



Jails, prisons struggle with spread of coronavirus

By Brianna Nargiso
TriceEdneyWire.com

As COVID-19 continues to spread globally and the U. S. has now become the first country to top 100,000 cases, prisons and jails across the country continue to house inmates and employees who have tested positive for coronavirus and authorities

are desperately trying to abate the spread.

For example, due to the severity of the virus that had killed 32,137 around the world and 2,054 in the U. S. as of March 29, The Board of Corrections, an agency providing oversight of New York City jails, urgently recommended that all people with a

high risk of dying from the virus be released from the jail immediately.

The board also asked that the jail take the necessary steps to significantly decrease the jail's population immediately since social distancing has been among the keys to prevent-

Prisons

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IN MEMORIAM

Civil Rights giant Rev. Joseph Lowery of Alabama, dies at 98

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Rev. Joseph Lowery was a civil rights giant. He was a Methodist preacher, a leader of the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott, an organizer of the 1963 March on Washington and a close confidant of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

A fighter for human rights, voting rights and the rights of African Americans in a nation with 300 years of systematic racism against blacks in its rear-view mirror, Lowery was often referred to as the “dean” of the American civil rights movement.

“Black people need to understand that the right to vote was not a gift of our political system but came as a result of blood, sweat and tears,” Lowery said in 1985.

Joseph Lowery was born in Huntsville, Alabama, in 1921 and his father owned a grocery store. After an incident in the store with a racist police officer, he decided to dedicate his



President Barack Obama meets with civil rights movement leader Rev. Dr. Joseph Lowery and his family in the Oval Office, Jan. 18, 2011. OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO BY PETE SOUZA / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

life to civil rights work.

After graduating from college, Lowery became an ordained Methodist minister who served congregations in Alabama and Georgia. He later became a peace activist, joining the fight against segregation and organizing marches in Selma and Birmingham, Alabama.

He served nearly half a century as a pastor, spending much of that time with Central United Methodist and Cascade United Methodist in Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1957, along with King, Lowery founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and led the organization from 1977 to 1997.

Lowery's life of leadership was unmatched by any living American other than perhaps Congressman John Lewis.

“A good man passes here. He will be missed. He contributed. He changed things. He's been promoted. Gone on, to a better

Lowery

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Can we handle the truth about coronavirus?

More than half of all black folks in this country are a vulnerable population



Ellis

By Glenn Ellis
TriceEdneyWire.com

Don't you already know everything you need to know about coronavirus? What else is there for you to know that you haven't already heard, you ask?

Every media outlet we turn on and everything we read in the papers inundates us with information about this rapidly evolving coronavirus crisis. On top of that, our “friends” are showing how smart they are by rushing to post every single natural/miracle cure; conspiracy theory; and prediction on the end of the human race. Even people I have known for years have all of sudden become epidemiologists; medical doctors; scientists; and researchers. Regrettably, we have been done a disservice by both the media, as well as our well-intentioned friends. In spite of the best intentions, these new “experts” promote beliefs and folk remedies that could result in dangers equally as bad as coronavirus infection.

During this unprecedented disruption brought to all of our lives, some people are expressing concern that information was held back from them. Folks were upset because they wanted to hear the truth; or so they thought. Instead of continuing to pass on the mounds of gross misinformation and fear-driven behaviors, we should all be only interested in the truth. Well, I'm not so sure we can handle the truth.

Let me share a few “truths” that not only have many of us

heard about, but many things are specific to poor people and African Americans in this country.

Call your doctor: For millions or black, brown, and poor people in this country, that is not an option. As of 2019, roughly 27.5 million people didn't have health insurance at any point last year, according to figures from the Census Bureau. In addition, an analysis from the CDC and the Kaiser Foundation, 31 percent of blacks, 47 percent of Hispanics don't have a personal doctor. I have looked and not been able to find any data on how many people who are newly insured under Obamacare actually have a primary care doctor they can call. Get my point? This “truth” shows that a whole lot of people are left out when the CDC and other officials tell folks who are already bunkered down, that if they think they have symptoms, “don't go to the hospital; call your doctor first”.

Stay in place: This guideline to prevent the spread of coronavirus is probably among the most baffling to me. Let's start with the complexity of many households and families in most of the urban cities where the majority of the poor, black, and brown people live. One of the most recent studies to look at family household composition was published in the **Journal of Black Studies** (2007) reported that 39 percent of African-American children did

The Truth

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Census Self-Response: the antidote to coronavirus impact

Activists aim to maximize black census response through education campaign

By Khalil Abdullah
TriceEdneyWire.com

Jeri Green, 2020 Census senior advisor for the National Urban League's Census Black Roundtable, is encouraging African Americans, and indeed all Americans, to self-respond to the census, in part to allay fears the novel coronavirus could be spread to households by a census enumerator, the person who knocks on your door with blank census forms and clipboard in hand.

Even as the Census Bureau has announced a package of strategies to delay door-to-door enumeration and counting the homeless, among other initiatives, eventually the hard work will resume toward fulfilling the constitutional mandate on which



Jeri Green, 2020 Census senior advisor for the National Urban League's Census Black Roundtable

so many aspects of American life depends.

This is the first decennial census utilizing the Internet. Phone

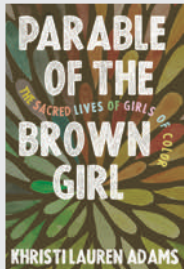
response is an option as well. Green encouraged using either method as an alternative to the standard nine-question paper

census form now arriving at many homes. The paper form, addressed to “Resident” – and not to be mistaken for junk mail – is to be filled out and returned to the Census Bureau by mail. Non-responding addresses trigger a visit by a census enumerator.

“In many of our communities, especially the black community, a significant portion of our community waits for that knock on the door,” Green said during a national media telebriefing: Addressing Security Information and Privacy Issues, Census2020. The event was sponsored by the Leadership Conference Education Fund in partnership with Ethnic Media Services.

Antidote

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Charles Bennett Barnes

February 1, 1938 - March 19, 2020



Barnes

Charles Bennett Barnes, also known as “CB,” was born February 1, 1938 to the late Epham and Shirley Barnes in Mt. Olive, MS. Shortly afterwards, his family moved to Pascagoula, MS where he was raised. He is the sixth child of twelve children and completed his earthly journey March 19, 2020. CB attended and was baptized at Union Baptist Church in Pascagoula at an early age. He attended Carver High School and achieved varsity letters in football. Further, he attended Jackson State University where he also played football and majored in math and industrial arts. CB was an educator at the MS School for the Blind for 34 years. During that time, he was also a bartender

at Colonial Country Club for 26 years. After retiring in 1995, he decided to go back into education, teaching GED classes for Hinds Community College for 12 years. CB married the love of his life, Lauretta, 41 years ago. They raised three beautiful daughters. CB loved to play golf just as much as he loved spending time with his family. You could catch him any day of the week at the office (golf course) as he called it playing golf and enjoying time with his golf buddies. He was an officer and member of the Grove Park Duffers. He made an impact on many he came in contact with. CB converted to the Catholic faith in 1996 and was a member of Holy Ghost Catholic Church. He was also a member of the Father Anthony Bourges Knights of Peter Claver, Council 171 and a member the Parish Council. CB lived a full and vibrant life. He is survived by his wife: Lauretta; daughters: Shannon, Stacey and Candice (Torrey); son: Marcus (Angela); six grandchildren: Malcolm (Bubba), Kayla, Jada, Kobe, Connor and Caden; seven sisters: Geraldine Barnes, Leno-ra Reed, Shirley Laird, Edna Barnes, Carolyn Sue McCain (Bobby), Diane Barnes and Wanda Hanshaw (Larry); brother: Lionel Barnes (Gloria); and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his siblings: Eloise Russell, Maxine McLaughin and Glennis “Nick” Barnes.

Remembering Ruth Campbell

A Mississippi ETV trailblazer

By Ronnie Agnew
Executive Director, MPB

Ruth Campbell was never one to be typecast. She was a woman of many interests who packed a lot of living and a lot of helping others, in her 80 years. Campbell was known for many different things, by many different people depending on the part of her life one chooses to study. She was a person who laid claim to many firsts. Inside the sturdy walls of then – Mississippi ETV (now Mississippi Public Broadcasting), Campbell in the 1970s broke through barriers that made her one of Mississippi’s best-known personalities. She shattered the glass ceiling and took the walls down with her. Campbell, who despised labels and being told what she couldn’t do, died Friday, March 27, after a long battle with cancer. It was her fifth battle with cancer, and she beat the disease every single time before finally succumbing to it after another valiant fight. The late Lee Morris, Mississippi ETV’s executive director from 1976-1988, saw something in this determined woman. Campbell was given a show on Mississippi ETV that was the longest-running minority-oriented public affairs series in the state. At ETV, she was a script editor, producer, and eventually, executive producer of “Faces,” the show that would make her a household name among a large segment of Mississippi ETV television viewers. Campbell interviewed a who’s who of African-American guests. There was an interview with American novelist and playwright James Baldwin. She was able to snag Coretta Scott King for the show. Then there’s an interview with acclaimed actress Cicely Tyson.



Campbell

And, she would often include Mississippi natives such as B.B. King. She even did a series on Parchman prison and what conditions were like for inmates housed there. She was the local version of Oprah Winfrey long before the Kosciusko native took the media scene by storm. Campbell had a different calling, actually several different callings. It was a call to help. Wherever she thought she was needed, that’s where she went, including a stint as a market analyst at the Mississippi Research and Development Center. “Faces” ran for more than a decade, but she knew she had more to do. “When I got into the Legislature, many of the black lawmakers credited mom for them being in the Legislature,” said her daughter Kimberly Campbell, a former lawmaker who is the current director of AARP Mississippi. “She had forums. She gave them a voice.” Her political influence crossed racial lines. She was a special assistant to former Mississippi Gov. Ray Mabus. She

was close to former Gov. William Winter and worked with him in the area of education. Born in 1939 in Okinawa, Japan in a military family, Campbell, who was fluent in French and once was conversant in Japanese, was well educated. She graduated from Jackson State College with a bachelor’s degree, and she received her master’s from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1970, the very year when Mississippi’s public schools were integrated. Kimberly Campbell as a young girl saw her mother doing things that many blacks weren’t able to do, such as traveling by plane to do her work. It became routine for Kim to see her mom excel, which is exactly what her mother wanted her to see. She wanted her daughter to know that she could do anything she wanted to do. “Mom didn’t go for fluff,” her daughter said. “In her generation, what you saw is what you got. She would say, ‘Don’t let anybody put you in a box. You feel free to step off into any area of your choosing.’” Campbell was an educator, an activist, a television host, a political adviser among other things, including being a co-founder of the 100 Black Women of Mississippi. She served as the organization’s second president. Even as death was near, Campbell fought, but in a different way. “Kim-mie,” she told her daughter, “You gotta keep going. I was never meant to be with you forever. I’m going to glory baby. I’m gonna be fine.” Visitation was Tuesday, March 31, at Westhaven Memorial Funeral Home in Jackson. A private funeral service was held Wednesday, April 1.



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Prison

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ing the spread of the virus along with thorough hand washing and decontamination of surfaces.

In response to the recommendation, New York City Mayor Bill De Blasio released 40 people from New York’s Rikers Island last Friday and another 23 people Sunday who were considered at a high risk of dying from the virus.

De Blasio took to Twitter to tell New Yorkers “...an additional 200 being evaluated right now for release who have less than 90 days left in their sentences.”

However, the release of 63 people is just not enough to stop the spread of the virus, which easily moves from person to person and can also be contracted from surfaces and the environment where an infected person has coughed or sneezed. Therefore, advocates for the incarcerated are pressing authorities to do more.

Jails throughout the United States have followed similar precautions to protect inmates, staff and the general public:

As states struggle for answers and public health advocates encourage release of non-violent inmates endangered by the virus, the federal prison system Sunday, announced its first death. Patrick Jones, 49, who was housed in a minimum security prison in Oakdale, La., has died from the virus after testing positive March 19, according to widespread reports.

Lowery

Continued from page 1

place,” wrote businessman John Hope Bryant on social media after news of Lowery’s death.

“Rest in Power to Rev. Joseph Lowery. Saw him speak against the death penalty years ago. He said that the criminal justice system was still as racist as it was a century ago and for people in prison, we might as well still travel by horse instead of by car. Never forgot that,” wrote journalist Dave Zirin.

“Dr. Joseph Lowery, the dean of the civil rights movement has passed. He was a mentor, pastor and friend to me. The world is a better place because of him and I’m a better person because of his investment in me. May he Rest In Peace as he joins his wife and Dr. King on the other side,” wrote Rev. Al Sharpton.

Lowery delivered benediction at Obama’s inauguration. On July 30, 2009, President Obama awarded him the Medal of Freedom. Much like Congressman Lewis,

California has also begun releasing large numbers of inmates in response to the coronavirus pandemic. According to the *L.A Times*, Los Angeles County reduced their jail population by 6 percent in February.

Pennsylvania, Maine, Texas, Illinois and Ohio have also begun releasing inmates amidst state outbreaks.

The Bureau of Prisons has suspended all visits for 30 days. Inmate transfers has also been with few exceptions.

Many inmates who are assumed to have had contact with the virus are being quarantined.

The New York City’s union for corrections officers have demanded to be given more protective materials like masks, gloves, soap and hand sanitizer.

According to NPR, Arizona and Minnesota prisons have waived copays charged for inmates seeking medical visits and waived fees for personal hygiene supplies amidst the outbreak.

Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) said in a letter to The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), “Our incarcerated population faces severe threats to their health and safety every day, and BOP must prioritize and work diligently to improve prison conditions nationwide. As the country prepares for coronavirus, it is also incumbent upon BOP – in coordination with HHS – to prevent outbreaks and to safely and humanely treat all affected individuals.”

there are not many awards and honors Lowery hasn’t received.

Lowery was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. His second wife Evelyn died in 2013. He is survived by five children.

“Tonight, the great Reverend Joseph E. Lowery transitioned from earth to eternity. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. He was a champion for civil rights, a challenger of injustice, a dear friend to the King family. Thank you, sir,” read a tweet from the King Center on the night of March 27.

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The Truth

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not live with their biological father and 28 percent of African-American children did not live with any father representative. Some families have people live with them that aren’t related. Don’t forget, the communities where marginalized populations are the places where you find homeless shelters; halfway houses; safe houses; and boarding houses. Add to that, the many seniors and “sick and shut-in” (many who live alone). The daily challenges in these scenarios means reliance on a variety of support systems in their social network (friends, families, caregivers, neighbors, etc.) as survival tools in everyday living is disrupted or no longer available.

Vulnerable populations: As defined by the World Health Organization, vulnerability is the degree to which a population, individual or organization is unable to anticipate, cope with, resist and recover from the impacts of disasters. For purposes of the coronavirus pandemic, this includes those who have weak immune systems; elderly; chronic diseases (diabetes, heart disease, obesity); cancer and transplant patients. It has been long established that blacks have the highest mortality rate (of all causes) and arguably the worst health status of any racial group in the United States. Now think about what we know about the significant percentage of the black population in this country that has high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, kidney failure, heart failure, cancer, asthma, COPD and cast of other diseases. Just doing some rough calculations, it seems like no stretch of the imagination to conclude that more than half of all black folks in this country are a vulnerable population!

I felt it was important to write this particular column, so that we are all clear about the specific impacts of this pandemic, and how it will disproportionately impact black, brown, and poor people in ways that others won’t be affected. Somebody has to (sadly) always look at what happens in this country, and ask the question, “How will this affect my community?”

COVID-19 (coronavirus) is real, it’s deadly; and it’s going to be with us for possibly the rest of this year.

Please continue to pay attention to the information from credible sources. Don’t become a victim to your friend who all of sudden has become a “master healer.” Stick to factual information. Always make sure that you understand, with every piece of information or official directives, seek the truth.

We know this is wreaking havoc on our families, our communities, our nation and our world. It is the great equalizer. Just be sure to ask yourself if you can say you have thoroughly considered how this pandemic is affecting you and your family...if you can handle the truth.

The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. I do not dispense medical advice or prescribe the use of any technique as a replacement form of treatment for physical, mental or medical problems by your doctor either directly or indirectly. Remember, I’m not a doctor. I just sound like one. Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible.

Glenn Ellis, is Research Bioethics Fellow at Harvard Medical School and author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. Ellis is an active media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics. For more good health information visit: www.glennellis.com



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The city of Jackson and Cathead Distillery announce free hand sanitizing stations

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Monday, Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba along with Richard Patrick, co-founder of Cathead Distillery, announced free hand sanitizing stations for citizens to fill up their own containers while supplies last in the wake of COVID-19.

“Cathead Distillery has made the decision, seeing that we are in the midst of a global pandemic, to be supportive and to provide their resources to benefit the greater good. Cathead has produced nearly 42 tons of hand sanitizer that will be available for direct sale to entities like MEMA, Entergy and MDOT. But they have gone further; beyond just producing sanitizer at a time where there is a shortage all across the globe. They have provided four dispensers that will be strategically located across the city,” said Lumumba during the press briefing.

The four hand sanitizing stations will operate beginning Tuesday, March 31, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. while supplies last.

The station locations are as follows:

Wal-Mart Super Center – 2711 Greenway Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39204

Corner Market – 1220 E. Northside Drive #330, Jackson, Mississippi 39211

Corner Market – 653 Duling Ave, Jackson, Mississippi 39216

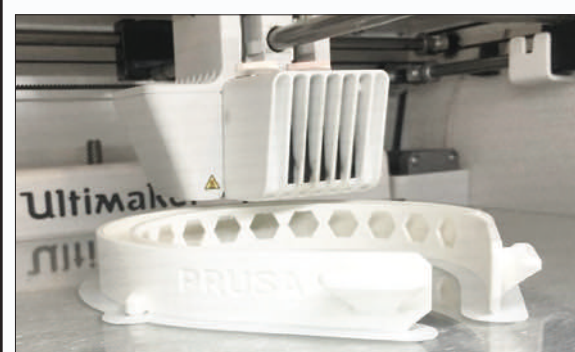
Corner Market – 904 E. Fortification Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202.

Patrick said that his team has been working non-stop to get out the product. “We learned eight days ago how to make hand sanitizer. Our team has been working tirelessly to service critical care such as hospitals, nursing homes, critical infrastructure businesses, and a lot of other businesses that are vital to our state and our local communities,” stated Patrick.

Again, the hand sanitizer is free for all citizens while supplies last. We ask that people bring their own container to fill, up to 12 ounces.

The City of Jackson is continuing to ask everyone to practice social distancing during these trying times to #Flatten-TheCurveJxn.

Nissan Canton using manufacturing and engineering expertise to help community in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic



Printing process

An update on what Nissan North America is doing in metro Jackson in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic:

We are using our manufacturing and engineering expertise to 3D print headbands and protective face shields to donate to local healthcare centers and their staff who are working on the front lines of this crisis. The manufacturing process is already underway at Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant; and in partnership with the company's manufacturing facilities in middle Tennessee and research and design center in Michigan, more than 1,000 shields will be assembled per week.

“Nissan is proud to be in Mississippi, and we’re tapping into our spirit of innovation to help local healthcare workers who need more protective gear now,” said Parul Bajaj, senior manager, Philanthropy, Nissan North America, Inc. “We’re happy that our 3D printers offer the manufacturing flexibility that enable us to help protect people working in the medical community.”

Nissan is taking extra safety precautions to ensure the safety of our employees. The company temporarily suspended vehicle production of its U.S. manufacturing facilities March 20. Besides limiting the number of employees at each location, it has deployed enhanced safety and sanitizing measures in the areas of the plant where assembly of face shields takes place.

Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant produces the Altima, Murano, Frontier, TITAN and TITAN XD and NV Passenger and Cargo vans.

Lloryn Love-Carter
Manager
Corporate Communications



Completed 3D-printed headbands

Mayor issues “Stay At Home” Executive Order to combat Covid-19

The Mississippi Link Newswire

To further combat the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Jackson, Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba issued a Stay at Home Order, effective April 3, 2020, directing all Jackson residents to stay at home and limit movements outside of their homes beyond essential needs.

YOU CAN:

- Go to the grocery or convenience store
- Go to the pharmacy to pick up medications and other healthcare necessities
- Go to a restaurant for take-out, delivery, or drive-thru only. No in-house dining
- Care for or support a friend or family member, only as provided for in the Order

• Take a walk, ride your bike, and be in nature for exercise – if you keep at least six feet between you and others and observe all specific Social Distancing requirements as set forth in the Order

- Help someone to get necessary supplies

Leave your home only for Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Function, or to participate in Essential Businesses and Operations, provided that Social Distancing requirements as set forth in the Order are observed

YOU SHALL NOT:

- Go to work unless you are providing essential services as defined by the Order
- Visit friends and family if there is no urgent need
- Maintain less than 6 feet of distance from others when you go out

Non-Essential Businesses And Operations Must Cease

All businesses and operations in the City, except Essential Businesses and Operations as defined in the Order, are required to cease all activities, except for Minimum Basic Op-



Mayor Lumumba, at podium, flanked by Police Chief James E. Davis, at Stay At Home Order announcement.

erations as defined in the Order, such as, handling payroll and security checks.

Essential Businesses And Operations

All Essential Businesses and Operations may remain open.

Essential Businesses and Operations must comply with the specific Social Distancing Requirements provided in the Order.

The Jackson Police Department and other local agencies will monitor the activity of Essential Businesses and Operations, including religious and spiritual-based gatherings. If large gatherings are observed or reported, tighter restrictions will be issued.

Prohibited Activities And Operations

All places of public amusement, whether indoors or outdoors, including but not limited to, locations with amusement rides, pool halls, adult entertainment venues, zoos, children’s play centers, theaters, concert and music halls and other similar businesses shall be closed.

All personal care and grooming businesses, including but not limited to, barbershops,

beauty salons, nail salons, spas, massage parlors, tattoo parlors and other similar businesses shall be closed.

All retail stores, except for those provided in Section 12(b) of the Order, shall be closed.

All bars, nightclubs, lounges, taverns, and private clubs shall be closed, except to the extent that such establishments may only provide take-out, pick-up, delivery or drive-through services for food as allowed by law.

All malls, except for stores in a mall that have a direct outdoor entrance and exit that provide essential services and products as provided by the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) guidelines, shall be closed.

In-house restaurant dining is prohibited.

Prohibited And Permitted Travel

Only Essential Travel and Essential Activities as defined in the Order are permitted. People riding on public transit must comply with Social Distancing Requirements to the greatest extent possible. The Order allows travel into or out of the City to

maintain Essential Businesses and Operations.

Examples Of Essential Worker Functions

Healthcare workers and caregivers

Workers supporting groceries

Electricity and Utility Industry Employees

Public Safety Employees

Human Services Providers

In general, the Order follows guidance from the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) about what infrastructure and businesses are “critical or essential” during the COVID-19 outbreak.

How Will This Order Be Enforced?

The City is working through the Jackson Police Department to support the Order. Citizens are encouraged to report violations.

When Is The Stay At Home Order Going To Be Lifted?

The Order is effective 12 a.m. Friday, April 3, 2020, and shall remain in full effect until 11:59 p.m. April 17, 2020, unless rescinded or superseded by another applicable Order. It will be periodically reviewed and continued, if necessary.

Governor Tate Reeves issues a statewide Shelter-In-Place to protect public health

The Mississippi Link Newswire

April 1, Governor Tate Reeves signed a new executive order establishing a statewide shelter-in-place for Mississippi to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health of all who call our state home.

The Mississippi Department of Health determined that our state has now reached a critical point in the cycle of the outbreak, and Governor Reeves announced his decision to issue the shelter-in-place order for Mississippi at a press conference this afternoon.

Mississippi is rapidly increasing testing and strictly enforcing quarantines for anyone that investigators believe has been exposed to the virus.

The shelter-in-place will begin Friday, April 3, 2020, at 5 p.m. and be in effect until Monday, April 20, 2020, at 8 a.m.

Here are Reeves’ remarks from the press conference:

Governor Reeves: “This is a somber time – for our country and our state. We are all in grave danger, from coast to coast. As leaders, our top priority is and always will be the safety of our citizens.

Every day, for the last several weeks, I have asked our health experts whether it is time for the ultimate action of a “shelter-in-place” order statewide. Yesterday, for the first time, we got the answer we had been anticipating. They told me we are



Reeves

now at the point in Mississippi’s cycle where such drastic restrictions are required. Today is the day. We are announcing a shelter-in-place order. It will go into effect Friday at 5 p.m.

I will let our top health official, Dr. Dobbs, explain his thought process behind the timing. I just want to offer a simple message to Mississippi:

This will not be easy for anyone, but we believe it is right. We know that there are many people who are scared; wondering what this means for their wages and their ability to put food on the table. We are here for you and working hard to help. Mississippi will not allow you to fall without a hand to help you back up.

We know that there are some who still do not have a healthy

fear of this virus. They are wrong, and they are risking lives if they do not take this seriously.

This order will be enforced. It will be taken very, very seriously. It will not be forever. We will get through this and open our state back up as soon as our health experts tell me it is wise.

Our goal is to prevent our healthcare system from being overwhelmed. I pray that all of our orders and preparations will be enough. We believe that this is the right tool at the right time to save lives.

Today, this is the best course of action for Mississippi. I’ll turn it over to Dr. Dobbs for some more information.”

In this latest executive order, the governor lays out the guidelines of the statewide

shelter-in-place to slow the spread of COVID-19, including:

- Individuals are to stay at home except for the limited allowances in the executive order.

- When outside of their homes, people must follow social distancing guidelines by maintaining a 6-foot distance from others and avoid groups of 10 or more.

- Evictions are suspended, though people are still required to pay any rent or make any mortgage payments.

- All nonessential businesses are to stop all activities other than those necessary for minimum operations (e.g. payroll, health insurance, security) and enabling employees to work from home.

- Social and other non-essential gatherings in groups of more than 10 people must be cancelled or rescheduled.

- Restaurants and bars may only remain open for drive-thru, curbside and/or delivery service.

- People may leave their homes only to perform essential activities, such as caring for someone in the vulnerable population, getting food or necessary supplies, and working for an essential business.

- Individual outdoor recreation is encouraged, but not group recreation or activities such as soccer or basketball games.

Community donors bolster Medical Center during COVID-19 response

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi Spay and Neuter is normally all about dogs and cats, but during the COVID-19 outbreak, the nonprofit is all about humans.

When its leaders learned that the University of Mississippi Medical Center is in critical need of gowns and masks worn by front-line health care workers caring for COVID-19 patients, they turned out their storage closets and made a difference.

“One of our employees said that our clinic has all these masks and gowns that were donated by people in human medicine,” said Shelby Parsons, communications manager for Mississippi Spay and Neuter, which operates The Big Fix Clinic in Richland. “We would typically use them when we do surgeries.”

They’re paying forward, donating a portion of what was gifted to them: 700 masks and a plethora of gowns.

“It’s going to be ground zero for everything going on,” Parsons said of the Medical Center. “UMMC is where everyone wants to be, because they get the best treatment there. Everyone is trying to innovate, and the Medical Center is going to be at the forefront of this for a long time.”

The clinic’s donation is just one example of the creativity emanating from the community in response to ever-changing needs at the state’s only academic health sciences center.

“It’s such wonderful news that they would be willing to come help us at this time,” said Keri Henley, UMMC associate executive director of development. “We hadn’t thought to reach out to our veterinarian friends. It’s certainly a great reminder that we have to think outside of the box.”

Dozens of businesses, nonprofits, individuals and friend



Keri Henley, right, UMMC associate executive director of development, helps Nina Ghaffari, a volunteer assisting Mississippi Spay and Neuter, unload donated surgical masks for the hospital's front-line caregivers.

groups are answering the Medical Center’s call for donations and resources as the community outbreak grows. The Office of Development is coordinating, with help from others on campus, including the Children’s Miracle Network, which is part of Development, the Office of Patient Experience and the Office of Faculty Affairs.

UMMC front-line caregivers are doing what they do best – taking care of the sickest of the sick – with health experts saying the worst of the pandemic is yet to come. The community is rallying around the superheroes who, every day, wear scrubs in lieu of capes.

Last week, Whataburger fortified staff on several floors with a breakfast buffet of honey butter and chicken biscuits, jalapeno cheese biscuits, taquitos, cinnamon rolls and more. “We’ve always had the notion that we want to support the communities that support us,” said Mary Almond, Whataburger’s field brand development coordinator for Mississippi and north Louisiana.

“We’ve got to support these

nurses, orderlies, doctors and all of the people who are putting their lives at risk to take care of those who are ill.”

Owners of Revell Ace Hardware did more than think out of the box. They thought in the box, a case that contained 300 pair of safety glasses intended for industrial use, but quite adaptable for use on the UMMC campus.

UMMC Children’s Miracle Network development specialist Andrew Russell reached out to Ace Hardware, parent to Revell Ace Hardware and Revell’s nine locations in the metro area. Revell sells safety goggles “day in and day out,” said Joe Rooks, who with brothers Tim and Dunaway owns Revell’s metro businesses. “With the demand, we’ve been depleted down to zero.”

Not quite, he discovered. “We have an industrial house in Pearl, and we deal with a lot of commercial customers, steel plants and welding suppliers,” Rooks said. “My brother Tim told me we had safety glasses there, a case of 300. He sent them to our north Jackson store where my son Paxton is manager, and



Erin Shirley Orey, left, project manager in the Department of Psychiatry, donates boxes of gloves to the Medical Center's COVID-19 response.

Andrew picked them up.”

Revell has been a passionate supporter of Children’s of Mississippi and the Children’s Miracle Network for many years, Rooks said. “We did this because there’s a need. We didn’t do it for the advertising,” he said. “We try to be part of the community, wherever we are.”

Production at the Nissan vehicle assembly plant in Canton has been suspended in the COVID-19 outbreak’s wake, but its leaders are rolling out a donation that melds the auto giant’s resources with front-line needs. The gift: 1,250 pair of coveralls worn by workers on the automotive paint line, 125 boxes of gloves, 1,000 pounds of cleaning rags, and a case of 150 spray bottles that can be filled with cleaners.

“COVID-19 has affected us all, and we want to do our part to help those in need,” said Erik Fields, vice president of manufacturing for Nissan Canton’s plant. “Giving back to the communities where our employees live and work is in our DNA.”

UMMC Grenada also is get-

ting a helping hand from the community, including two huge pallets of water donated to the Grenada hospital by Robbie Statton of Double S Inc. Statton sent one of his company’s trucks to collect the water in Oxford and bring it to UMMC Grenada.

UMMC’s Office of Development has posted a full list of the most critical needs on its website.

N-95 masks needed by those directly caring for COVID-19 patients are “pretty high up on our list,” Henley said. “We will continue to need them for a while, plus other PPE like gloves, gowns, goggles and face masks.”

“We need iPads, iPhones and webcams from people who are no longer using them,” she said. “We want to expand the use of telehealth through our Center for Telehealth so that people who are at high risk can be monitored from home, or so that medical staff at UMMC can communicate with them.”

The phones and iPads also can be used by isolated patients to visit with family members via FaceTime, she said.

Those who are sheltering in

place or in home isolation can safely make a huge difference by donating online to UMMC’s COVID-19 Response Support Fund or by shopping from a special Amazon wish list of items needed by patients, families, front-line workers.

Even students and employees staffing a drive-by specimen collection operation at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Jackson need help as temperatures climb into the 80s. “I added sunscreen and cooling towels to the Amazon list,” Henley said. “We normally don’t have outdoor stations, but we want those workers to be safe and healthy so that they can keep doing that work.”

“There are needs that are popping up that we can’t anticipate,” Henley said. “The response fund allows us to make sure parents can get a meal, or the front-line staff that can’t get away. It’s nice to have funds designated for that purpose so that we can meet those needs quickly.”

What can’t be accepted, Henley said, is homemade treats. “We have all the handmade masks that we can use at this point, so we are no longer asking people to make them.”

The Medical Center is humbled and grateful for the generosity of the community. “It’s certainly encouraging to see how much people want to help, and how they are still thinking of other people, no matter how afraid they might be,” Henley said.

“I can’t imagine what it’s like to be a health care worker in this environment,” Rooks said. “They are on the front line fighting the war.”

“We have deep respect and admiration for that. Hopefully, these glasses will help somebody along the way.”

Stanton Optical shifts to solely telehealth eye care to serve Jackson community

Store to offer accessible, affordable eye care solutions with zero doctor-to-patient contact

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Stanton Optical, a retail brand of Now Optics, a leading eye health provider offering accessible and affordable eye care, will immediately be switching to virtual eye care at its Jackson, Mississippi location. In partnership with the Physicians Eyecare Group, select locations will offer patients the opportunity to receive eye care through telemedicine. All retail stores that do not offer telehealth services will be closed temporarily.

The Jackson-area location offering virtual eye care is Ridgeland, located at 1210 E. County Line Road, Ridgeland, MS 39157, open from Monday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Extra safety measures will be taken at each store including a pre-screening questionnaire and temperature check before patients are let in for an exam.

There will also be strict rules on capacity to keep employees and patients within safe social distancing proximity or a maximum of 10 people and extra cleaning precautions. After the

pre-testing (which includes digital photos of the front of the eye, retinal images, a screening for glaucoma as well as additional testing), a technician will escort the patient to a private examination room for an acuity and refraction exam to test for the glasses or contact lens prescription. The test is performed virtually via video-screen.

The local ophthalmologist (MD) or optometrist then creates the patient’s customized eye care treatment plan and prescription. Alternative forms of dispensing will be implemented, including curbside order pick-up and order delivery options where permitted.

“This is a unique opportunity to provide a service to people who need it when others can’t during such a crisis,” said Daniel Stanton, CEO of My Eye-lab and Stanton Optical. “This solution allows customers to receive eye care in a safe, no-contact way, and allows us to keep jobs in our stores. Our updated policies and procedures will allow customers who have

eye care emergencies to access these services in the safest way possible.”

Telehealth co-creator and 20-year veteran optometrist Dr. Brad Brocwell, vice president of clinical operations for Now Optics, designed a customized approach utilizing Now Optics Health Services’ proven telehealth solutions. Over the past 3+ years, more than 700,000 telehealth eye exams have been conducted through the company’s proprietary technology and network of doctors.

“Now more than ever customers are looking for the safest way to receive services, and we are at the forefront of telemedicine as it pertains to eye health,” said Brocwell. “If someone’s prescription expires during this crisis or has a need for prescription eyewear, we are the only provider of telehealth eye care services nationwide. We are stepping up to deliver a safe and reliable experience.”

Visit myeyelab.com or stantonoptical.com for more information and to find your closest participating location.

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MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

Billions for Boeing, pennies for the people

By E. Faye Williams
Trice Edney Newswire



The development of the \$2.2 trillion stimulus package was extremely flawed. The Republican bullies in the Senate, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, wrote the bill with absolutely no Democratic input, then suggested that Democrats amend their legislation. The first draft of the bill, unsurprisingly, was a goody grab for corporations with much less for individuals.

Initially, the Republican Senate would have given Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin a slush fund of \$500 billion to assist troubled industries with absolutely no oversight. The last version of the bill does include both monitoring and an inspector general to look for fraud and abuse. Republicans would have doled the money out to their cronies. But the Dems, led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, stood their ground.

The stimulus legislation is better than the 2008-2009 bailout legislation. It is gratifying to see that the Senate rose above partisanship to get this done.

Republicans even conceded that Mr. Trump, his grafter family, other cabinet heads and senior leaders, along with their families, cannot benefit from this stimulus legislation. It is unfathomable that this provision has to be put in writing, but 45, a hotel owner, pushed hard for hotels and cruise ships to get bailout benefits, but some in Congress have apparently peeped 45's hole card. It takes extreme hubris for our nation's chief executive officer, who has used the United States Treasury as a piggy bank, to be as self-serving as 45 is.

Good for Democrats for recognizing the pattern of double-dealings makes it clear that written prohibition of these shady practices is necessary.

Michigan Congressman Justin Amash, an independent who used to be Republican, tweeted, "This bipartisan deal is a raw deal for the people. It does far too little for those who need the most help while providing hundreds of billions in corporate welfare, massively growing government, inhibiting economic adaptation and widening the gap between the rich and the poor." The legislation (which still must be approved by the House before it goes to the president) is likely to be hundreds, if not thousands, of pages long. And it's got lots of fine print. For example, \$17 billion in loan funds are set aside for "businesses deemed critical to maintaining national security.

While Boeing isn't mentioned by name, the *Washington Post* quoted a confidential source who says this money is partly set aside for Boeing. This is the same Boeing that manufactured faulty, crashing planes. And they've imperiously said they will take assistance only on their terms.

Some think the federal government should take an equity stake in companies that get bailout funds. Boeing's CEO said he wasn't interested in such a deal. If the feds wanted to play hardball, they'd force Boeing into bankruptcy, since bankruptcy doesn't mean the cessation of operations, it means the restructuring of debt.

Meanwhile, there's no helpful fine print for ordinary people. Sure, people will get \$1200 checks, plus \$500 per child. That's better than nothing, but compared to Boeing's billions, it's pennies. The ability to get unemployment insurance for extra weeks will also be helpful for those who lose their jobs. More food stamp funds will be available. But there is some confusion over whether gig works will get the benefit. Instead, it seems that those who have good jobs will get great benefits, while those who have part-time jobs, gig jobs or are unemployed won't get much. As Congressman Amash says, this stimulus package will widen the wealth gap.

Inequality is at the very foundation of our economic system, so it isn't surprising that the coronavirus stimulus package reflects the biases that are hard-wired into our system. We need committed, vocal, progressive members of Congress (Maxine Waters, Barbara Lee, Ayana Pressly, Bobby Scott, AOC and others) to shine a bright light on this inequality, and to either modify the legislation or develop legislation to address some of these inequalities.

On March 23, Congresswoman Nita Lowey (D-NY) introduced HR 6379, the Take Responsibility for Workers and Families Act, that provides protections for workers and families mostly because the stimulus package does not. And there is a rush to pass the stimulus quickly as more and more people are out of work.

Stimulate the economy if you will, but don't ignore the people on the bottom. If we are injecting \$2.2 trillion into our lagging economy, make sure that some of it trickles down the poor.

I can only compare COVID-19 to 9/11

By Jarret R. Patton, MD
Guest Writer



These are tremendous times that we have never been faced with before. With a novel virus, lack of preparation time and a health-care system that already runs at near capacity, we have a disaster of epic proportions on our hands. What can we do? What should we do? How can I help even if I am not on the front lines?

Many are waging the war on the front lines: the hospitals, clinics, urgent care centers, emergency rooms, testing centers, drive-thrus and other direct patient care portals. Reports from the battlefield are difficult to stomach. With limited testing and scarcity of personal protective equipment, this turns to be a personal decision with potentially grave consequences.

For those on the front lines of the COVID19 pandemic, thank you! Thank you from me, my family and my neighbors.

The closest parallel for me is 9/11. I was working at the Bellevue Pediatric Emergency Service in New York City overnight of 9/10/2001. Early morning of 9/11 I signed out and left my shift to ride the F train back to Brooklyn pretty sleepy eyed. As I was just about to settle into bed to catch some rest, something caught my attention on the television. It looked like a large skyscraper was on fire on the upper floors. Sleepily I told myself that this would be a perfect movie to fall asleep on...Then I noticed the channel. It was CNN and the building on fire was one of the world trade centers. Immediately

the sleepiness left my body as I was shocked by this development.

As the reporters were explaining how the tower caught fire after a plane crashed into it, another plane crashed into the other tower. My life felt like it was changing by the second. This couldn't be bad luck... are we at war? Is New York City under siege? Meanwhile the subways are shutting down, the city is confused. What is going on?

I rushed up several flights of stairs to see if I could get on the rooftop of my building and see what was going on. In disbelief, I could see both towers burning at the end of the Manhattan skyline. After confirming the news reports with my own eyes, I called into the hospital. They told me to shelter in place in Brooklyn for now and be on standby. They had enough hands available to attend to the expected barrage of patients that would be sent from the World Trade Centers.

Later in the afternoon, I got the call to come in for my overnight shift. Travel was difficult as people were shocked and edgy. However, I made it into the hospital pumped up and ready to spring into action. When I arrived that afternoon, the towers had already collapsed and the emergency room was eerily quiet. There was barely a patient to be seen.

Normally, Bellevue is a bustling place full of kids ranging from barely sick to critical condition. This day it was deserted aside from plenty of nurses and physicians waiting to tend to the injured. I looked around at the vastness of the large empty space. There was only one lone fireman who suffered a minor eye injury while fighting the blaze. People knew

to stay away from Bellevue; those cold symptoms and other minor illnesses could wait as the entire nation knew that they were shipping people from the world trade centers to Bellevue. For days the ER was mostly empty except for food donations that were sent from across the country to help feed the staff who was sure to be overworked and tired. The sad part of this empty ER was that there were few survivors to treat. On the other hand, it was amazing to see humanity come together with support across the nation.

What if you can't be on the front line? Perhaps you are afraid of what it may mean for you, your family, your children or your elderly parents that you take care of. That is a valid reason as most of us are not trained for this COVID19 scenario.

Perhaps you have a retired, suspended or restricted license, or haven't been a clinical doctor in a while. Make that personal choice and don't be apologetic. There is nothing wrong with sitting on the sideline and being safe in this rapidly changing environment. However, don't count yourself out; there are ways in which you can help.

If you aren't on the front lines and wish that you could help here are a few suggestions:

- Help disseminate facts with people and debunk myths that are circulating. This can happen via social media or telephonically to help people understand the facts as we know them today. Perhaps you can write a letter to the editor that can shed further light on the situation or work with a local school district with planning.

- Consider making a donation. There are many different chari-

ties and local funds being set up across the nation knowing that we are in for many changes knowing the lingering effects. This donation doesn't have to be monetary. Even the blood banks are in dire need of donations; give a pint.

- Sign up for a telehealth company. There is no time like the present to think telemedicine, particularly with the restrictions on home state licensure being lifted across the country.

- Join local task forces or committees in your professional organizations. There are many local public health organizations trying to keep pace. Often they enjoy the input of another physician. It doesn't have to be the CDC; your local officials are handling the local business. Often they need the advice of a physician who can spare some time.

- Stay positive. Keeping an upbeat spirit can be of great benefit to others especially when they are feeling scared. If you have difficulties being positive perhaps you will like my new upcoming book entitled Licensed To Live: Daily Affirmations to Rebuild Your Life.

- If nothing else, stay at home and practice good social distancing. Your example will be followed by others. We all must do our part to limit the spread. Leading by example helps a lot of people change their mind.

During emergencies, we want to be useful and the public expects all of us to be on the front lines. However, we can be beneficial in many ways even if we aren't staring COVID19 directly in the face.

Take some time for developing your plan and let's all pitch in to help us flatten the curve in the U.S. Stay safe.

Nation's governors and mayors admirably step in to fill the leadership vacuum left by president's failure on coronavirus crisis

By Marc H. Morial
Trice Edney Newswire



"We're all competing against each other. This should have been a coordinated effort by the federal government, and the national defense authorization that the president has to essentially push this manufacturing really hasn't gone into effect in any way. And, so, yes, we're competing against each other. We're competing against other countries. It's a ... Wild West, I would say, out there." – Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker

When I was mayor of New Orleans, I was called upon to lead my city through troubled times. I confronted a crisis of violent crime, I worked to keep my city safe during natural disasters. I often relied on support from the governor and the president.

One of the worst national crises in American history struck during my mayoral tenure, September 11, 2001. As president of the U.S. Conference of Mayor, I was proud to support the president. I led the ef-

fort to create a National Safety and Security Plan for American Cities, including the recommendation for a Department of Homeland Security, and the federalization of airport security screens.

Now, the coronavirus pandemic has turned these traditional relationships between local, state and federal leadership upside down. President Trump appears more concerned about his reelection prospects than the rampant spread of a deadly disease, forcing the nation's governors and mayors into unprecedented roles.

On a conference call with governors, who pleaded with President Trump for help in acquiring lifesaving medical supplies like ventilators, the president told them to find the equipment themselves – even as the federal government was outbidding the states who were trying to purchase it.

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker told President Trump that his state lost out to the federal government three times on purchases of critical supplies.

President Trump laughed. As the president has faltered,

governors and mayors have risen – most notably, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, whose state has been the hardest-hit. Cuomo's orderly, informative briefings – with everyone present observing recommended social distancing – stand in stark contrast to President Trump's rambling, contradictory briefings marked by misinformation and angry attacks on journalists.

A few days after President Trump stunned the public by saying, "'I don't take responsibility at all" for the nation's lag in testing, Governor Cuomo firmly took responsibility for closure of non-essential businesses. "If someone wants to blame someone, blame me," he said. "There is no one else responsible for this decision."

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine was far ahead of the curve on ordering school closures and banning large gatherings to prevent the spread of the virus. Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer – before a single case of coronavirus had been identified in her state – announced the creation of special task forces and developed a plan for free testing and treatment.

By the time President Trump finally called a national emergency March 13, the nation's mayors had been fighting the battle in their towns and cities, unassisted, for weeks. Even as Florida Governor Ron DeSantis resists a statewide shelter-in-place order, Miami Mayor Francis Suarez – who has tested positive himself – canceled large gatherings and closed bars and restaurants.

Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, whose city was one of the first to be struck, was quick to ban utilities from cutting services and ordered a moratorium on residential evictions for non-payment of rent.

San Francisco Mayor London Breed – an outspoken critic of President Trump's crisis response – was among the first in the nation to issue a widespread stay-at-home order.

Now President Trump, in defiance of medical experts, wants to end the social distancing efforts that are our only hope to contain the virus. It will, once again, fall to the governors and the mayors to provide the sensible leadership that the president will not.

State Board of Education student member Shelby Dean: Seniors, let’s finish strong

The Mississippi Link Newswire

I don’t think anyone, especially us high school seniors, saw this coming. I keep thinking back to mid-January, a few weeks after coming back to school from Christmas break, when I heard about the virus outbreak in China. It came up in small talk among my Biomedical Research class, and the conversation always ended with, “Well, it will end soon,” or “Wouldn’t it be crazy if it made it all the way to us?”

Fast forward to the present: everything has changed. School is canceled for a month. All extracurricular activities have come to a halt. Even prom has been canceled. To most, if not all of the seniors, this means so much to us. It’s as if we lost OUR time. Instead of spending the best year of our youth together, it’s now being spent on social media, in our houses, isolated from one another. This sedentary state of



Dean

mind can have a profound effect on our physical and mental health. That being said, let’s take advantage of the ways that we can exercise our maximum physical and mental capabilities!

Online schooling has officially started for my district this week. I have to say: home-

schoolers – you guys deserve a round of applause. It’s hard personally to find the initiative to read an online passage or to take a quiz for my classes when I could be painting, sleeping, singing and dancing, or many more desirable options that are available when I am at home. Nonetheless, it is so crucial that we all keep our studies at the forefront of our minds.

For all of the seniors graduating and planning on attending college next year, we can’t take six months off of learning new material and then expect to excel in college-level courses. Let’s finish out this school year strong.

Along with keeping school at the forefront of our minds, we must make sure that we are communicating with other people about our current situations. Keep in contact with your friends. Call them. Text them. Video chat them. Mail them letters. An important part

of keeping our mental states positive is communicating with others and saying what we feel.

This is also a great opportunity to spend time with family before we do move onto college or the workforce next year. By diligently keeping up with our studies and continuing to communicate with friends and family, we can make the most out of this dreary situation.

To any student, grades K-12 or college age, we are living in history. One day, our present situation is going to be right in that history textbook you love to read. Let’s make sure that we are doing all that we can to keep ourselves and each other safe so that one day we can tell these stories to our kids and grandkids.

Make sure you’re washing your hands, not touching your face, and, as hard for me as it is to say, practicing social distancing. The fact that we may not be in the “highest risk of

injury” category due to our age does not give us any right to think we should be exempt from these policies and continue to pass the virus along. We all need to make sure we are doing our own individual parts to overcome this obstacle.

If you are a parent/guardian of a student, a loved one of a student, or even just know a student, reach out to them. Remind them that they will get through this and that they matter. We want to hear from you. We want to have a conversation. A simple word of encouragement can ripple into an ocean of confidence, of joy.

To all teachers, administrators and school workers, thank you for the vast amount of time that you are spending making sure that we are healthy and cared for. As a student, I can tell you that while I was saddened that I could not come back to school after spring break, you all are being so generous and

supportive that you are turning my home into your classroom. It’s nice for now, but please don’t change it for good.

I know I speak for the rest of the seniors when I say that we all can’t wait to get back to school, hopefully, sooner than later. In the meantime, I have found one of the best ways to cope with the effect of the virus on my current state is reading about it. The CDC is keeping track of the number of confirmed cases in each state on its website. I have been reading articles on John Hopkins Medicine, Healthline and the National Institutes of Health. Gaining as much knowledge about the virus has helped me in feeling prepared and not fearful of what is to come.

Shelby Dean is the senior student representative on the Mississippi State Board of Education and a student at Clinton High School.

JPS announces extension of food programs during school closures




The Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson Public Schools will continue to serve Grab-and-Go breakfast and lunch meals during school closures through April 17, 2020.

Children 18 years of age and under can pick up breakfast

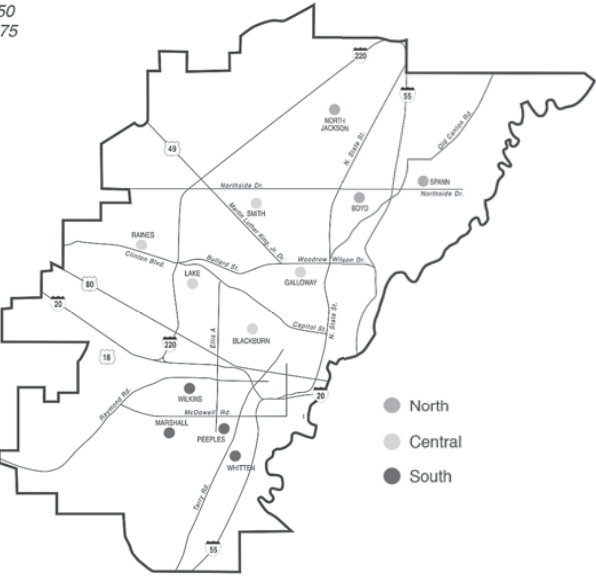
and lunch at no cost. No ID is required. They do not have to be a JPS student.

Adult meals are \$2.50 for breakfast and \$3.75 for lunch. Meals will be served Monday-Friday from 9-11 a.m. at the locations listed on the chart.



FREE
Grab-and-go breakfast and lunch meals
FOR STUDENTS 18 YEARS AND UNDER

*Adult meals are \$2.50 for breakfast and \$3.75 for lunch.



Jackson Public Schools will serve grab-and-go breakfast and lunch meals during school closures. Children 18 years of age and under will be able to pick up breakfast and lunch at no cost each weekday. “No I.D. required”. Meals will be served Monday-Friday from 9–11 a.m. through April 17 at the following locations:

NORTH	CENTRAL	SOUTH
Boyd Elementary 4531 Broadmeadow Street	Blackburn Middle 1311 W. Pearl Street	Marshall Elementary 2909 Oak Forest Drive
North Jackson Elementary 650 James M. Davis Drive	Galloway Elementary 186 Idlewild Street	Peoples Middle 2940 Belvedere Drive
Spann Elementary 1615 Brecon Drive	Lake Elementary 472 Mt. Vernon Avenue	Whitten Middle 210 Daniel Lake Blvd.
	Raines Elementary 156 N. Flag Chapel Road	Wilkins Elementary 1970 Castle Hill Drive
	Smith Elementary 3900 Parkway Avenue	

Jackson State University’s online master’s degree in history program ranks among best

www.jsums.edu

Jackson State University’s Department of History in the College of Liberal Arts was recently recognized for offering one of the Best Online Master’s Degree in History programs for 2020 in a report published by Optimal. The department also ranked Top 20 for Most Affordable Online Master’s Degree in History. The information was shared in Optimal’s Guide to Online Schools.

According to a release, the methodology for the rankings incorporates a return on investment formula to show accredited programs with the best value. Since the cost and return of a college can significantly vary by the de-

gree, tuition rates and salary numbers are specific to degree-level and major.

All tuition rates were manually researched on official school websites in order to ensure accuracy. Salary figures were reported by PayScale and reflected earnings of students 10 or more years after graduation. In order to select the best options for value in each major, Optimal researched more than 78,000 online programs.

“The Department of History and Philosophy was one of the first to build an online master’s program at JSU. The faculty have found a way to make online learning engaging and cooperative,” said Dr. Candis Pizzetta, dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

“Despite being a small department, it offers a variety of classes every semester and provide online students with individual mentoring.”

Pizzetta said she is glad, but not surprised, by the national ranking. “This program is a model for online learning.”

Sung Rhee, CEO of Optimal, explained the organization’s goal is to show data that are difficult to find elsewhere.

“With this launch, Guide to Online Schools shows students what they can reasonably expect to make in salary 10 years after graduating from a particular program. We want people to know how their education choices

can measurably impact their financial futures,” he said.

Optimal helps prospective students make informed, data-driven decisions to improve their collegiate experiences and their post-college careers. The company provides more than 85,000 in-depth student reviews and college rankings for every major based on alumni salaries and manually researched tuitions.

Optimal’s tools and services provide accessible and transparent financial data regarding cost and earning potential that gives students educational paths that lead them to success, without burdening them with insurmountable debt.

MSU released the following statement from Chief Communications Officer Sid Salter:

“Under the direction of Mississippi State University President Mark E. Keenum and senior administrators across the campus, MSU has during the COVID-19 national emergency maintained a commitment to keeping our students, faculty and staff as safe as possible,” said Salter. “One way that safety can best be accomplished is through offsetting rumor and gossip with factual and timely information. In an effort to maintain transparency in MSU’s handling of the COVID-19 crisis, here’s our institution’s COVID-19 status as of Thursday, March 26, 2020.”

The university has one faculty member who was confirmed positive for COVID-19 and is in isolation. That individual visited their MSU office on March 16, prior to confirmation. An appropriate investigation took place, the university provided a professional sanitation of the affected office area and adjacent common facilities, and the individual is receiving appropriate medical care.

One staff member was confirmed positive for COVID-19 and is in isolation. The staff member was isolated at home prior to confirmation.

As previously reported, one MSU Extension employee in Pike County was confirmed positive for COVID-19, self-isolated and received medical attention. The Pike County office was professionally sanitized and temporarily closed.

One MSU student who has not been on campus since the beginning of Spring Break on March 9 was confirmed positive for COVID-19, and self-isolated at the individual’s family home. The university investigation into this case is ongoing.

One MSU student is hospitalized out-of-state with what is believed to be COVID-19. That student moved out of fraternity housing on March 18 and was asymptomatic. The fraternity has been notified and an investigation is underway into possible close contacts during the move-out. The student reported little to no contact with individuals during that time. The university will take appropriate sanitation and notification steps in keeping with Centers for Disease Control recommendations.

At least three other MSU employees are awaiting the results of COVID-19 testing. The university fully expects MSU-related confirmed cases to increase in the near term, as the CDC and the Mississippi State Department of Health have warned all essential institutions will likely occur.

Mississippi Arts Commission’s Arts Day at the Capitol



Central Mississippi Blues Society representing their organization at the Mississippi Arts Commission’s Art Day at the Capitol, which was held Thursday, March 5, from 11-1:30. Pictured (l-r):Frances Flemings, Nettie Stowers, Malcolm Shepherd and Hilliard Williams. PHOTO CREDIT: ANDREW WELCH.

**2020
Legislative
Session will
not reconvene
April 1**

Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Legislature will delay reconvening the 2020 Legislative Session beyond Wednesday, April 1, by agreement of Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann and Speaker of the House Philip Gunn.

The Legislature adjourned its 125-day Session temporarily Wednesday, March 18, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 65, which provided it would reconvene April 1 or on another date determined jointly by agreement of the lieutenant governor and the speaker.

Hosemann, Gunn and members of the Legislature continue to analyze the impact of COVID-19 and the new federal stimulus legislation on the state’s emergency response efforts, healthcare facilities and the wider state budget. Budget analysts and agencies have advised legislative leadership that all agencies currently have the funds needed to meet the needs of our citizens.

No specific date is set for reconvening the session at this time. The Legislature will not exceed its allotted 125 days for this session by the Mississippi Constitution, and will not incur additional expense.

More information will be released as it becomes available.

Sheltering at home can increase energy bills; Here’s how to get help

Even with low electric rates, if usage is high your bill may be, too

Mississippi Link Newswire

With schools closed and many workers temporarily unemployed or telecommuting due to the coronavirus pandemic, many families have a full house during times the home would normally be empty. The result is often an increased demand for energy to fuel daily lives, and that can quickly lead to a higher-than-normal energy bill.

The best way to manage this increase in energy use is to follow simple energy-saving tips, like wrapping your water heater; regularly replacing HVAC filters

and insulating doors and windows.

But if a high bill has already arrived, there are ways you can get help managing your costs or even paying your bill.

Effective March 15, Entergy Mississippi, working with its regulators, has temporarily suspended service disconnections through May 14, subject to the Mississippi Public Service Commission’s review after 30 days.

However, Entergy encourages customers to make payments on their account if possible, and will work directly with customers

to make payment arrangements if they are unable to pay in full. Customers requiring such arrangements should call 1-800-ENTERGY (800-368-3749) or visit myAccount.

Here are four more ways to manage through the higher costs of powering your home:

- Level Billing – Entergy averages your bill over a rolling 12-month period so you have a consistent bill each month of the year. Pay about the same every month, with no surprises.
- Pick-A-Date – Choose what day of the month you get billed

to line up with your budget and manage your cash flow.

- Power to Care – Through Entergy’s The Power to Care program, local nonprofit agencies can provide emergency bill payment assistance to seniors and disabled individuals in crisis. Find out more at entergy-mississippi.com/bill-help/.
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is a program that provides money to help people with energy bills and other energy-related expenses. LIHEAP is funded through the federal government

and works with community action agencies to help customers pay for and keep electric service in their homes. For information on how to apply for assistance, call 1-800-421-0762 or visit the state Division of Community Services Web site.

If you think you’re going to need help with your power bill, don’t delay. Call Entergy’s customer service representatives at 1-800-Entergy (1-800-368-3749) to see what solution might be right for you.

Entergy Mississippi, LLC provides electricity to approxi-

mately 450,000 customers in 45 counties. Entergy Corporation is an integrated energy company engaged primarily in electric power production and retail distribution operations. Entergy owns and operates power plants with approximately 30,000 megawatts of electric generating capacity, including 9,000 megawatts of nuclear power. Entergy delivers electricity to 2.9 million utility customers in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. Entergy has annual revenues of \$11 billion and approximately 13,500 employees.

The Mississippi Link™

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Thank you for your order. Order a subscription for a friend!

Lift up your head and keep pressing on

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



Sometimes God will not come to our rescue immediately but will test us. During those times, we need to be patient and possess our souls. God uses problems to strengthen us. We need to wait on God in patience. Isaiah 40:31 reads, “But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” The word faint means to be disheartened. Friend, do not get disheartened. Lift up your head and keep pressing on. We may be discouraged or disappointed, but we will never be disap-

pointed in God. We do not have to lose out in a trial and give up. God said with every temptation He would make a way to escape. He will not put more on us than we can bear. He is not unreasonable. His purpose and plan are to build our faith. He wants us to have more confidence and trust in Him, and then we can help others who are going through trials. We can receive wisdom from God. We read in James 1:5 (New Testament) these words: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” When we go through hard places, we may feel that it is unfair. In times such as that, we can ask in wisdom for the promise. The devil likes to work on

us to try to put us down. He will try to bring fear upon us, and fear has torment. Proverbs 29:25 states, “The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.” Some people know what they ought to do, but they have a fear of man. The fear of man will bring a snare and put us in bondage. God said not to fear man who can destroy the body but to fear Him who can destroy both soul and body. We can be more than a conqueror through Christ who strengthens us. If God be for us, who can be against us? We ought to give God glory and praise for what He does for us. We should not take the resources of God lightly. We get wisdom when we are tried by fire. Friend, persecution has never stopped the progress of

the Church. Perseverance during persecution will bring out the very best in us. Psalm 125:1-3 states: “They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from henceforth even forever. For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity.” God is in the midst of His people to take care of them. Stay encouraged. *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.*


Shock treatment

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



30 years ago, my father died. I was in my college dorm room when I got the call from my younger sister that something had happened to my father. She was crying uncontrollably and I could barely make out what she was saying. The only thing I could understand between her sobs was “Daddy had died but was on his way to the hospital.” I immediately hung up the phone, grabbed the keys to my car and rushed out of my room. I could barely control my emotions and drove as fast as I could to the hospital on the other side of town. All that kept running through my mind as I sped in rush hour traffic was what could have happened. I found out what my sister meant when I got to the hospital. He had actually died but was brought back to life by a next-door neighbor who knew CPR. EMS technicians then transported him to the hospital where we got the diagnosis that he had both sleep apnea and heart arrhythmia. Because of the sleep apnea, he’d stopped breathing while he was taking a nap. While he’d stopped breathing, his heart had also stopped beating. He stayed in the hospital for months as doctors worked to repair the damage to his heart and vital organs. Part of the solution for his heart arrhythmia was to install a defibrillator which would shock his heart back to normal rhythm if it ever stopped again. When his heart stops, the machine sends a bolt of electricity that my father doesn’t even feel...but it keeps his heart beating on time. The family

didn’t completely understand how an electrical shock wouldn’t bring him more pain but we were just glad that they were able to keep him alive. I never thought that having a shock to the heart would be a good thing. When our hearts become weakened or even dead to sin, God sometimes allows jolts to get our hearts back on rhythm. I’ve recently had some “shocks” that jolted my heart. What these jolts did was remind me that even though I thought my “heart” was right, I still needed to work on genuine forgiveness. Psalm 37: 4 says that if we delight in the LORD, he will give us the desires of our heart. Delighting in God means that we make a conscious decision to discern and follow his will even in the most difficult circumstances. Like my daddy, I didn’t realize that I had a problem with that issue, until something happened that broke my heart. In the healing process, God showed me how that jolt was not intended to “kill” me but merely to show me that my heart needed to be strengthened. Some are dealing with broken hearts because of loss of job, loss of loved ones and loss of our freedom. As so many of us are dealing with changes in our lives because of Coronavirus pandemic, we could consider using the time to allow our hearts to be jolted, strengthened and healed by God. *Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.*




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221-A John Day Road • Off Hwy 16 East • Canton, MS 39046
Church: 601-409-2858

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4091

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 The Tabernacle Ministries has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Use Permit to operate a Private School as an accessory use for the church within a R-1 (Single-Family) Residential District on property located at 2025A Siwell Rd. (Parcel 845-275) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

A certain parcel of land being situated in the Northwest ¼ of Section 21, T5N-R1 W in the City of Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at an existing bold marking the Northeast corner of Brookhollow Place, Part 2, a subdivision according to the map or plat thereof, on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, as now recorded in Plat Book 26 at Page 6 and run thence North 00 degrees 40 minutes 10 seconds West for a distance of 284.50 feet to an existing ½" iron pin on the West right-of-way line of Siwell Road marking the POINT OF BEGINNING of the parcel of land herein described; from said POINT OF BEGINNING and leaving said West right-of-way line of Siwell Road, run thence South 88 degrees 04 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 504.70 feet to an existing ½" iron pin; run thence North 03 degrees 44 minutes 00 seconds West for a distance of 369.59 feet to an existing ½" iron pin on the South right-of-way line of Mississippi State Highway 18; run theme along said South right-of-way line of Mississippi State Highway 18 the following bearings and distances: North 85 degrees 36 minutes 00 seconds East for a distance of 88.88 feet to an existing concrete monument; South 87 degrees 09 minutes 33 seconds East for a distance of 99.29 feet to an existing ½" iron pin; South 55 degrees 06 minutes 32 seconds East for a distance of 403.67 feet to a set ½" iron pin on the aforesaid West right-of-way line of Siwell Road; leaving said South right-of-way line of Mississippi State Highway 18, run thence South 04 degrees 27 minutes 46 seconds East for a distance of 123.16 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING, containing 3.36 acres, more or less.

The above described parcel of land being the same property as described in deed recorded in Deed Book 7126 at Page 6571, on file and of record in the aforesaid Chancery Clerk's Office.

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, April 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 25th day of March 2020.

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

4-2-2020, 4-16-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING WITH A USE PERMIT

ZONING CASE NO. 4092

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 Linda Stuckey has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-1A (Single-Family) Residential District to C-1A (Restricted) Commercial with a Use Permit to operate a commercial day care center for property located at 5753 Angle Dr. (Parcel: 723-701) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

Lot 2, Block A, PRESTO HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, PART 2, according to the map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, MS as now recorded in Plat Book 17 at Page 7.

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, April 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 25th day of March 2020.

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

4-2-2020, 4-16-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

ZONING CASE NO. 4094

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 Kellum Law Firm has filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Special Exception to allow for a law office within a R-4 (Limited Multi-Family) Residential District on property located at 1438 North State St. (Parcel: 13-2) in the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as:

LOT 2 and a 4 X 150-foot strip of land off the North side of Lot 10, Second Gillespie Subdivision of the City of Jackson, a subdivision according to a map or plat thereof which is on file and of record in the office of the Chancery Clerk of Hinds County at Jackson, Mississippi, in Plat Book 2, Page 88, reference to which is hereby made in aid of and as part of this description.

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, April 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 25th day of March 2020.

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

4-2-2020, 4-16-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for Electronic Bid

Bid 3129 Callaway Exterior Lighting Project

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) April 30, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the Callaway Exterior Lighting Project will be held at Callaway High School, 601 Beasley Road, Jackson, MS on April 10, 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. A \$100.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each printed set of bid specs/documents. A \$100.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each digital PDF set of bid specs/documents. Documents 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 Wanda Elliot at Dale Partners and Associates, Phone: 601-352-5411 or Email: wandaelliott@dalepartners.com.

4-2-2020, 4-9-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF

INTENTION TO DIVERT OR WITHDRAW FOR BENEFICIAL USE THE PUBLIC

WATERS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Notice is hereby given that on the 1ST day of February 2020, the City of Jackson, PO Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205, filed applications for permits to continue to divert or withdraw the public water of the State of Mississippi for beneficial use from the Ross Barnett Reservoir in the county of Hinds for Public Water System purposes subject to existing rights, the following amount of water at the indicated location:

PERMIT #	VOLUME	RATE	LOCATION
MS-SW-02418	22 MG/D	21,000 GPM	SE, NW, S36, T06N, R01E
MS-SW-02419	45 MG/D	42,000 GPM	NE, SE, S34, T07N, R02E

Any person, firm, association, or corporation, deeming that the granting of the above application will be truly detrimental to their rights to utilize the waters of said source, may protest in writing to the Permit Board of the State of Mississippi, ATTN: Chris Hawkins, P.O. Box 2309, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, setting forth all reasons why said application should not be approved. Letters of protest must be received within ten (10) days of this publication.

If not protested, a permit will be issued on or after ten (10) days following publication date. If protested, the application will be taken for consideration by the Permit Board of the State of Mississippi in its offices at 515 East Amite Street, Jackson, Mississippi, on or after, Tuesday, the 12TH day of May 2020, at which time all interested persons may appear and be heard by the Permit Board.

OFFICE OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES
Chris Hawkins, P.E.
Chief, Permitting, Certification, and Compliance Division

4-2-2020

LEGAL

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND

REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received electronically via MAGIC or physically delivered to the office of 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 Tuesday, 04/28/2020 , for:

RE: GS# 209-057 Re-roof Ivy Hall (Bookstore)
Meridian Community College
RFx #: 3160003550

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

Professional: Carter Miller Associates, Ltd.
Address: Post Office Box 4324
Meridian, Mississippi 39304
Phone: 601-483-0601
Email: bcarter@cmaatltd.us

A deposit of \$100.00 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

3-26-2020, 4-2-2020

LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS for an ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM


The City of Jackson, Mississippi is committed to efficient utilization of its resources. One component of this commitment is reduction of energy consumption where possible. The City is requesting proposals for the implementation of Energy Efficiency Improvements on a performance-contracting basis under MS Code 31-7-14. The intent of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to solicit qualification proposals from Energy Services Companies (ESCOs) that describe their capabilities to identify, design, install, maintain, monitor and arrange financing of a large-scale, comprehensive energy-conservation program which includes the services listed in this proposal.

Request for Proposal packets may be obtained from the Engineering Division of Public Works, 200 South President Street, Suite 424, Warren Hood Building, Jackson, MS. A copy of the RFP packet has been filed with the City Clerk of Jackson, MS. Official Proposal Documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Electronic Proposal responses can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814, or contact Mr. Philip Barnes at (601) 960-1132, phbarnes@jacksonms.gov. Proposals will be received by the City Clerk of Jackson, Mississippi, at 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201 or at Post Office Box 17, Jackson, Mississippi 39205 until 3:30 PM, local time, April 28, 2020.

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 proposer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan with the proposal 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 proposer from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Division of Equal Business Opportunity at 601-960-1856. Copies of the City of Jackson's Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications, and a copy of the program are available at the following location: 200 South President Street, Room 223, Jackson, Mississippi; or can be accessed on City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity webpage.

The City of Jackson hereby notifies all proposers that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2000d-4, that all proposers will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals 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, Mississippi is committed to cultivating and ensuring the quality of life of its citizens, through various programs, employment, initiatives, and assistance. The City of Jackson encourages all persons, corporations, and/or entities doing business within the City of Jackson, as well as those who seek to contract with the City of Jackson on various projects and/or conduct business in Jackson to assist the City of Jackson in achieving its goal by strongly considering city of Jackson residents for employment opportunities.


Charles Williams Jr., P.E., Ph.D, City Engineer
Department of Public Works

3-26-2020, 4-2-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A REZONING

ZONING CASE NO. 4093

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 Dr. David & Dr. Joyce Cole Marion have filed with the Planning Board for the City of Jackson, an application requesting a Rezoning from R-5 (Multi-family) Residential District to C-3 (General) Commercial District to allow for the construction of a professional services office building for the property located on Parcel #507-276-2 on Old Canton Rd described as:

A parcel of land lying and being situated in the NE ¼ of Section 13, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi, and being more particularly described as follows:

From the Point of Beginning of the parcel herein described, said point being the Point of Beginning of the property granted to Mississippi Power & Light Company from W. P. Bridges dated September 24, 1975, and recorded in the Office of the Chancery Clerk, Hinds County, Mississippi, in Deed Book 2314, Page 550, run thence in a northerly direction along the west property line of said Mississippi Power & Light Company land a distance of 125.0' to a point, thence turn right 88 02'30" and run in a easterly direction a distance of 250.9' to a point, thence turn right 910 37'00" and run in a southerly direction a distance of 125.0' to a point, thence turn right 8802'30" and run in a westerly direction a distance of 250.9' to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.72 acres, more or less.

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, April 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 25th day of March 2020.

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

4-2-2020, 4-16-2020

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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

- Apt
- Wood cutting tools
- Short poem
- Farmer's need
- Frat
- Water (Sp.)
- Aye
- Gigabyte
- Alternative (abbr.)
- Looked
- Producing sound
- __ Lanka
- Nashville locale
- Drain
- Sword
- Tremendous
- Notion
- Bewilders
- Drowse
- Luge

DOWN

- Sailors "hey"
- Severe
- Caps
- Stretch to make do
- Hotel
- Fish tank growth
- I __ if I could
- Hit a fly
- Imperative
- Life forms
- Behold
- Brand of cola
- Overly righteous
- Employs
- Move while sleeping
- Paul's former name
- Green Gables dweller
- Posttraumatic stress disorder
- Lipid
- __ A Small World...

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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 Paul Newman

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

DK UQB TX VMRUDWZ R VQIXT
ZRNXR RWH UQB MQQT RTQBWH PJX
T PRCMX RWH RWH ARW P PXMM OJQ
T PJX FBAIXT DF DP F UQB

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Crossword Solution

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

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

IF YOU'RE PLAYING A POKER
DK UQB TX VMRUDWZ R VQIXT
GAME AND YOU LOOK AROUND THE
ZRNXR RWH UQB MQQT RTQBWH PJX
TABLE AND AND CAN'T TELL WHO
PRCMX RWH RWH ARW P PXMM OJQ
THE SUCKER IS IT'S YOU
PJX FBAIXT DF DP F UQB

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5990 Medgar Evers Blvd
DOLLAR GENERAL
1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)
DOLLAR GENERAL
304 Briarwood Dr
DOLLAR GENERAL
2855 McDowell Rd
DOLLAR GENERAL
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Week of March 29, 2020

People facing new ways of life as Covid 19 has changed everything

By Hamil R. Harris
TriceEdneyWire.com

Rev. Grainger Browning, pastor of the Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church in Fort Washington, Md., is used to preaching to two packed sanctuaries every Sunday. But on Sunday, March 22, Browning and a skeletal staff preached to a mostly empty sanctuary while his members watched on the Internet.

“I feel like a spiritual first responder,” Browning said. “It’s called Live from the church. We try to duplicate church as much as we can. We have members of the praise team and a skeletal staff.”

Browning’s situation is one example of a new reality for churches around the nation. Even the 8,200-seat sanctuary of Bishop T. D. Jakes’ Potter’s House in Dallas has been virtually empty. As the coronavirus spread around the nation and world and as state governments and health experts increasingly issue stay at home orders and suggest social distancing, life as usual has become non-existent.

Members of the Class of 2020 are still hoping for their proms, commencement exercises and celebrations that are normal milestones for generations past.

In sports, there are no NBA basketball games, NCAA tournaments or baseball Spring training. And in terms of mass gatherings, going to the movies, eating out, and even worshipping God in church pews has been forbidden for a season. Even weddings and funerals have been curtailed.

As a result of the Corvid 19 virus, this lethal strain of the corona flu, America is a stranger to herself with frightened and helpless citizens “sheltering in place” behind locked doors in a society where toilet paper has become priceless as indicated by



Bishop T. D. Jakes stands before about 30 people in his Potter’s House sanctuary that seats 8,200 in Dallas.

the empty shelves in grocery stores.

“People are losing it. My brother drives a bread truck and he said that his colleague was robbed, said Sean Brown, 39, a financial manager in Severn, Md. “They took his entire bread truck.”

As of April 1, there are over 207,694 people diagnosed with COVID 19, which means America is now number one in the world in terms of a disease that has now killed more than 47,000 around the globe. This is despite glaring headlines and weekly White House briefings that produced more arguments than solutions.

“If ever there is a time to practice humanity – it is now,” said New York Governor Andrew Cuomo in a tweet Sunday. “The time to show kindness, to show compassion. New Yorkers are tough – but we are also the most courageous community that you have

ever seen.”

Sean Brown, the financial manager, a husband and father of two, watched a taped worship service from the University Park Church of Christ. Despite the change, he still has hope through his faith. “It is important to remember who is in control. God is still in control.”

COVID 19 has ushered in an era of “social distancing.” And yet it is easy to find examples of hope in cities and towns and communities across America in terms of faith, family and every aspect of life.

On Twitter, there was a video of a group of Cuban doctors of color in white lab coats and masks arriving in Italy and being greeted by people waiting in the international airport. As restaurants closed, many soup kitchens that regularly feed the homeless, such as Miriam’s Kitchen

in Northwest Washington, DC, kept their doors open. But among the most notable changes are the churches which quickly adjusted their empty sanctuaries to computer screens and conference calls.

Rev. Leslie Copeland Tune, chief operating officer for the National Council of Churches, said despite the corona virus, “Most churches are using creatives to remain connected. They are using zoom, video conferencing, prayer calls. My home church in New York is having prayer callers at 6 am.”

With Easter two weeks away, Browning said that he will have Lenten services every morning between six and seven a.m. that will be rebroadcast. “People can start their day,” but Browning added, “I’m really missing the people; it is like being away from your wife.”

“My concern is for the people. There is concern about people dying but I don’t think I hear a heart for the people who survive. They literally don’t know how they are going to eat.”

Browning of Ebenezer in Maryland said he is really concerned about conducting funerals when there is a restriction. “Right now, we can’t have more than ten people. I can’t imagine having a love one dying and there are only 10 people there.”

Even medical doctors are taken aback by the new realities. “We had our church by telephone conference,” said Tracey Burney, a retired urologist who attends Bethany CME Church in Clearwater, Florida. “Being a physician, we are always ready for the worst. But I have never seen anything like this in my wildest dreams.”

Antidote

Continued from page 1

Green was joined by Beth Lynk, LCEF’s Census Counts campaign director; Lizette Escobedo, director of National Census Program, NALEO Educational Fund; John Yang, president and executive director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice; Ditas Katague, director, California Complete Count Committee; and Lycia Maddox, vice president of External Affairs, National Congress of American Indians.

These speakers explained the often similar but also unique obstacles to marshalling their constituents’ responses to the census, one they agree will be one of the most challenging in America’s history and “one of the most urgent civil rights issues facing the country,” Beth Lynk observed.

Yang said concern about the privacy of census responses among Asian American families, particularly those with mixed immigrant status households, was heightened by the Department of Commerce’s efforts to include a question on citizenship on the 2020 census form. He said surveys have shown that a significant percentage of Asian Americans, as high as 30 percent in one poll, still incorrectly think the question is on the form.

Similarly, the citizenship

question has roiled the Latino community. Some surveys showed that about half of Latinos still thought it would be included on the form, said Escobedo. “This is a significant concern for us.”

Green also cited the historic lack of trust within the black community, of how the federal government may use census information, as a looming impediment to a successful count. That same sentiment may depress the response rate from African and Caribbean immigrant residents who are increasingly becoming a percentage of the National Urban League’s constituency.

The NUL and its 90 affiliates now have a presence in 36 states and the District of Columbia with the capacity to potentially reach two million American residents, Green reported. The NUL’s Make Black Count campaign, a collaboration with other organizations and religious leaders, has held national phone telebriefings. March’s event drew well over a thousand participants.

Make Black Count is designed to increase awareness and understanding about elected congressional and state representation as well as the allocation of monetary benefits derived from the census. These

tax-derived funds are returned, by population-driven formulas, to states, counties, cities and towns. The federal contribution to rural hospitals, for example, has moved to the forefront of concerns as the demand for adequate bed space and equipment spike in the throes of the corona virus pandemic.

With coronavirus dominating the news, the census is at risk of being pushed to the margins of the public consciousness. By following the Center for Disease Control’s guidance, Yang said his organization, as are the other telebriefing participants, is factoring in recommendations on how to improve public outreach.

“A number of our grassroots-based organizations are moving more toward phone banks, text banks, to create more of a presence on-line because, certainly tabling opportunities, in-person opportunities are becoming restricted and we want to exercise caution and ensure the safety and health of our volunteers,” Yang said. Escobedo said NALEO, for example, is reaching many Latinos through Facebook.

Yang also is concerned about how messaging about the virus and disease is being distorted. “Getting the facts right matter,” Yang emphasized. “We, unfortunately, are seeing a significant

increase in hate incidents around Covid-19, coronavirus, directed against the Asian community and this is something we need to stand up against. The reality is that this is a health hazard. It is not specific to one ethnic community. One ethnic community is not the carrier of this health hazard in a manner that is genetically based.”

Lycia Maddox, vice president of External Affairs, National Congress of American Indians, spoke about the uphill climb to achieving accurate representation of the Native American population. “Indian Country has the highest undercount of 4.9 percent, almost double the next population group,” she said of the 2010 census.

Maddox said NCAI has partnered with other Native American organizations and tribal leaders in efforts to boost the response rate in communities that typically qualify as Hard to Count. HTC is a designation that applies to census tracts where the past history of responses to the census have lagged. Immigrant households, and ones where English is not the primary language, consistently fall under that rubric. But other descriptors – low-income households, rural communities and lack of robust Internet access – apply to a sig-

nificant percentage of the Native American presence.

As a consequence, tribal nations also comprise part of California’s 11 million Hard to Count population in a state of 40 million residents. The size of California’s population alone sets it apart from the rest of the country, Katague explained. She said Los Angeles County, where 192 languages are spoken, has a population larger than 42 states. California has committed \$187.2 million to achieving a complete count, funding that surpasses the combined financial commitment of the 49 remaining states.

Maddox said coronavirus has made its presence felt among Native Americans in other ways. There are instances of some tribes limiting physical access by outsiders to reservations and communities in order to limit the potential of exposure to the virus. Another concern is that the recruitment of Native American enumerators, already difficult enough, will be negatively impacted. Jeri Green and the NUL are painfully aware of this possibility as well.

“We are concerned about hiring,” Green said. “We know that the Census Bureau has to recruit 2.5 million people to hire 500,000 enumerators. We now worry about a greater attrition

rate than they’ve had, where people might just say, ‘Okay, well, I’m out of here. I don’t want to knock on doors because of this virus.’ We don’t know.”

“But we have been, all along, trying to shift the dynamic and move the needle in the other way, even before this virus came on, and push self-response. And that’s what we’ve been doing, pushing the telephone lines and self-response because we don’t want those great numbers out there in the non-response universe.”

Yet, one estimate is, at the acme of the census response, there could be as many as eight million hits a day on the census website.

“We just have to hope and pray that the Census Bureau’s infrastructure for telephone questionnaire assistance and Internet response are all functioning,” Green said. “They seem to be all systems go.”

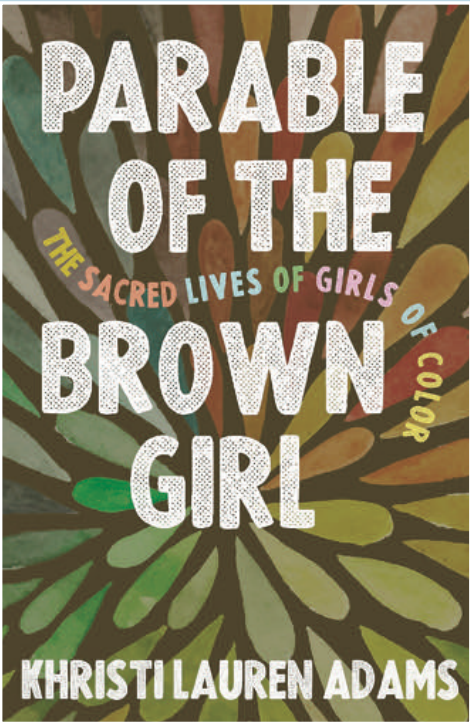
Green, a former census employee, now retired from federal service, said, “We are fighting collectively to ensure that the black population loses no ground – political, economic or civil rights as a result of the 2020 census. The stakes are too high. We must Make Black Count in the 2020 Census.”

Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. South Eastern Regional Conference

Knoxville, TN • February 27 - March 1, 2020

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON





BOOK REVIEW:

PARABLE OF THE BROWN GIRL

BY KHRISTI LAUREN ADAMS

C.2020, FORTRESS PRESS

\$18.99 / HIGHER IN CANADA • 148 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Once upon a time....
Isn't that how a good story always starts? Once upon a time, and there's a prince and a princess, and usually a castle and always a happy ending. Except, sometimes, there's not. Some stories need a little help to end well, and in "Parable of the Brown Girl" by Khristi Lauren Adams, the Bible is the place to find it.
Years ago, shortly after graduation from college, Adams worked at a residential treatment


facility for teen girls with emotional difficulties. It didn't take long for her to see that each of the girls were angry at the world and she knew that they probably had good reason for that: everyone had let them down.
When one girl finally confided in her, Adams knew she'd found "the call God placed on" her life: "to build relationships and work as an advocate for black girls who often find themselves on the margins."
Today, she finds that the stories her clients tell her have parallels to Parables in the Bible.

Nine-year-old Deborah, for instance, was a sunny child whose "happy place" was school, mostly because her home life was no longer supportive. Adams didn't quite know what to say when the child asked why God made her "a warrior when I'm really just weak," but the answer was in the Bible.
Teenage Leah was depressed, anxious, overwhelmed, all of which led to self-harm and an eating disorder. The victim of racism and bullying, Leah was heartened by a reminder that she was made in God's image.

Beautiful Lyric had also been bullied and she thought she was too insignificant for God to bother – until she figured out, as she says, that "God heard my voice."
Black girls, as Adams points out, are accused of having "attitude." They catch the "strong black woman" bit at a time when they don't want to be strong or stoic. They're accused of being "fuss" and flirtatious, flaunting the body and hating the hair God gave them.
What they all should know, says Adams, is that "God's grace and wisdom aren't far from any

of them."
When you first page through "Parable of the Brown Girl," you may be a bit confused. Is it a book for teens, parents, teachers or carers?
The answer is: all four.
Teenage girls will get plenty of wisdom and guidance within these pages, as author Khristi Lauren Adams offers Bible-based succor and food for thought.
For adults, Adams explains the situations her subjects have endured and what they taught her, which is surprisingly heart-

opening.
Readers will see how the lives of today's girls are vastly different from that which their mothers lived, and Adams' calming voice tones down any drama that may come from misunderstanding.
Her compassion toward black girls is also catching, and her shared faith could be a great comfort in what might be turmoil for both teen and family.
Read this book, share it with your (older) teen, discuss.
"Parable of the Brown Girl" is one to have once upon this time.



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HCCSD delivering education – and meals – in new normal

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Last week, Governor Tate Reeves announced his decision to close schools throughout the state through April 17, 2020, to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and safety of our communities and state.

In accordance with the announcement, Holmes County Consolidated Schools will be closed through April 17, at a minimum, and will continue efforts to provide supports to students and their families to ensure learning continues.

District staff continue to work according to the governor’s executive order. This means some are working from home and some are working in uncrowded or near-isolated office settings. Large meetings, when there is a need, are held as video conferences.

Despite the state-wide closing of schools, Holmes County Consolidated School District (HCCSD) is continuing to educate its students and feed those who want a grab-n-go breakfast and lunch. Superintendent of Schools James L. Henderson said, “We are committed to providing a quality education to our students despite the circumstances that are seemingly ever-changing. If there is a silver lining to the safety measures enacted as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, it is that education will never be the same in Holmes County. We are committed to ensuring that every student continues to have access to instruction



Henderson

and moves forward with learning so that no one falls behind or misses out being prepared to succeed in the global economy. We have the will and means to get this done.

“We also have the assurance from our state leaders. Governor Reeves declared that districts will continue to receive state funding to operate, and that employees will be paid during this time of school closure. Our district leaders, while following

give all of our students the means to continue and complete the requirements for this academic year.”

Additionally, Title funds were reallocated to purchase one-to-one computing devices for all students in the district so that their educational gains won’t slide during their time away from school.

“We will also provide hotspot devices or create mobile internet access locations for all homes at no cost to our families,” Henderson said.

The district is surveying parents to identify areas without internet access.

“Our students and staff will benefit from the changes to our standard way of doing things as we learn more ways to communicate, solve problems and learn during this new normal,” Henderson said. “We are going to be better for overcoming this catastrophic pandemic.”

Henderson continued, “We want every student in this district to have equal access to maintain the progress of their educational trajectory. Families were contacted regarding the process for procuring the devices and received information on how to access the online virtual learning sites. Building leaders are applauding the efforts of the district.”

HCCHS assistant principal Antwayn Patrick said, “Though we are dealing with a very challenging situation, I applaud Dr. Henderson’s efforts to modernize our district. Providing computing

devices and hotspots removes the barrier to online learning that rural areas have.”

Zenobia Cockrell, a librarian at William Dean Elementary School, agrees. “Providing computers is a plus since so many students do not have them at home. The district’s website is also beneficial because it is a one-stop site that provides updated information and communication, designed to keep everyone informed.”

With a growth mindset and determination to improve, easing the financial burden and hardships of families in the HCCSD is one of Henderson’s top priorities.

The district began meal deliveries March 17 and will continue for as long as schools remain closed. The number of meals distributed has steadily increased and this is good news for the district.

“We want our families to stay healthy,” Henderson said. “Delivering meals during this time of insecurity will help relieve some of the scarcity our families are experiencing.”

Holmes County Central High School (HCCHS) student Harvey Ellington is grateful for this service. “I appreciate the district for doing this because it means a lot to my family and other members in our community.”

Shem Whigham, assistant principal of HCCHS said, “People are excited to see the efforts of the district, going the extra mile, especially considering the challenges of doing it in a rural district.”

Congressman Bennie G.

Thompson (MS-02) said, “I am proud of the Holmes County Consolidated School District for their leadership and service. They are serving their community by delivering meals directly to students and families, offering school counselor assistance, and distributing computing devices and hot spots to provide internet access to all families in the district. These services are increasingly important to provide our community with a sense of normalcy during these uncertain times. We are all appreciative of everything the district is doing to help the community.”

Lexington mayor Robin McCrory said, “I have the utmost gratitude for the community, school district faculty and staff for stepping up and being responsive to the federal and state guidelines to maintain social distance and minimize contact. I’m in full support of the grab-n-go meals and the online learning the district is providing.”

“During these challenging times, we are stronger together. We will continue to communicate with our community and keep our families updated,” Henderson said. “Our website and social media accounts will always have the most current information pertaining to our schools and the district’s operation; this is our commitment to you.”

For more information contact Deborah Antoine, media spokesperson by email: dantoine@holmesccsd.org, or call 662 854-3447.

Hinds CC promoting remote advising for summer and fall semesters

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Registration for classes at Hinds Community College for the summer and fall semesters begins on April 7 for currently enrolled students and April 13 for prospective students.

Classes, registration and advising have transitioned to online in response to the coronavirus global pandemic. Prospective students are being referred to <https://www.hindscc.edu/enroll> to apply, register, get tips on financial aid and more.

Remote advising is being offered to all new and returning students. Through remote advising, students can meet with a counselor by text, phone call or video chat without having to visit a campus. Prospective students may

visit <https://www.hindscc.edu/emergency/coronavirus-covid-19/advise-remotely>, <https://www.hindscc.edu/student-services/advising-registration> or email radvising@hindscc.edu for more information.

As Mississippi’s largest community college, Hinds Community College is a comprehensive institution offering quality, affordable educational opportunities with academic programs of study leading to seamless university transfer and career and technical programs teaching job-ready skills. With six locations in central Mississippi, Hinds enrolls nearly 12,000 credit students each fall semester.

To learn more, visit www.hindscc.edu or call 1 800-HindsCC.

Hinds CC places 19 students on All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Nineteen Hinds Community College students were named to the 2020 All-Mississippi Community College Academic Team. The list includes:

Sarrah Bell, of Jackson, Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center, elementary education

Adrianna Chambers, of Jackson, Raymond Campus, chemistry

Adrionna Childress, of Jackson, Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center, early childhood development technology

Veronica Epps, of Jackson, Utica Campus, business and office technology

Michael Evilsizor, of Brandon, Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center, culinary arts technology

Jennifer Hammond, of Brandon, Jackson Campus-Nursing/Allied Health Center, nursing

Jordan Hariel, of Brandon, Rankin Campus, computer engineering

Donald Hughes, of Jackson, Utica Campus, nursing

Phoenix Jackson, of Crystal Springs, Utica Campus, broadcast television production

Shelby McLaurin, of Brandon, Rankin Campus, biology

Kevin Michel, of Florence, Raymond Campus, business

Cordarrayl Nichols, of Canton, Raymond Campus, diesel equipment technology

Nicholas Niolet, of Vicksburg, Vicksburg-Warren Campus, electrical technology

Lona Perret, of Pelahatchie, Rankin Campus, educational psychology

Maria Serratos, of Clinton, Raymond Campus, civil engineering

India Robinson, of Jackson, Jackson Campus-Academic/Technical Center, nursing

nical Center, nursing

Rachel Shirley, of Brandon, Rankin Campus, marketing management technology

Anna Speights, of Vicksburg, Vicksburg-Warren Campus, general studies

Devin Trunnell, of Clinton, Raymond Campus, electrical technology.

The All-Mississippi Academic Team, begun in 1994 as the first state-level academic recognition program for community and junior college students, recognizes the scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in community and junior colleges across the state.

Team members were selected following several rounds of judging from education officials, business leaders from across the United States and a distinguished panel of representatives from federal

agencies and national education associations based in Washington D.C.

Students named to the First Team received \$1,000 scholarships. First and Second Team members receive special medallions, certificates and printed resolutions from each chamber of the Mississippi Legislature. They are also eligible for scholarships at many four-year universities designed exclusively for All-Mississippi Academic Team members.

The All-State team is coordinated by the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College, the Mississippi Community College Board and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

The All-State Academic Team recognition program is an outgrowth of the All-USA Community College Academic Team, administered by Phi Theta Kappa.

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HCSD Shares Tips on How to Slow or Prevent the spread of COVID-19

As with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, public health measures are critical to slow the spread of illnesses. Based on the latest guidance from MSDH, individuals should adhere to the following:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol based hand rub with at least 70% alcohol.
- Avoid any gatherings with more than 10 people.

High Speed Internet Access Survey

The HCSD is asking all parents to go to the district website at www.hinds.k12.ms.us and take the High-Speed Internet Survey. The information from the survey will allow the district to determine your home internet capability for various devices (desktop computers, laptop computers, and tablets).

HCSD to Provide Weekly To-Go Breakfast and Lunch for Students

The Hinds County School District (HCSD) is now serving to-go meals for students weekly. Students will be given a to-go lunch for the day and a breakfast for the following morning. Meals will be provided for children age 18 and under, Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the following school sites:

- BEEMS at 9700 I-20, Bolton, MS 39041
- GRE at 7255 Gary Road, Byram, MS 39272
- RES at 417 Palestine Road, Raymond, MS 39154
- THS at 235 West Beasley Road, Terry, MS 39170
- UEMS at 260 Highway 18 and 27, Utica, MS 39175

The student must be present in order to receive the meal.

Update Your Contact Information Survey Request

The HCSD is asking parents who have relocated and/or changed their contact information to go to the district website at www.hinds.k12.ms.us and take the Update Your Contact Information Survey. This will allow the district to better communicate with its parents and mail students their “Blended Study at Home Course Work” during our school closure.

