

# Civil Rights icon and Congressman John Lewis announces cancer diagnosis

By Lauren Victoria Burke  
NNPA Newswire Contributor

“I am going to fight it,” read a statement from Rep. John Lewis on the evening of December 29.

“I may miss a few votes during this period, but with God’s grace I will be back on the front lines soon,” he added. Lewis announced on the last week of 2019 that he had been diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer.

The news sent shock waves through the political community on the left and right and prompted many to reflect on what Lewis’ life has added to American history.

“While I am clear-eyed about the prognosis, doctors have told me that recent medical advances have made this type of cancer treatable in many cases, that treatment options are no longer as debilitating as they once were, and that I have a fighting chance,” Lewis continued in his statement.

The Georgia Congressman and civil rights icon was first elected to Georgia’s Fifth Congressional District in 1986.

In a year that sadly saw the end of the lives of Congressional Black Caucus co-founder John Conyers of Michigan and revered Baltimore Congressman Elijah Cummings, Lewis’ diagnosis was particularly jarring.

At a time when the country is in need of moral authority many reflected on the diagnosis



Lewis

as a wake-up call.

“John Lewis is one of our great American heroes who reshaped our American Dream. His is a priceless gift which leaves us forever in his debt.

It’s been said that honest public service is the rent we pay to live in America. He pays his

rent better than most everyone else and, hopefully, will remain in Congress long after he beats this cancer, no easy thing as he knows.

His guts as a college student inspired me to integrate the campus elective politics of my college and later to help L.

Douglas Wilder when no one else in VA who looked like me would. In a country struggling to make Dr. King’s dream a reality for so many far too long, we simply can’t afford to be without John Lewis. There are

*Lewis*  
Continued on page 3

# Recipe for a Happy New Year

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past – have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many

persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing – don’t do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

## Editor’s note

I’m reminded of the old saying, “the only thing that is ‘constant’ is change.” 2020 is being billed as the year of clear vision. It is my prayer that the manifestations of God’s blessings will overshadow your “right-now situation.” I’m entering 2020 with great expectations and am committed to living out loud and on purpose. I’m speaking less and listening more. I’m speaking less and doing more. I’m speaking less and caring more. The vision that God has given me for 2020 is clear.

Here’s the quote that I’m living by in 2020: “Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, magic and power in it” – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

At *The Mississippi Link*, we look forward to serving you more in 2020. Our goal is to continue keeping you informed of everything that is happening in our community. Blessings this New Year!

# Trump signs Future Act to help HBCUs, minority-serving institutions



Trump

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

One day after the House impeached him, President Donald Trump took decisive action to support and empower Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country.

The president put his signature on the Future Act, legislation that for the time includes HBCUs in the federal 5-year STEM Education Plan and the National Research and Development Budget Priorities.

“When I took office, I promised to fight for HBCUs, and my administration continues to deliver,” Trump stated.

“A few months ago, funding for HBCUs was in jeopardy. But the White House and Congress came together and reached a historic agreement.

For the first time ever, I signed legislation to permanently fund HBCUs and other institutions that primarily serve first-generation and minority students. This action guarantees more than \$2.5 billion over the next 10 years, including \$850 million specifically for HBCUs,” the president stated.

He continued: “Today’s achievement continues my unprecedented commitment to HBCUs. During my first weeks in office, I moved the HBCU initiative, led by Johnathan Holifield, to the White House and worked with Congress to increase funding for HBCUs by more than \$100 million. HBCUs have never had better champi-

*Trump*  
Continued on page 3

# Two Members of Congress call for replacement of Lee statue in U.S. Capitol

By Ronald E. Carrington  
TriceEdneyWire.com

Two Virginia congressional representatives are calling for the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee to be replaced in the U.S. Capitol by a Virginian of color who has dedicated his or her life to fighting for equality.

The statue of Lee, who is dressed in a Confederate uniform, is viewed by almost every tour group to the U.S. Capitol and serves “as a prevalent reminder of Virginia’s disturbing racial legacy,” Rep. A. Donald McEachin of Richmond and Rep. Jennifer Wexton of Northern Virginia wrote in a letter this week to Gov. Ralph S. Northam.

“There are countless commendable Virginians who would better represent our Commonwealth in the U.S. Capitol than a Confederate general,” they wrote.

They asked Northam to start the replacement process during the Virginia General Assembly session that starts next month.

According to the official guidelines for replacing statues in the National Statuary Hall Collection in the Capitol, legislation authorizing the change must be approved by a state’s legislature and signed into law by the governor. The request then would be

sent to the U.S. Capitol architect.

Each state has two statues in the National Statuary Hall Collection in the U.S. Capitol that honor notable people in the state’s history.

Virginia currently is represented by statues of George Washington, a Virginia native and the first U.S. president, and Lee, a slave owner who, after Virginia’s secession from the United States, served as commander of the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

The Lee statue, which depicts him in a Confederate uniform, was donated by the state for the Capitol collection sometime between 1900 and the 1930s, according to the letter, when dozens of Confederate monuments were erected across the country.

“These statues aimed to rewrite Lee’s reputation from that of a cruel slave owner and Confederate general to portraying him as a kind man and reluctant war hero who selflessly served his home state of Virginia,” Reps. McEachin and Wexton stated.

“As Virginians, we have a responsibility

*Statue*  
Continued on page 3





# McDonald manager receives Humanitarian Award

Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi McDonald's owner/operator Marc O'Ferrall and the O'Ferrall Management Group presented Brandon McDonald's restaurant manager Frances King with their Humanitarian of the Year Award for her work to give former prison inmates a second chance in life.

King partners with local restitution centers to hire released prisoners and others working off fines to get back on their feet.

"It's giving them a second chance for employment or to learn a new job skill," said King. "I started doing it a few years ago and it's something I've grown passionate about."

The program has been so successful that it now accounts for around 80% of the employees at her restaurant, but there are conditions for the program to work.

"Number one is they have to have their mind set that they're ready to do better," said King. "It's wonderful when you have those with a goal to succeed. It's a goal for me to help them get there."

The Humanitarian of the Year Award also recognized King's work helping others through coat drives and raising donations for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mississippi.

The award was presented at a staff service awards dinner in Starkville, Mississippi.



Marc O'Ferrall and Frances King



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## Trump

Continued from page 1

ons in the White House.

“The bill I signed today also reforms the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. The Internal Revenue Service will now seamlessly transfer applicants’ records to the Department of Education, so that families can use a simpler, shorter application for financial aid and those with student loans do not have to complete a cumbersome income certification process year after year.

“This is a transformative change that has been talked about in Washington for more than a decade, but everyone always said it could not be done. We got it done.”

HBCUs will now play an essential part in federal planning to advance bold, transformational leaps in science and technology to ensure America remains the global leader in science and technology for generations to come, White House officials said in a release.

With the bill’s signing, Trump also established the inaugural HBCU Colors Day, which encourages HBCU supporters from across the country to wear HBCU apparel to show their support for

HBCU institutions.

The Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education – or Future Act – means that, under the president’s administration, investment in HBCU programs has significantly increased under Title III of the Higher Education Action of 1965.

This includes:

- A \$35 million increase in the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program (\$279.6 million);
- A \$9 million increase in the Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions (\$72.3 million);
- A \$1 million increase in the Strengthening HBCU Masters Programs (\$8.6 million);

Meaningful increases investments in student support like Pell Grants, Federal Work-Study, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG); and

Increases in Howard University’s annual appropriation by nearly \$11 million, bringing its fiscal year 2018 investment level to \$232.5 million.

## Lewis

Continued from page 1

too few of such icons left,” wrote Virginia political legend Paul Goldman. Goldman was incremental in electing America’s first African-American Governor, L. Douglas Wilder.

“John Lewis is a giant – an icon of the civil rights movement, a leader in Congress and one of the kindest people I know. I’m praying for a speedy and full recovery. We need you making good trouble in the halls of Congress,” wrote Freshman Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN).

“Our hero. Our shining beacon and standard. Praying for Rep. John Lewis and his family. And for us all,” wrote attorney Sherrilyn Iffill, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

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## Statue

Continued from page 1

ity to not only learn from but also confront our history,” they wrote to the governor. “As part of this responsibility, we must strive for a more complete telling of history by raising up the voices, stories and memories of minorities and people of color. In doing so, we should consider what monuments we can add to acknowledge the horrors of slavery, expose the injustices of institutional racism and honor those who dedicated their lives to fighting for equality.”

In a brief interview with the Richmond Free Press, Rep. McEachin said the Virginia General Assembly decided on what statues would represent the Commonwealth in the National Statuary Hall Collection.

“I think it is appropriate in a multiethnic state like Virginia that we have some African Americans representing the Commonwealth,” he said.

In their letter, McEachin and Wexton mentioned the names of several well-known African Americans in Virginia history “who bravely chose to fight for justice and equality” and would be possibilities to replace Lee in the Capitol.

Among them: Nat Turner, who led a slave rebellion in Southampton County in 1831; Booker T. Washington, who was born enslaved in Franklin County, Va., and later founded Tuskegee Institute, now University, and served as an adviser to Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft; renowned businesswoman and civil rights advocate Maggie L. Walker of Richmond, the first African-American woman to charter a

The bill also increased by \$30 million in investments in the HBCU Capital Financing Program, helping eight schools experiencing financial difficulty in redesigning and restructuring to better meet student and community needs and fulfill loan obligations.

Trump also has appointed both the chairman of the President’s Board of Advisors on HBCUs and executive director of the White House Initiatives on HBCUs.

“What we’re talking about is permanent funding for HBCUs, as well as minority-serving institutions, to the tune of \$255 million in the annual formula and competitive funding,” said Ja’Ron Smith, the deputy assistant to the president for the White House Office of American Innovation.

“That’s over ten years, so you’re talking about \$2.5 billion, and we didn’t just stop there. With the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) simplification that only allows students to answer up to 22 questions on a current basis, we eliminated the burdensome process that will allow low-income students like myself, who had to

navigate a FAFSA form without having parents who ever went to college,” Smith stated.

Smith added that the legislation would help put more students in the pipeline, and more resources into HBCUs and minority-serving institutions.

“It’s going to help them with programming infrastructure and help the students that go to these institutions,” he stated.

The president and his administration are aggressively working on other strategies to assist HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions, Smith stated.

“During our last two presidential board of advisors meetings, the subject came up, and we’re also taking a look at the money that can be leveraged into these institutions as well as community colleges,” Smith said. “I think that we just need to be smarter as a government and harness our institutions. Many of these schools are located in areas where people depend on those institutions to get access to opportunity. Our commitment has always been to figure out a strategy to help these institutions throughout the 21st century.”



### Hinds County Human Resource Agency Project Head Start is currently accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year.



Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP)

**To Qualify:**

- \* Child must be 3 or 4 on or before September 1st
- \* Family must reside in Hinds County
- \* Must be a low-income family (based on the federal poverty level)

**\*\*Families of children with disabilities are encouraged to apply regardless of income.**

**\*\*Priority is given to children with diagnosed disabilities (certified IEP or IFSP)**

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- 2) **Proof of family's income** - tax return, W-2, pay stub, SSI, Social Security, child support, TANF, grants/scholarship, unemployment, and any other source of household income
- 3) **Proof of Hinds County residency** - lease, mortgage statement, current utility bill (light, water, gas or sewer), current phone or cable bill
- 4) **Child's Social Security number**
- 5) **Medical insurance of child (if applicable)**
- 6) **IEP or IFSP (if applicable)**
- 7) **Legal guardianship (if applicable)**
- 8) **Documentation of foster care (if applicable)**

For more information about Head Start, call (601) 923-3940. To apply, call HCHRA's 24-hour automated appointment line at (601) 962-5935.

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# Friends of Fallen Riders Christmas Give-Away

By James Hampton III  
Special to The Mississippi Link Newspaper

It was the day before Christmas and all through the streets, The Friends of Fallen Riders (FOFR) were out on their bikes, delivering presents to children in West Jackson apartments and tornado stricken Edwards, MS neighborhoods. FOFR were joined by Jackson Alum-

ni Chapters of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternities and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. along with Classic Riders, Outcast Mississippi, Order of Eastern Stars and Judge Tabitha Britton Porter.

Clad in Santa and Mrs. Claus gear, the bikers would pull-up on their impressive motorcycles, leading the children (and their parents) in singing

Christmas spirit - raising carols prior to the well-organized giveaway. The boys and girls were lined up and directed to stations to make sure everyone received age appropriate toys. There were plenty of toys and bicycles given away and lots of joy shared.

This was the FOFR's fourth year to host this toy drive. Toys for Tots and lo-

cal businesses donated gifts. Numerous bikers from the southeastern region including Texas and Florida collaborated for this event.

When asked about her thoughts regarding the toy give-away, Helen Brown, president of FOFR said, "Participating in year-round positive events like this one breaks the stigma that all

bikers are bad." She went on to say, "The majority of our bikers work in professional careers such as law enforcement, teaching, nursing, attorneys, information technology and business owners."

This even was a stepping stone towards ensuring that children and their parents had a Merry Christmas.

PHOTOS BY JAMES HAMPTON III





# From “complicated” to software developer: Barber’s journey to MVSU grad



Barber

## Mississippi Link Newswire

“Complicated” is how Shaniqwa Barber of Greenville describes the first few years of her collegiate journey.

Although she faced personal hurdles, including starting at one school, then transferring to another, all while juggling a brief stint at military basic training, she eventually found her way. Despite the rough start, Barber prevailed and was among those who graduated from Mississippi Valley State University Dec. 14 with a bachelor’s degree in computer science.

She has accepted a job to work as a software developer for FedEx in Collierville, Tenn., where she’ll be in the corporate office working in the Cloud Engagement and Enablement Department.

A 2014 graduate of Greenville High School, Barber said she never imagined she’d be where she is today.

“I was shy and didn’t talk to anyone when I first started college. I was so stuck in my life in Greenville that I didn’t open up to make new friends,” she shared.

Barber believes that if it had not been for her hard work and the commitment of the faculty in MVSU’s Mathematics, Computer & Information Sciences (MCIS) department and one professor, in particular, she would not be in the position she is now.

“Initially, I commuted from Greenville, and one day, I heard students talking about internships, and I didn’t know what that was about. I talked with Dr. (Candace) Carter-Stevens and asked if she thought I should move on campus. She said, ‘Put your faith in God and move on campus.’ That decision changed my college life,” Barber explained.

“Thanks to Dr. Stevens’ encouragement, I moved on campus and started working on weekends at Pizza Hut instead of every day. It was like, ‘Boom!’ I got on campus and started doing work-study.

I became a mentor for Robotics, I tutored, and I started going to conferences. On campus I was exposed to more things. I attended an all-expense paid conference in New Orleans and I was blown away by that,” said Barber.

Also, Barber gained her first internship at the New Orleans conference. Following that experience, she said she returned to campus feeling empowered.

“My time at that internship gave me focus. When I returned, I felt unstoppable. Before moving on campus, I did not know how great my professors were and how much time and resources they provide us,” she said.

“When I was on my own, my grades were suffering, but then I surrounded myself with people who were trying to accomplish the same goals, I started getting As and Bs,” she added.

Finishing her college journey at MVSU is something that Barber describes as a “blessing.”

“Valley gave me a solid foundation to learn. I am so thankful to the MCIS department for helping to build my confidence, and as a result, I try to encourage young girls to go into the STEM disciplines. Because of my department, I feel ready for the world,” she said.

With this chapter of her life closing, Barber said she wants all students following her to know that it is okay to step out of their comfort zone.

“I would encourage students to build relationships with other students and faculty. I want them to understand that the faculty is not their enemy – they are here to help.”

“I want them to step out of their comfort zones, step out on faith and do something different to get different results,” she added.

*To learn more about MVSU’s Mathematics, Computer & Information Sciences (MCIS) department, call (662) 254-3422, e-mail [mcis@mvsu.edu](mailto:mcis@mvsu.edu) or visit [www.mvsu.edu](http://www.mvsu.edu).*

# Delta State University awards 220 undergraduate degrees, 127 graduate degrees at Fall 2019 commencement

## Mississippi Link Newswire

Delta State University awarded 220 undergraduate degrees and 127 graduate degrees at the 93rd commencement Dec. 13, 2019, in the Bologna Performing Arts Center on the DSU campus.

Delta State President William N. LaForge, who led the commencement activities, congratulated the graduates for reaching a “milestone,” he said, “that, frankly, few people achieve.”

A morning session honored undergraduate students from the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing and all graduate students. An afternoon event celebrated undergraduates from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business and Aviation, and Education and Human Sciences.

“I urge you to view your college education as a trust,” he said, “that commits you to a lifetime of learning and service.”

Keynote speaker Corlis Snow, associate professor of teacher education and recipient last spring of the 2019 S. E. Kossman Teaching Award, the highest distinction a faculty member may be accorded at Delta State, challenged the new graduates to adopt what she called a “growth mindset,” as opposed to a “fixed mindset,” in a constantly evolving world.

This is vital to “maintain relevance in the professions you’ve chosen,” said the 18-year veteran in the Division of Teacher Education, Leadership, and Research at Delta State. After all, things have changed dramatically since the students’ first semester at DSU, she added.

It’s a DSU tradition that the Kossman Award winner from the previous spring commencement address graduates at the following fall commencement.

Subject to completion of all requirements as certified by the registrar, the 347 total degrees at the 93rd commencement broke down as follows:

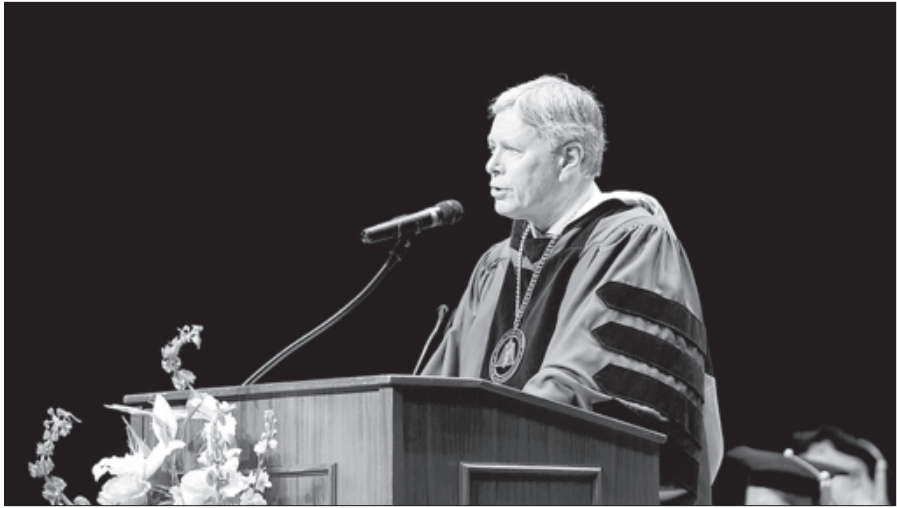
The 220 undergraduate degrees: College of Arts and Sciences, 81; College of Business and Aviation, 56; College of Education and Human Sciences, 49; School of Nursing, 34.

The 127 graduate degrees: College of Education and Human Sciences, 60; College of Business and Aviation, 45; College of Arts and Sciences, 20; School of Nursing, 2.

“This nation and the state of Mississippi need the benefit of the skills and learning you have acquired here,” concluded LaForge. “We send you into the world with our deep affection and wish for each of you the fullest measure of success.”

## About Delta State University

Delta State University is a four-year public institution whose more than 3,500 students come from most U.S. states and more than 50 countries. The university offers numerous unique programs, including the Delta Music Institute entertainment industry program, and is the only university in Mississippi to offer undergraduate and graduate aviation programs. Situated in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, which is recognized as the birthplace of American music, Delta



State has become the center of music and culture for the state and the region. The university is also the academic center for the blues, offering an online blues studies curriculum that leads to a certificate

for advanced study of blues music. In addition, Delta State offers top-notch academic programs in business, arts, sciences, nursing, and education, among other areas.

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## University honors long-serving faculty and staff at seventh annual Employee Recognition Program

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Dedicated Alcorn State University employees were honored for their years of service to the oldest HBCU land grant university in the nation.

The Department of Finance and Administrative Services' Office of Human Resources Management held its seventh annual Employee Recognition Program Dec. 11 in the James L. Bolden Campus Union Ballroom. Employees who have worked at Alcorn from five to 40 years were highlighted for their commitment to the university.

Monica Pierre, an Emmy Award-winning journalist, was the guest speaker. Pierre is a motivational speaker and host of the WWL radio show, Community Matters, where she takes a close look at metro New Orleans community affairs. Pierre is also a Greater New Orleans Broadcasters Hall of Fame inductee.

She currently serves as a faculty member in Xavier University's Department of Mass Communications.

The theme of Pierre's speech focused on the different seasons of pursuing dreams. The first season she discussed was the planting stage when dream chasers envision the goal. She encouraged the employees to stay focused during this phase and to disregard the doubters.

"You have to plant, work, wait and gather your dreams," said Pierre. "Planting your dream requires a vision that sees new possibilities. It begins with you seeing and believing that dreams can come true. There will be people who won't be as excited about the dreams that you have. They'll tell you the reasons why it won't happen. If you're not careful, you'll start to believe what the doubters are telling you."

Next on Pierre's path to success were working toward the dream and exercising faith that the hard work will pay off.

"As I looked around this beautiful campus, I saw the construction of what will become beautiful structures. This university is working to achieve its goals, and you must do the same when chasing your dreams. Without hard work, goals will not be achieved. While you're working, you have to wait and be patient. Things will happen that will make you question your efforts, but you must have faith and keep going."

Finally, Pierre encouraged the employees of the benefits of reaping the benefits of all of the hard work put toward the dream.

"Know when it's time to gather your dreams because if you don't, everything you have worked for will be for naught. So have the wisdom and understanding of when to harvest your dreams."

Several Alcorn employees shared their good experiences while working for the university.

A pleasant working environment is why Denita Jones has committed the last five years to being a business operations and special events assistant. She enjoys how everyone at Alcorn is like family.

"I've enjoyed working at Alcorn," said Jones. "There is a family atmosphere here that can't be duplicated anywhere else. Everyone genuinely cares for each other. I've also had the pleasure of working with ex-



Pierre



ceptional leadership and awesome co-workers, which is a plus."

In his 15-year career at Alcorn, Jerry Howard, director of operations for CITS, reflected on the professional benefits that Alcorn has afforded him. He appreciates being recognized for his years of service.

"Alcorn has provided me countless opportunities for growth and professional development," said Howard. "The university gave me the knowledge and tools to transition from being a counselor to becoming a university technology professional. There were challenges along the way, but there was always an Alcornite willing to guide me in the right direction. Working here has been rewarding."

Few Alcorn employees have served the university as long as Lillian Sheppard, an administrative assistant for Alcorn's



Extension Program, and Cornelius Riggins from Facilities. The two are grateful for the love shown to them by their peers.

"It feels great to have reached this milestone," said Sheppard. "I've had an excellent experience as an employee at Alcorn for all of these years. Every

day, a new challenge has arisen that has made me better as a professional."

"I appreciate all of the love from Alcorn," said Riggins. "I love Alcorn from the bottom of my heart. I've truly enjoyed working with all of the students and employees that I have gotten to know."

## Alcorn basketball legend Larry Smith received 2019 SWAC Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

One of Alcorn State University's most notable former student-athletes was recognized for the historical imprint he left on the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC).

Larry Smith, director of Athletic Development, received the 2019 SWAC Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award Dec. 20, at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Atlanta. Smith received the award during the annual Legends Roast and Awards Dinner. The award is given to those who have contributed to the progress of the SWAC's athletic heritage.

Smith was a star on Alcorn's basketball team, averaging 16.7 points and 11 rebounds between 1976-80. He led the NCAA in rebounds his senior year and helped lead the Braves to three SWAC regular-season championships, two SWAC tournament championships, one NCAA Tournament appearance, and one berth to the National Invitation Tournament (NIT).

The two-time SWAC Player of the Year was drafted in the second round of the 1980 NBA Draft by the Golden State Warriors and went on to have a 13 season career, including stints with the Houston Rockets and the San Antonio Spurs. In his first season in the league, Smith led all rookies in rebounds averaging 12.1 grabs a game and was named to the NBA's All-Rookie Team.

He later served as an assistant coach with the Rockets from 1993-2002, helping the franchise capture two NBA titles in 1994 and 1995. Smith also served as an assistant with the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Sparks of the WNBA. He served as Alcorn's head men's basketball coach from 2008-2011 and was inducted into the SWAC Hall of Fame in 1995.

The humble Alcorn legend said that the good news was a pleasant surprise. He is grateful to everyone that views him as an impactful leader of the SWAC.

"I was at a loss for words when I got the news," said



Smith

Smith. "This is an unbelievable honor, and I'm still trying to fathom that this is happening. The award is the highest honor possible, and it tops all of my other accomplishments. It's truly an honor to have so many people think this highly of me."

Playing at Alcorn set the stage for Smith to have a tremendous NBA career. As he reflected on his journey, he's grateful to his alma mater and the conference for allowing him to shine in front of a broad audience.

"This is a terrific conference, and to be a part of it has been great for me. The SWAC gave me, a kid from Rolling Fork, Mississippi, the opportunity to display my athletic gifts while gaining exposure for the university, the conference and myself. I'm appreciative of my peers for thinking I am worthy of such a distinguished honor."

The award is legacy-defining for Smith. He credits everyone that played a role in highlighting the skilled athletes from the conference.

"I believe that our team had a big impact on the conference because of our early success and advancing to the NCAA Tournament. The impact our school and conference made led to other successes and more exposure. It made others realize the individual talent that the conference possessed, so it made things much better for athletes in the conference. I'm proud to have played a role in the progress of the conference."

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# JSU Tiger Battalion salutes two second lieutenants during fall 2019 commissioning

By L.A. Warren  
jsumsnews.com

Jackson State University commissioned two cadets to second lieutenants Thursday, a day before they joined their peers to receive their degrees Friday morning inside the Lee E. Williams Athletics and Assembly Center.

Col. Rodney Harris of the Mississippi Army National Guard delivered the keynote address in the Terry L. Woodard Ballroom in the Student Center. He extolled wisdom and advice to the new leaders. Harris is the full-time deputy chief of staff for Personnel with the Mississippi Army National Guard. He provides human resource management oversight to the adjutant general of Mississippi for more than 9,600 service members.

**Army welcomes Hobson and Hines**

The two second lieutenants are Antoine M. Hobson, a native of Jackson and Christopher A. Hines, a native of Batesville.

Hobson earned his bachelor's degree in computer science in JSU's College of Science, Engineering and Technology. He commissioned into the Army National Guard.

Hobson said, "I didn't see myself here today. I just thought I would enlist in the military, but I decided to make a change to become a leader. He's a first-generation soldier and first-generation Army officer."

He will train in Fort Gordon, Georgia, in the Signal Basic Officer Leader Course, and then onward to Nebraska.

"I feel like the Tiger Battalion has really prepared me for this moment. For anyone else considering this as an option, it's all worth it. The Army needs leaders."

Meanwhile, Hines earned his master's degree in criminology in JSU's College of Liberal Arts. Of his commissioning, Hines said, "Words can't explain this moment. It's another milestone that will be challenging, but I can handle it and become successful. I want to become a great officer."

**'Right time, right place, right uniform'**

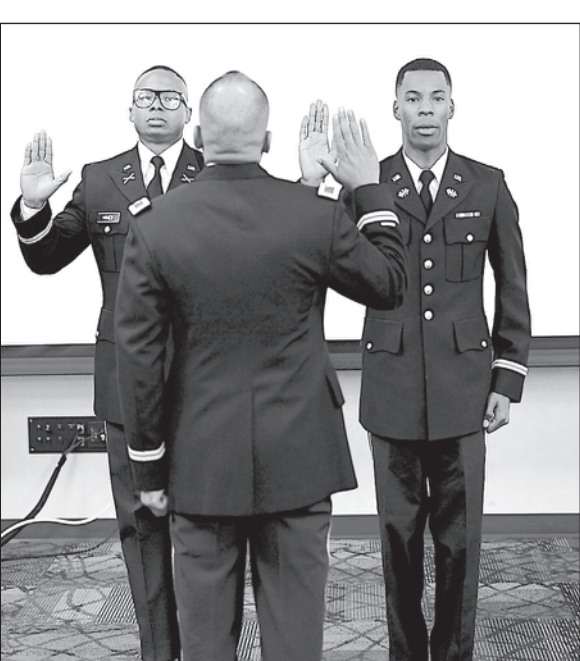
He will be stationed in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, for four months, followed by his first duty assignment. He'll be in the active Army in the field artillery branch. He's a third-generation soldier and first-generation college graduate and Army officer.

The new second lieutenants prepared themselves for their new roles under the leadership of Major Steven C. Robinson, the department chair and professor of military science in the College of Liberal Arts. Robinson's promotion ceremony to lieutenant colonel will be at 3 p.m. Jan. 16, 2020, in Room 134, inside the College of Business.

Of the new officers, Robinson said, "We worked to get them back to the basics and teach them to maintain standards. I advised them about the right time, right place, right uniform. Would you want your kids to follow someone who's always late? I tell them that little things can turn into big things. These cadets get better every year. I love this ROTC program, and I love the cadets."



Second Lt. Christopher Hines, left, and 2nd Lt. Antoine M. Hobson, front, cut a ceremonial cake in their honor. They're joined by keynote speaker Col. Rodney Harris, second from left, of the Mississippi Army National Guard, and Maj. Steven Robinson, department chair and professor of Military Science in JSU's College of Business. PHOTOS BY DESMOND JONES/JSU ROTC



The oath of office is led by Col. Harris.



Military officers and the audience join in the presentation of the colors and the national anthem.



Hines, left, is a native of Batesville. He earned his master's degree in criminology in JSU's College of Liberal Arts. ... Hobson is a native of Jackson. He earned his bachelor's degree in computer science in JSU's College of Science, Engineering and Technology.



## Chisley secures childhood dream job at Norfolk Southern



Chisley

By LaToya Hentz-Moore  
jsumsnews.com

"I have always been fascinated with trains since I was a small child," said Otis L. Chisley Jr., a graduating senior at Jackson State University.

Chisley has secured a full-time position as an operations supervisor for the Norfolk Southern Corporation. He also interned at the company during the summer of 2019 as a paid operations supervisor intern.

Norfolk Southern Corporation is one of the nation's premier transportation companies operating approximately 19,500 route miles in 22 states and the District of Columbia.

It is a major transporter of industrial products, including chemicals, agriculture and metals and construction materials.

Prior to beginning his position, Chisley has to attend classes to obtain his conductor's license and complete a management training. Once this eight-month process is complete, he will be a full-time operations supervisor.

"I am blessed and humbled by this opportunity," he says. "I understand that I am extremely fortunate to have a management opportunity in a field that brings me genuine joy."

He continues, "Trains are often seen as a method of transportation or a nuisance to most people. When trains are coming through local communities and major cities they can sometimes cause a 10 to 30 minute hold-up; but trains are vital to the production of our society."

The business management major says that he is excited about his new position at Norfolk Southern Corporation and plans to manage with an open-mind.

"I expect to give them an open-mind and the ability to listen. Even though I'm starting off in management, there are people that may report to me that have been working at the corporation for 40 years. I will not go into an establishment expecting to know everything. I have to be respectful and understand what each employee has been accustomed to doing."



# Matthews named Forest Management Chief

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

State Forester Russell Bozeman has announced that Todd Matthews has been named the new Forest Management chief for the Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC).

“Todd has been a valuable asset to the MFC for almost 20 years,” Bozeman said. “His depth of knowledge of Mississippi’s forestry industry and his experience will allow him to excel in his new role with the agency.”

Matthews has been with

the MFC for 17 years. In his current role as Assistant Forest Management chief, Matthews was the Forest Stewardship Program and Forest Health Program coordinator. Matthews oversaw the daily activities of the MFC’s Invasive Plant and Urban & Community Forestry programs. Additionally, he was responsible for managing federal and state cost-share programs and grants.

As Forest Management chief, Matthews will serve as

the head of the MFC’s Forest Management Division. Matthews will retain oversight of programs from his previous role, as well as the Public Lands (16th Section and State Forests) Program, the Private Lands Program, American Tree Farm System Program, Water Quality Program and GIS Program.

A 2000 graduate of Mississippi State University’s College of Forest Resources, Matthews resides in Starkville with his wife and two children.

# Hosemann Family Autism Foundation awards 27 scholarships to Mississippi teachers

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

The Hosemann Family Autism Foundation recently awarded scholarships to 27 Mississippi teachers for a community college course equipping them with skills necessary to effectively instruct children with autism and other developmental disorders. This is the second time the Foundation has provided the scholarships to the introductory online Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) course at Holmes Community College.

ABA is a process involving the systematic application of interventions, such as positive reinforcement, based upon the principles of learning theory to improve socially significant behaviors among individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and a range of other developmental disorders.

The ABA course, the first of its kind in the nation, just completed its seventh iteration in Fall 2019. Most of those receiving a scholarship are special education teachers, representing 13 counties and 16 school districts across the State. The foundation awarded scholarships for the first time in Spring 2019 to 15 Mississippi teachers, and those teachers are now using techniques learned from the course in their classrooms.

The foundation, a nonprofit established by Delbert and Lynn



Hosemann and their extended family, was formed with the goal of assisting children diagnosed with ASD and their families in accessing educational, therapeutic, medical, and behavioral health-related resources.

“Our foundation created this scholarship program for our teachers to better equip them with the knowledge and skills to help teach our students with intellectual disabilities, like autism, and other behavior issues,” stated Lynn Hosemann, president of the foundation. “Additionally, we hope exposure to these ABA courses will drive increased interest in the field and produce more paraprofessionals, like registered behavior technicians (RBTs), and licensed professionals at every level who can provide services throughout the State.”

“Holmes is privileged to partner with the Hosemann Family Autism Foundation to award scholarships to Mississippi teachers that completed the ABA course,” stated Dr. Jim Haffey, president of

Holmes Community College. “We plan to continue to offer the Applied Behavioral Analysis (PSY 2543) course in an 8 week online format twice a semester that allows more full-time teachers the opportunity to participate.”

A registered behavior technician (RBT) must receive 40 hours of training, a requirement which is fulfilled by this course. Additionally, individuals must complete a competency assessment and pass a national examination. RBTs are taught the basics of ABA therapy and function under the supervision of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

Northwest Mississippi Community College, Pearl River Community College, William Carey University and Mississippi College plan to offer similar ABA courses in Spring 2020.

For more information about the ABA course at Holmes Community College, visit [http://www.holmescc.edu/news/2017/12/0717\\_RBT.aspx](http://www.holmescc.edu/news/2017/12/0717_RBT.aspx).

# Start the new year off right, avoid firework injury

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

“I hope all Mississippians will begin 2020 safely, by carefully using fireworks,” Chaney said. “Anyone choosing to handle fireworks this holiday needs to use caution. That’s especially important if young children are around, as they are often more likely to get hurt.”

The risk of fireworks injury is highest for young people ages 0-4, followed by children 10-14. Sparklers, often a favorite with children, accounted for 30% of injuries in 2014, they can reach up to 1200 ° Fahrenheit, which is hot enough to cause third-degree burns.

Chaney added that anyone using or planning to be around any type of fireworks should be mindful of their pets. Check with your local veterinarian and animal shelters to help protect your animals from becoming frightened by fireworks.

For those choosing to use fireworks, the Mississippi State Fire Marshal suggests you follow these safety tips:

- Observe local laws.
- Those wishing to purchase and use fireworks should first check with their fire protection officials to make sure that local laws are being followed.
- Some municipalities prohibit fireworks from being used within city limits.
- Use common sense: always read and follow the directions on each firework.
- Never point or throw fire-

works at another person.

- Buy from reliable fireworks sellers. Store them in a cool, dry place.
- Always have an adult present when shooting fireworks.
- Put used fireworks in a bucket of water and have a hose ready.
- Only use fireworks outdoors, away from homes, dry grass, and trees.
- Light only one item at a time and keep a safe distance.
- Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks.
- Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks.
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.

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# Kids Rock The Red Carpet



*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

Kids 12 and under are invited to join the excitement of GRAMMY® Week at the Museum’s fourth annual Kids Rock the Red Carpet event! Rockstar

apparel is highly encouraged.

Food & beverage is included in the price of admission.

All kids must be accompanied by an adult. \$5 off per kid with groups four or more.

Call our box office at 662-441-0100 to purchase group tickets.

Tickets go on sale to Non-Members at 10 a.m. Jan. 10, 2020.

# DJing with DJ Saxy

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

In The Booth – Hands-On programs that delve into the technical side of music.

Bring your students into the world of funky beats, claps and scratches of the digital DJ world with internationally known disc jockeying entertainment and entertainer, DJ Saxy.

In this program, students will learn about the history of DJing, notable DJ’s, basic and intermediate scratching techniques, song structure, music theory and digital DJing technology. Recommended for grades 3+. Must register in advance.

Free admission for students.  
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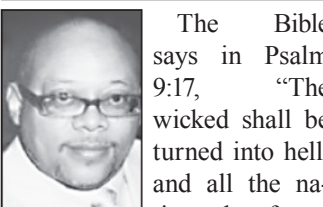
DJ Saxy



# The world around you is in desperate need

PART 2

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



The Bible says in Psalm 9:17, “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.” Proverbs 14:34 reads, “Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.” God spared the world for some time because of righteous Noah and his family. Had the Lord found only ten righteous people in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, He would have spared them, but He could not even find ten righteous people in Sodom and Gomorrah.

Our Christian influence works in a similar way by restraining the corruption of the

world, which if left unchecked, multiplies as quickly as bacteria on a piece of meat. When Jesus called the Church “the Salt of the Earth,” He made a strong judgment about the state of society and a lofty claim about what His Church could do about it. You do not salt something that is alive. You salt something that is dead to keep it from rotting. Jesus was saying that society without His influence, without our being the salt of the earth, is a carcass that is rotting and perishing. The world is dead; the sinner is dead in trespasses and sins. He is already in the process of perishing. That is the reason the song says, “Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, Jesus is merciful, Jesus will save.” The child of God is to func-

tion as the salt of the earth. You can do this by living faithfully for God. I think you can see the effect when your involvement in life not only stops the trend toward sin but also turns the trend back toward God. You do this when you have the opportunity to set the pace and the agenda by which the world lives. There is something about this salt, friend. I have noticed that when a dear mother, who is the salt of the home, is called home to God, the salt is no longer there, and the family goes from bad to worse. Sometimes that is the way it is when a godly father who was the salt of the family passes away. He held the family together to some degree, but once he has gone, the family seemingly went from bad to worse. I believe it

has happened in congregations where there were godly pastors who pastored a few folks in the congregation who still wanted the truth. They still loved the old paths, but when that pastor has gone and the older saints passed on and left the scene of action, corruption sets in. Whenever I sit down to a meal, one of the first things that I say is “Pass the salt, please.” It is time to start passing the salt, spiritually speaking. However, if the salt has lost its saltiness, it is ineffective. Let us not bury this treasure, but let us pass it along to others. 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.

# PRESERVED

## The Year of ME (maximized expectations)


By Shewanda Riley  
Columnist



“2016 is going to be the Year of Me” This phrase came up in a conversation I had a few years ago with a friend who stated this with much enthusiasm. Curious about what she meant and if she was going to all of sudden become extremely self-centered, I asked her what she meant. At first, she paused and said, “I’m going to focus on myself.” I then asked her what that would look like? She paused again and then explained that in the last year she’d made many sacrifices for her family and that she was going to spend this year focusing on herself.

On the one hand, I agreed that she should take some time to re-focus on herself after years of giving so much to others. However, I also thought how the “ME” didn’t necessarily have to mean “me” in a selfish way but could also stand for something else. “ME” could also mean “Maximized Expectations.” Maximized means to make the most of something. For some, this means that even if you don’t get exactly what you want from God when you want it, you still win because you get the most while waiting for God’s blessings. You pray and seek His presence more while waiting. Eventually, there will be the manifestation of fruits of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23: “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” For some, the beginning of a new year is full of hope and anticipation and it is easy to maximize expectations. There is hope that the new year will be a different

and much better one than the one that just ended. For some, there is anticipation of the weight that will be lost as a result of new diets and workout plans. For others, there is the anticipation about the new jobs that will come and new relationships that will manifest in the coming year. Yet, for some, the beginning of the new year is quite depressing. Despite how hard they try; they can’t be hopeful about 2020 because 2019 was so bad. They may have suffered the loss of loved ones, end of relationships, loss of jobs and poor health. For them, the Year of “ME” might end up being a year of “minimized expectations.” Because of what has happened in the past, it is just too painful to hope for something and be disappointed again. The solution is then to not hope in anything at all. Psalm 126:5-6 provides insight on how to maximize our expectations. Verse 5 states that “those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.” So many of us focus on where we are (tears) and miss praising God in advance for what the end will be (songs of joy). When you maximize your expectations, your focus shifts from the tears that you may have shed in the past or even the ones you may be shedding currently and towards the future songs of joy that God will ultimately bring to your heart to sing. Happy New Year 2020! 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 [preservedby-purpose@gmail.com](mailto:preservedby-purpose@gmail.com) or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.




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Sealed bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Thursday, 02/06/2020 , for:

RE: GS# 502-037 Roofing Improvements  
Mississippi Industries for the Blind  
RFx #: 3160003382

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

Professional: JBHM Architects, P.A. - Jackson  
(Jackson, Mississippi, through the Office listed herein)  
Address: 308 East Pearl Street, Suite 300  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201  
Phone: 601-352-2699  
Email: kingram@jbhm.com

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

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

1-2-2020, 1-9-2020

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Alta Woods Park and Medgar Evers Park aka  
Virden Addition Playground Resurfacing CDBG Projects

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS:

Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 S. President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time, January 28, 2020, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

New Playground Equipment and Rubber Surfacing - Alta Woods Park Park, 2026 Alta Woods Park Blvd. and Medgar Evers Park aka Virden Addition, 3157 Edwards Ave., Jackson, Mississippi (CDBG Project)

Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished and sealed and deposited with City Clerk prior to the hour and date above designated. A copy of the construction documents (plans and/or specifications) for the construction being sought has been filed with the City Clerk of Jackson, MS. Official bid Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). Electronic bids and/or reverse bids can be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 that all bidders will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact of the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program, as attached, are available at 200 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and or conduct business in the City, to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities in respect to any bid submitted or to accept any proposal which is deemed most favorable to the City of Jackson.

A PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, at 10:30 a.m.

The Notice of the Pre-Bid Conference date, time and place will be issued by Addendum. All Contractors who intend to submit "BIDS" are encouraged to attend.

Ison B. Harris, Jr., Director  
Department of Parks & Recreation

Vanessa Henderson, Deputy Director  
Housing & Community Development

1-2-2020, 1-9-2020

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Advertisement for Electronic Bid  
Bid 3116 Murrah High School Restroom Renovations

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bids 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) January 29, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Murrah High School Restroom Renovations will be held at Murrah High School, 1400 Murrah Drive, Jackson, MS on January 15, 2020 at 1:30 P.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. 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.jpdsmsprojects.com](http://www.jpdsmsprojects.com). A \$150.00 Non- refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Preston McKay at M3A Architecture, PLLC. Phone: 601-981-1227 or Email: [pmckay@m3aarch.com](mailto:pmckay@m3aarch.com).

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS AND NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed bids will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, MS, at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time, Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

New Fire Station #20, 4445 Medgar Evers, Jackson, MS 39213  
City of Jackson Project No. 15B7003-401

Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished and sealed and deposited with City Clerk prior to the hour and date above designated. A copy of the construction documents (plans and/or specifications) for the construction being sought has been filed with the City Clerk of Jackson, MS. Official bid Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). Electronic bids and/or reverse bids can be submitted at [www.centralbidding.com](http://www.centralbidding.com). For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Questions regarding plan clarifications or requests for information should be directed to the architect as follows:

Canizaro Cawthon Davis  
129 South President Street  
Jackson, MS 39213

A copy of the Bid Documents (including plans and specifications for the Work) are being made available via digital and original paper copy. Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents from the Jackson Blueprint Online Plan Room website <http://planroom.jaxblue.com>. There is no charge for registration or to view the bid documents online. 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. A printed bid set is approximately \$130.00 plus shipping and applicable sales tax and an electronic downloadable set is \$20.00 plus applicable sales tax. For questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601) 353-5803.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all bidders that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 that all bidders will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in public contracting. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunity for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provisions of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact of the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program, as attached, are available at 200 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi ("City of Jackson") is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City, as well as those who seek to contract with the City on various projects and or conduct business in the City, to assist the City in achieving its goal by strongly considering City residents for employment opportunities.

Bid preparation will be in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities in respect to any bid submitted or to accept any proposal which is deemed most favorable to the City of Jackson.

A PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD

The Notice of the Pre-Bid Conference date, time and place will be issued by Addendum. All Contractors who intend to submit "BIDS" are encouraged to attend.

Robert K. Miller  
Director of Public Works

Vanessa Henderson  
Deputy Director  
Housing & Community Development

1-2-2020, 1-9-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING  
ZONING CASE NO. 4082

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Floyd Marshall, Jr. has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District to C-2 (Limited) Commercial District to eliminate any nonconforming uses and create a more sustainable and viable commercial node along the Medgar Evers corridor for properties located on Parcels 408-403, 408-405, 408-406, 408-407, and 408-408 described as:

Parcel #408-403  
Lot 8 BLK 12 ELRAINE RESY PT2 & THAT PT S ½ VACATED CARSON ST N OF & ADJ TO LOT 8

Parcel #408-405  
Lot Ten (10), Block Twenty-two (22), Elaine Resurvey, Part Two, Hinds County, Mississippi a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, and being Plat Book four (4) at page 71, reference to which map or plat is hereby made in aid of and as part of this description.

Parcel #408-406  
Lot 11 BLK 22 ELRAINE RESY PT2

Parcel #408-407  
Lot Twelve 12, Block 22, ELRAINE RESY PT 2, Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi

Parcel #408-408  
N ½ of lot thirteen (13), Block 22, ELRAINE RESY PT 2, Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 23rd day of December 2019.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth  
Zoning Administrator  
City of Jackson, Mississippi

1-2-2020, 1-16-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT  
ZONING CASE NO. 4081

By virtue of and pursuant to the authority and direction of that Ordinance by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, appearing in Minute Book 3G at page 115 thereof, notice is hereby given to all persons interested in or in any way affected thereby, that Norma A. Martinez has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to allow for the operation of a night club within a C80-C3 (General) Commercial Subdistrict on property located at 1820 Highway 80 W. (Parcel 219-9) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A certain parcel of the land being situated in the NW ¼ SE ¼ of Section 8, Township 5 North, Range 1 East in the City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the southeast corner of the property now owned by Jackson Municipal Separate Schools as described in Deed Book 1528 at page 247 in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County, at Jackson, Mississippi, and from said point of Beginning run North 76 degrees 36 of 481.72 feet; turn thence to the left through an angle of 113 degrees 06 minutes and run South 9 degrees 42 minutes East for the distance of 398.85 feet to the north right of way line of U.S Highway #80; run thence easterly along the north right of way line of said U.S Highway #80 for a formerly subject to Union Oil Company lease; run hence North 12 degrees 29 minutes East along the west line of said Union Oil Company lease for a distance of 150 feet to the northwest corner thereof; turn North 13 degrees 45 minutes west for a distance of 250.2 feet to a point in the easterly projection of the south line of the aforementioned School property; turn thence to the left through an angle of 62 degrees 51 minutes and run North 76 degrees 36 minutes west 58.28 feet to the point of beginning.

Said application will be heard at the City Planning Board Hearing in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room, First Floor, Warren A. Hood Building, 200 S. President Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at which time all parties interested in or affected thereby will be heard both pro and con on said question, after which a record will be established upon which the City Planning Board can make its recommendation to the City Council of Jackson. Any objection thereto may be made by any person owning property within the area, and if made in writing must be filed with the City Zoning Administrator before said time if a hearing thereof or consideration thereof is desired, or by counsel on said date. If a request is made to the Zoning Administrator at least 72 hours in advance, the City will take steps to accommodate citizens need for interpreters or auxiliary aids for the visually/hearing impaired.

WITNESS my signature this 23rd day of December 2019.

/s/Ester L. Ainsworth  
Zoning Administrator  
City of Jackson, Mississippi

1-2-2020, 1-16-2020

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Crossword Puzzle

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

ACROSS

1. Eight  
5. Ca. University  
9. Prod  
11. Mr. Donahue  
12. Tight at the top, flaring at the bottom (2 wds.)  
13. Natural fiber  
14. Hallucinogen  
15. Canadian prov.  
17. Set  
18. Microscopic  
20. Chocolate candy  
22. Dozens  
23. Women’s magazine  
24. Fib  
27. Motor vehicle  
29. Black  
31. Supplication  
32. Booby  
33. Land worker  
34. Extinguished

DOWN

1. Beef  
2. Evils  
3. Same cite as previous  
4. Cation  
5. Delivery service  
6. \_\_\_ con came  
7. Spring flower  
8. Alcoholic  
10. Passed (2 wds.)  
16. Flourished  
18. Comes before a vowel  
19. Manganese (abbr.)  
20. Greek government  
21. Swimming mammal  
22. What dogs sit on  
24. Only  
25. Ancient Indian  
26. Leered  
28. Klutz  
30. Flower start

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Cryptogram

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

Hint: Quote by Elon Musk

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

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Crossword Solution

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

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Cryptogram Solution

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

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Week of December 29, 2019



# Crime after Crime

By E. Faye Williams  
Trice Edney Newswire



A few nights ago I was scrolling through thousands of unread emails trying to get caught up since I had been offline for awhile traveling and attending my brother’s funeral. My mind drifted into that deep state of thought we recoil to when we lose a loved one. I figured getting online for a bit would clear my head.

Suddenly I heard a beautiful sound, it was the angelic voice of Jen Houston singing a song with words by Elliott Stein called “Crime After Crime.” The song’s instantly recognizable melody was Time After Time, the chart-topping hit by Cyndi Lauper. The young woman singing the song gave a great review of why Donald Trump had to be impeached.

The words went like this. “Lying about everything; don’t matter if it’s small or big. Trying to solicit other countries to do election rigs. Taxes unpaid. Net worth not so high. Money laundered. Crime After Crime; conflicts of interest like trademarks in China. (Ivanka Trump filed at least 8 last year.) Sexual harassment like grabbing vaginas. Spilling intelligence, putting spies at risk, obstructing justice. He’s a thug. He’s a crook. He’s our president. Crime After Crime. When he’s gone, well, the book, they will throw at him. Crime After Crime.

He’s insane. Narcissistic. Can’t help himself. Crime After Crime. When he falls, well, the cops, they will be waiting. Crime After Crime. (Trump boldly says ‘Russia, if you’re listening, I hope you’re able to find the 30,000 emails.’” (Reporter says, ‘If Russia, if China, if someone else offers information on an opponent should they accept it or should they call the FBI?’” Trump says, “I think you might want to listen.” To be clear, Trump goes on with, “China,

should start an investigation into the Bidens.” He chooses Putin instead of the CIA. Crime After Crime. Reducing his debt load by demanding lower interest rates, Secret Service to hide his quid pro quo. Hosting summits at Mar-A-Lago. He’s a con man, a crook. That’s our president. Crime After Crime. Pardons dangled to White House aides to break the law. Grammar mangled. He’s a grifter, a crook. That’s our president. Crime After Crime. He’s insane. Narcissistic. Can’t help himself. Crime After Crime. When he falls, well, the cops they will be waiting. Crime After Crime. Crime After Crime. Crime After Crime.”

The song and video (available on Facebook) end with 45 sitting down and a prison door smoothly slamming as the melody closes out.

Like a child learning their ABC’s sometimes folks need a melody with catchy lyrics to learn and fully understand. The multitude of crimes, both high and low perpetuated and or facilitated by Donald Trump are staggering. Even this song with all of its verses will most likely have additional lyrics to later be worked in, or a Crime After Crime part two.

America is a nation of laws, however, that very cornerstone of our democracy is full-on under attack. The real damage caused cannot simply be sang away. As my dear friend, Dick Gregory would say, “wars are not fought by entertainers, wars are fought by soldiers.”

It is time for this government to enact the checks and balances granted to them by the Constitution. How long?

We can and must do better. For those who remain unclear, I invite them to sing along to Crime After Crime.

*Dr. E. Faye Williams is national president of the National Congress of Black Women. (www.national-congressbw.org). She’s also host of WPFW.FM 89.3’s “Wake Up and Stay Woke.”*

# The thriving system of convict labor

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA News Wire Columnist



As 2019 ticked to a close, the screamingly outrageous headlines have not slowed. Every day there is something, whether it is a flurry of presidential tweets or yet another Republican spouting off about something or other. Who would have thought, though, that amid the Christmas holiday we would learn that billionaire candidate Michael Bloomberg is using convicted prisoners to make calls for his campaign?

He will say he did not know. Or, that “anybody” might have made a similar mistake. After all, subcontracting is the name of the predatory capitalist game. That’s how a convict labor exploiter can bid to pay \$7.25 an hour for a job that might pay \$11 or \$12 an hour on the open market. However, the prisoners will see nothing like \$7.25 an hour. Try paying these folks just a dollar an hour or so. The subcontractor, who pays the incarcerated just a dollar for a fair wage, would have to pay ten times that in the regular job sector. Someone who was not exploiting convict labor couldn’t compete with the low pay prisoners are earning.

Those who own stock in these prison labor companies are getting their profits, too. The companies who subcontract with prisons are making three or four times what they might earn if they used general labor. The use of convict labor is one of the cruelest illustrations of the evils of predatory capitalism.

Predatory capitalists extract surplus resources by tilting the rules of the game to favor capital instead of labor. People who are working full time are getting pennies to the dollar in the name of “crime and punishment.”

So, here’s the Bloomberg story. The three-term mayor of New York contracted with a firm to make phone

calls for his fledgling campaign. The women, incarcerated at a facility in Oklahoma, are obliged to say they are calling for the Bloomberg campaign. They don’t have to disclose that they are incarcerated. Anyone receiving a call is given the impression that they are being called by a campaign volunteer, not an exploited worker.

Oklahoma limits the amount of money an inmate can make to \$27 a month. This money may go for things like phone calls, snacks, or other “prison comfort.” If Pro Com, the company that runs the prison work, says it pays \$7.25 an hour for prison labor, but inmates can’t earn more than \$27 a month, who wants to bet that these prisoners are working just four hours to reach their maximum monthly pay? Or is Oklahoma paying them a dollar or so an hour, and profiting from their work by keeping the rest of the money?

In this twenty-first century, we are mired in a 19th century predatory convict labor system. Inmates aren’t only making phone calls for Bloomberg’s campaign, they are also making furniture for state office buildings, processing motor vehicle requests, and being used as low-cost substitutes for workers who might be fairly paid. The worst of it is that the work inmates are doing does not guarantee them a job post-incarceration. Instead, their “experience” opens no doors for any future opportunities.

Bloomberg should have known better than to subcontract with an exploitative company, but he is probably not the only one doing it. Subcontracting is the norm these days, but few ask who is doing the subcontracting. Top label designers have low-paid women stitching their garments. Call centers can contract with low paid workers in their communities, or they can save 70 percent by contracting with convict labor. This practice is not only a wake-up call for Bloomberg, it is also

a wake-up call for anyone who is playing in the subcontracting space.

Lots of people like to play “woke” and economically progressive. But if your “woke” and cost-cutting ways sideline the people who work for you, then you aren’t actually “woke,” you are just a predatory capitalist, placing profits over people. Economic justice and profit maximization may be incompatible.

After he was outed, Bloomberg said he and his campaign did not know that Pro Com, had contracted with the convict labor providers, and he moved to sever the relationship quickly. Good for him, but Bloomberg is smart enough to ask questions before contracting — not a great move for a candidate who seems to have more money than sense.

African Americans are nearly half of those incarcerated in this country, despite being just about 13 percent of the population. This incarceration is a throwback to enslavement when black folks got major penalties for minor offenses. The convict labor system, especially, oppresses black people, and the Bloomberg case makes it all too apparent.

Convict labor is exploitation and an abomination. It makes black bodies a profit center for capitalistic exploitation. Companies like Pro Com must be held accountable, but so should the many others who thrive on contract labor.

It is time to put an end to this exploitation. Instead of throwing billions into his long-shot campaign, why can’t Michael Bloomberg spend a billion on two stopping convict labor?

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

# Looking to 2020 — put your vote to work!

By Ray Curry  
Secretary-Treasurer, UAW

If you work for a living but are somewhat up in the air about who to vote for in 2020 or for that matter, if you should even bother getting to that crowded polling place, I’d like to ask that you indulge me for a minute.

Because I’ve got a story to tell you that might help with your decision. A story of working people and politicians who are working against all of us — everyday.

I’d like to go back to 1980, the year that Ronald Reagan was campaigning to be the 40th president of the United States. Much of his rhetoric was designed to appeal to labor and the working men and women of this country, promising to protect jobs, to support policies that would create more jobs and put unemployed Americans back to work.

## Promises betrayed

The reality of his presidency and his policies came down somewhat differently.

In fact, Reagan’s eight years in office were devastating for labor and the middle class. He was a champion of deregulation, which systematically weakened workplace safety standards and record-keeping. He specifically went after labor by appointing three management-friendly National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) members, causing the NLRB to depart from its legal obligation to actively promote collective bargaining — the constitutional right and underlying principle for the existence of

unions. During his presidency, NLRB caseloads were drastically cut and the cases that did go forward went from the recent 33 percent finding in favor of employers to 75 percent favoring employers.

His economic policies shifted the tax burden away from the wealthy and onto the back of middle-class Americans.

So, why am I bringing up this sad history here in the last days of 2019?

Because Ronald Reagan, who turned his back on organized labor and started America’s middle-class into a tailspin from which it has never recovered, has recently been voted by this administration’s hand-picked NLRB into the Labor Hall of Fame. I think that speaks volumes. Clearly, they have taken a page from the Old Gipper’s playbook. And clearly, it should serve as a dire warning of what is to come should we continue with the status quo.

## Stacked against us

Today, an NLRB even more conservative than Reagan’s has moved as fast as it could to make it more difficult for unions to organize.

In December of 2017, the board overturned a rule that had made it easier to organize smaller units of workers in big factories and stores.

Another decision made it tougher for workers at fast-food restaurants and other franchised operations to unionize. What’s more, this board is further en-

croaching on labor by looking to slow unionization elections, a move that, as we all know too well, would give corporations more time to pressure workers to vote no.

Here at the UAW, we saw those stalling hijinks in action in Chattanooga this summer with the effort to organize Volkswagen and give its workers a real say in their work lives.

This administration hasn’t stopped at turning the NLRB into the Chamber of Commerce. Let’s look at the Supreme Court.

Justice Neil Gorsuch was confirmed in the first few months of this administration and he delivered the conservative anti-labor edge to the Janus case almost as soon as he was installed. Gorsuch, who had close ties with groups that bankrolled Janus, cast the deciding vote in a decision that prohibited public sector unions from collecting fees from non-members.

This devastating decision reversed 41 years of precedent and overturned laws in the 22 states that have not adopted “Right-to-Work” policies. And all signs indicate that, when he is not drinking beer, the administration’s second appointee, Justice Brett Kavanaugh will be just as awful.

The *Huffington Post* in sizing him up as anti-labor, recounted the time when a New York manufacturer created a new spinoff company to avoid bargaining with unionized workers. Federal regulators and a panel of appellate judges said the manufacturer

broke the law and violated its employees’ rights.

There was, however, one judge who dissented in the appeals decision and sided with the employer: Brett Kavanaugh.

Say no more.

## Supremely anti-labor

A Legal Aid lawyer put it this way, “Along with [Justice Neil] Gorsuch, [Brett Kavanaugh] is the ideal of a Koch brothers judge. He’ll be anti-labor and anti-worker.”

Of course, just as disturbing when it comes to the courts is this fact: While the Supreme Court gets the attention, it’s the lower courts that decide the bulk of the cases. In lockstep with the anti-worker overhaul of our courts, more pro-management judges have been appointed to the federal appeals courts than at any other time in our recent history, and one out of every four circuit court judges have been installed by the current administration.

And the latest anti-labor move? The nomination and seating of Eugene Scalia as Secretary of Labor, a position that historically enforces workers’ rights and U.S. labor laws. This includes laws meant to protect workers from unsafe workplaces, overtime violations and employee misclassification. I quite honestly cannot think of anyone less likely to safeguard these protections.

## Here is a highlight reel:

Back in 2006, he helped Walmart and other corporations win a lawsuit against the state of Maryland, stopping large com-

panies from having to contribute to their employees’ health care plans or Medicaid. In 2011, he got behind Boeing’s threats to move jobs to a “Right-to-Work” state during union contract negotiations. Additionally, he defended casino boss Steve Wynn in his efforts to force casino card dealers to split their tips with pit bosses.

And here’s one for you: Scalia argued that SeaWorld had no responsibility for the violent death of one of its Orca trainers and instead blamed the victim.

## Unsafe at work

And finally, we must consider the current disregard for worker safety. In 2017, 5,197 workers went to work and never returned home to their families. That is an average of 99 workers a week losing their lives while making the rich, richer. And this number can be added to the 2.8 million on the job non-fatal injuries and illnesses reported, with nearly 900,000 of them resulting in lost workdays. Current administration memorandums and executive orders have frozen new regulatory protections since the 2016 election.

Rules requiring employers to keep accurate injury and illness records and to disclose safety, health, and labor violations to qualify for federal contracts have been repealed.

Consider this: There are about 2,100 inspectors to inspect more than 8 million workplaces around the nation. That is roughly one inspector for every 59,000 work-

ers or enough inspectors to inspect workplaces once every 150 years or so.

I ask you, what do we do with this? Is it expecting too much to go to work in the morning and come home safe to your loved ones at the end of the day?

I’ll tell you what we do. We vote.

And we vote for candidates that support the millions of working men and women in this country. Vote to keep our jobs, to keep workers safe, to protect the right to organize and to have a voice in the workplace.

Take this voting season as an opportunity to tell your own story. The story of millions of hard-working Americans that our country so desperately needs to hear.

A story of how we rose up in the face of increasing wage inequality, lack of healthcare, job security and threats to a meaningful retirement; rampant corporate greed and a shrinking middle class.

Labor also faces challenges at the ballot box despite rallying their membership base. Look no further than the Presidential election of 2000 with hanging chads, deleted registered voter rolls in the 2018 Georgia Governor’s race, and the 2018 Florida Governor’s race won by a 50% to 49% margin after a recount. All three races lost by the final vote count and all three were labor endorsed candidates.

Think your vote doesn’t count? Please think again.



## Season of Service

**Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. & Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. in collaboration with WJMI Jackson Police Department, and NPHC Metro Jackson host Annual Christmas Toy Drive**

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

December 15, 2019, members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Alpha Delta Zeta and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, Mu Sigma

Chapters in collaboration with WJMI, the Jackson Police Department, NPHC Metro Jackson and Mississippi Move participated in the annual Christmas toy drive that was held at

McDonald's Woodrow Wilson. The event planners expressed thanks to everyone who donated a toy(s) or gave a monetary donation to bless the boys and girls in the Jackson

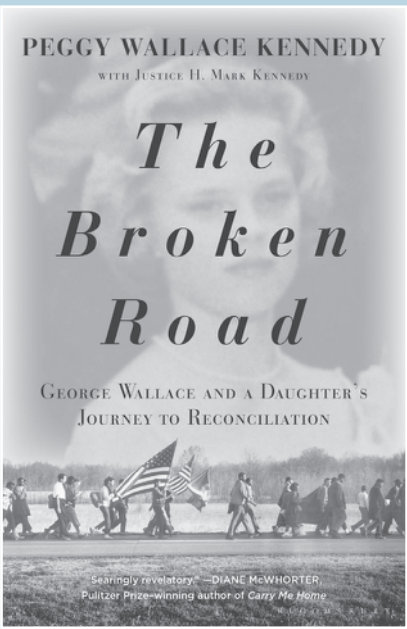
Metropolitan area during this holiday season. Service is one of the four principles of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated – Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood,

Finer Womanhood and community projects because its mission aligns with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated National Initiative, Z-HOPE- Zetas Helping Other People Excel.

PHOTOS BY ANITA YOUNG







BOOK REVIEW:  
“THE BROKEN ROAD: GEORGE WALLACE AND A DAUGHTER’S JOURNEY TO RECONCILIATION”  
BY PEGGY WALLACE KENNEDY WITH JUSTICE H. MARK KENNEDY  
C.2019, BLOOMSBURY  
\$28.00 / \$38.00 CANADA • 292 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer  
*Columnist*

The path your parents first set you on is not the path you ended up taking. Somewhere along the way, you veered to the left or stepped to the right. You found your own groove, made your own decisions, and made adjustments while you learned where you were going. And as in the new book “The Broken Road” by Peggy Wallace Kennedy (with Justice H. Mark Kennedy), it was essential to know where you came from. She never doubted that her

daddy loved her.

Still, when Peggy Wallace Kennedy was growing up, her father was absent more than he was present, even when he was in the room: George Wallace’s political promise to himself as a young man consumed him until campaigning became an obsession. He was away for much of Kennedy’s early life, meeting prospective constituents and asking for votes.

After he lost the 1958 Alabama Governor’s seat to an opponent who was “racist to the heart,” the obsession grew and festered.

Before then, says Kennedy, when her father was a judge, he was known for fairness and equality in the courtroom but when Wallace lost that election, something changed in his mind. He started telling people that he was a segregationist, he began using words that were shocking, and his behavior attracted voters to his side. He all but abandoned his wife and family, and focused only on winning the next time.

Kennedy says that once the Wallaces were ensconced in the Governor’s Mansion in 1962, she thought everything was fine until she learned of the violence

happening throughout their state and, though she was just a child and somewhat shielded from her father’s actions by her strong, tenderhearted mother, she couldn’t believe her daddy would allow that. After her mother’s death, however, when Wallace renewed his decision to run for president, Kennedy’s eyes were opened and she wished she could stand for racial equality by standing up to him.

But by “the fall of 1968,” she says, “I was neither white nor black. The color of my skin was Wallace.”

Absolutely, “The Broken Road” is a book of a thousand emotions. Anger, disgust, outrage – of course, you may remember those.

Keep going: deep sadness rings this tale, but a sense of satisfaction may be found, too, as pieces of a 50-plus-year-old puzzle fall into place.

Also in author Peggy Wallace’s hands, the story of her mother is told with steely inspiration, while other passages hold a tinge of droll well-bless-your-heart zingers that are delightfully tucked in.

Mostly, though, this book

seems to be about teasing apart the years, trying to understand why and how what happened, happened, and reconciling what was with what is. It’s a child’s eye view of history with an adult’s careful perspective, finalized as Kennedy writes of spiritual generosity and the forgiveness her father received toward the end of his life, and the tender friendships she has with those he hurt.

Love, politics, the tumultuous ‘60s, current events, it’s all in this can’t-miss biography.

“The Broken Road” is paved with grace.

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# Domestic Violence Awareness: Save the Pregnancy

*Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated – Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter Stork's Nest Prenatal Retreat for Mothers-To-Be*

*The Mississippi Link Newswire*

December 19, 2019, Alpha Delta Zeta Stork's Nest hosted a Prenatal Retreat for 16 mothers-to-be and their family members. The theme for the retreat was "Domestic Violence Awareness: Save the Pregnancy" with the focal point on domestic violence which is defined as a pattern of coercive behaviors used by the batterer to establish and maintain control over partner.

The guest presenter was Selika Corley-Funchess, a survivor advocate. Other participants in the retreat were members of Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter, and Healthy Start.

The event was held at the Jackson Medical Mall, Jackson State University School of Public Health Initiatives. Participants engaged in games, ice breakers, refreshments and received prizes and gifts.

Alpha Delta Zeta Stork's Nest is located at 3130 Jackson Medical Mall. Prenatal classes meet each Wednesday at 2 p.m.

#### About Stork's Nest

Stork's Nest is a community-based, prenatal health promotion program for low-income pregnant women. The program is designed to promote prenatal care and healthy behaviors during pregnancy through two components – incentives and education. Stork's Nest clients earn points toward incentives, such as maternity or baby care items, through a variety



Members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter, engage in prenatal retreat for mothers-to-be.

of positive, health-promoting activities: attending prenatal care appointments, participating in prenatal education classes, keeping appointments for well-baby visits and other activities.

The Stork's Nest prenatal education sessions provide information, educational materials, and a variety of other resources and referrals that help clients take good care of themselves and their babies.

Through Stork's Nest, the March of Dimes and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated are working together to give babies a healthy start in life.

*For more information on Alpha Delta Zeta's Stork's Nest program please call 601 982-2502.*



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# Hinds County School District Weekly Update

## ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

### HCSD Board recognizes schools' Teachers of the Year



Pictured L-R: Front Row: Jordan German, UEMS; Erica kent, THS; Kineu Donald, BEEMS; Dr. Chandra Anderson, BMS and Tracia Carter, GRE. Back Row: Victoria Clemons, RES; Nikeith Brown, CMS; Walter McLeod, RHS; Toni Odom, Restart; and Shaneka Jones, GRI.



### Hinds County School District teacher nominated for 2020 Mississippi Teacher of the Year



Victoria Clemons is a 5th grade teacher at RES who is also a product of Hinds County School District. Before becoming a classroom teacher, Clemons worked as an assistant teacher for 3 years. Throughout her teaching career, she has taught 2nd and 5th grade students. Clemons received an Associate in Arts degree from Hinds Community College. She received her Bachelor of Science in education and master's in education from Mississippi College. She has been with Hinds County School District since 1995. She believes that children are unique individuals who need opportunities to learn, chances to succeed and the guidance from his or her teacher to become positive productive citizens in society.



### Hinds County School District announce its 2020 Administrator of the Year



Bobby Taylor, principal, Raymond Elementary School, was named HCSD Administrator of the Year. Taylor has 31-1/2 years' experience in education with 3-1/2 of those years in the HCSD as the principal of Raymond Elementary School. Taylor has provided an outstanding educational foundation for the students and teachers at Raymond Elementary School. His dedication and high expectations have caused students to excel academically and propelled RES to an A-Level school. Students, teachers and parents are very excited about the learning and growth that is going on at RES. Taylor recognizes and appreciates all the employees and parents at Raymond Elementary School who has played a role in the success of his students. He is a successful principal because of the way he advocates for the parents, students and faculty.

