

Nearly 200 participants in MLBC Virtual COVID-19 Small Business Relief Town Hall

A \$300 million package. ‘Time is of essence,’ urges Sen. Horhn

By Gail Brown
Contributing Writer

Nearly 200 business owners and others woke up Saturday morning, May 16, to join an important virtual town hall hosted by the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC).

Rep. Cheikh A. Taylor (Dem. Dist. 38) welcomed the eager participants. He stated the purpose of the meeting was to share information about the \$300 million package from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act that “has been diverted to small [Mississippi] businesses.”

Town hall moderator, MLBC Vice Chair Rep. Kabir Karriem (Dem, Dist. 41), said the meeting was also to “provide information about the plight of small businesses, particularly in the African-American community in the midst of this Corona pandemic in real time.”

Vicksburg nail salon business owner Shonna Horton shared her plight. “I’ve pretty much depleted my savings in order to stay afloat,” Horton said. She has been in business over 21



years. “I don’t want to lose my business. I didn’t get in my business to get out,” she stressed.

Other small business owners shared similar troubles. “This COVID19 has us at a very, very bad stand-still,” said Columbus, Miss. native Bobby Jordan. He runs a barbering business that

has been in his family for 50 years. “We have a lot of overhead,” he said. Jordan also plans to press forward with his business and take advantage of any available financial relief.

On the topic of relief, Sen. John Horhn, considered a legislative lion, presented the de-

tails of the recently passed relief package, Senate Bill 2772. It includes the COVID19 Relief Payment Fund and the Back-to-Business Mississippi Grant Fund, both totaling the aforementioned \$300 million.

The grant fund totaling \$240 million will be administered by the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) which will also develop its grant guidelines. Forty million will go toward minority-owned businesses.

Horhn said businesses with certain NAIC codes under the COVID19 Relief Payment Fund will receive a \$2,000 check out of the \$60 million allocated. He said owners should call the Mississippi Department of Revenue if they are not sure of their NAIC code.

All businesses must have been in operation, registered with the Mississippi Department of Revenue, and had an EIN number before March 1, 2020,” Horhn pointed out.

“This program will move fast; time is of the essence,” Horhn

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Embracing the new normal of COVID-19

Dr. Cedric O. Buckley
Special to The Mississippi Link



In a world that seems eerily turned upside-down, I find myself alone in my thoughts some days. Even as a trained molecular virologist of over 20 years and a member of Mayor Chokwe Lumumba’s COVID-19 Pandemic Taskforce, I recognize that matters are dire for many.

Every day I see news outlets interviewing politicians, intelligence officials, international business executives – and the list goes on – about those who have tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus disease-2019, also called SARS-COV-2). No one wants to become the next “newly infected individual”

Yet, we all know “shelter-in-place” emergency orders cannot continue indefinitely. Now is the time for community-wide education and training programs that promote practices each of us must adopt to slow the spread of coronavirus infections, hospitalizations and related deaths.

The key will be to establish

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effective, long-term practices that a majority of our citizens are both willing and able to implement within the household.

States and municipalities may need to consider public-private partnerships designed to ensure underserved populations have the resources needed for widespread adoption and full compliance. This long-term educational process will require both purposeful participation and a considerable commitment from all of us to be successful.

Our focus moving into the “new normal” must embrace some fundamental societal changes – practical, long-term adjustments to our daily lives designed to dramatically slow rates of infection from SARS-COV-2. In so doing, we will be providing the scientific community time to develop effective medical therapies and a vaccine.

Determining how we got to this point is a conversation best left for another time. Looming large, however, is a reasonably predictable and unfortunately bleak future, unless we adopt

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The fight for the 2020 vote and the march to the ballot box

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

Since the onset of COVID-19, voter registration in the United States has decreased by a whopping 90 percent.

Additionally, more than 18 million voters have been purged off the rolls since 2016, and, with the all-important 2020 General Election on the horizon, activists, and others, are working to ensure the registration of millions.

On May 4, The Transformative Justice Coalition (TJC) and the Voting Rights Alliance held a tele-townhall titled, “The Fight for the Vote 2020: Our March to the Ballot Box.”

Broadcast over Facebook Live, the presentation featured panelists (including Vote.org CEO Andrea Hailey,

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among others) who agreed that the election process would be severely hindered unless strategies are developed for more robust voter outreach and empowerment.

Panelists included National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., TJC Founder and President Barbara R. Arnwine, Esq., Moms Rising CEO Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner, and Vote.org CEO Andrea Hailey.

“A person without a vote is a person without protection,” stated Attorney Daryl D. Jones, TJC’s board chair, who served as a moderator.

The panelists tackled robust voter



outreach and registration strategies, media, and specialized outreach to purged voters and those on inactive lists, creating voter contact systems, onerous absentee ballot requirements and voter identification.

“The struggle for voting rights con-

tinues in America even amidst the pandemic,” Chavis stated. “The struggle for the most fundamental right, the right to vote, continues.”

“We have to be concerned that while we sit here tonight, there are tactics, strategies and efforts afloat in too

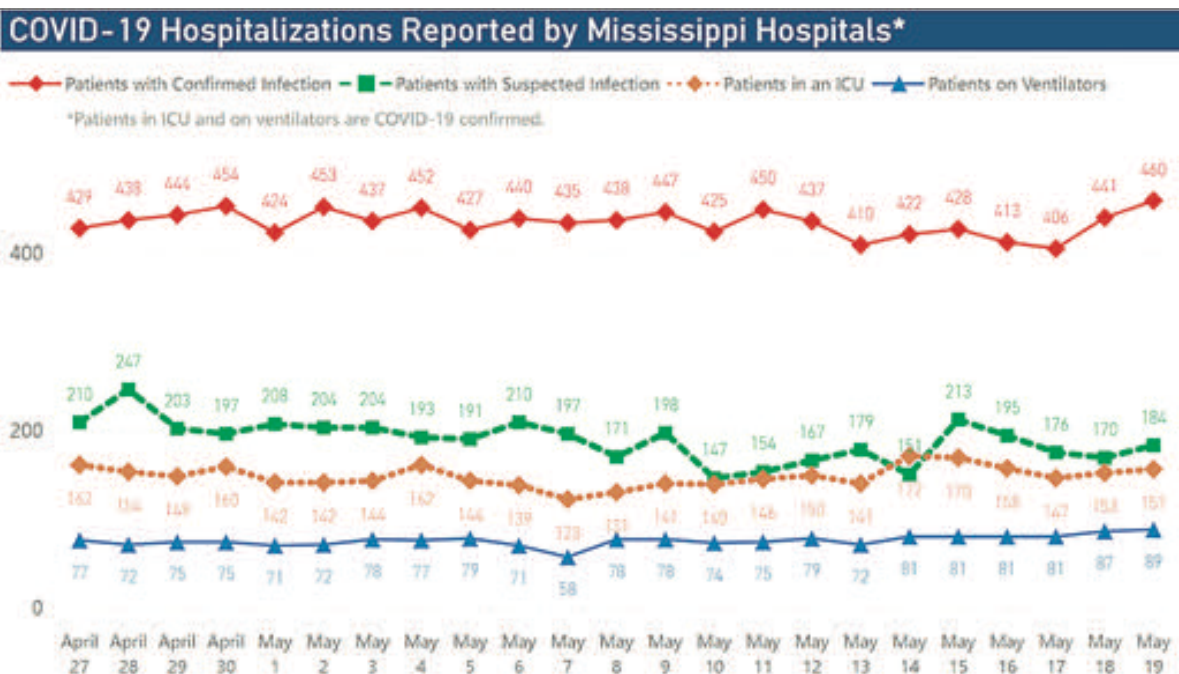
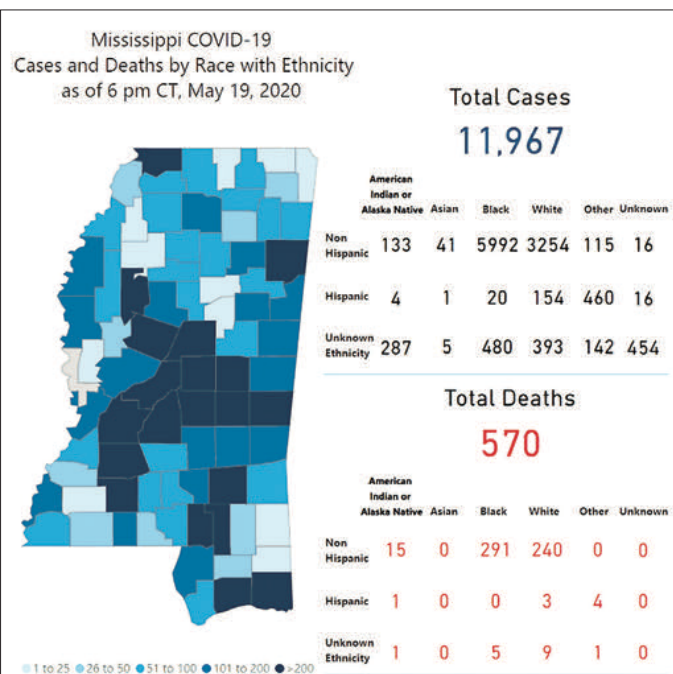
many of these states to suppress the vote and to make people fearful of voting, [as] was the case 50 years ago,” Chavis continued.

“We had to overcome those tactics of voter suppression, and we have to do it now,” he added.

No excuses and no barriers should be in place for mail-in ballots, Arnwine stated.

“Vote by mail works for white people, but it doesn’t for a whole lot of people of color,” she stated, adding that there were 1.3 million ballots mailed in Wisconsin, but 197,000 were not counted for various reasons, including the lack of postage stamps.

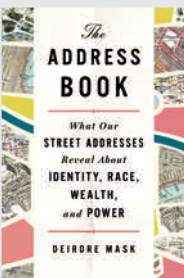
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2020 graduates



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Sisters retire from health care jobs to help mother

Wilton Jackson
AP Newswire

Toni Gibbs-Vanzant remembers walking through sliding glass doors in hospitals to prepare for countless 12-hour shifts as a nurse in the intensive care unit.

Vanzant, 65, of Jackson, spent many days and nights for nearly 41 years caring for critically ill patients.

“I absolutely loved my job,” Vanzant said. “I helped save lives and I always felt like I was making an impact in society.

“[There] was no better feeling [than] to know that my work made a difference.”

Now, Vanzant, along with one of her sisters Rebecca Gibbs look to provide the best health care to the most important person in their lives: their 90-year-old mother, Lettie Gibbs, who was diagnosed with dementia.

In the midst of the pandemic, it’s what matters most to them.

She was the neighborhood’s Ms. Lettie

Vanzant and Gibbs are two of their mother’s seven children.

When younger, and even into their adult lives, their mother’s house was the life of the Washington Addition neighborhood in west Jackson.

“She used to make biscuits, bake cakes from scratch like caramel, chocolate and Italian cream, sew clothes and work in her garden,” Gibbs said.



Toni Gibbs-Vanzant



Lettie Gibbs



Rebecca Gibbs

“Everybody hung out at our house. We always said we did not have much, but we always had enough food to feed everybody because my mother made sure that we did.”

Gibbs, who also lives in Washington Addition, worked as a manager at the Hudspeth Regional Center in Whitfield from 2004 to early 2018 before joining her sister to take care of their mom.

Gibbs had planned to work a few more years before retiring.

“He (God) shattered my plans and I had to step up to the plate to help my momma,” she said. “You never know what life is going to throw at you. I am honored that he selected me and my sister to take care of our mother.”

You only get one momma

Vanzant retired in April 2017 to take care of her mom.

She worked as a nurse in the intensive care unit for University of

Mississippi Medical Center and at Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Mississippi.

She then moved to Houston to work as a health maintenance organizer for the Texas Children Hospital and last worked at the Memorial Herman-Texas Medical Center Emergency Room.

Like other nurses, Vanzant had the opportunity to come back and help serve on the front lines of the pandemic.

But, at this stage of her life, she felt it was too risky.

“I am in the 60-plus population and this virus is so contagious that health care workers are in a whole new realm of working now. We were not prepared for this virus,” she added. “It is scary because people are really dropping dead.”

That thought always lingers.

“It gets stressful taking care of her but I pray when I get overwhelmed,”

Gibbs said. “You only get one momma and I choose to take care of her as long as I can.”

Back in the day

When Gibbs and Vanzant take their mother for her daily walk outside in the afternoon, they often reflect on what their mother has done for them.

“My mother used to call all of her children every morning but she does not do that anymore and it is up to us to contact her,” Vanzant said.

“Even though she is not where she used to be mentally, we still have that family feeling like we had back in the day of sitting on the porch eating ice cream and just talking.”

Gibbs said she can’t recall the number of people asking for her mother’s recipes. Ms. Lettie “showed me how to cook this and showed me how to cook that,” they would say.

“Ms. Lettie,” known for her cooking and gardening skills, worked 25 years at Jackson State University in housekeeping. She would walk to work from her house.

“While she worked in housekeeping, I can’t tell you how many people my mother fed on campus during breaks, especially Thanksgiving,” Vanzant said.

“Things like that make you cherish your mother even more while she is alive. [There’s] nothing like family.”

In Memoriam Robert Glynn Funches

March 12, 1949 - May 17, 2020

Robert Glynn Funches was born March 12, 1949 in Silver Creek, MS. He is the son of the late Charles and Katie Mae Funches.

He is a double graduate of Jackson State University earning a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1971 and the MBA in 1974.

Robert was a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., initiated into the Upsilon Epsilon Chapter in Fall 1968 and a member of the Beta Alpha graduate chapter in Jackson, MS. He is a founding member of the Blue Bengals Athletic Association and former president of the Jackson-Hinds County Chapter of the JSU National Alumni Association.

Robert served as chief financial officer of Central Mississippi Health Services for the past 20 years. Prior to that, Robert worked with MINACT where he earned the Certified Public Accountant license during the mid-1990s.

Robert is survived by his wife, Luci, of more than 35 years. Children of that union are Robin Williams and Christopher Funches; sons and daughters: Reverend Robert Scott, Audrey Scott, Tamalita Funches, Shavonte’ Bennett and LaTrista Funches; four surviving sisters, six granddaughters, three grandsons and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Visitation is 8-10 a.m., Thursday, May 21 at the Lakeover Memorial Funeral Home, 1525 Beasley Road, Jackson, MS 39206.





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for ourselves and our loved ones some sensible, effective practices and ways of thinking that will result in safer, more responsible living starting today.

What Can We Control?

Although testing is singularly critical to detect and isolate asymptomatic cases, we all have a much more powerful weapon to dramatically lower infection rates and slow the spread of this virus in our homes, our communities, our city and this state. That weapon is personal responsibility.

Finding our way through this pandemic is going to require each of us to slow down. Yes, slow....down. Each of us will have to take time to evaluate how we go through our typical day, paying close attention to what we do with our hands when we put our hands and fingers near our eyes, noses and mouths, and when we put our fingers in our mouths.

Why? Because we as scientists understand the routes of infection – the delicate mucosal film bathing our eyes that keeps them from drying out (conjunctiva), our nasal passages, our oral cavities, and any open cuts, sores or wounds on our bodies. That’s it. SARS-Cov-2 cannot infect individuals directly through skin contact.

As individuals, we have very little influence when it comes to testing. But, we do have considerable influence over our bodies and, to a large extent, our immediate surroundings. So let’s pay attention to what we can control.

Watch out for your mouth and your hands

When was the last time you thought about your toothbrushes? How do you store them? Are they a safe distance from the toilet in an upright container that allows them to air dry? Do you have all the kids’ toothbrushes inches away from each other in that same cute toothbrush holder?

When was the last time you placed each toothbrush in a separate small cup of 3% hydrogen peroxide to sterilize? Are you replacing all toothbrushes at a minimum every three months as recommended by the American Dental Association?

And what about your fingernails? Are you keeping your nail bed clean? How about underneath your nails? If you have natural nails, have you considered trimming them to keep them short? Are you a nail biter? If so, you’ve got to kick that habit. You are exposing yourself to potential infection every time you put your finger (and those nails) in your mouth.

Same for teenagers and adults who have not yet broken the habit of sucking a thumb now and then (yes, it happens...I’ve seen it with my own eyes). If you are “rocking the acrylic nails,” are you following the cleaning guidelines your nail technician provided you?

If you wear contact lenses, consider returning to traditional glasses until you absolutely trust your hand washing technique. Limiting the need to touch your fingers to your eyes will reduce inadvertent in-

fections.

Keep your nose clean

Are you a nose picker? (Don’t feel bad. Many adults secretly are.) Even so, now’s the time to stop this practice. The skin inside our noses is very delicate. You’d be surprised how easily it is scratched, providing a perfect, microscopic opening for SARS-Cov-2 infectious particles to slip right inside.

The correct way, you ask? First, wash your hands. Next, grab a tissue, paper towel or other disposal paper product (not a rag.). Now, blow (and “probe” with the tissue if necessary). Immediately throw away the tissue...and yes, wash your hands.

If you don’t wash your hands after blowing (or picking) your nose, you could have just contaminated your fingers and hands with bacteria or viruses. All that would be left is for you to rub your eyes, the corners of your mouth or grab some finger food and you’ve infected yourself.

On the surface

Our kitchen habits present another opportunity to spread the virus. If your hands aren’t clean when you touch various kitchen items (a loaf of bread, a bowl of grapes, or the refrigerator, for example), you could be contaminating several high-use surfaces daily. When others come behind you and use those items or appliances, your entire household could potentially become infected from that common contaminated object.

It’s a good idea to wipe down “high use” surfaces in your home at least 2-3 times per day. Pay special attention to doorknobs and appliance handles, light switches used regularly and television and video game remotes. Once you begin to think about these “high use” items and areas in your own home, you will begin to pay more attention to them wherever you go.

The new normal

As we resume daily activities in increasingly larger social gatherings, I encourage each of us to please remain aware of when, where and how to reduce exposure for ourselves and our loved ones. Coronavirus certainly has more surprises for us as scientists in terms of health outcomes. I am committed to providing practical information to you so that each of us can live as safely and responsibly as possible.

It may sound a bit overwhelming at first, but with practice, all of these adjustments and sacrifices will become habit. Here’s a bonus benefit: when you make this a part of how you live your life moving forward in “the new normal,” you will likely notice that you (and hopefully your family) have fewer colds and flu since they are transmitted the same way.

Here’s to our collective health. Stay safe and wash those hands.

Photo by of Dr. Cedric O. Buckley by Mitch C. Davis.

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urged. “Get your documents ready; don’t wait. Any unspent money by Nov. 1, 2020 will revert back to the control of the Governor.”

Also participating in the virtual town hall were Hope Policy Institute of Jackson, Miss. (<http://hopepolicy.org/>) and Higher Purpose Co. of Clarksdale, Miss. Their representatives provided resources to help black and minority-owned businesses in Mississippi.

Higher Purpose has a link online to apply for COVID19 Business Relief Funding (<https://higherpurposeco.org/>), or contact angela@higherpurposeco.org.

Note: The entire recording of the MLBC May 16, 2020 virtual small business COVID19 relief town hall can be heard on its Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/mlbcofficial/> or on its website

Vote

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“In some of these states, they have this evil match law where if they don’t think your signature matches, they will not count your vote,” Arnwine said. “We have to be clear, you have to not only have vote-by-mail options and absentee balloting, but you have to have on-site, distances, and personal protective equipment for workers and voters.”

Rowe-Finkbeiner added that Moms Rising has more than 1 million members spread out across all 50 states.

She said mothers are high targets of voter suppression.

“You change your name, and you get pushed off the rolls,” Rowe-Finkbeiner stated. “You have to check your status and make sure you have at least five friends ready to vote. The situation has never been more urgent.”

Hailey stated that Vote.org had team members working as late as 3 a.m. during recent primaries to monitor last-minute rule changes that affected voters.

“Confusion itself can be a voter suppression tactic, so we’re trying to cut through all of that noise to make sure there’s no confusion,” Hailey noted.

“We see it as our job to monitor this and to work with state and local officials to have an understanding of what the voter experience is going to look like. Every state should have no-excuse absentee voting. You should be able to have at least 20 days of early voting so that you don’t have these long lines like you saw in Wisconsin. People should not have to choose between their health and their ability to cast a ballot,” Hailey said.

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Alcorn employs task force to develop guidelines to open campus this fall

By Larry Orman
ASU Marketing & Communications

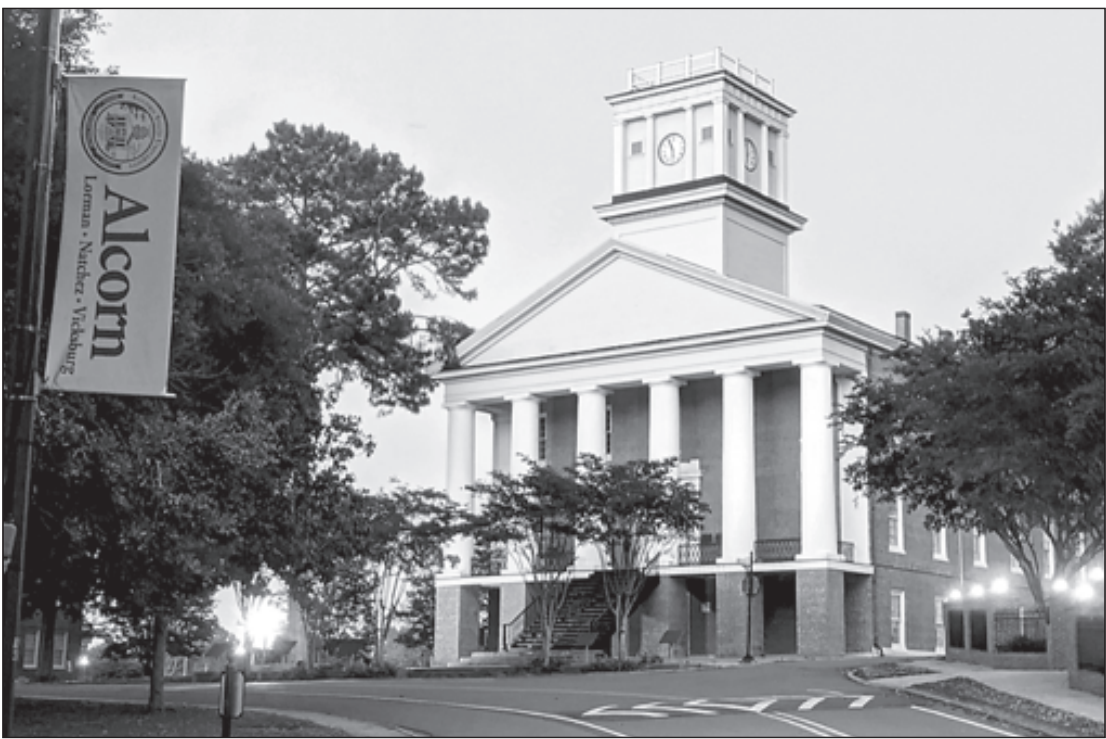
As colleges and universities around the nation consider scenarios to reopen their campuses this fall, Alcorn State University is establishing a Reopening Campus Task Force to develop and assess multiple options for determining when and how to safely resume campus activities.

The task force will be chaired by Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Keith A. McGee and will include broad representation bringing together a cross-section of campus leadership to ensure a comprehensive strategy.

In alignment with Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL), which is developing system-wide guidelines for universities to start and complete the fall 2020 semester, the task force will develop plans to open the campus in the safest and most effective way.

Alcorn State University President Felecia M. Nave said the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and the local community is the university's overriding concern.

"This process must be



Alcorn State University is a premier comprehensive land-grant university that develops diverse students into globally competitive leaders and applies scientific research through collaborative partnerships that benefit the surrounding communities, state, nation and world.

thoughtful and take into careful consideration overarching state and federal recommendations as we develop plans for a safe in-person educational experience," said Nave.

"We are open and the admissions office is accepting undergraduate and graduate student

applications for fall 2020. Despite the evolving challenges of the outbreak, we will be developing multiple options so we have a game plan regardless of how reopening the campus looks. We are cautiously optimistic that we will be able to reopen campus for the fall,

however, we understand the constraints and will plan accordingly," added Nave.

Currently, summer classes will be offered in the online format only. The course schedule and registration is open and available. Classes start June 1 for the first summer session.

Alcorn seeks applicants for Farm Management Educational Program

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Small Farm and Agribusiness Center (MSFAC), an entity of Alcorn State University's School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, is currently recruiting new applicants for its Farm Management Educational Program (FMEP).

The goal of the program, which is in its second year of implementation, is to recruit, train and provide 300 New/Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (NBFRs) with the necessary resources to generate and implement a feasible farm plan, thereby equipping them to become sustainable in vegetable and meat production.

"I am overwhelmed with joy over the amount of email and phone inquiries we've had in the past few weeks," said Elizabeth Myles, MSFAC associate director.

The FMEP provides educational training and hands-on demonstration in basic crop and livestock production; as well as assists NBFRs in developing and implementing a viable farm plan.

Upon successful admission into the program, participants will receive research-based education on the fundamen-

tals of livestock/vegetable production; financial management; marketing research; food safety, available USDA services and more.

Year 1 online modules are scheduled to begin in June and conclude in July. After completing Year 1 modules, applicants will develop a farm business plan in the Year 2 online course. Information on how to access the online platform will be distributed to participants upon program enrollment.

"We are very grateful to have this opportunity to serve new, beginning farmers and ranchers in Mississippi by offering this educational program," said Myles.

Individuals who have never operated a farm; have participated in the business operations of a farm for 10 years or less; or who will physically participate in the farm or ranch operation, are encouraged to apply. Enrollment is now open. Space is limited.

To register online, visit <https://forms.gle/5cujNuoK3tmYz59q9>.

For additional information, contact Charlotte Dailey, project assistant, at 601.877.6449 or cdailey@alcorn.edu.

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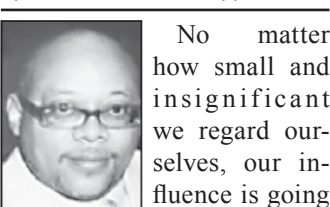
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Don't ignore the message of God

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



No matter how small and insignificant we regard ourselves, our influence is going out and we are going to be called to reckon for it.

The Bible says that God shall bring every man's (and every woman's) work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or evil. Paul, in his writings to the Corinthians, said in Second Corinthians 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

The more we look at this, the more serious it becomes

and the more important it becomes for us to recheck our lives.

God has divinely ordained that this Gospel should awaken us to the tremendous responsibility that is on our hands. We cannot afford to ignore the message of God. If we do, somewhere down the road, we will regret it. Why do we think the Lord told us the story of the rich man? He gave us that story to point out the importance of this part of our existence. Although the time we spend on this earth is called our lifetime that does not imply that our existence ceases at the time we are placed in the ground.

In Luke, Chapter 16:25, after the rich man died and was buried, he asked for mercy. Abraham responded to the rich man's plea with these words: "Son, remember that

thou in thy lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here and you are in anguish." You see, friend, our lifetime is our time to receive mercy. God will not redistribute His mercy after we have left this life.

It does not matter who tells us that we will get a second chance, if we fail to accept God's offer of mercy in this life, we will not get another opportunity.

Paul said in Second Corinthians 6:2, "For He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

We can play around if we want to, but sooner or later, we will awaken to the fact that this is no myth or fable;

it is a fact.

Paul told the Corinthians that God has distributed gifts to perfect individual saints. There is a reason for the workings of God. Paul was saying that we are to perfect those things until we all, saints and preachers, come in the unity of the faith. The devil is using the diversities of beliefs to hinder men and women from accepting the Word of God.

Nothing is more damaging to souls than false religion. Far more people are going to hell through false religion than through drugs and we need to be alarmed about it.

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.

Black lives still matter

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist



I am revisiting the words I wrote about 6 years ago about the shootings of unarmed black men. Unfortunately, the emotions I had then are the same emotions I have now after watching the video of the February 23, 2020 murder of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia.

As I write, I have the same emotions that many of you may have: shock, disgust, disappointment, anxiety, fear, anger, frustration and hopelessness in response to the lack of accountability in the repeated killings of unarmed African Americans by white men whether they be civilians or police officers.

And to be perfectly honest, wading through each of those emotions and trying to get to a place of peace has been nearly impossible. Yet, dealing with each of those emotions (sometimes at the same time) brings me back to a scripture that might provide an answer on how to deal with these horrible injustices.

James 2:14-17 is a familiar passage of scripture that focuses on the importance of having an active faith. In fact, verse 17 admonishes that "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

So, what does faith have to do with the social justice issues regarding the shootings of African Americans? Everything. Faith suggests that doing something could possibly change these persistent injustices. It is even the spark that has ignited the last few weeks of protests on social media.

Specifically in the personage of the African-American church, faith has also been the foundation for what has historically

been the place of the greatest and most transformative movements. As expected, many pastors have spoken out about this latest shooting.


However, if all that is done is protesting by forwarding a video clip or jogging 2.23 miles without following it up with more strategic actions, the emotions are a temporary distraction that do not lead to long term sustained change. After a few weeks, there will be something more captivating in the media and Arbery's story will quickly fade from the headlines.

Even more importantly, being emotional without strategically acting does no real long term good. However, what does lead to sustained change is strategic action. Sustained change looks like people voting on election day. It looks like people running for the office of district attorney and changing unfair applications of the law.

Arbery is now on a long list of African-American men shot down in the prime of their lives. Each name on the list represents more than just the loss of an African American, they also represent a shameful truth that the United States is now forced to deal with.

After decades of skirting the issues, it seems like America is ready to confront vicious vigilante racism and blatant apathy concerning the death of young African Americans. And it's about time because #blacklivesmatter!

Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, TX 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.




Moving the Masses Toward the Mission of the Master

1600 Florence Avenue
Jackson, Mississippi 39204
601-355-2870 • 601-355-0760 (Fax)
www.collegehillchurch.org
Chmcb@collegehillchurch.org

COLLEGE HILL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY
Worship Services
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.
MONDAY
Intercessory Prayer 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.
Classes: Children • Youth • Adult • 7:00p.m.



Michael T. Williams
Pastor



New Horizon Church
INTERNATIONAL
A place of love and victory.

Bishop Ronnie C. Cradup, Sr.
1750 Ellis Avenue • Jackson, MS 39204
Office: 601-371-1427 • Fax: 601-371-8282
www.nhcms.org

SUNDAY
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. • Worship Services

WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. • Bible Class

TV BROADCAST
8:00 a.m. - Channel 14 (Comcast)

Prayer Everyday: 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

True Light Baptist Church

224 E. Bell Street | Jackson, MS 39202 | Phone: (601) 398-0915

Join Us!
for our Light Line Prayer Call
each Wednesday morning at
6:00 a.m. or join us on
Periscope @MarcusCheeks

The Light Line PRAYER



Rev. Marcus E. Cheeks, Pastor
Small Group Study | 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service | Sundays 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study | Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

Phone Number: (218) 339-7800 | Access Code: 627 6205#
(712) 832-8330 (Alternate Number)
*The call will last only 30 minutes

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



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



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

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

Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship
Service 11:15 a.m.
Bible Study Following
12:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Prayer/Bible
Study 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Mark Jackson, Pastor
231-A John Day Road - Off Hwy 16 East - Canton, MS 39046
Church: 601-804-2858



Congratulations

Raymond High School

Class of 2020

Krishunda Joiner **	Katelyn Shelby **	Shaun Williams **	Robert Riggan, Jr. **	Shekyra Paige**	Davion Wilcots**	Ar'kayla Martin **	Alaina Gardner**	Ramona Williams**
Azalea Scott**	Jonathan Dahlem**	Calais Bates**	Cattera Hilton**	Maria Matory**	Chevalier Dorris**	Jordan Lighter**	Jose De Ochoa**	Elijah Davis**
Sherice Gilmore**	Nila Griffin**	Brooke-Lynn Kalkhorst**	Arnetta Wilson**	Kenarius Paige**	Martavin McWilliams**	Erica Ruiz**	Calise Diggs**	Sydney Stringer**
Amaris Hodge**	Austin Beale**	Joyia Bell*	Tanner Wixon*	Katlin Richardson*	Aneisha Page*	Kaniya Crumb*	Kenkedric Mallett*	Kyndaria Armstrong*
Hannah Griffing*	Shelby Carson*	Kenbriunna Jefferson*	Nyah Luckett*	Damien Babin*	Ileshia Jones*	Kishi Clemons*	Shayneise Clemons*	Tyler Magee*
Matt Jones	Demardre Dixon	Katlyn Hunter	Geraina Norris	Martez Brown	Cabreia Donald	Caleb Diggs	Miracle Wilson-Scott	Takyla Heard
Kendall Watkins	Anastacia Barrera	Jacquallynn Qualls	Kearuis Stimage	Asja Allen	Kaitlin Funches	India Dart	John Powe	Kerrington Hutton

**Special Honors – 31

*Honors - 18

Raymond High School

continued



Anthony Simon



Lekyla White



Ilekia Frazier



Marcus Shoulders



Bria Myvett



Dajaun Green



Allyson Spell



Daynesha Mikell



Immanuel Moore



Tyree Tarvin



Charles Shoulders



Tiana Gaskin



Jereimy Wright



Janecia Lane



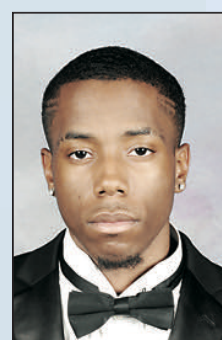
Hannah Davis



Niakima Franklin



Alex Tucker



Samuel Jamison



Makiya Fisher



Shamyra Smith



Jordan Marshall



Alexis Washington



Kyra Barnes



Joshua Young



Jkarrius Paige



Gevarian Heard



Jocalynn Joiner



Michael Sloyan



Caleb Honea



Joshua Butler



Yehoiada Marshall



Kameron Funches



Jakeem Stamps



Levette Montgomery



Dequan Greene



Avery Wesley



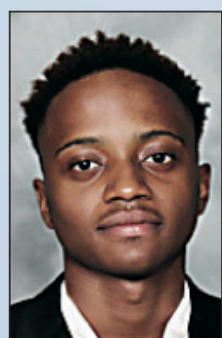
Gregory Christian



Dimarcus Coleman



Jaidyn Burns



Stevante Mitchell



Adarius Gray



Deonte Lane



Darius Roper



Johnathan
Montgomery



Tyneshi Dixon



Alex Haley



Alexis Nelson



Congratulations Terry High School Class of 2020

 Arnold Adams	 Cameron Adams	 Kiaja Alexander	 Trieniety Allen	 Williams Alvis	 Devin Anderson	 Kelia Anderson	 Brandon Andrews	 JaKayla Armstrong
 Justin Armstrong	 Dedra Asowata	 Marco Baker	 Jaudoriah Ball	 Zakiya Barber	 Kaitlyn Barnes	 Rosalee Barnes	 Kenneth Bates	 Chloe Bell
 Christian Borders	 Brianna Boyd	 Kamarya Bozeman	 Codie Bracey	 Aric Brooks	 Albert Broome	 Aundrea Brown	 Cedric Brown	 Kameron Buckhaulters
 Shanelle Burley	 Co'Darayus Calvin	 Clive Cargill	 Rayven Carter	 Dai'sha Caston	 Kerrigan Ceccio	 Tyreunna Chapman	 Miranda Cheatham	 Breanna Christian
 Aleeyah Christopher	 Jerome Collins	 James Cornelius	 Aubrey Cox	 Jeremiah Cox	 Chassidy Crump	 Alexis D'Anjou	 Jamiah Davis	 Kiara Davison
 Nekya Dawson	 Shelbie Delorme	 Ahyana Dickson	 Aliya Drake	 Talesia Dunson	 Shania Edwards	 Lundyn Esco	 Jaheim Fields	 ArKaylah Florence
 Marquitta Flowers	 Adaisha Freeman	 James Frost	 Jordan Funchess	 Kristin Furdge	 Cortnee Gates	 Michario Goodrich	 Kaleb Gordon	 Kaleb Graham
 Gabriella Graves	 Anthony Gray	 Chartasia Harris	 Jalen Harris	 Jamal Harris	 Kaysi Harris	 Tylyne Harris	 Imanie Hartman	 Ja'Sondra Hawkins
 MaKyra Howard	 Alexis Hughes	 Shan'Quavious Jackson	 Jaliyah Johnson	 Kentavious Johnson	 Lauryn Johnson	 Martinez Johnson	 Michia Johnson	 Nasya Johnson
 Endia Kelly	 Angel Kendrick	 Janessa Kersh	 Da'Travion Knight	 Madison Knowles	 Tyrell Larkins	 Tyrell Larry	 Shekhina Lee	 Travon Lee



Ashley Lewis



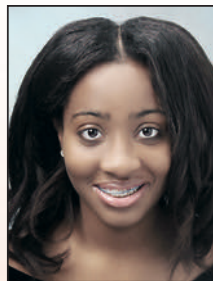
McKensie Lewis



Jaleigha Lindsey



Kyla Lipsey



Anjel Mabry



Irving Martinez



Lawrence Mason



Paige May



Dennis McCollum



Dyamond McCune



Artrevius McDonald



Taylor McField



Zoe McGee



Tamara McLaurin



Caitlyn McLin



Jada McNairy



Brianna McQuarter



Caela Mitchell



Talia Mixon



Adriana Monroy



R'Javian Moore



Arianna Moorehead



Zeneisha Morgan



Gabrielle Nelson



Taylor Newell



Ariel Nix



Sha'Terraka Oliver



Mya Owens



Hayley Parker



Joshua Parker



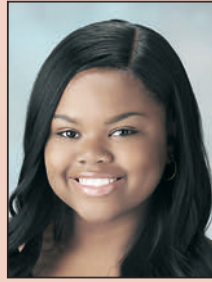
Andrew Pham



Jeremy Phillips



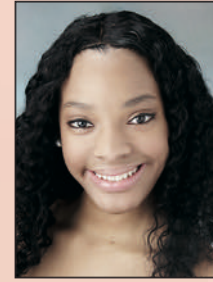
Derrick Poole



Arianna Porter



Kalise Posey



JaKayla Powell



Nichole Rambo



LaRhondee Readirs



Briana Reaser



TianaRedd



Alexandria Reed



Miah Robinson



Le'Joshua Ross



Joshua Rule



Hailey Sampson-Spencer



Krisdricus Sampson



Jayden Shines



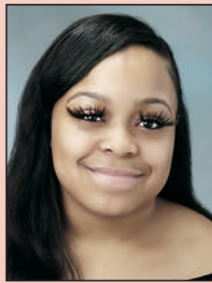
Destiny Showers



Jada Smith



Jaden Smith



Kaylynn Smith



Shemaiah Smith



La'Jabrian Spann



Dylan Speech



Karrington Stewart



Dai'jah Stuckey



Alicia Sutton



Britney Taplin



Diamond Taplin



Kameron Tatum



Bryanna Taylor



Cameron Taylor



Jaisha Taylor



NaKayla Taylor



Garrick Thomas



Destinee Thompson



Micarli Thompson



Nhari Tillis



Ramriez Townsend



Jennifer Tran



JaKiyah Turner



Willie Turner



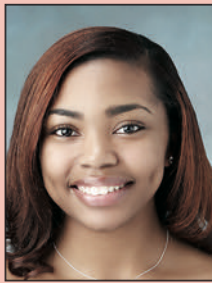
Tyshenya Tyler



Cherie Underwood



BraydenWade



Erin Walker



Akemi Ward



Marlon Warner



Jayla Watkins



Jayriunna Watts



Zyah Watts



Dynasty White



Eric Williams



Jayleen Williams



Jordan Williams



Lynnzie Williams



Rafael Williams



Christopher Willis



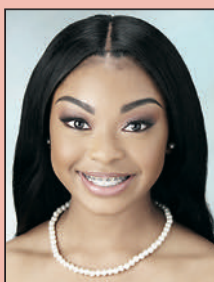
Aeneas Wilson



JaKyia Wilson



Montrell Wilson



Lorlicia Wison



Preonna Younger



Jeffery Zermeno-Aviles



LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES
IN CONNECTION WITH
THE REHABILITATION OF TAXIWAY DELTA AT HAWKINS
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 009-16)

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority ("JMAA") will receive sealed bids at the Jackson- Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport ("JAN"), Main Terminal Building, Suite 300, in the City of Jackson, Rankin County, Mississippi, until 2:00 p.m. central time on June 11, 2020 (the "Bid Deadline"), for construction and related services in connection with the Rehabilitation of Taxiway Delta at Hawkins Project at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the "Work").

JMAA will also accept electronic sealed bids as specified in the bid documents. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. central time on June 11, 2020, Electronic bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

Once registered, Suppliers can download bid specifications and upload bid documents.

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids at 2:15 p.m. central time on June 11, 2020 (the "Bid Opening"), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN.

The outside or exterior of each bid envelope or container of the bid must be marked with the Bidder's company name and Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number and with the wording: "Rehabilitation of Taxiway Delta at Hawkins Project at HKS, JMAA Project No. 009-16." Bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received by JMAA after the Bid Deadline will not be considered for any cause whatsoever. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

JMAA will award the Work to the Lowest and Best most responsive and responsible Bidder as determined by JMAA in accordance with the criteria set forth in the Information for Bidders. The Information for Bidders contains, among other things, a copy of this Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders and an Agreement to be executed by JMAA and the lowest and most responsive and responsible Bidder. Any Addendums issued clarifying and/or changing plans and specifications; clarifying and/or changing instructions in the Instruction to Bidders; and/or answering questions in relation to the Instructions to Bidders, including plans and specifications, shall become part of the Information for Bidders. Plans and specifications related to the Work are considered part of the Agreement.

The Information for Bidders, including plans and specifications, is on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the following address:
Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
Suite 300, Main Terminal Building
100 International Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 939-5631 ext. 662
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Attention: Deuntagus Herndon, Procurement Specialist

A copy of the plans and specifications for the Work are being made available via digital and original paper copy. Plan holders may register and order plans and specifications from the Jackson Blueprint Online Plan Room website <http://planroom.jaxblue.com>. There is no charge for registration or to view the documents online. Documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. A printed bid set is \$75.00 plus \$20.00 shipping and applicable sales tax and an electronic downloadable set is \$25.00 plus applicable sales tax. For questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601) 353-5803.

Bid Documents may be picked up or shipped to the person making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed, however, until payment is received.

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference at 10:00 a.m. central time on June 1, 2020 in the Community Room, Main Terminal Building at HKS. Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is highly encouraged for all those interested in submitting bids as a Prime Contractor for the Work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Contractor. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Contractors and Sub-Contractors, as well as the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Bid Conference; review of the plans and specifications; and a site visit of the area covered in the scope of work. No site visits will be scheduled other than the one provided during the Pre-Bid conference.

JMAA reserves the right to amend the plans and specifications for the Work by Addendum issued before the Bid Deadline; to reject any and all bids; to waive informalities in the bidding process; and to hold and examine bids for up to ninety (90) days before awarding the Contract to perform the Work.

If it becomes necessary to revise any aspect of this Request for Bids or to provide additional information to Bidders, JMAA will issue one or more Addenda by posting on JMAA's website (<https://jmaa.com/corporate/partner-with-us/procurement/>). JMAA will also endeavor to deliver a copy of each Addendum, to all persons on record with JMAA as receiving a copy of the Information for Bidders, via email.

JMAA has established a DBE participation goal of 20% for the Work solicited by this RFB.

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: May 20, 2020 /s/ Paul A. Brown

Paul A. Brown, Chief Executive Officer ,

5-21-2020 5/28/2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE JACKSON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (JHPC) WILL HOLD ITS MONTHLY MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020 AT 12:00 NOON IN THE ANDREW JACKSON CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 105) OF THE WARREN HOOD BUILDING, 200 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
A. OLD BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. 2020-09, REQUESTED BY: SAM NEWMAN, TO CONSTRUCT A NEW MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT 0 GILLESPIE STREET (PARCEL 15-9), LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.
B. NEW BUSINESS
1. CASE NO. 2020-11, REQUESTED BY: JULIA MARKS YOUNG TO REPLACE THE 75' LONG TIMBER RETAINING WALL WITH 4' HIGH AND 75' LONG CONCRETE BLOCK RETAINING WALL AND INSTALL DRAINAGE AGGREGATE (PEA GRAVEL) & DRAINAGE PIPE BEHIND THE RETAINING WALL ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF THE HOUSE AT 1820 PINEHURST PL. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

II. ADJOURN

DUE TO COVID-19 AND THE CONCERN FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE, COMMISSIONERS AND APPLICANTS WILL ATTEND THE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND VIA TELECONFERENCE/VIDEO BY EMAILING BZHAO@JACKSONMS.GOV TO REGISTER PRIOR TO JUNE 3, 2020.

5-21-2020, 5-28-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Jackson
Jackson, Mississippi

Sealed, signed bids are invited and will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. in the City Clerk's Office of Jackson, the bid must be stamped in by 3:30 P.M. Tuesday, June 09, 2020, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 400 E. Silas Brown Street in City Hall for the following:

18086-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Soda Ash
19090-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Citric Acid (Liquid Form)
88536-060920 Twenty-four -Month Supply of Polymer
88538-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Liquid Chlorine
88544-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Alum
88570-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Aluminum Chloral Hydrate (ACH)
88575-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Fluorosilicic Acid
88579-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Potassium Permanganate
88584-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Sodium Chlorite
88596-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Anhydrous Ammonia
88597-060920 Twenty-four Month Supply of Hydrated Lime

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE CITY OF JACKSON WEBSITE, <https://www.jacksonms.gov/businesses/> and Central Bidding www.centralbidding.com. The above must comply with the City's specifications. Copies of proposal forms can be obtained from the Purchasing Division, 200 South President Street, Room 604, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Copies of bid specifications are filed with the City Clerk for public record in accordance with House Bill No 999, 1986 Regular Session of the Mississippi Legislature.

The City of Jackson is committed to the principle of non-discrimination in Public Purchasing. It is the policy of the City of Jackson to promote full and equal business opportunities for all persons doing business with the City. As a pre-condition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offer shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan Application, with each bid submission, in accordance with the provisions set forth by authority of the City of Jackson's EBO Ordinance. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offer, from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City's EBO Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at (601)960-1638. Copies of the EBO Ordinance, EBO Plan Application and a copy of the EBO Program are available with the Office of Economic Development at 218 South President Street, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The City also reserves the right to waive any and all informalities in respect to any bid submitted. Bid awards will be made to the lowest and best bidder quoting the lowest net price in accordance with specifications. The award could be according to the lowest cost per item; or to the lowest total cost for all items; or to accept all or part of any proposal. Delivery time may be considered when evaluating the bid proposal. In those cases where it is known prior to advertising that the City's intention is to award according to the lowest total cost for all items, or in some variation thereof, statements to this affect will be included on the proposal form. Absence of such statement means the City will make that determination during the bid review.

Destiney Williams, Manager
Purchasing Division
(601) 960-1533 or (601) 960-1025

5-14-2020, 5-21-2020

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 waters of the State of Mississippi, for Public Water System purposes, subject to existing rights, the following amount of water at the indicated location:

PERMIT #	
MS-SW-02418	MS-SW-02419
VOLUME	
30 MG/D	65 MG/D
RATE	
21,000 GPM	42,000 GPM
LOCATION	
SE, NW, S36, T06N, R01E	NE, SE, S34, T07N, R02E
WATER SOURCE	
Pearl River Ross Barnett Reservoir	
COUNTY	
Hinds	Madison

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, PO Box 2309, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, setting forth all reasons why said applications should not be approved. Letters of protest must be received within ten (10) days of this publication. If not protested, permits will be issued on or after ten (10) days following publication date.

If protested, the applications 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 9TH day of June 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

5-21-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs

RFP 2020-07 Lead Partner for Science Support and Assessments

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 10, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

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

5-21-2020, 5-28-2020

LEGAL

Request for Quotes (RFQ)#2020-02
LANDSCAPING AND GROUND MAINTENANCE AT VARIOUS
PROPERTIES- JTRAN

The City of Jackson (the "City"), through its Department of Planning and Development, Office of Transportation, is soliciting Quotes from qualified providers for Landscaping and Ground Maintenance for the Administration Building (located at 1785 Highway 80 W), old JTRAN-until disposal (located at 1025 University Blvd.) and JTRAN's Transfer/Hub Station (located at Union Station @ 300 W Capitol St).

Interested firms may obtain a copy of a detailed Request for Quotes, and any Quotes addenda by emailing mguice@jacksonms.gov. Official Quotes documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Please reference RFQ#2020-02.

Six copies of the offeror's Quotes together with a PDF file of the Quotes on a flash drive shall be deposited with the City of Jackson, Office of City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by 3:30 pm, Central Standard Time (CST). Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Submittals received after the specified date and time shall not be accepted.

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 Quotes 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.

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.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all Quotes and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

5-7-2020, 5-14-2020, 5-21-2020, 5-28-2020, 6-4-2020

LEGAL

Request for Proposal (RFP)#2020-01
Transportation Plan Study

The City of Jackson (the "City"), through its Department of Planning and Development, Office of Transportation, is soliciting proposals to retain the services of a consultant team to provide professional services to develop a transportation plan that provides a long-range vision aimed at reshaping its public transit network, supporting a multitude of mobility options, enhancing major public transportation corridors, and integrating land-use policies with a well-connected transportation system.

Interested firms may obtain a copy of a detailed Request for Proposals, and any proposal addenda by emailing mguice@jacksonms.gov. Official proposal documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. Please reference RFP#2020-01.

Six copies of the offeror's Proposal together with a PDF file of the Proposal on a flash drive shall be deposited with the City of Jackson, Office of City Clerk at 219 South President Street, Jackson, MS 39205 until Tuesday, June 9, 2020 by 3:30 pm, Central Standard Time (CST). Electronic bids and/or reverse auction bids can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Submittals received after the specified date and time shall not be accepted.

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.

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.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein.

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Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time), June 02, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

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

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Week of May 17, 2020

The light of inequity shines brightly for blacks

By Dr. Howard Fuller
Marquette University and Shannon Williams
The Mind Trust



Howard Fuller has traveled the world advocating for black people. He traveled from the communities inhabited by poor black people in Durham, North Carolina to the bush of Mozambique and throughout his beloved city of Milwaukee.

His steadfast determination and absolute refusal to accept the inequities that define so many communities in this country, particularly those inhabited by low income and working-class black and brown families, have kept him in the fight for over 50 years.

I spent my entire life being a champion for others. Whether it was defending special-needs peers during my childhood, serving as a mentor to help others pursue and experience meaningful professional opportunities, or educating my community as a journalist and longtime leader of one of America's oldest and most respected African-American newspapers; my quest to empower others has always been fueled by my deep belief in equity.

Throughout all of our experiences, we both agree that the

COVID-19 pandemic and the effect it's had on the people of America is unlike anything either of us has witnessed in our lifetime. But as usual, any crisis of this proportion will always have a disproportionately negative impact on the people who are already living with pain and suffering. However, the focus of our attention in this article is black people.

We are not in the group who tout the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic is shining a light on the inequities of America for poor black people. That light of inequity has been shining brightly for anyone who wanted to see it since we were brought here from Africa – first as indentured servants and then as slaves. The pain that permeates our community has been ever-present.

As we pondered the state of being for our people, we are reminded of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He said, "The central quality in (black peoples') life is pain – pain so old and deep that it shows in every moment of (our) existence. It emerges in the cheerlessness of (our) sorrow(ful) songs, in the melancholy of (our) blues and in the pathos of (our) sermons. Black people while laughing (are shedding) invisible tears that no hand can wipe away. In a highly competitive world, (black people) know that a cloud of persistent denial stands between (us) and the sun, between (us) and life and

power, between (us) and whatever we need."

As we confront this pain and suffering one thing is clear, we must not engage in "happy talk" about "we are in this together" and "we are going to be alright." From our point of view, we are not all experiencing this pandemic in the same way. The death toll of black people is outrageous and unacceptable. And so is the idea that the economy is going to bounce back quickly. We know that for many of our people this pandemic has only exacerbated their economic predicament, and it will have devastating consequences for years to come.

In our quest to figure out what to "do" and how to "be" during this weird, socially-distant and emotionally-draining time, the two of us find ourselves reflecting on something we've both known for years: the scales are unbalanced, be it from a racial, gender or socioeconomic status.

As pleasant and uplifting as the phrase intends to be, saying "we are all in this together" is a fictional statement that discounts the reality that millions of people experience every day. We are not all in this together because we are not all suffering in the same way. Those of us who are blessed to have food, clothing and shelter and doing our jobs from home on Zoom are not experiencing this crisis in the same way as people who have lost their jobs, or people whose job is to risk exposure to

save our lives, or who must go to low paying jobs so that we can remain safe at home. No. We are not all in this "together" in the same way.

We are both very caring and committed individuals who, because we understand this difference, our actions and advocacy are always going to be aimed at changing the situation faced by the most vulnerable of our people. We know they are experiencing pain. A pain we feel along with them. For us, the point of peoples' pain permeates through our bodies like needle and thread through fabric. It is something that never leaves us. That's why these COVID times are so difficult for the two of us.

We know what our people are going through – what they have always gone through, however, this time our advocacy and ability to connect in ways naturally are grossly limited. And because of that, the constant state of anger that William Grier and Price Cobbs wrote about in their 1968 book "Black Rage" is stronger and even more resolute today.

So here we are, simultaneously in a constant state of rage and pain. We each know how to negotiate those feelings to function, but they never go away, as they are generations old.

In our individual worlds we continue to fight the good fight for our people while entities like The Mind Trust and the Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate

Academy, both institutions we represent, work to advance educational opportunities for black and brown children.

However, we are left wondering what happens next?. What happens when normalcy resumes? What will be the new normal for our people – the ones who always carry the brunt of the repercussions of downtrodden economies, broken criminal justice systems, and now, global pandemics? How will our people, our black and brown people, emerge? And how will the effects of our suffering that are already generation's deep live in our bodies and minds?

Our people have endured so much – from being stolen from our native land to being dehumanized at the U.S. border, and so many more barbarous acts in between and beyond those periods of time.

The recent murder of Ahmaud Arbery, a black man who was stalked and gunned down while innocently jogging, is yet another example of the atrocious acts our people experience. However, sadly, this injustice will not be the last. History is our proof of that. So, what's next? What are the solutions?

We don't know the answers, and in full transparency, that frustrates the hell out of us. Perhaps the solutions elude us at this point because we realize there needs to be an overhaul of multiple systems – deep, ugly discriminatory systems – to ensure these problems are truly resolved.

Currently, the two of us work to disrupt the education system that has failed our people since the beginning of time. And while our work will continue, albeit in modified ways, there are things you can do...that we all can do. We must always venture beyond our pain to help others with theirs. Our deepest responsibility is to support the people who have the least and truly feel the pain of what our people are going through.

If there is one thing we hope you get out of reading this, it is to always focus your help at the beginning point of pain for others. This is what has guided each of us along our respective paths, and it is what might just help all of us move one step closer to the country the United States says it is, rather than the nation we actually are.

Howard Fuller is director of the Institute for the Transformation of Learning at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He previously served as superintendent of Milwaukee Public Schools.

Shannon Williams is a journalist and former president of the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper. She currently serves as senior vice president of Community Engagement at The Mind Trust, an Indianapolis-based education non-profit that works to ensure all children have access to a high-quality education.

Let prisoners go during COVID-19 pandemic

By Jesse Jackson
TriceEdneyWire.com



Across the United States and across the world, prisoners are among the most vulnerable to the coronavirus. Overcrowded facilities, shortages of food and medicine, and totally inadequate testing expose prisoners who are disproportionately poor and afflicted with prior conditions that render them vulnerable to the disease.

Prisoners increasingly are protesting their conditions, objecting to being sentenced to die in prison.

Experts across the world are urging governments to reduce their prison populations swiftly. Michelle Bachelet, the United Nations high commissioner for Human Rights, warned that "The consequences of neglecting [overcrowded conditions] are potentially catastrophic."

Many countries have begun to act. Turkey's parliament authorized the release of 45,000 prisoners. Indonesia has released at least 30,000. Even Iran's dictatorial regime has released roughly 85,000 detainees, while dealing harshly with those protesting the risks.

The United States looks up more people than any other country in the world, largely because of harsh and wrong-headed policies. Fifty-five thousand are detained in jail awaiting trials, too poor to pay for their freedom under the current cash

bail system that is prevalent in many states.

The Prison Policy Initiative reports that 48,000 children are incarcerated on any given day. Many are charged only with "status offenses," such as truancy or homelessness. The Health and Human Services office in charge of the custody of unaccompanied undocumented minors reports that 2,000 are locked up. *The New York Times* reports that 59 in custody have already tested positive for COVID-19.

In California, The Marshall Project notes, more than one in seven prisoners are over the age of 55. The percentage of those 55 and older in prison in the country has tripled over the course of this century.

As Piper Kerman, author of "Orange is the New Black," wrote in the *Washington Post*, this is largely the result of prison sentences that are longer than those imposed by any other country. "Elderly probationers and parolees have some of the lowest recidivism rates of all former inmates. Releasing such people poses very low public safety risks and will have a dramatic effect on preserving public health."

After an outbreak killed six inmates in a federal prison in Lisbon, Ohio, U.S. District Court Judge James Gwin decried the "shockingly limited" amount of testing, noting that the prison has received fewer than 100 tests, while a state prison of similar size had done about 4,000 tests. Two federal

prisons in New York City reported that they had tested a total of only 19 inmates since the outbreak began; 11 were positive.

This has to change before the pandemic spreads, and prisons across the country go up in flames as prisoners' riot against their conditions.

Inmates awaiting trial, the elderly, the afflicted, and those who have served much of their sentence, should get early release; if possible quarantined at home to ensure they are safe.

The space freed up should be used to provide more "social distancing," while emergency steps are taken to provide adequate medicine, protective equipment like masks and gloves and food.

Correctional officials need particular priority, for they are most at risk and, if infected, could spread the virus in the local communities. And the failure to provide adequate testing in prisons and jails, as well as in society as a whole, is utterly inexcusable at this late date.

The crisis should also lead to larger reforms – drastically reducing sentences while expanding alternatives to incarceration, ending the cash bail system and the practice of locking poor people up while they await trial, expanding parole, reducing the overcrowded and primitive conditions of too many jails and prisons.

The virus is like getting hit by a club across the head. Perhaps that might help bring us to our senses.



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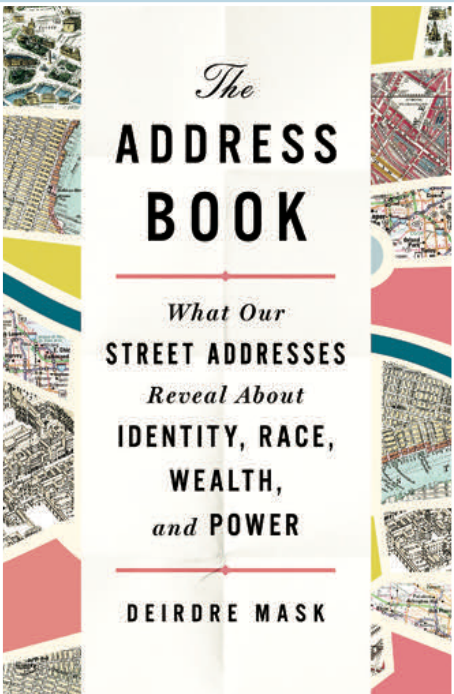
To Apply, You Must Present the Following:

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- 2) **Proof of family's income** - tax return, W-2, pay stub, SSN, Social Security, child support, TANF, grants/scholarship, unemployment, and any other source of household income
- 3) **Proof of Hinds County residency** - lease, mortgage statement, current utility bill (light, water, gas or sewer), current phone or cable bill
- 4) **Child's Social Security number**
- 5) **Medical insurance of child (if applicable)**
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BOOK REVIEW:

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BY DEIRDRE MAS

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By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Take a right turn at the church. If you’ve ever gotten those words in the directions to some business, you know what comes following them: a feeling of being totally, inescapably lost. The feeling of frustration because there were actually two churches. The anger that your GPS app took you somewhere ridiculous. The thought that, as in “The Address Book” by Deirdre Mask, having a good, strong, easy-to-find address matters.

When was the last time you

got a letter in the mail?

That’s all Mask wanted to do: send her father a birthday card with a letter from her home in Ireland to his in North Carolina. As she pressed a stamp on the envelope, she idly wondered who got the fee – and that led her to the Universal Postal Union in Switzerland, which decides such things, and to An Address for Everyone, an organization that showed her something surprising: “most households in the world don’t have street addresses.”

That, of course, is not opti-

mal: at the very least, it means difficulty in receiving mail and packages from businesses outside the household’s area. Worse, economic impacts reach far beyond an individual: not having an address could prevent access to financial services, credit and help from government programs. Studies show, in fact, that the number one request from homeless Americans is not a home but an address.

As for you, well, it’s not just the physical address of your customer that matters in the end. Where you place your

workplace is equally important and shouldn’t be left to chance, if you can help it.

Because a land address equals power, the street-number for your building matters and you can thank the Brits for that. Where you sit on the block makes a difference, for which you can thank Philadelphia’s founders.

Your street name matters, especially if you can manage to get your name on the street sign; it can tell others a lot about the racial make-up of your city; and, says Mask, “Street names

are, in a way, the perfect propaganda tool.”

Have you ever been told that they name streets after people like you? You might consider that a compliment, after reading “The Address Book.”

That’s because this book is fun, serious enough to be useful to businessfolks who understand that its subject matter matters, but light enough with plenty of gee-whiz factor. Who, after all, notices this stuff?

You should, but unless your street address is wacky or borders on the profane (and Mask

shows that there are those kinds of addresses around) you might’ve shrugged and went back to business when you moved there. Here, you’ll see why that may have been a bad idea, how addresses might influence others and how you can (maybe) fix it.

Reading this book is like watching someone give directions. It’s great for anyone who’s ever left the GPS at home and gotten truly lost in a big city. “The Address Book” is lighthearted and, for you, that turns out just right.



ZACK WALLACE

Hinds County Circuit Clerk

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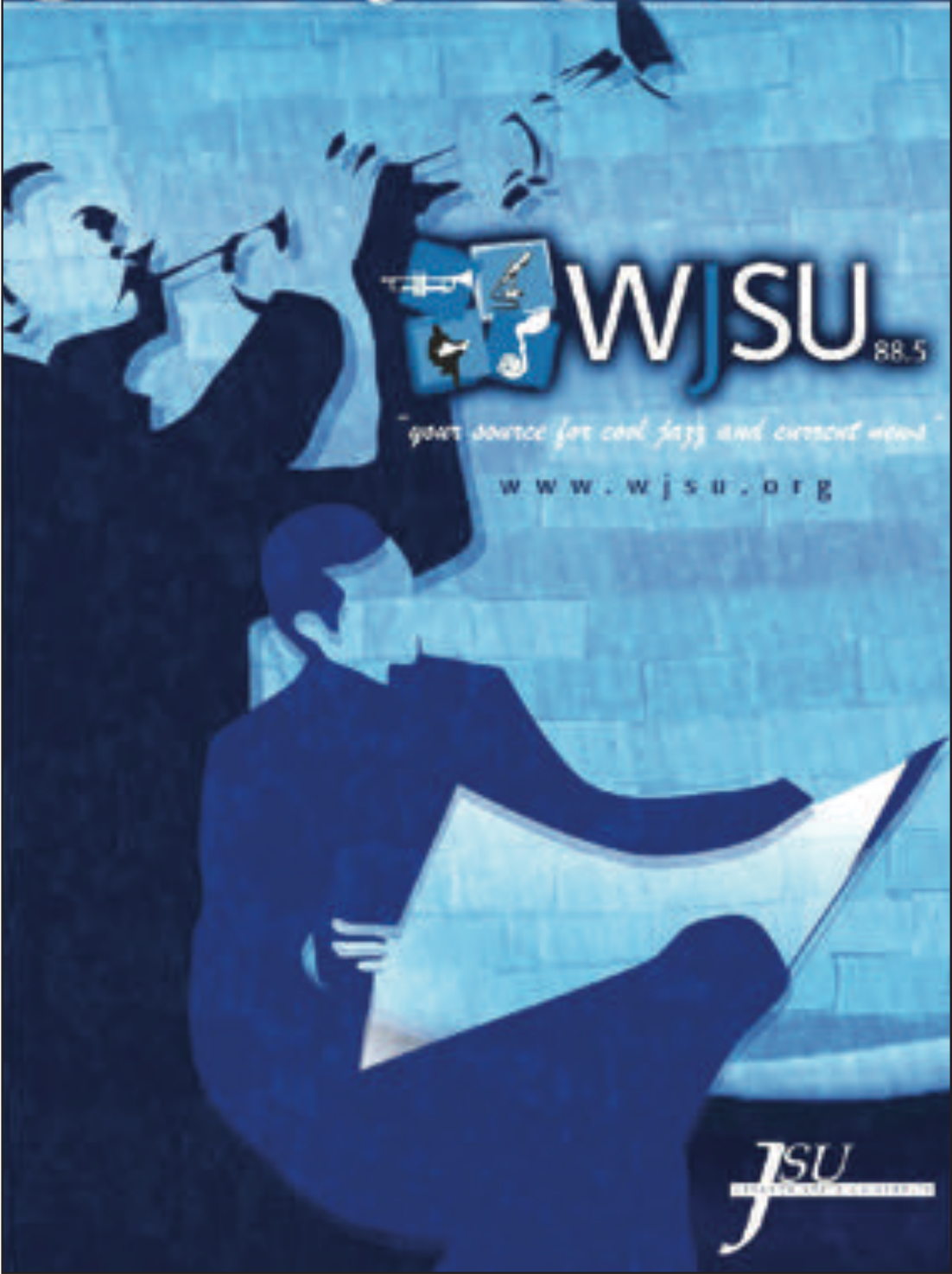
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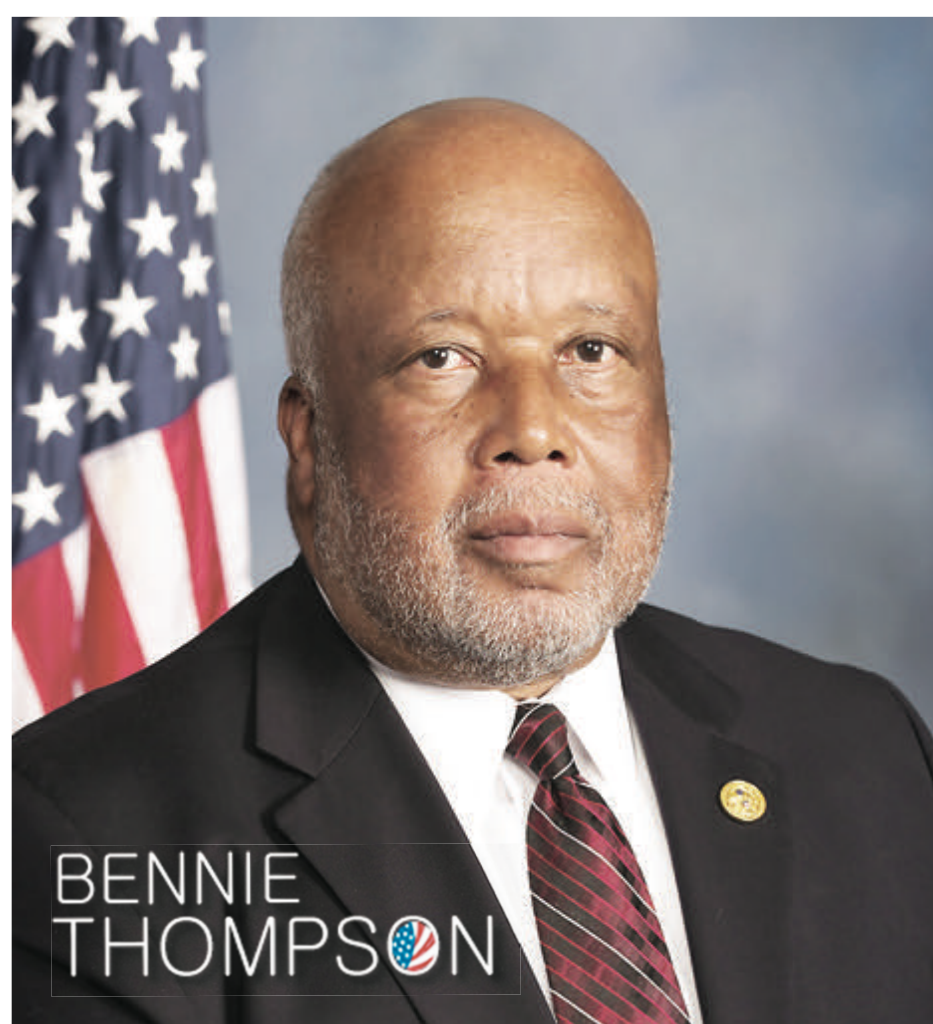
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