggest bilateral mastectomy given your family history of cancer.' I remember saying to him, "take both of them off, I am not that attached to something [that's] trying to kill me." He smiled

I began to cry. He and the nurse asked if I had come alone. I said yes.

as he held my hand.

I thought, I had a wedding to perform in three weeks for one of my church members, and I did not want to disappoint her by not being able to do it and getting a substitute. So, I asked the doctor if we could schedule the surgery for September 20, 2010 or if that would be too long to wait? He said, 'no.'

I sat in the examination room for about 15 minutes gaining my composure. I assured them I could drive and I left the office. I went back to work. I didn't tell a soul.

I remember going home crying. So, I called my best friend from law school who lives in Chicago. She had a mastectomy six years ago. She said, 'Ok, this is the plan, "today, you cry; tomorrow, we begin the fight of your life.

the fight of your life.

I managed through tears to respond with 'ok.'

I never told my church family. I didn't want to worry anyone. They found out after I had my surgery and was at home recuperating. I never told my brother. When he called it was

just our usually fun-loving the placement conversations.

After surgery, a port was rounds of che

After surgery, a port was placed in for my chemo; I developed a blood clot in my neck. It had to be removed after only one round of the four scheduled rounds of chemo. The doctors recommended

the placement of a pic line. I managed to keep it in for two rounds of chemo, and I developed another blood clot, it had to be removed. I ask what will I do about my last round of chemo? The doctor said we are going to give it through a regular IV. I said okay. We fin-

ished the 4 rounds of chemo on schedule. My oncologist, in my opinion, is the best in the world. I love her.

Every morning, I got up did my morning mediation and prayed. I would go through the day encouraging myself with God's words: I shall live and not die and declare the works of the Lord. I will live!!

When you get a cancer diagnosis having the right mindset is 90% of your healing process. Many give up and lose faith.







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# The Mississippi Link History

Mississippi Link Newswire

During the late 1980s Socrates Garrett, founder of *The Mississippi Link*, worked with two other local businessmen to start a monthly magazine called "*Today's Mississippi*, *Tomorrow's South*." It was created to cover stories relating to the black community in Mississippi.

During the eighties, many black business professionals wanted to form a positive relationship with government officials and needed a vehicle for their voice to be heard within the city, county and state. Garrett felt that "Today's Mississippi" could be that vehicle to assist black professionals through enlightenment; offering better opportunities for them to receive business from inside the government.

This business magazine, which featured articles on black businesses, continued to publish until 1993, when Garrett realized the community

needed a broader spectrum of coverage, not just business. In October of 1993, Garrett decided to start a semi-monthly tabloid newspaper.

This newspaper, which Garrett founded in 1993, was originally named The Missing Link, but in 1995 the name was changed to The Mississippi Link and it became a weekly newspaper. The new name was designed to reflect a statewide and global approach to the marketplace. It included local, state and national news. The paper grew in popularity and local residents and advertisers became very supportive of the new product.

In January of 1998 *The Mississippi Link* made history by becoming the first newspaper in Mississippi to launch a website and in January of 2001, *The Mississippi Link* moved from a tabloid to a weekly broadsheet newspaper.

In 2007 Jackie Hampton

became the new publisher of *The Mississippi Link*. The newspaper continued to flourish and in 2015 ownership of *The Mississippi Link* was transferred to Minnie Garrett and Jackie Hampton.

The minority-owned paper became a female owned business as well.

The Mississippi Link holds membership in the Mississippi Press Association, the Southeastern African American Publisher's Association and The National Newspaper Publisher's Association, where Hampton serves as a member of the Board of Directors.

The weekly edition of *The Mississippi Link* is distributed to a mail subscription base, news racks around the city, store counters and is available online.

Your stories and comments are welcomed.

Visit www.mississippilink. com to view the e-edition.

Hello Friends,

With less than 3 weeks remaining, the countdown begins!

Please go back to the poll again November 5 and vote Vern Gavin for Supervisor District 4.

We can do this. I need your prayers, your support, and your vote!



#### Hall

Continued from page A11

Your faith will sustain you and give you that cause of the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon my life. You have to make positive affirma-

When I was in the doctor's office receiving a diagnosis of breast cancer, I wasn't Pastor Audrey Hall, the superwoman everyone thinks I am; I was a little girl from Enterprise, Mississippi who wished her parents were here to give her a hug.

However, I refused to be depressed, which is the reason I did not share my diagnosis with everyone. I did not need any stories of how people they knew had died of breast cancer because I had decided I was going to live.

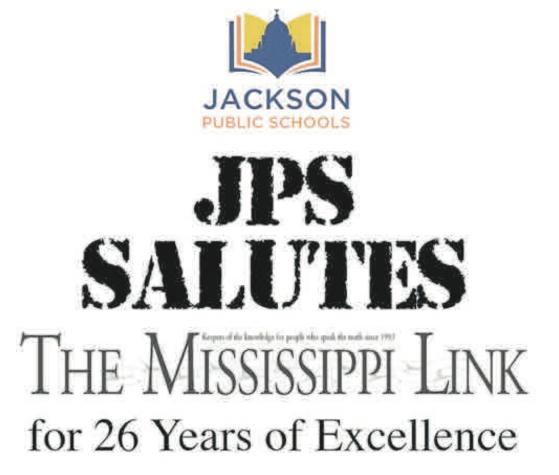
I am delivered from this dreadful disease. Not just healed but delivered. I tell people all the time cancer cells can't live in my body bemy life. You have to make positive affirmations over your life.

Prov. for doctors that know Joseph Christ as

Pray for doctors that know Jesus Christ as their personal savior. I do. I never say I don't receive an illness. My mindset is give me a diagnosis and watch my God heal me.

Early detection is the key.

Start your mammogram screenings early if you have a history of cancer in your family. Be proactive about your health. Never lose faith that your God won't or can't heal you. He can! I am a 9-year breast cancer overcomer, not just survivor, and I pray for 50 more years of excellent health."





Thank you for always spreading positive news about our outstanding scholars and wonderful team members!





# **Hinds County School District Weekly Update**

**ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE** 

**Highlights from HCSD Community Engagement Luncheon!** 

































**Environmental Technical Sales, Inc.** 

Congratulations to The Mississippi Link on 26 years of service and for your dedication to National Breast Cancer Month.

You have provided outstanding service to your community.

Sam Agnew sagnew@etec-sales.com

Mike Todd mtodd@etec-sales.com

Bryson Agnew bagnew@etec-sales.com

# **SBAA Decade Party**

MS Civil Rights Museum • October 12, 2019 • Jackson, MS



# Pink Friday: Party with a Purpose 2019

The Ice House • October 18, 2019 • Jackson, MS • Presented by Steven James





THE MISSISSIPPI LINK
on their 26 Years of Publishing!

from Rosetta Miller Perry, Publisher/CEO and The Tennessee Tribune Newspaper





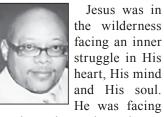
Tribune Building, 1501 Jufferen St. Nachville, TN 615-321-3268 Email: Salles1501@eeLcom Website: www.TnTribune.com Website: www.TnTribune.com www.mississippilink.com

**OCTOBER 24 - 30, 2019** 

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK • B5

# **Guard your** thought life

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



the wilderness facing an inner struggle in His heart, His mind and His soul. He was facing

an inward attack. Hebrews 4:15 states, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." He was tempted in every avenue that you and I could be tempted, in all points. Jesus had temptations, yet without sin.

The devil likes to get into our thoughts, so we need to

guard our thought life. That is where the devil loves to get first. We read in 2nd Corinthians 10:3-6, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ: And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled." We have to watch our desires. Psalm 38:9 reads, "Lord, all my desire is before thee; and

my groaning is not hid from

We have to be careful of the thoughts that we allow to come into our mind. The devil wants to use our mind. Philippians 2:5 says, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Sometimes Satan makes his attack so real that we can even feel his presence. Have you ever felt his presence? He can make himself very real. The devil loves to attack our mind and get us to think wrong thoughts.

Peter lets us know that we need to prepare for a mental battle. 1 Peter 1:13, "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober and hope to

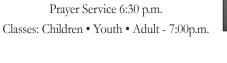
the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." Satan would like to have us sitting right in the house of God but have our mind somewhere else. We have to bring our thoughts into subjection. How can we do that? We have to bring into focus what is going on in service. Do not let our minds wonder off. We will miss something that God

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.



Worship Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 8:45 a.m. *MONDAY* Intercessory Prayer 9:00 a.m. WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.





Michael T. Williams Pastor



\*The call will last only 30 minutes



# Quiet...testing in progress

By Shewanda Riley Columnist



Quizzes tests are a part of my life as a college English Instructor. Over the years, I've developed tests that

measure more than one thing at once. For example, one of my very first quizzes is over the course syllabus. Before I give the quiz, I go over important parts of the syllabus the very first day of class and remind students to bring a copy of the syllabus to the next class. This simple quiz measures following instructions as well as whether the student understands what the course will be about. Most students do very well in remembering to bring their syllabus and make high scores on this quiz when I give it to them the 2nd class day. For many of them, it's an easy 100 points.

However, as the semester progresses, their grades change as the tests and quizzes become harder. They are no longer allowed to use notes and have to rely on their recollection of the material. Many students study hard and continue to make good grades; others slip because they are unable or unwilling to study and adjust to the demands of college level class work. As a teacher, it's sometimes frustrating because I know they all have the potential to do better but for some reason some choose

Over the years, I found that watching my students' responses when I give them their first major test remind me of how spirithings at once. Faithfulness, grace, on Twitter @shewanda. forgiveness, consistency and pa-

tience are just a few that we can measure with something as simple as our prayer life.

As we mature, our prayers should change. For example, in the past whenever I met a man I was interested in, I'd pray, "Lord, is he the one?"and then wait for the answer...which many times would be silence. Now I pray "Show me everything I need to see about this person...good...bad...and everything in between." At first, I didn't like to pray that prayer because it seemed like every time, I prayed it, all kinds of bizarre behaviors about this person would be revealed. I finally learned to appreciate the truth that was revealed with this prayer. But it's taken me years to get to that point.

For some of us, it's as simple as knowing that we should pray first. For others, it's knowing what kind of prayer to pray. Hebrews 5:13-15 says that "...solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil." We have to grow up and accept that just because our prayer hasn't worked like we wanted doesn't mean that we stop

God will answer the prayer at the appointed season or let us know why it remains unanswered. Passing the test means that you don't make the mistake of putting more faith in the prayer than in the one to whom you are praying.

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 preservedbytual tests can also measure many purpose@gmail.com or follow her

#### New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Live Radio Broadcast WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



"A Church Preparing for a Home Not Built by Man"

New Bethel M. B. Church • 450 Culberston Ave. • Jackson, MS 39209 601-969-3481/969-3482 • Fax # 601-969-1957 • E-Mail: Serenitynbc@aol.com

#### Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Sch: 10 a.m.

**Sunday Worship** Service: 11:15 a.m. (Fellowship following worship service 1st Sundays)

Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Rev. Mark Jackson, Pastor 231-A John Day Road • Off Hwy 16 East • Canton, MS 39046 Church: 601-859-2858

#### **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.

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@ hlibrary.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

10/17/2019, 10/24/2019

#### LEGAL

#### Advertisement for Bids

Bid 3107-Child Nutrition Warehouse Food Products Bid 3108 Child Nutrition Warehouse Paper & Stock Supplies

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 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) November 12, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all 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

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us

10/24/2019, 10/31/2019

#### **LEGAL**

#### Advertisement for Electronic Bidding

#### Bid 3109 Forest Hill High School – Coliseum Renovation

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 22, 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 Forest Hill High School, 2607 Raymond Road, Jackson, MS on November 12, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. Attendance at the prebid 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. planhouseprinting.com. Bid documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Online Plan Room Support at Plan House, 605 Main St., Tupelo, MS 38804, 662- 407-0193. For questions regarding bid documents, please contact Cooke Douglass Farr Lemons Architects + Engineers PA, Phone: 601-366-3110 or Email: thall@cdfl.com.

10/24/2019, 10/31/2019

#### Cryptogram

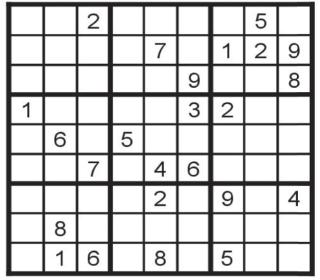
A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by Diana Ross



#### Sudoku

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



© 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 I aw 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

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.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is authorized and empowered by the Act

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 Melvin Priester, Jr. Kenneth I. Stokes (Absent) De'Keither Stamps (Absent) Charles Tillman Aaron Banks Virgi Lindsay | X<br>X<br>X<br>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

# Rolling Fork, Mississippi Reat Delta Bear Affair 10-26-19 MUSIC Paul Thorn Eden Brent Juckenhach Paul Thorn, Eden Brent, Luckenbach Keith Johnson & Big Muddy Band, Jewel Bass & These Days & Morel FOOD, ARTS & CRAFTS, FIREWORKS 5K BIKE/RUN, DOG SHOW & MORE! www.greatdeltabearaffair.org

#### Crossword Puzzle

| 1  | 2      | 3             | 4  |        |          | 5        | 6   | 7         | 8  |
|----|--------|---------------|----|--------|----------|----------|-----|-----------|----|
| 9  | +      |               | +  |        | 10       |          | +   | +         |    |
| 11 | +      |               | 1  |        | 12       | $\vdash$ | -   | +         |    |
| 13 |        | -             |    | 14     |          |          | 15  | +         |    |
|    |        |               | 16 | +      | $\vdash$ | 17       |     | $\top$    |    |
| 18 | 19     | 20            |    | $\top$ |          |          |     |           |    |
| 21 | $\top$ |               |    | 22     | $\top$   |          | 23  | 24        | 25 |
| 26 |        |               | 27 |        |          | 28       |     | $\top$    |    |
| 29 |        |               |    |        |          | 30       |     | $\top$    |    |
| 31 |        | in the second | T  |        |          | 32       | 8 2 | $\dagger$ |    |

**DOWN** 

Verse

8. Gift

1. President (abbr.)

Midwestern state

5. Type of meat 6. Overly fat

7. Roll of tobacco

Darkness"

14. Antenna

17. Smells

18. Candid

4. Type of flashing light

10. Author Joseph, wrote "Heart of

#### ACROSS

- 1. Small fruit seeds
- 5. Prison 9. Basic
- 10. Log house
- 11. Pitcher
- 12. Z
- 13. Island inhabitant
- 15. Pocket
- 16. Amuck 18. War returnee
- 21. Bullfight cheer
- 22. Feeblemindedness
- 28. Animal insect
- 29. Month
- 31. Tend
- 30. Chop down
- 32. Single
- 26. Terra (type of clay)
- 20. Fish tank dweller 23. Fake butter

19. Run away and marry

- 24. Jail room
- 25. Harvard's rival
- 27. Container

© Feature Exchange

#### **Cryptogram Solution**

#### **Crossword Solution**

| Р | I                  | Р | S |   |   | Н | 0 | С | K |  |
|---|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| R | 0                  | 0 | Т |   | С | Α | В | 1 | Ν |  |
| Е | W                  | Е | R |   | 0 | М | Е | G | Α |  |
| S | Α                  | Μ | 0 | Α | Ν |   | S | Α | C |  |
|   |                    |   | В | Е | R | S | Е | R | K |  |
| V | Е                  | Т | Е | R | Α | Ν |   |   |   |  |
| 0 | L                  | Е |   | _ | D | 1 | 0 | С | Υ |  |
| С | 0                  | Т | Т | Α |   | F | Ц | Е | Α |  |
| Α | Р                  | R | L | L |   | F | Е | L | L |  |
| L | Е                  | Α | Ν |   |   | S | 0 | L | Е |  |
|   | © Feature Exchange |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |

#### **Sudoku Solution**

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

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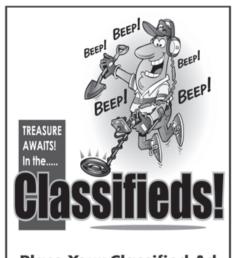
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### What I learn when I have **lunch at Cook County Jail**

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



On my birthday this year, I continued my tradition of going to the Cook County Jail to have lunch with some of the 5,552 people who are inmates there. These visits remind me of the humanity of those who are in trou-

ble – and of the inhumanity, even idiocy, of our criminal justice system. Despite the first steps toward prison reform, the United States still locks up a higher percentage of its population than any other country - even more than repressive nations like China.

There are some 2.3 million people locked up in America in 1,719 state prisons, 109 federal prisons, 1,772 juvenile correction facilities, 3,163 local jails, as well as what are called Indian Country Jails, immigration detention facilities and more. If prisons were a city, it would be larger than Philadelphia or Dallas, and one of the country's top 10 in population. In total, about \$80 billion a year is spent on correction facilities, compared to the \$68 billion spent by the Department of Education.

About 612,000 of this number are in local jails, but that number is misleading. A staggering 10.6 million people go to jail in any one year. Most are released shortly after posting bail or getting out without it. Over two-thirds of the people in jail have not been convicted of any crime. These are overwhelmingly poor people who cannot afford bail. Prison and jail populations are still disproportionately people of color. African Americans are 12 percent of the country's population but 33 percent of federal and state prisons' population.

Recently, from 2009 to 2016, the African-American prison population has fallen by about 17 percent, declining more rapidly than the white prison population, which is down about 10 percent. The scourge of the opioid epidemic has significantly contributed to the number of whites in trouble. Nonviolent offenders make up a significant proportion of the incarcerated - particularly in federal prisons. State and local prisons and jails tend to have more inmates charged with property or violent crimes.

Too many are there because of petty violations of the terms of their release from previous charges, not even from committing a new offense. Inmates, almost by definition, are disproportionately low income. They are "down on their luck," people struggling under the intense pressures of poverty. They tend to be people who suffer from the diseases of depression, alcoholism or drug abuse. When I break bread with these people, I always find them to be more intelligent than people think, more humane than people think, more curious and open to experience than people think. These are not serial murderers or rapists.

They are overwhelmingly people who erred or did wrong but are not bad people. We need a lot more reform of our judicial system and particularly of our system of incarceration. We should be doing far more rehabilitation and far less incarceration. With 10 million people going to jail each year – and the overwhelming number in jail at any one time not convicted of anything - one thing we should do is register them to vote. The inmates I spoke with were stunned to learn that they were still eligible to vote – and eager to be signed up. If they were to be registered and to vote, they might help make a difference in the judges that get elected, in the sentences that get handed out, in the injustices that are structured into our justice system.

They know better than most that while there are some truly violent people that deserve incarceration, the vast majority need a hand up, not another shackle of more debt, a bad record, a bleaker future.

Illinois, under Governor Pritzker, has set the pace. Legislation was enacted that will turn the county jail into a temporary precinct that will enable "pretrial detainees" - those who are detained but not convicted of anything – to register and vote. That provides a model for states and localities across the country. These are citizens who have the right to vote. We should make it possible for them to exercise that right.

### **The Urban League Movement** has had few greater champions in Congress than Elijah Cummings

By Marc H. Morial Trice Edney Newswire



"Steely yet compassionate, principled yet open to new perspectives, Chairman Cummings remained steadfast in his

pursuit of truth, justice and reconciliation. It's a tribute to his native Baltimore that one of its own brought such character, tact and resolve into the halls of power every day. And true to the giants of progress he followed into public service, Chairman Cummings stood tallest and most resolute when our country needed him the most." - President Barack Obama

It's hard to express just how great a loss the death of Elijah Cummings represents to the civil rights community.

He was in the public eye most recently for his role as chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, one of three House committees conducting an impeachment inquiry of President Trump. And he will be remembered for his passionate commitment to integrity in our public institutions.

His life and his legacy, however, encompass so much more.

The many tributes to Cummings upon his death Oct. 17 noted that his life represented the American Dream. Specifically, it represented the African-American dream. He was a child of southern sharecroppers who headed north as part of the Great Migrations.

He was inspired to become a lawyer by NAACP National Youth Director Juanita Jackson Mitchell, the first African-American woman to practice law in Maryland. Under her guidance, 11-year-old Cummings and other black boys leaped into a formerly all-white swimming pool in Baltimore, triggering mob violence that left him with a lifelong scar.

It was the proprietor of the drugstore where Cummings worked as a teenager who paid his application fee to Howard University. He thrived at Howard, earning his degree in political science in 1973 and his law degree at University of Maryland three years later.

He entered public service in 1983 as a member of Maryland's House of Delegates. He was the first African American to serve as Speaker Pro Tempore. After winning his seat in Congress with more than 80 percent of the vote, he was reelected 11 times with overwhelming majorities.

The Urban League movement had few greater champions in Congress than Cummings, who led major initiatives to promote economic justice, civil rights, voter protection and educational opportunity.

This year alone, legislation he introduced that mirrors Urban League policy includes a proposal to facilitate partnerships between the Small Business Administration and HBCUs to establish Small Business Development Centers. His Promoting Reentry through Education in Prisons Act would ease barriers to reentry by providing incarcerated individuals with the educational opportunities they need to successfully reenter their communities upon release. The SAFE Lending Act would crack down on some of the worst abuses of the payday lending industry and protect consumers from deceptive and predatory practices that strip wealth from working families.

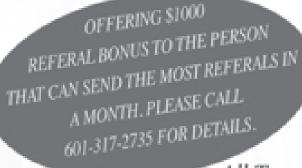
He was a champion for voting rights, making an impassioned plea on the House floor against voter suppression:

"On my mother's dying bed, 92 years old, former sharecropper, her last words were, 'Do not let them take our votes away from us," he said. "She had fought and seen people harmed, beaten, trying to vote. Talk about inalienable rights. Voting is crucial. And I don't give a damn how you look at it: There are efforts to stop people from voting. That's not right. This is not Russia. This is the United States of America."

Cummings saw his responsibility to conduct oversight of the president as a constitutional imperative, but his responsibility to serve his constituents as a moral imperative.

The nation needs leaders like Cummings who are guided by honor and comported by dignity. We grieve his loss and offer our deepest condolences to his fam-

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### **Congressman Elijah Cummings** - Conscience of the Congress

By Julianne Malveaux NNPA News Wire Columnist



Saunders, and Democratic activist and pastor Leah Daughtry took to the stage to have a conver-

sation about politics, voting, and political courage. Congressman Elijah Cummings (D-MD) was scheduled to attend the Spirit of Democracy awards dinner, hosted by the National Coalition for Black Civic Participation (NCBCP) October 16; he died just a few hours after the dinner concluded.

As Roland Martin led the three luminaries who received the Chairman's award from NCB-PC, it was clear that Cummings would have been right at home in the company of his colleagues. It would have been great to hear his passionate voice thundering about the need to speak truth to power. As chairman of the House Oversight Committee, he was known for his powerful and scathing attacks on this administration.

He never hesitated to use his investigative powers to check an administration replete with political chicanery and corruption. Indeed, he reportedly signed subpoenas from his hospital bed the evening before he made his transition. I always enjoyed my interactions with Congressman Cummings. He was right-on and righteous, humble and honest, and ever faithful to his roots.

He had no airs – and was proud to be the son of a sharecropping family. He loved black people and loved the Baltimore neighborhood that he never moved away from, commuting daily from Capitol Hill to his home.

Cummings wielded a powerful influence, not only among other gan (R), must set a date for a spe-President Lee politicians regardless of political cial election for Cummings conparty, but also on his neighbors, taking to the street with a bullhorn to try to quell emotions in the wake of the police murder of Freddie Grav.

> And for all his power, Cummings was also often measured. When 45 attacked his city by calling it a "rat-infested" place where no one wanted to live, Cummings held his powder and allowed others, including many Baltimoreans, to respond. And while he could be scathing in his questioning, he could also be kind and collegial, which explains why so many Republicans issued acclamatory statements upon his death. Cummings was guided by his faith and by his keen sense of right and wrong. He believed in our country and, more importantly, in our Constitution, which is why he was so very passionate about the need

> for those in power to adhere to it. The Maryland congressman was also passionate about children, or the "generations yet unborn." He chafed at the administration's policy of separating children from their parents at the border, challenging his colleagues in a booming voice, "We are better than this." For all his passion, thunder, and pointed criticism, he was also a notably kind and considerate man. House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) said of his colleague, "In a time of confrontation and disagreement and anger and, yes, sometimes hate, he was a beacon of civility, of fairness, of justice."

Many others echoed those sentiments, with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi describing Cummings as "the conscience of the Congress."

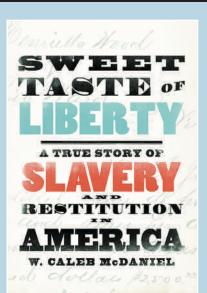
Maryland Governor Larry Hogressional seat. Until then, House Democrats will have to decide who assumes his chairmanship of the House Oversight Committee. Many say Cummings' death will not slow the momentum for impeachment. Indeed, I hope that more members of Congress will emulate the Cummings' passion for the Constitution and disdain for those who fail to honor it.

Pelosi has pledged to move swiftly on impeachment, and not a day goes by without 45 providing more reasons for impeachment. On the same day that Cummings died, the president, after issuing unusually compassionate condolences for the Cummings family, announced that the G-7 meeting next year will be held at the Trump resort in Miami. This is a direct violation of the emoluments clause of the Constitution and a reflection of the way the Trump family has used the White House as a cash machine. One can only imagine what Cummings would have to say about this matter.

Cumming's death is a blow to the Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus, the African-American community, and the nation. He will be sorely missed. While no one can fill his shoes, we must all be motivated by his legacy of speaking truth to power, being a voice for the voiceless, with compassion, dignity, and respect for the Constitution.

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

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# TASTE OF SLAVERY AND RESTITUTE

2019, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 7.95 / \$30.95 CANADA · 340 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer Columnist

Home Sweet Home.

Be it ever so humble, there's no place like it. It's where your family is, where you hang your coat, where you keep your stuff. Even the word "home" equals safety and comfort, and in the new book "Sweet Taste of Liberty" by W. Caleb McDaniel, getting home could mean payback, too.

For many years, Zebulon Ward bragged about being "the last American... to pay for a slave," but that wasn't quite

He paid her, not for her, and Harriet Wood made sure he did. Born in a small town in northern Kentucky, Wood guessed that she entered the world in 1818 or 1820, but no one knew for sure. Moses Tousdied in 1834 after a series of Louisville man named Henry for him, and when Forsyth's business fell on hard times, he sold Wood to William Cirode, a

ing "a version of the American dream."

Cirode purchased Wood in Lexington and, because he was "restless," he moved to New Orleans shortly afterward, taking her with him. Although he seemed to prosper there for a ey owned her then and when he time, Cirode found himself in dire financial troubles in early misfortunes, she was sold to a 1844, so he abandoned his family and sailed to France. Forsyth. She toiled two years His wife, Jane, took the slaves she'd retained and returned to Kentucky, and then she took Wood to Ohio, which was a free

Agreements between Kentucky and Ohio meant that Harriet Wood was still a slave until Jane Cirode freed her, which happened at some point in 1848. Finally, Wood was free and she had the papers to prove it.

She didn't have them with her, though, when Zebulon Ward conspired to kidnap her and take her to market to sell back into slavery. The papers never surfaced during a lawsuit challenging Ward's ownership of Wood. She didn't have them when he sold her down the river to Natchez.

And for seventeen years, she burned at what he'd done...

Don't be surprised if, as you're reading "Sweet Taste of Liberty," you begin to feel rather overwhelmed. There's a lot going on inside this book.

The names, firstly, may cause you to page back and forth to remember who's who; that this is a highly-peopled account is only a part of the issue, never mind the similarity of some surnames. You'll truly have to take your time here – which you won't wish to do, since it's a story you'll want to gobble up.

Author W. Caleb McDaniel tells a breathless tale with an ominously dark feel through many of its pages, because the monsters here were real. Yes, it's a complicated tale that races from north to south, but the righteous audacity that ultimately occurred in Ohio in 1870 makes it worthwhile, fist-

pumping and satisfying. Historians, of course, will want "Sweet Taste of Liberty." Feminists shouldn't miss it. Folks with an opinion on reparations should find it. All of you will want to take it home.

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# Trustmark gives \$1.05 million to support Mississippi's children and youth

Benefactors include three statewide non-profit organizations



Southern Christian Services for Children receiving \$500,000 check.



Canopy Children's Solutions receives \$500,000 check from Trustmark.

Methodist Children's Homes of Mississippi show off \$50,000 check.

The Mississippi Link Newswire

(NASDAQ: Trustmark TRMK) presented a total of \$1,050,000 to three of Mississippi's youth and family-based charities providing services and programs to help children thrive. The organizations who received financial support included: Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth, Methodist Children's Homes of Mississippi and Canopy Children's Solutions.

"At Trustmark, we are committed to investing in the lives of those in our communities," said Jerry Host, Trustmark CEO. "For over 130 years, supporting local civic organizations has been an integral part

of our corporate philosophy. We believe that by supporting these organizations, we are enhancing the lives of our customers,

associates and neighbors." On September 24, Trustmark presented Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth (SCSCY) a check for \$500,000 at their 31st Annual Bottom Line for Kids Benefit Dinner and Auction. Trustmark has been a proud partner of SC-SCY since 2002 and has served as a sponsor for many of their programs and events, including the Sonny Fountain Memorial Golf Tournament. With Trustmark's contribution, Southern Christian Services will be able to purchase a permanent facilservices and programs throughout Mississippi.

Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth, Inc., is a faith-based, nonprofit organization founded in 1988 that provides children and family services throughout the State of Mississippi. Licensed by the Mississippi Department of Human Services and certified by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, SCSCY's services include therapeutic foster care, adoption, group homes and a transitional living pro-

Following Southern Christian Services, Trustmark presented a \$50,000 contribution

ity to house their many active to Methodist Children's Homes of Mississippi to provide an initial investment to fund their Permanency Assessment Center. The center will provide care to males and females ages twelve to eighteen needing immediate care due to foster care placement disruption and/or minor victims of human trafficking.

Methodist Children's Homes (MCH) has been providing care and love for children and families in Mississippi since 1896. Originally an orphanage, MCH has cared for more than 11,000 children for over a century. Originally located in Water Valley, they have grown into multiple homes across the

state, with their primary campus in Jackson.

This past Saturday, Trustmark presented a \$500,000 check to Canopy Children's Solutions (CCS) at their Inaugural Butterfly Ball, the first gala of its kind devoted to raising much needed funding and awareness for mental and behavioral health for kids. Trustmark served as presenting sponsor of the event and has been a partner of CCS for over 17 years.

Canopy Children's Solutions is Mississippi's most comprehensive nonprofit provider of children's behavioral health, educational and social service solutions. They have served the

children and families of Mississippi for over 100 years and serve all 82 counties through a full range of innovative solu-

"We understand the importance of being a true community partner," said Host. "Our hope is that our contributions inspire others to support life-changing organizations like these as they continue to enhance and rebuild the lives of children and youth here in Mississippi."

Trustmark is participating in The Children's Promise Act, which offers Mississippi tax credit to individuals and businesses for donations to eligible charitable organizations.



#### Heart health starts here.

Meet Victor D. Sutton, Ph.D., "head coach" at the Jackson Heart Study Community Engagement Center, where evidence-based programs and promoting health policies are a team effort. By mobilizing forces to reach people on every front, the CEC can help prevent and control chronic diseases and score winning outcomes in the African-American community.

MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES, MAYORS, CONGREGATIONS, BARBER SHOPS AND MORE!



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601.206.1720







VOTE NOVEMBER 5, 2019

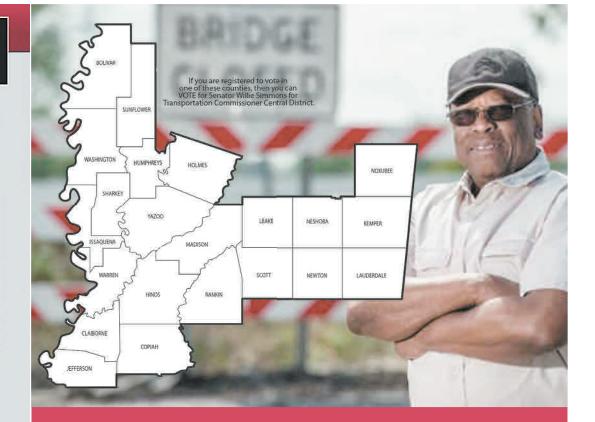
# Senator Willie Simmons - The Builder with a Vision

#### Accomplishments of Senator Willie Simmons

- \$250,000.00 to restore the Tutwiler funeral home where Emmett Till's Body was embalmed
- \$1,000,000.00 for Indianola's infrastructure
- \$50,000.00 to upgrade the park in Boyle
- \$3,600,000.00 to upgrade and repair Park Avenue in Drew
- \$4,000,000.00 to enhance Highway 552 at Alcorn State to move traffic on and off campus
- \$1,000,000.00 to repair and upgrade Highway 8 at Cleveland
- Funds for a 500-space parking lot, RV parking and water system at Alcorn State University
- \$3,000,000.00 to repair the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Jackson
- \$11,000,000.00 to enhance and improve Highway 14 in Sharkey County
- \$10,000,000.00 to continue to construct Highway 82 bypass in Washington County
- \$800,000.00 for Charleston's infrastructure
- Led the charge for securing \$7,000,000.00 for the Grammy Museum in Cleveland
- Funds to improve McKnight Road in Renova from Highway 61 to North Bayou Road in Cleveland
- \$4,200,000.00 to remove median and upgrade Highway 61 from Boyle to Cleveland
- Street lights on Highway 49 at Belzoni
- Funds to four-lane Highway 552 from Highway 61 to Alcorn State University's campus

#### Vision of Commissioner Willie Simmons

- Increase funding for the transportation infrastructure system by \$300,000,000.00 annually
- Encourage the Legislature to increase the user fee with a three-year phase in for a total of 10 cents per gallon of fuel
- Encourage the Legislature to enact a second phase of the Emergency Bridge Act by passing a \$250,000,000.00 bond in 2020
- Construct a four-lane highway bypass at Port Gibson to complete the 1987 AHEAD four-lane highway program
- Complete the Highway 82 bypass in Washington County
- Overlay Highway 25 from Brandon to Louisville
- Enhance Highway 18 from Port Gibson to Raymond as an evacuation route from **Grand Gulf**
- Four-lane Highway 27 from I-20 at Vicksburg to I-55 at Crystal Springs as an extension to the Grand Gulf evacuation route
- Four-lane Highway 15 from I-20 at Newton to Highway 25 at Louisville
- Upgrade Highway 61 to a Historic Scenic Route status from Leland to Vicksburg
- Four-lane Highway 16 from Highway 49 at Yazoo City to Philadelphia
- Complete Highway 19 four lanes from Meridian to Philadelphia
- Four-lane Highway 49 West from Highway 82 at Indianola to Highway 49 East at Tutwiler
- Construct a bypass at Philadelphia
- Create safe work zones for MDOT workers and contractors
- Create a Capitol City Transportation Board consisting of representation from MDOT, USDOT, Hinds County Board of Supervisors, City of Jackson and the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District to assist Jackson, the State's Capitol City, in rebuilding its infrastructure









# Believe. Do.

When a community works together, anything is possible.
That's why we strive to connect people with good jobs, create opportunities for all, advance education and promote the responsible use of our technology.

