



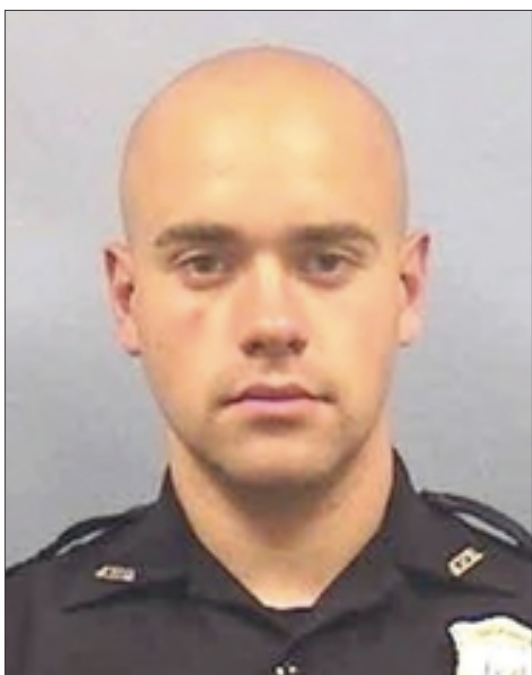
HAPPY FATHER’S DAY

Officer who shot Rayshard Brooks charged with felony murder

By Kate Brumback
Associated Press

The Atlanta officer who fatally shot Rayshard Brooks in the back after the fleeing man pointed a stun gun in his direction will be charged with felony murder and 10 other charges, a prosecutor said Wednesday. If convicted, Rolfe is facing the possibility of the death penalty or life in prison.

Garrett Rolfe kicked Brooks while he lay on the ground and the officer with him, Devin Brosnan, stood on Brooks’ shoulder as he struggled for life after a confrontation Friday night, Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard said at a news conference.



Rolfe



Brosnan

Brooks
Continued on page 3

Analysis: Mississippi could erase multistep election system

By Emily Wagster Pettus
Associated Press

Mississippi voters might get a chance to purge a Jim Crow-era provision from the state constitution and simplify the process of electing the governor and other statewide officials.

Legislators are close to agreeing on House Concurrent Resolution 47. It would put a proposal on the ballot this November, letting people decide whether to erase an Electoral College-type provision from the state’s 1890 constitution. The proposal says that a candidate who wins a majority of the popular vote would win a statewide election. If nobody receives a majority in a race with three or more candidates, the top two would go to

a runoff.

The Mississippi Constitution currently requires a statewide candidate to win a majority of the popular vote and a majority of electoral vote. One electoral vote is awarded to the candidate receiving the most support in each of the 122 state House districts. If no candidate wins both the popular vote and the electoral vote, the race is decided by the state House. But, representatives are not obligated to vote as their districts did – and that means arm-twisting could decide the outcome of an election.

Mississippi is the only state with this multistep process for electing a governor. The pro-

Election
Continued on page 3

Habitat for Humanity dedicates new home in Broadmoor

By Edelia Dr. Jay Carthan
Contributing Writer

Tahara Williams and her three-year old son are new homeowners thanks to Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity dedicated a new house on Casablanca Drive to Tahara Williams, Friday, June 12, at noon in the Broadmoor neighborhood during a small ceremony in front of the home where about 20 supporters gathered while practicing social distancing due to COVID-19.

During the ceremony, Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area board president Slade Exley,

welcomed supporters followed by remarks from several sponsors including Linda Waters, Public Affairs manager with Atmos Energy and Rocky Shack, Mission and Outreach director with Christ United Methodist Church. Allen Scott, board vice president for Habitat for Humanity, presented the new homeowner with a Bible.

The ceremony ended with remarks from the homeowner and a house blessing by Habitat for Humanity board member Leland Rogers.

“I would just like to say thank you to everyone that has helped. I

am very excited to be in my new home,” Williams said during the dedication.

Six houses have been rehabbed and one new house built since Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area announced an initiative in June 2019 to rehab or build 100 houses in five years in the Broadmoor neighborhood in north Jackson.

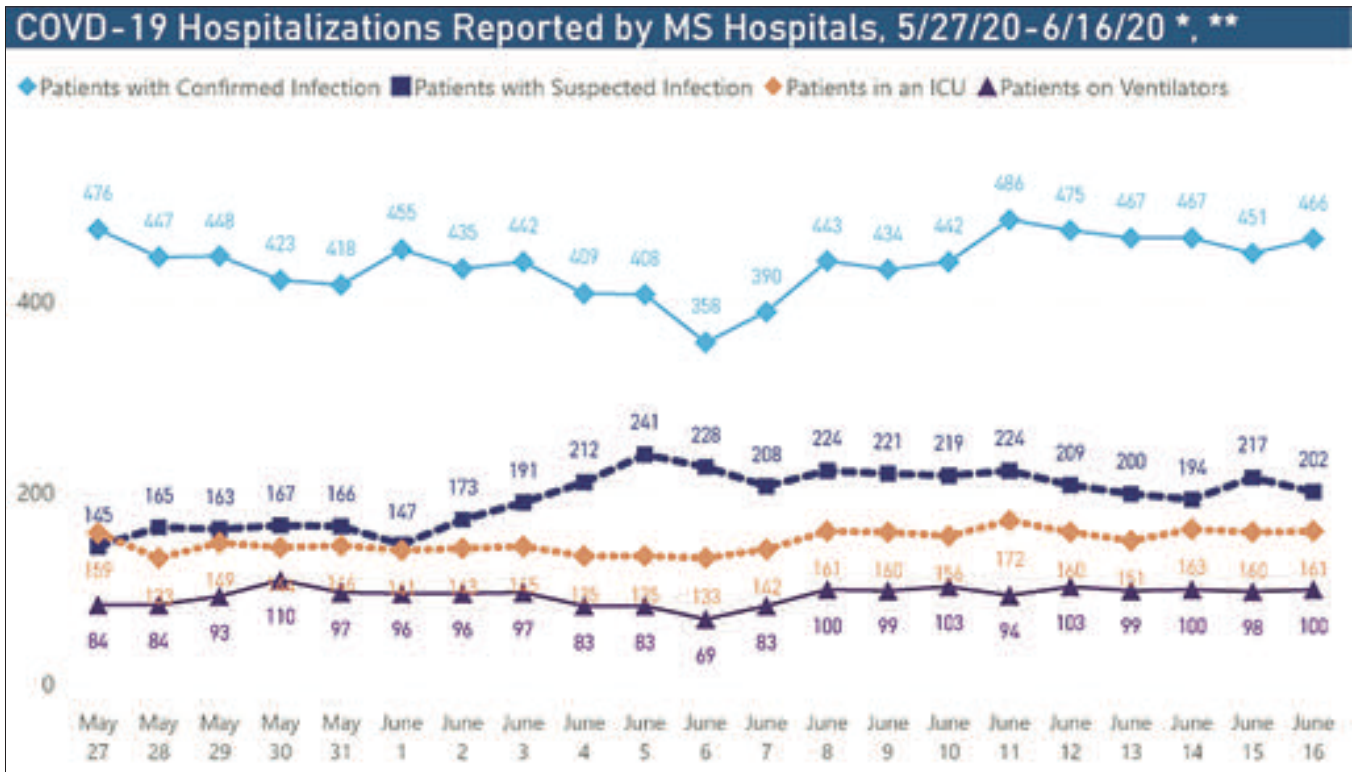
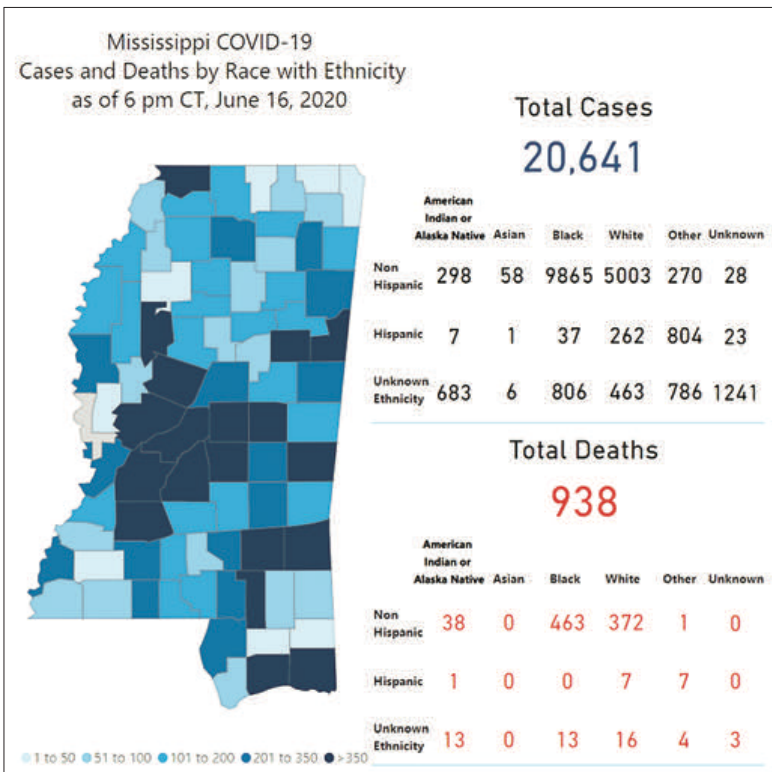
Broadmoor was created in the early 1950’s as a neighborhood for GIs returning from World War II, with several streets named af-

Habitat

Continued on page 3



PHOTOS BY EDELIA CARTHAN



Singer/songwriter Pam Confer releases new inspirational song

Mississippi Link Newswire

In continuing efforts to express the organization’s desire for diversity and inclusion throughout the city of Jackson, Visit Jackson will stand in support of recording artist and songwriter, Pam Confer, who will debut a new inspirational song, “Stand!” Friday, June 19, at 10 a.m.

The event will be held at the “JXN Icons” mural (across from the Two Mississippi Museums, 222 North Street, Jackson).

Confer’s rhythmic, soul-filled chant is sung against the backdrop of foot stomping, and takes us on a journey of the pain and failed policies that have plagued communities of color for hundreds of years.

The resounding themes of the song, “This ain’t right!” “Stand Up!” “I can’t breathe” and “It’s our time!” depict the profound sentiment of the collective from across the globe. At the culminating lyrical message, Confer challenges Mississippi and other states to change their hearts and minds – to Stand.

June 19 is also Juneteenth, the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. The dedication of “Stand” on



this day allows Confer to reflect on her own Oxford, MS roots.

When Confer used to visit her grandmother, Annie Lee Burt, in Oxford, she heard so many stories about what happened when her mom, Annie Faye, and her family went “to town,” and all the precautions they took to navigate the systems of injustice and disenfran-

chisement in Mississippi.

“As an African-American woman that has traversed myriad professional and personal lanes, racism, sexism and stereotyping are still an all too familiar part of existing and trying to thrive,” Confer expressed. ““Stand!” is dedicated to this moment – where the camera lens is steadfast in

focusing on what our actual eyes have seen for decades. In recent weeks, new, bold voices have grown legs that can move intentionally throughout our institutions and influence change. Hope is here!”

Rickey Thigpen, president and CEO of Visit Jackson, believes that a collective shift towards unity allows for a new

appreciation for historic places like Mississippi.

“When we begin to view race differently, our experiences become elevated and our understanding spurs positive change. We all should take on the charge to Stand,” Thigpen said.

After the press conference, Confer is inviting Mississippians for lunch on the patio at Sal

and Mookie’s in Fondren to talk about the “Good Differences” – of race and culture. A cultural diversity trainer and speaker, Confer plans to create monthly opportunities for these talks.

Friday’s performance will begin the official countdown to the June 26 release of “Stand!” on all available streaming platforms. More programs, performances and updates related to “Stand!” are available at pam-confer.com.

Confer is also the singer, songwriter and producer of, “Mississippi Beautiful,” a beloved anthem released in December of 2017 in dedication to the state’s bicentennial and the opening of the Two Mississippi Museums. “Mississippi Beautiful” plays each day in the “Where Do We Go From Here” Gallery of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum.

May 10 is also officially recognized by the state as “Mississippi Beautiful Day.” Confer performs the positive, uplifting tune across the state and there are legislative efforts to make “Mississippi Beautiful” the official state song.

The song can be downloaded from iTunes, Amazon and on other audio distribution platforms.



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Election

Continued from page 1

cess was written when white politicians across the South were enacting laws to erase black political power gained during Reconstruction. The separate House vote was promoted as a way for the white ruling class to have the final say in who holds office.

African-American plaintiffs sued Mississippi in 2019 in an effort backed by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder. They argued that the state’s multistep process unconstitutionally violates the principle of one person, one vote. Plaintiffs’ attorneys said Mississippi’s history of racially polarized voting means that candidates preferred by black voters must receive a higher share of the statewide vote to win a majority of House districts.

Days before Mississippi elected statewide officials in November, U.S. District Judge Daniel P. Jordan III wrote that he has “grave concern” about the constitutionality of the electoral vote provision. Jordan wrote that the plaintiffs’ argument about violation of one person, one vote is “arguably ... their strongest claim.”

The plaintiffs’ attorneys argued that the Mississippi system for electing statewide officials is similar to a Georgia county-unit election rule that was invalidated by a federal court ruling in 1963.

“They’re right,” Jordan wrote.

Jordan noted that Mississippi’s election provisions “are not merely statutes that can be revised in one legislative session; they are constitutional provisions that require amendment.” Jordan put the lawsuit on hold in December, saying he would give legislators a chance to remedy the system.

That’s where the proposed constitutional amendment comes in. Legislatures must put the question on the statewide ballot, and adopting an amendment would require a simple majority of votes.

That last time a governor’s race was thrown to the Mississippi House was 20 years ago. Nobody received the required majorities in a four-person race for governor in 1999. The top two candidates were white, and each won 61 electoral votes. In January 2000, House members chose Democrat Ronnie Musgrove, who had received the most votes, over Republican Mike Parker. At the time, the House was controlled by Democrats. It is now controlled by Republicans.

Some Democrats thought the electoral provision might come into play in a tight 2019 governor’s election, but Republican Tate Reeves easily defeated Democrat Jim Hood and two lesser-known candidates.

Emily Wagster Pettus has covered Mississippi government and politics since 1994. Follow her on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/EWagsterPettus>.

Brooks

Continued from page 1

Arrests warrants were issued for Rolfe along with officer Devin Brosnan who was also at the scene. He is facing three charges. Rolfe had already been fired from the police force after he fatally shot Brooks, 27, June 12 while Brosnan had been placed on administrative leave.

Police were called to a Wendy’s fast food restaurant over complaints of a car blocking the drive-thru lane. An officer found Brooks asleep behind the wheel of the car and called for another officer to do field sobriety testing.

Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard said Brooks was cordial and cooperative prior to the attempt to arrest him. He said, “Mr. Brooks never displayed any aggressive behavior during the 41 minutes and 17 seconds before Rolfe tried to handcuff him.” The DA further stated the officers failed to tell Brooks he was being arrested for driving under the influence.

Brooks’ widow, Tomika Miller, attended the news conference along with her lawyers, Justin Miller and L. Chris Stewart but was unable to speak after hearing the details of how her husband was kicked by Rolfe after he shot him.

The D.A. in the news conference stated that Brosnan, who admitted he had stood on the shoulders of Brooks after being shot, decided to be a witness for the state against fellow ex-officer Rolfe.

The news came as Republicans on Capitol Hill unveiled a package of police reform measures. The shooting sparked new demonstrations in Georgia’s capital against police brutality, after occasionally turbulent protests in response to George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis had largely simmered down. Atlanta Police Chief Erika Shields resigned less than 24 hours after Brooks died.

Police body camera video shows Brooks and officers having a relatively calm and respectful conversation for more than 40 minutes before things rapidly turned violent. Brooks wrestled with officers, snatched one of their stun guns and turned and pointed it at one of them as he ran through the parking lot.

An autopsy found that Brooks was shot twice in the back.

Jackie Hampton, Mississippi Link publisher, contributed to this article

Habitat

Continued from page 1



Merrill McKewen (left) executive director of Habitat for Humanity Mississippi Capital Area and new Habitat homeowner Tahara Williams flank sign listing sponsors in front of new home.



ter major campaigns and individuals associated with the war.

Williams’ home is a part of Habitat’s 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Project. Volunteers from churches, businesses, a law firm and a school of law spent their MLK holiday honoring the ideals of Dr. King by working on the Williams family’s future home.

Because construction is considered an essential business during the pandemic, Habitat’s two construction staff members were able to complete the work, with some assistance from subcontractors.

“With staff and subcontractors following COVID-19 guidelines, we were able to continue work on the Broadmoor Initiative, which includes their home,” said Merrill McKewen, Habitat’s executive director.

This house was sponsored by Anderson United Methodist Church, Atmos Energy, Baptist Health Systems, Butler Snow, Christ United Methodist Church, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Galloway United Methodist Church, Madison United Methodist Church, Mississippi College School of Law, New Hope Baptist Church, St. Luke’s United Methodist Church and St. Mark’s United Methodist Church. The non-profit is staying committed to its goals in Broadmoor in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information about how to become a Habitat donor, volunteer or homeowner, call 601 353-6060 or visit www.habitatmca.org.

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WE POWER LIFE®

George Floyd: Beyond 2020 protests

Where do we go from here and what must be done?

By Dr. Jerry Komia Domatob
Contributing Writer

America and the world seems to have reverted to its normal silence, in the wake of George Floyd massive global street demonstrations. From Los Angeles to New York, London, Ireland, and other spots globally, people turned out in mass to challenge the vicious and inhumane killing of this African-American common man.

Protests and demonstrations

All over the universe, placard carrying people of diverse races, stumped capitals, public squares and other avenues as they marched and protested on streets. They presented speeches, shouted slogans, organized sit-ins and made demands from leaders, governors and even ordinary people to address the injustices which currently devastate humans globally.

Where do we go?

The burning question now is: what are the outcomes of all these protests, marches, burnings and devastation? Where do folks go with this mass outflow of anger, bitterness, frustration, disappointments, hopelessness and helplessness?

Anger and exasperation



Omegas protest in Jackson, MS PHOTOS BY DR JERRY DOMATOB

COMMENTARY

A number of lessons surge to the surface? First, the international dimension of the protests bears manifest testimony that people are disturbed, shocked, devastated and demolished. Throughout the world the quest for peace and justice is an indispensable reality. The current George Floyd killing and people's castigation, revolt and rejection, reiterate the reality that people share the same hopes, aspirations, comforts and discomforts.

Second, according to some observers, injustice violently troubles residents the world

over. Inequitable resource allocation, poverty, disease and unfairness, which permeate all facets of life, is a reality universally. It might be more transparent in the United States. However, the challenge is global and as Dr. Martin Luther King eloquently said, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Third, racism, as some analysts contend, is a major challenge which calls for redress at all levels. It is not simply an American challenge but a global tragedy which yearns for redress.

Injustice, unequal playing fields, the vast gap between the "haves and have nots," evil and

unfairness, cripple humans everywhere with gross impunity and ruthlessly devastate people globally who yearn for redemption and salvation.

So where do we go from here? Humans globally must address universal challenges that abound. That means, all folks must tackle matters pertinent to humanity. People everywhere are humans who deserve respect for their lives with dignity. They cannot and must not be demeaned as Floyd.

Second, heinous deeds like the killing of Floyd must not be encouraged. They deserve condemnation and severe punishment.

Third, the social malaise of

racism some folks contend, undergirds such maliciousness all over the globe. Arguably therefore such tragic deeds must be uprooted from the base. They have no spot anywhere. They are simply demonic and diabolical and deserve fierce condemnation. Fourth, economic, political, cultural and even technological forces, that frustrate and castrate human progress, call for critical review and revision. Efforts must be made to tackle them.

A new day dawns and humanity and humanism, rather than injustice, inequality and inequity, must be the rule of the times.

This is a time for radical change. As the great British poet

Lord Tennyson said, "The old order changeth yielding place to new and God fulfills himself least one old custom should corrupt the world."

Jerry Komia Domatob, a graduate of E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University-Athens is a professor of mass communication at Alcorn State University, Lorman-Mississippi. His latest publications are Communication, Culture & Human Rights and Positive Vibration. Domatob earned master's degrees in International Affairs and Journalism from Carleton University, Ottawa Canada. Contact him at: domatobj@gmail.com.



Protesters in Jackson, MS

Your small business could qualify for a grant



Your business could qualify for up to \$25,000 with the Back to Business Mississippi grant program. This grant is designed to help businesses in Mississippi with 50 or fewer employees recover from the economic impact of COVID-19.



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More than a building Virtual Summer Camp open for registration

Mississippi Link Newswire

New Stage Theatre announces registration for the 2020 Virtual Summer Camp for students rising 6th to 12th during the 20-21 school year. Registration is now through June 22.

The camps are sponsored by The Walker Foundation and

The Field Co-Operative Association, Inc.

This summer's camp has been redesigned to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions, by presenting a virtual camp for those looking forward to the excitement of summer theatre camp. Students can choose tracks including the

Art of Acting, Camera Close-Up, Making Theatre, Musical Theatre, Theatre Dance/Movement, and Creating a Play.

Participation in camp requires an internet connection and device capable of video conferencing through Zoom.

The cost of the camp is

\$375, with an option to choose additional tracks for \$50 each.

Students will see familiar faces such as Sharon Miles, Drew Stark, Mandy Kate Myers, Yohance Myles and others, as well as New Stage's own production team of Bronwyn Teague, Richard Lawrence, Marie Venters, Caleb

Blackwell and Alberto Meza.

The camp will incorporate more than 100 hours of instruction by theatre professionals with a combined 100 years of professional theatre experience, coupled with the opportunity to showcase classwork at the end of the camp July 17 and 18.

To find out more about the New Stage Theatre Summer Camp Series, to register for the camp or for scholarship submission information, contact Education Associate Drew Stark at (601) 948-3533 ext. 236 or education@news-tagetheatre

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103 year-old gets a glimpse of family behind nursing home glass

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Lucille Roberts-Williams was happy to see her family visit at the Madison County Nursing Home located on East Peace Street in Canton even though she could not get a hug from them. The nursing home is protecting residences of Covid-19 and following strict visitation guidelines.

Williams turned 103 years old May 25.

She was all dressed up in her royal blue outfit with silver and white accents waiting for her family.

She joined Zion Chapel Church in Canton in 1931 where she served as superintendent of Sunday School for 31 years. She graduated from Cameron Street High School in 1940, with a class total of 34. She is the mother of five, grandmother of 17 and great grandmother of 13.



Williams



Roberts poses with family inside glass door. PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON

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MAID SERVICES AVAILABLE

Jackson Hinds Library System resumes library services with COVID-19 precautions

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Jackson Hinds Library System has now successfully opened the five largest public libraries in the City of Jackson and Hinds County. Hinds County residents can visit these local libraries and enjoy access to public computers and all of the collections of books and AV items in the collections at Eudora Welty, Willie Morris, Medgar Evers, Margaret Walker Alexander and Quisenberry Libraries. All hours at these branches will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Library Executive Director Patty Furr comments, “We are delighted to welcome our customers back into our libraries. We hope that everyone will stop in and select some items to make their time with COVID-19 a little brighter. To make sure that the patrons stay as safe as possible from COVID-19, our employees are also following strict guidelines from the CDC and local and state health officials in order to make a visit to the library as safe as possible.”

Furr continued, “We are screening all visitors for temperature and COVID-19 symptoms at the library door. Customers are asked to hand sanitize and wear a mask to make the environment as safe as possible.”

Staff are sanitizing all library counters hourly, and books from the book drops are quarantined for 14 days. We are working hard to make sure that your local library is open and available to our customers. Other libraries are scheduled to open in June and July.

Of all of the helpful services that the library system offer, Furr says that they have had the most calls and questions about using the public access computers. “We know that many of our customers depend on our public access computers and fast internet bandwidth to look for employment and apply for jobs. With the large numbers of persons recently unemployed needing to file unemployment claims and look for jobs, we know that demand will be very heavy at all of our locations.”

Other libraries will be opening soon as well. The Ella Bess Austin Library in Terry will open June 23 and the Raymond Public Library June 25. The new Byram Library behind City Hall on 5901 Terry Road will have a grand opening celebration July 1. The Fannie Lou Hamer Library will reopen July 8.

Has COVID also changed the way that the Jackson Hinds Library branches are supporting Summer Readers this year? “Yes, it certainly has,” Furr adds. “We have a brand new online Summer Reading Program option called READSquared. It allows preschoolers, elementary-aged kids, teens and adults



Eudora Welty Library, 300 N. State St., Jackson, MS PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRADLEY

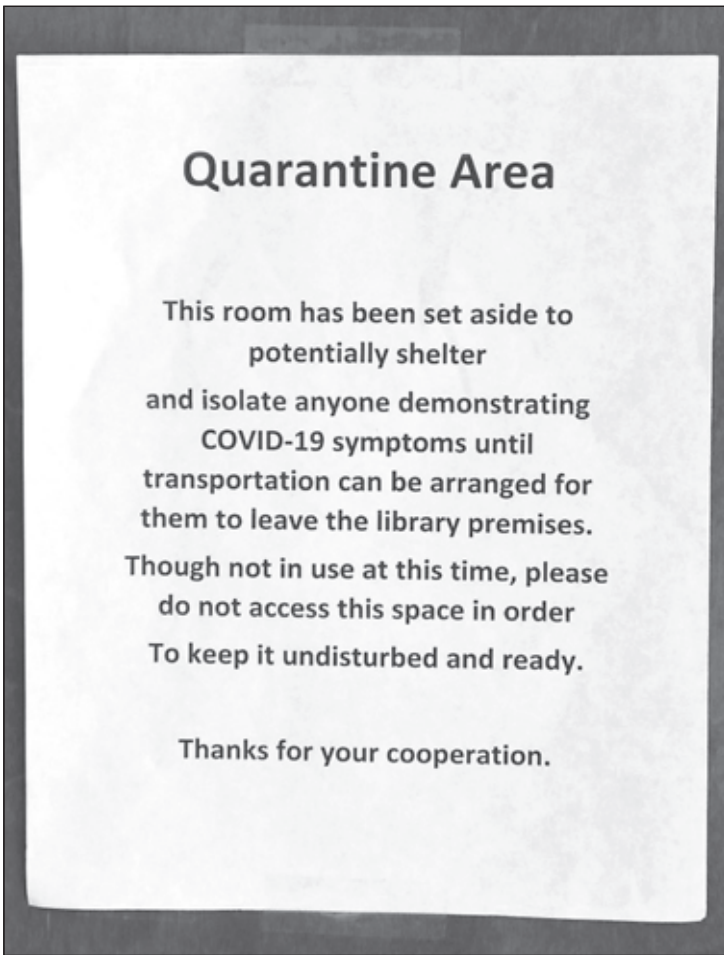


Medgar Evers Library, Anne Sanders, branch manager in Kid Zone

to read to earn virtual badges, create their own avatar and record the items they have read for prizes. The library system is also offering online virtual Summer Reading Programs that anyone can stream and enjoy this summer. Registration is already underway, and the program starts July 1 and runs through July 30. We urge everyone to register and begin earning badges and prizes. The program also features secret missions, bingo games and other online activities. Every participant can earn up to six different prizes and badges this summer which can be picked up at the end of the program at the end of July.

Two of the City of Jackson libraries will not be opening with the rest of the City of Jackson branches. The Richard Wright Library is waiting for needed HVAC repairs and plumbing work, while the Bolden Moore Library is closed due to a lack of cooling as well. Furr says, “We hope that the City of Jackson, who owns these libraries, will schedule the repairs for these branches as soon as possible. We have so many customers that are looking forward to having their neighborhood libraries repaired and open again this summer.”

For those who would like to check out items, but do not feel comfortable coming into a



library branch yet, the Library System will be offering an innovative text-based curbside pickup option beginning early next week. This system will be available at Welty, Quisenberry, Willie Morris and Alexander libraries shortly. Customers can use their phones, tablets or com-

puters to reserve up to five library items online. They will receive a text message when items are ready for pickup, and those expecting items to come. Library staff will bring books out to customer's cars. “This service is designed to give access to the library collections while limit-



Alfred Ingram, Eudora Welty security, screening Patrick McCarty, library employee



Medgar Evers Library, James Hampton, professional assistant

ing exposure to COVID-19,” Furr said. “We hope that many of our senior patrons and those with small children will take advantage of this new text-based service, or order books by texting back and forth with library staff.”

Patrons can also call the library and reserve up to 5 items at a time and have these items carried out to their cars as well. Staff members will be standing by to help customers order items for curbside pickup at each of the libraries opening in July.

Can't make it into a branch to get a library card? The library system also offers a new online registration option for those who want the convenience of signing up for a library card online. The online registration offers Hinds County residents the chance to register for a three month temporary library card that gives access to all of the online services that the library system offers. It is available on the library website. These online services include the Hoopla eBook and E-audio collection with over 380,000 items all available with simultaneous access and no holds, and the Overdrive e-book and e-Audio collection of best-sellers.

“We also have RBdigital online magazines, 6000+ e-audios and a new comic book database.

If your kids need something fresh to capture their attention while sheltering at home, give our RBDigital Comic Book Collection a try. It has everything from Disney to Marvel Comics and is becoming a big favorite with kids of all ages,” Furr said.

The Westlaw legal database, which was previously only available inside the libraries, is also available to cardholders remotely with a library barcode and PIN as well. We also are featuring a kids and teen eBook and e-Audio database called TumbleBooks. It also offers such a wide variety of children's and teen eBooks and e-Audios for parents to enjoy with their children.

Whether you are visiting virtually or coming into a Jackson Hinds Library System branch to enjoy a computer or check out some books or DVDs, library services are always free to Hinds County residents. Explore the options available to you today at your local library.

For more information, call the library administrative offices at 601-968-5825 or your local library branch. Library services are provided at no charge to City of Jackson and Hinds County residents with funding from the City of Jackson and the Hinds County Board of Supervisors.

HCCSD to open Parent Technology Center

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Holmes County Superintendent of Schools James L. Henderson said, “Our goal is to educate not only the children of Holmes County, but the entire citizenry of Holmes County. For this reason, I recommended the creation of a Parent Technology Center.”

The Holmes County Consolidated School District's Board of Education approved the establishment of a technology center for use by district parents. Located at the Holmes County Career Technical Center, the lab will contain 30 desktop stations for parents to use to further their academic growth

which will enhance their career prospects.

Board of Education president Rev. Anthony Anderson said, “We want all of our district families to have access to computers and the internet. We want to provide a location with reliable devices and strong connectivity.”

Parents from across the county will have the opportunity to engage in the teaching and learning process, access self-improvement platforms and use the latest software and academic programs employed by the district schools in a center open to parents only throughout the district. They will be

able to update professional resumes and utilize resources to advance their personal and career development.

Henderson said, “The Parent Tech Center is something we've developed to serve a need that's been expressed by the community. They will be able to use HCCSD technology and the

district's network in order to access online resources. We are happy to announce this site and look forward to welcoming our parents to use it.”

For more information contact Deborah Antoine, media spokesperson, by email: dantoine@holmesccsd.org, or call 314-766-8685.

The future of the Mississippi State Flag

By Morgan Bridgeman
The Mississippi Link Intern

As racism and inequality continue to be on the forefront of conversations, debates have started in Mississippi regarding the state flag. The flag, which contains the Confederate battle symbol, has many lawmakers and citizens debating whether the flag should be removed and changed because of concerns that it does not reflect all the citizens in the state.

The Mississippi State flag has been in place since 1894 and is now the only state flag that still has a Confederate symbol. Since its placement, the flag has only been up for change once in 2001. Lawmakers gave citizens the option to vote for the change of the flag. 65% of the voters chose to keep the flag the same, instead of changing to a flag with 20 white stars on a blue field to represent Mississippi's status as the 20th state.

Now years later, citizens around Mississippi are urging lawmakers to change the flag. During the Black Lives Matter protest June 6 at the Governor's mansion, the group called for "the removal of all confederate symbols and memorabilia." Black and white religious leaders in Mississippi also released a statement recently calling the flag "a major source of disagreement and disconnect" urging legislators to remove the Confederate symbol.

A bipartisan group of lawmakers in the state wants to remove the Confederate symbol from the flag and have the support from Phillip Gunn who is the republican Speaker of the Mississippi House. The lawmakers are in the process of wrangling votes

for a resolution to allow changes to the flag. All 45 democrats in the House say they will support but it would take a vote of two-thirds of members in a majority Republican-led legislature.

"Everybody is on board with getting rid of the messages of segregation, and the Old South, and the Civil War, except Mississippi," Rep. Robert Johnson told CNN.

State Senators David Blount and Derrick Simmons have also introduced a resolution that would suspend the rules and let lawmakers vote to get rid of Mississippi's flag. The bill, filed in January, would replace the current flag with the Stennis flag. Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann has to send the resolution to the committee for debate. Two-thirds of the 52 members would have to agree to change the rules.

Governor Tate Reeves, who recently named April "Confederate Heritage Month," has been very clear of his stance on the issue. Reeves told reporters June 10 that he did not support lawmakers deciding to change the flag. He wants voters to have the final say. "I believe that [at] some point, people will want to change the flag, but it should be done by a vote... [not by] politicians doing a backroom deal in Jackson," Reeves stated.

Mississippi is not the only state dealing with the symbol of the Confederacy. Different organizations such as NASCAR, the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps have banned the Confederate symbolism. Several Confederate memorials are also being taken down or vandalized around the country.

God Bless America

By I.D. Thompson
Guest Contributor

"God bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her, and guide her through the night with the light from above." I first learned this song in a segregated elementary school in Mississippi. I remember how proud I felt when we would start our day, singing this song and saying the Pledge of Allegiance. I was even in the Boy Scouts and played baseball and football. I was an all-American boy, and I was proud to be an American. But on my way to becoming all that I could be, something happened that shook my foundational pride. As I was striving to live out my American dream, America told me that I was not good enough because I was black and not white. Everywhere I looked, and in almost every effort I made to be an all-American, I was met with discrimination because of the

COMMENTARY

color of my skin.

And now this, the 2020 episode of American discrimination, the breaking news coverage of the violent manifestation of systemic racism disguised as police officers. Now, while the assault on black lives is not new, what is new is that God has allowed it to be televised for all to see. And I believe that God has allowed it to be televised because He is sick and tired of it. I believe God is saying, enough is enough. My elders would often say, "God don't like ugly." And my friends, racism is ugly, and violent racism is abhorrent, and God is not happy.

And so, if you're wondering why our young people are in the streets, why they're marching, protesting, rioting and looting, here it is. They are sick and

tired of the overt, callous and violent acts of discrimination. They are crying out, "Enough is enough." These young people are simply speaking the language and equity of their pain and distress. And they are answering the call of God, "Who will go in my name?" "Who will tell Pharaoh to let my people go?"

The question for each of us: What will you do? Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said it this way, "If you can't fly, then run, if you can't run, then walk, if you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward." In other words, do something. Keep on pushing.

Let's pray: God bless America. Bless our young Americans as they lead the way to making America a more perfect union. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Isaiah 6:8
Exodus 9:1

Governor Reeves extends Safe Return Order

By Morgan Bridgeman
The Mississippi Link Intern

During a press conference June 10, Governor Tate Reeves announced that he is extending the Safe Return Order. This order will be extended until June 29 at 8 a.m. While extending this order, Reeves also made some changes to how different businesses can continue operations.

Reeves announced that he signed an executive order to remove curfew for restaurants and bars that serve alcohol as long as they do their best to continue to reduce capacity to 50%. The order also allows fitness centers and gyms to fill capacity up to 50%, whereas it was previously 25%.

Reception halls can now have a ca-

capacity of 50% as long as they distantly arrange themselves, similar to restaurants.

Under the order, indoor and outdoor arenas can continue to host events but the capacity can be no more than 25%.

Reeves made sure to acknowledge that these new orders do not indicate that everything is back to normal. "These changes should not be taken as a signal that COVID-19 is gone.... The numbers are not declining," he said.

Government operations are also seeing restrictions being lifted. Reeves announced that he signed an executive order for all government agencies to resume normal business operations with as many safety precautions as

possible no later than July 1. "There are services that you pay for as a tax payer, and we need to make sure that you are [not] denied services for longer than appropriate," Reeves said.

These new orders come in the wake of 498 new cases being reported by the Mississippi Department of Health Monday. During the press conference, health experts announced another 374 new cases along with 21 additional deaths due to COVID-19.

Reeves also announced at the press conference that the back-to-business grant opened June 11 at noon. This grant is available for small businesses with 50 employees or less.

For more information, visit backto-business.org.

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Judge orders 10-day delay after VA governor says Robert E. Lee monument must come down



Robert E. Lee statue on Richmond's historic Monument Avenue shows projected image of George Floyd and BLM.

By Fayeruz Regan
Zenger News

A Virginia judge has ordered a 10-day halt to Governor Ralph Northam's plan to remove a statue of Robert E. Lee statue on Richmond's historic Monument Avenue. Northam announced June 4 that the monument would come down, after days of heated protests rocked the city. Richmond was the capital of the Confederacy during the Civil War, and is often at the epicenter of heated national debates about the war's losing side.

"That statue has been there for a long time. It was wrong then, and it's wrong now. So we're taking it down," Northam said during a press conference.

Judge Bradley B. Cavedo issued the 10-day injunction after a lawsuit argued that the state government committed to protecting the Lee statue when it took control of the land where it sits.

An attorney for plaintiff William Gregory told the court that Virginia agreed to "faithfully guard it and affectionately protect it." Gregory's grandparents were involved with the deal that annexed the land from an adjacent county.

When Richmonders protested the Minneapolis death of George Floyd May 30, a peaceful demonstration erupted in violence. A group of about 500 activists marched to Capitol Square, breaking down a makeshift barricade and hurling bottles at police. The police responded swiftly with tear gas, flashbang grenades and non-lethal rounds.

The crowd dispersed quickly through the city, setting fire to the Daughters of the Confederacy Headquarters and spraying graffiti on Confederate monuments. Others set fire to dumpsters, broke store windows and looted a liquor store and a CVS pharmacy.

Northam ordered an 8 p.m. curfew the following night, to little effect. Crowds grew and protesters became better organized.

"The monuments we put in the middle of our cities should be of people we aspire to be," said Rachel Pais, a protester near the Lee monument. Tammy Breaker said that the monuments "are an idolization of an era where the captivity of our people was worth shedding life and limb for."

Police were widely criticized a day later for deploying tear gas on a crowd of nonviolent protesters at the Lee monument. Officers had already been filmed shooting pepper spray at close range and without warning.

Mikhail Smith, a Richmonder who was sprayed while standing on his own balcony, said he has witnessed Richmond Police shooting three female protesters with pepper spray.

"They sprayed them in the face unnecessarily multiple times," Smith said. "This was Saturday night. There was no curfew in place. They were not breaking any laws."



Black Lives Matter organizers stand before the Stonewall Jackson monument in Richmond, Virginia June 2, 2020. FAYERUZ REGAN/ZENGER



A protester burns sage to "smudge" the Black Lives Matter demonstration in Richmond, Virginia with positive energy June 2, 2020. FAYERUZ REGAN/ZENGER

Smith and his girlfriend were hit by the pepper spray, and the footage has been widely shared.

Richmond Police issued a swift apology for the tear gas incident, posting a message to Twitter. "To our peaceful protesters: We are sorry we had to deploy gas near the Lee Monument. Some RPD officers in that area were cut off by violent protesters. The gas was necessary to get them to safety," they wrote.

Less than two hours after the police department's explanation, the department issued another tweet: "Chief [Will] Smith just reviewed video of gas being deployed by RPD officers near the Lee Monument and apologizes for this unwarranted action. These officers have been pulled from the field. They will be disciplined because their actions were outside department protocols and directions given."

Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney apologized in person the following

day, standing at City Hall amid signs that read "An apology without change is manipulation."

Asked where he was during the tear gas incident, he said: "I've been a black man for 39 years of my life."

Stoney marched with demonstrators from the State Capitol to the Lee monument, but left to a chorus of boos before curfew.

Northam announced less than 48 hours later that the statue would come down.

"Seeing young people reclaim the monument with their art and their words was so moving," Virginia Commonwealth University professor Mary Caton Lingold told Zenger News.

"As a college professor I weep with pride and joy for the young people of Richmond. And as a mother I'm glad that my son gets to witness this moment and live in a world without these towering monsters."

NFL continues strong social justice initiative with \$250 million commitment

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The National Football League's social justice initiative has continued to inspire change in underserved communities, including a \$250 million commitment to bring awareness, dialogue and a renewed direction to the conversation of racial and social inequality.

On Thursday, June 11, officials revealed exclusively to Black Press USA, that the commitment includes dedicated financial resources from the league, clubs and players to nonprofits.

The commitment is also a league-wide amplification of inspiring stories of players making differences in their communities and society and deploying public policy and government affairs resources at the local, state and national levels.

In the 2019 season, NFL teams participated in or hosted more than 500 social justice events.

Since 2017, teams have contributed \$44 million from sources including social justice grants approved by the league's players and owner's workgroup; the NFL Foundation matching grants; an ongoing financial commitment to the Player's Coalition; and as part of 32 teams' social justice matching funds.

"What inspired (the NFL) is the players lending their voices, their work, to issues of social injustice and racial injustice," stated Anna Isaacson, the NFL's senior vice president of social responsibility and community relations.

"This work didn't start yesterday. Around 2016 and 2017, Colin Kaepernick and other players raised their voices and protested and started a movement which then inspired the NFL and our ownership to launch our social justice initiatives."

As a result of those efforts, continued discussions and dialogue, Isaacson said the NFL prioritized four key areas: education, economic advancement, criminal justice reform and community and police relations.

Kaepernick, the former San Francisco 49ers star quarterback, famously took a knee during the playing of the national anthem to protest social and racial injustice.



However, the Super Bowl quarterback's protest was widely misconstrued and condemned by many, and teams have failed to sign the former star.

In the wake of continued police violence against African Americans and the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, the NFL recently issued an apology for failing to understand the scope of the injustice African Americans have faced.

"Over the last couple of weeks, we've been watching what's going on, and there have been tons of discussions about what else we can do, how can we make it clear that this is an authentic and long-term commitment from the NFL," Isaacson told Black Press USA.

"That commitment is a standard \$250 million over 10 years," she stated.

Isaacson noted that the league's 100-year history hasn't just been about football. "We'd be nowhere without our fans, and nowhere without our players and the communities that invest in us," she pronounced.

"We've always been about investing in our communities, and a lot of that investment has been in underserved communities, black communities, and communities of color. Whether it be on cancer-related work, health and wellness, physical activities, or domestic violence. What the NFL players have brought to the forefront over the past couple of years is the importance of bringing community and law enforcement together. We've put our resources, money and time into education and awareness. The NFL has stood for communities and giving back to communities, and particularly under-resourced and underfunded communities."

NASCAR joins growing list of those taking stand against racial injustice



Bubba Wallace Jr., a professional stock car racing driver, competes full-time in the NASCAR Cup Series, driving the No. 43 Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 1LE for Richard Petty Motorsports.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

"The presence of the Confederate flag at NASCAR events runs contrary to our commitment to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all fans, our competitors and our industry," NASCAR officials wrote in a statement.

"Bringing people together around a love for racing and the community that it creates is what makes our fans and sport special. The display of the Confederate flag will be prohibited from all NASCAR events and properties."

Companies and organizations like the National Basketball Association, Goldman Sachs, Amazon, Ben & Jerry's and Nike have also issued statements condemning racial injustice.

However, skeptics say it remains too early to tell if the growing list of businesses will support African-American-owned businesses and the continued cry for racial equality.

"NASCAR isn't a museum. It's a sport. And on race day, it's a sport that invests more time and pageantry honoring Amer-

ica than anyone," writer Dan Wolken wrote in an Op-Ed for *USA Today*. "The people who insist the Confederate flag is an important part of that pageantry are not amplifying the values inherent to American sports. They're mocking the long road to progress that has once again arrived at a defining, historic moment,"

While many took to social media to voice their surprise about NASCAR's decision, one of the sport's premier drivers and NASCAR's lone black competitor joined in to applaud the move.

"I'm just really proud of the efforts of NASCAR for stepping up and wanting to be a part of the change," Bubba Wallace, who's No. 43 Chevrolet car has the #BlackLivesMatter hashtag painted over the vehicle, told Good Morning America.

"I know it's tough, they're in a tough situation," Wallace stated. "They've been in a tough situation for a long time now, but I think this is the most crucial time and time is of the essence right now in the world that we're in and the nation that we're in to create change and create unity and come together and really try to be more inclusive."



The impact of COVID-19 in our community

By **J.C. Watts**
Nat'l Coronavirus Recovery Commission



Washington, D.C., city attorney George Valentine was black, brilliant, and fit. But after contracting COVID-19, he became so weak, he had trouble moving and even speaking. When it got to the point where he could barely breathe, George called an ambulance and waited on the steps of his house for it to arrive. Every second he waited must have seemed like an eternity. Two days later, George died. He was 66 and had suffered from diabetes and high blood pressure before getting sick with the coronavirus.

New research seems to confirm that, across the nation, the coronavirus has disproportionately impacted black people, with death rates more than twice as high as that for any other race. Why is this happening—and can we do anything about it?

There are several explanations for the disparity, and most have to do with how we live, where we work, and our underlying health conditions. There are also factors that are within our immediate control that we can all do right now to protect ourselves, but that many in our community are failing to do.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) cite several possible reasons that black Americans are more affected. One is that many of us live in more highly populated areas where it's more difficult to practice physical distancing from one another. Many of us also live in multi-generational households where it's easier for younger family members to spread the virus to more vulnerable elderly members. This is especially true for lower-income households with smaller living spaces.

Another reason is that a large percentage of African Americans hold frontline service industry jobs as food servers, cleaners and personal-care providers, and in fields such as nursing that are all considered essential during the pandemic, and they bravely continue to go to work each day.

One other big factor is that, sadly, our people also tend to have more underlying medical conditions — like obesity, diabetes and hypertension — that make us more vulnerable.

While many of these factors are difficult to change in the near term, we can do some things immediately to reduce our risks. In my own community in Oklahoma, I've witnessed many black folks not wearing masks or practicing any degree of physical distancing in public. A lot of people just plain aren't following recommendations to keep themselves and their families safe.

Let's be real for a minute. Some

of this stems from past experiences with government that make people skeptical about what they're hearing from public officials. For some, it's the bitter memories of government-enforced segregation and other racist policies. For others, it's the fact the young black men have more negative encounters with the police, and people don't want to wear masks and give anyone an excuse for mistaking them for criminals. For others, it's that politicians have made promises to us for decades and have failed to make good. Why trust them now?

Despite all this, please don't put your health at risk. We have to do all we can to protect our communities and our loved ones from being exposed to infection.

First, avoid close contact with people who are sick. Being in the same enclosed room with somebody who has the virus can lead to infection. Second, keep at least six feet between you and others if you have to leave home. People can be infected even if they're not showing symptoms. Third, wash your hands or sanitize them often and for at least 20 seconds. Also avoid touching your face, mouth and eyes with unwashed hands.

I know the advice about wearing masks is a tough one for many folks, but perspectives have changed during this pandemic. So cover your mouth and nose with a bandana or other face covering if you have to leave home. The mask provides some protection for others in case you're infected and don't know it.

Finally, be sure to get medical help if you have any flu-like symptoms or have trouble breathing, persistent pain in your chest, a fever or a dry cough.

As I write this, The Heritage Foundation's National Coronavirus Recovery Commission, of which I'm a member, is wrapping up its final report offering recommendations to help us all recover from this pandemic. The commissioners are deeply concerned that COVID-19 has hit minority communities so hard and are urging medical researchers to look into how we can prevent this disproportionate impact in the future.

The commission is also recommending ways that our churches and community institutions can be a positive force for encouraging people to take preventative actions to stop the spread of COVID-19.

I'm hopeful that our nation will conquer this disease and that together, we will emerge from this chapter in our history stronger than before. But ultimately for that to happen, the cure must start with us.

J.C. Watts is founder and chairman of J.C. Watts Companies, chairman of Black News Channel, and a member of National Coronavirus Recovery Commission.

All hands on deck: Mississippi vs. COVID-19

By **Levell Williams**
Online Editor

In 2019, Mississippi ranked lowest in national health status, according to AmericasHealthRankings.org. However, in the era of the COVID-19 coronavirus, there is a chance to help even the odds in health conditions. The order of the day is COVID-19 prevention. And it's a job for everyone.

Yet, for many this call to action has not been the top priority. Governor Tate Reeves' recent extension of the safe return order has allowed many businesses and governmental institutions to resume working. Plus, protests continue nationwide, vying for police reform. All in all, COVID-19 is far from the only thing on people's minds.

On June 8, Mississippi health professionals Olexis Haymon of UMMC and cardiologist Dr. Malcolm Taylor joined Tougaloo College students to discuss COVID-19's progression. The virtual event "Cardiovascular Disease and African Americans in The Age of COVID-19" was hosted by Tougaloo ASPHN interns Alexandria Morgan, sophomore, and Jontrell Mack, freshman.

As of June 15, according to the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), Mississippi has had 19,799 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19 and 895 deaths, with four being in the month of June.

"It...worries me when... people on social media say 'oh, this isn't real,'" said



Morgan

Haymon. "I see [this] everyday," she said, referring to her work as a nurse at UMMC.

As of June 14, the MSDH reported 15,323 presumed recovered cases. "Many people are recovering from this disease," said Haymon. "We must not forget about the numbers." Dr. Taylor noted that those who have recovered carry antibodies to the virus. However, he elaborated, "We haven't proven that having an antibody [ensures]... immunity and how long that immunity lasts."

One population who scarcely recovers from COVID-19 is the elderly and immuno-compromised. Haymon and Dr. Taylor shared their severest concerns for this group, noting that youths are the most apt to put them in danger by accidentally exposing them to the virus. This hap-



Mack

pens through large gatherings, neglecting to wear masks and failing to wash one's hands properly.

A person can also be contagious, while showing no symptoms of COVID-19, which makes it even more difficult to know when the virus is being spread. All in all, the situation can seem rather grim. Still, there is something every Mississippian can do.

Each and every Mississippi resident is qualified to practice 20-second hand-washing and exercising social distancing of at least 6-feet whenever possible. Those, in combination with effective quarantine practices, can go a long way to save the lives of fellow Mississippians, especially the elderly and immunocompromised.

Governor says mask-shaming during virus is wrong

By **Emily Wagster Pettus**
The Associated Press

Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves said Monday that the state still faces danger from the coronavirus pandemic, and people should not harass or make fun of those who follow public health recommendations to wear masks in public.

During a news conference, a Columbus reporter asked about "mask shaming." Joey Barnes of WCBI-TV said he had his face covered while shopping at Walmart and a man looked him in the eye and coughed three short times.

"It's wrong," Reeves said. "If people want to wear a mask into a Walmart or into a restaurant or into any other business — not only should they be allowed to do so; in many instances, they ought to be credited for doing so. ... Everyone out there that is choosing to wear a mask is actually doing something good for their fellow Mississippians."

Thousands of people in Jackson and hundreds more people in several other Mississippi cities took part in demonstrations Saturday to protest police violence against African Americans. Masks were prevalent among protesters.

Reeves said Monday that he supports the right to protest and he was pleased the Mississippi events were peaceful. But, he said he's concerned that protesters who stood close to each other could unintentionally spread the virus later to people who are medically vulnerable.

"My concern is, what if those individuals went and protested on Saturday and then went and had Sunday lunch with their grandmom," Reeves said.



Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann, left, confers with an unmasked Gov. Tate Reeves in Senate Chambers at the Capitol prior to a Senate Appropriations Committee hearing on the state's economic outlook and anticipated revenue collections as affected by COVID-19, at the Capitol in Jackson, Miss., Tuesday, May 26, 2020. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS

Reeves said he and the state health officer, Dr. Thomas Dobbs, spent Monday morning in phone calls with mayors and county supervisors urging them to be vigilant about trying to slow the spread of the highly contagious virus.

The Health Department said Monday that Mississippi — with a population of about 3 million — has had at least 17,768 cases and 837 deaths from the coronavirus as of Sunday evening. That was an increase of 498 cases and 20 deaths from the numbers reported a day earlier; the latest count included nine deaths that occurred between May 13 and June 1, with information from death certificates arriving later.

The department said at least 13,356 people in Mississippi are presumed to have recovered from COVID-19, based on when they tested positive.

The number of coronavirus infections is thought to be far higher because many people have not been tested, and studies suggest people can be infected without feeling sick. For most people, the coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms that clear up within weeks. For others, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause severe symptoms and be fatal.

The Health Department said Monday at least 2,065 cases of the virus have been confirmed in long-term care facilities such as nursing homes, with at least 435 virus-related deaths in those facilities.

The department said 217,229 coronavirus tests had been conducted in Mississippi as of Sunday; 9,140 of those were blood tests that detect whether a person has antibodies that usually show up after an infection is resolved.

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Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bids

Bid 3141 Windows Laptops for Teachers

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 1:00 P.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 30, 2020, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. 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 Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (5:00 p.m., June 22, 2020) local time to be the given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the electronic reverse auction at www.centralbidding.com on June 30, 2020 beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

6-11-2020, 6-18-2020

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Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bids

Bid 3140 Student Chromebooks

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) June 30, 2020, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. 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 Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

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6-11-2020, 6-18-2020

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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 30, 2020, at which time said bids will be publicly opened at the City Hall located at 219 South President Street (City Council Chambers) in City Hall for the following:

93684-063020 36 –Month Maintenance & Repair of City Towers

BIDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT [HYPERLINK "http://WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV"](http://WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV) WWW.JACKSONMS.GOV AND [HYPERLINK "http://WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM"](http://WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM) 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) 960-1025 or 1533

6-11-2020, 6-18-2020

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, JULY 08, 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 ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

2. CASE NO. 2020-13, REQUESTED BY: JILL PIECZYK TO REPLACE ONE EXISTING WINDOW AND FRAME DOOR WITH PRE-HUNG, PRIMED, INWARD SWINGING DOOR AND TO BUILD A PRESSURE TREATED WOOD LANDING WITH 2 STEPS AT 859 FAIRVIEW ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

3. CASE NO. 2020-14, REQUESTED BY: MILLSAPS COLLEGE/COLEMAN BOND TO REMOVE TWO TREES AT THE PRESIDENT'S HOME AT 1543 NORTH STATE ST. 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 JULY 1, 2020.

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for Reverse Auction Bids

Bid 3142 POS System

Reverse Auction bidding for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) July 10, 2020, at which time Reverse Auction bidding begins electronically. 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 Reverse Auction bid opening ends.

Unpriced Specification responses must be submitted for this bid event. Specifications are due no later than (12:00 p.m., June 30, 2020) local time to be the given the opportunity to participate in the auction. Vendors submitting acceptable specification responses will be invited to participate in the electronic reverse auction at [HYPERLINK "http://www.centralbidding.com"](http://www.centralbidding.com) www.centralbidding.com on July 10, 2020 beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time. Vendors must be registered with Central Bidding in order to participate in the reverse auction. For any questions concerning the reverse auction process or how to register, please contact Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs
RFP 2020-10 Core Text (Classroom Libraries)
RFP 2020-11 District Benchmark

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) July 15, 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 rfp's, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfp's 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.

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS – NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
NCRS EWP SELECT SPECIALTY HOSPITAL STABILIZATION PROJECT
Jackson, Mississippi
PROJECT NO. 19BS000.901

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at the City Clerk's Office located at 219 S. President St., for supplying all labor, materials and equipment as required under the plans and specifications for the construction of NCRS EWP SELECT SPECIALTY HOSPITAL STABILIZATION PROJECT, City Project No. 195000.901. Please address envelope to City Clerk, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205.

The entire project must be completed within sixty (60) calendar days. The contract will be subject to liquidated damages in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) per calendar day for each consecutive calendar day in which the contract time is exceeded.

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 precondition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) plan. Failure to comply with the City's ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact Michael Davis with the office of Economic Development at (601) 960-1856. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program are available at 200 South President Street, Warren Hood Building, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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

Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, and Proposals forms are on file and open to public inspection at Crown Engineering, PLLC located at 5269 Keele Street, Suite C, Jackson, Mississippi 39206. One (1) copy of the Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents may be procured at Crown Engineering, PLLC, upon payment of \$100.00 dollars for each set, which will not be refunded. All request and questions regarding plans and specifications can be directed to Calvin Dean, PE, Principal, (601) 713-4346. The Standard Specifications adopted by the City Council may be procured from the Department of Public Works, if desired upon payment of \$5.00 dollars for each specification.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on June 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (CST), in the 5th floor conference room of the Warren Hood Building, 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. All potential contractors, subcontractors, and other interested parties are encourage to attend.

"Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. 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." Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi law and possess a certificate of responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Contractors establishing its classification as to the value and type of construction on which it is authorized to bid. Each bidder must deposit with its proposal, a bid bond or certified check in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid for the work, payable to the City of Jackson, as the bid security.

The successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded. Attorneys-in-fact who sign Bid Bonds or Payment Bonds and Performance Bonds must file with each bond a certified and effective dated copy of their power of attorney.

Proposals shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk prior to the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its proposal.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all informalities

Robert K. Miller
Director, Department of Public Works

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS – NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
NCRS EWP FONTAINE PARK DRIVE STABILIZATION PROJECT
Jackson, Mississippi
PROJECT NO. 19BS001.902

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Jackson, Mississippi, until 3:30 P.M. CST, Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at the City Clerk's Office located at 219 S. President St., for supplying all labor, materials and equipment as required under the plans and specifications for the construction of NCRS EWP FONTAINE PARK DRIVE STABILIZATION PROJECT, City Project No. 195001.902. Please address envelope to City Clerk, P.O. Box 17, Jackson, MS 39205.

The entire project must be completed within sixty (60) calendar days. The contract will be subject to liquidated damages in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) per calendar day for each consecutive calendar day in which the contract time is exceeded.

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 precondition to selection, each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) plan. Failure to comply with the City's ordinance shall disqualify a contractor, bidder or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact Michael Davis with the office of Economic Development at (601) 960-1856. Copies of the ordinance, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the Program are available at 200 South President Street, Warren Hood Building, Second Floor, Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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

Contract Drawings, Contract Specifications, and Proposals forms are on file and open to public inspection at Crown Engineering, PLLC located at 5269 Keele Street, Suite C, Jackson, Mississippi 39206. One (1) copy of the Plans, Specifications, and Contract Documents may be procured at Crown Engineering, PLLC, upon payment of \$100.00 dollars for each set, which will not be refunded. All request and questions regarding plans and specifications can be directed to Calvin Dean, PE, Principal, (601) 713-4346. The Standard Specifications adopted by the City Council may be procured from the Department of Public Works, if desired upon payment of \$5.00 dollars for each specification.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on June 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. (CST), in the 5th floor conference room of the Warren Hood Building, 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi. All potential contractors, subcontractors, and other interested parties are encourage to attend.

"Official bid documents can be downloaded from Central Bidding at www.centralbidding.com. 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." Bidders must be qualified under Mississippi law and possess a certificate of responsibility issued by the Mississippi State Board of Contractors establishing its classification as to the value and type of construction on which it is authorized to bid. Each bidder must deposit with its proposal, a bid bond or certified check in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid for the work, payable to the City of Jackson, as the bid security.

The successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded. Attorneys-in-fact who sign Bid Bonds or Payment Bonds and Performance Bonds must file with each bond a certified and effective dated copy of their power of attorney.

Proposals shall be submitted in triplicate, sealed and deposited with the City of Jackson's City Clerk prior to the hour and date designated above. Each bidder shall write its certificate of responsibility number on the outside of the sealed envelope containing its proposal.

The City of Jackson reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all informalities

Robert K. Miller
Director, Department of Public Works

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

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, 07/21/2020 , for:

RE: GS# 609-031 Marina Improvements (Re-Bid)
J. P. Coleman State Park
RFx #: 3160003701

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

Professional: Dean McRae Engineering, Inc.
Address: Post Office Box 573
Iuka, Mississippi 38852
Phone: 662-423-9104
Email: kmcrae@deanmcrae.com

A deposit of \$125.00 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

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SERVICES

The City of Jackson (City) is requesting proposals from qualified Service Providers to provide residential solid waste collection and transportation to a designated transfer station or landfill. The City is also requesting proposals to establish and manage recycling drop-off locations within the City or provide curbside recycling, and to provide for the transportation and recycling of the dropped off materials. ***Award of a contract for this project is subject to the availability of funding.***

It is the City's intent to evaluate the proposals based on technical merit and price and to choose the Service Provider whose proposal provides the best value to the City. The City reserves the right to waive any irregularities, reject any and/or all proposals, in whole or in part, when, in the City opinion, such rejection is in the best interests of the City.

The City will perform an initial review of the technical proposals submitted by each Service Provider for qualifications. The City will open and review only the cost proposals of those Service Providers determined to be technically qualified.

Selection of Service Provider for Contract negotiation will be based on an evaluation of the following criteria:

- A. Service Provider's innovative approach to encourage and maintain a sustainable solid waste system (20%)
- B. Service Provider's experience, qualifications and references as demonstrated in similar engagements (25%)
- C. Expertise of key personnel to be assigned to the project (10%)
- D. EBO Plan and commitment to exceeding MBE and FBE participation goals (10%)
- E. Fee proposal (35%) (The Fee proposal will be objectively evaluated as follows: The lowest Fee proposal for the combination of the Residential Solid Waste Collection and each Recycling Collection option will be awarded the total points available. The remaining Fee proposals shall be awarded a proportionate share of the total points determined by dividing the lowest Fee proposal combination of the Residential Solid Waste Collection and each Recycling Collection option by each other Fee proposal and multiplying the proportion by the total points available. The result of this process will be that each Service Provider will receive a total score for each Recycling Collection option bid. The City may also determine that based on the pricing received

each contractor, bidder or offeror shall submit a completed and signed Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Plan, with the bid submission, in accordance with the provision of the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Executive Order. Failure to comply with the City's EBO Executive Order shall disqualify a contractor, bidder, or offeror from being awarded an eligible contract. For more information on the City of Jackson's Equal Business Opportunity Program, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 601-960-1055. Copies of the Executive Order, EBO Plan Applications and a copy of the program are available at 200 South President Street, Room 223, Hood Building, Jackson, Mississippi.

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

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

A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Andrew Jackson Conference Room of the Hood A. Hood Administration Building, 200 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201.

Attendance by Proposers intending to submit on the Project is strongly encouraged. All potential Subcontractors and other interested parties are invited to attend.

One (1) bound original and five (5) bound copies of the technical proposal, labeled accordingly and including the required EBO Plan, as well as one unbound signed original EBO Plan, shall be submitted in a sealed envelope or box marked "Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Services". The original and copies of the proposal shall be indexed with tabs as requested in Section 2.6 Proposal Contents. The cost proposal shall be submitted in a separate sealed envelope that will be submitted in the same sealed envelope or box as the technical proposal. This sealed envelope shall be clearly labeled "Cost Proposal" and include the name of the proposer on the outside of the envelope.

Proposal may also be submitted electronically. Electronic proposal can be submitted at www.centralbidding.com. For any questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

All proposals must be received no later than 3:30 p.m. Central Daylight Time, on July 14, 2020, whether submitted electronically or as physical copies. All proposals submitted as physical copies shall be submitted to the attention of:

If by hand delivery: City of Jackson
Office of the Municipal Clerk
219 South President Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

If by mail: City of Jackson
Office of the Municipal Clerk
Post Office Box 17
Jackson, MS 39205-0017

Specifications and the Fee Proposal for the project are available for inspection at the Office of the Municipal Clerk, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201. Specifications and the Fee Proposal form are available for download through Central Bidding online at www.centralbidding.com and at the City of Jackson website, www.jacksonms.gov/bid-opportunities/. Hard copies are available upon request from the City of Jackson Solid Waste Division, Warren A. Hood Administration Building, 5th Floor, Jackson, Mississippi 39201.

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

Robert K. Miller
Robert Miller, Director
Department of Public Works

6-11-2020, 6-18-2020

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 Thursday, 07/23/2020 , for:

RE: GS# 525-025 Server Room Sub Floor Repairs
Department of Rehabilitation Services
RFx #: 3160003700

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

Professional: Burris/Wagnon Architects, P.A.
Address: 500L East Woodrow Wilson Avenue
Jackson, Mississippi 39216
Phone: 601-969-7543
Email: info@burriswagnon.com

A deposit of \$50.00 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

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
SIGN VARIANCES FOR MEADOWBROOK OFFICE PARK

THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SIGN VARIANCE FOR MEADOWBROOK OFFICE PARK TO RECEIVE CITIZEN INPUT ON TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE CITY HALL BUILDING, 219 SOUTH PRESIDENT STREET, JACKSON, MS, 39201. INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CONTACT THE SIGNS & LICENSE DIVISION (601) 960-1154 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

6-18-2020, 6-25-2020

Let brotherly love continue

(In Memory of Mr. George Floyd)

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



An individual with brotherly love does not seek his own glory or praise or contend for his own way. He is careful not to hurt or to destroy the influence of others. He is concerned about the influence of others if this love is working as it ought to in his life. This love prefers others before its own good. There are positive, constructive attributes of this kind of love. We read in Philippians 2:3-4, “Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interest of others.” Love will stop harsh words. Love will forgive those who

have injured us, and it will help us to ask forgiveness of those whom we might have injured. Love works both ways. Do you realize that the Bible lets us know that if there is any hatred or animosity in our hearts, we are not saved: John wrote in 1 John 3:15, “Who-soever hateth his brother is a murderer; and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.” Our Christianity is contingent upon our love toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. In measuring our love, we need to put it up against the love of Jesus. The Bible says He laid down His life for us. Therefore, John wrote in 1 John 3:16, “We ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” Again, Hebrews 13:1 says, “Let brotherly love continue.” I believe that love is truly the need of the hour. One act of charity may be what is needed

to help a brother or a sister get over the hump. Love is greatly needed. A true child of God should never have a part in working against someone. No, the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but they are prayer, love and understanding. Christian, friends, we need to stand as individuals. We should not let someone else do our thinking for us. Each of us is responsible for our own stand. The Bible says in Isaiah 1:18, “Come now, and let us reason.” We need each other. We should not allow contention and strife to work. We ought to help one another. We are dependent on one another, and we are dependent on God. If we are children of God, we should be real examples of giving ourselves and sacrificing for the cause of God. The Apostle Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:29-32, “Let no corrupt communication proceed out

of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God (divisive spirits and wrong attitudes grieve the Spirit of God), whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you. If we have a need in our hearts, we should seek the Lord earnestly? We need each other. Happy Father’s Day! 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.

God’s word is calling us out

By Ronnie Glasper
Minister and Servant of God

Born in America of African American citizenship, our constitutional right to fair, just and equal representation and protection under our constitution must be realized. Isaiah 1: 18 come now, and let us reason together, sayeth the Lord. A citizen is a person who owes allegiance to a government and is entitled to its protection (fair, equal representation and protection under the law. Birth-right is a right, privilege of full fair, equal representation, and protection under the law or possession to which one he is entitled by birth. Nationality is a legal relationship involving allegiance of an individual and protection on the part of the state or government, and in trust, commitment dedication, faithfulness, honor and goodwill to this relationship and allegiance, African Americans have throughout America’s history proudly, willingly, bravely, and dutifully helped our country to fight her wars and battles in the name of independence and freedom for all. Therefore, helping America to become the land of the free and the home of the brave and the great nation that it is today.

equal representation and protection of due process. Under Roman law the magistrates became afraid because of their denying Paul and Silas of their rights by way of Paul’s and Silas’s Roman citizenship. Now the magistrates themselves have broken the law and would be held accountable under Rome’s constitution. Another example, Acts 22: 25 and as they bound Paul, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, again Paul protests for his rights, is it lawful for you to whip a man that is a Roman citizen? Uncondemned (by the law) Acts 22: 26 When the centurion heard that he said, take heed what thou doest, For this man is a Roman citizen entitled to fair, equal and just representation and protection of Roman law. Acts 22: 27 When the chief captain came, and say it unto Paul, tell Me, art thou a Roman Paul said, yes. Acts 22:28 And the chief captain answered Paul with a great sum obtained Paul this freedom (the chief captain also honoring Paul’s rights under the law as a Roman citizen)and Paul said, but I was born with the rights of Roman citizenship. Acts 22: 29 and the chief captain also was afraid (why? When?) After he knew that Paul was a Roman (citizen) and big cause he had bound him. (The centurion had broken Rome’s law, and his treatment to Paul the apostle, a citizen of Rome, And was afraid he would be held accountable by Rome’s law. The Romans had respect, honor and fear of abusing or breaking The Roman law Against Roman citizens, even of none Roman descent. Acts 23: 27, Paul was taken of the Jews and should have been killed of them. Then came I with an army and rescued him (verse 22 the chief captain with an army) having understood that Paul was a Roman (having understood that Paul is by birth a Jew, (More importantly, he is a citizen of Rome) with full, fair, just and equal rights, representation and protection under Roman law. When the United States of America do as the Roman Empire, fully honor fairly justly and equally our constitution for African Americans and for all her citizens without respect of persons (which is sin, James 2: 9) race, social status, or political views, or whether rich or poor, then she too can proudly, honorably and morally uphold the constitution of the United States of America, “indivisibly with Liberty and justice for all.” In Luke 6: 46, Jesus Christ, the Lord asked, “and why call ye me, Lord, Lord (of God bless America) and don’t do the things which I say (or command you)? Matthew 7: 12, Jesus Christ said; therefore, all things what so ever you would that man should do to you, do you likewise even so to them. Amen. Ronny Glasper, a truck driver, is a graduate of Provine High School and resides in Jackson, MS

Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning
Followings 9:30 a.m.
Sunday 5th 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service
11:15 a.m.
(Following following worship service for Sundays)

Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study
7 p.m.

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

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

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 6:30 p.m.

Phone Number: | Access Code:
(425) 436-6260 | 627 6205#
(712) 832-8330 (Alternate Number)
YouTube Channel: True Light Baptist Church

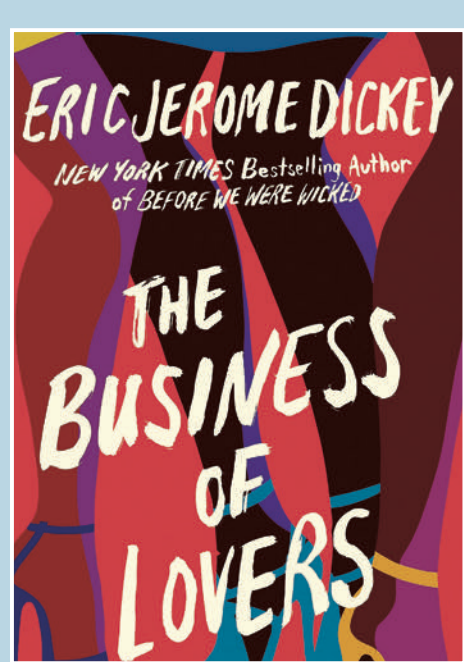
Instead of looking at it as a payment, look at it as an investment in 40 million African Americans who deserve equal treatment and equal opportunity,” says Billionaire Bob Johnson.

The protest can no longer just be a demonstration, but it must be a movement that demands fundamental change on every level in the society starting with justice, education, housing, economics and healthcare. Dismantling a racist and corrupt law enforcement system across the nation will be difficult, but it must take place from the top to the bottom.

The day of reckoning is upon America, and justice is calling out its name in all races, ages, genders, color of one’s skin, and all human beings. The police must be able to right the wrongs and build trust in all communities. America will continue to be two separate and unequal societies without reparations, equal protection and opportunity under the law.

It is time to reform America from the top to the bottom and build trauma and peace circles to facilitate sustainable change. The work is just beginning, when the protest ends.

For more information about this historic preservation work, please send an email to info@khafreinc.org; visit www.csadeturnipseed.com or visit www.cottonpickers.us



BOOK REVIEW: THE BUSINESS OF LOVERS

BY ERIC JEROME DICKEY
C.2020, DUTTON
\$27.00 / \$36.00 CANADA • 387 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

How is it that there’s never enough money?
No matter how much comes in, more goes out, even when you work hard, scrimp and save. You can’t keep doing this, don’t know how long you can keep your nose above water, and in the new book “The Business of Lovers” by Eric Jerome Dickey, you’ll do just about anything to make more money.
Brick never did mind being Penny’s driver.
He wasn’t working anyhow

so when she asked for a ride to meet a “client,” he said he’d wait to be sure she was okay. She threw a few bucks at him, he made sure she was safe, and it was all good. So when Penny brought two other women back to Brick’s car after one night at a high-end hotel, he suddenly had himself a “pace” of women, a full-time bodyguard job, and three part-time lovers-sometime-roommates.
He hadn’t meant to sleep with Penny in the beginning; she was in love with a cheater, though, and she needed com-

fort.
Brick was captivated by Mocha Latte, who’d grown up on a Texas farm and wanted that life again, plus husband and kids. He was attracted to Christiana, the Cuban, who was so bruised by the past that she could only look into the future.
It was Christiana who told Brick about the business; it was she who offered to set him up with rich women who wanted love on a single-night basis.
It was Mocha Latte who actually pulled him in.
Not that he couldn’t use the

money.
Some months before, Brick had fought cancer alone. He didn’t want his younger brother, André, to know about his problems; André had a career to manage. He didn’t want to tell his big brother, Dwayne, about his illness; Dwayne lost his job, had a teenage son and a baby-mama who demanded more child support.
It was money that ended Brick’s last relationship. Money that put him in strange women’s beds. What else would being broke cost him?

These days, there are three things you can count on for sure: The sun will rise tomorrow. It’ll rain somewhere in the world. And author Eric Jerome Dickey will tell a good story.
This one is a little bit different, though.
You shouldn’t be surprised that there’s plenty of sleeping around in “The Business of Lovers” or that it’s graphic, so be warned. It’s filled with grown-up drama but at the risk of spoiling, you can expect a happy ending that you won’t expect. It’s got a touch of hu-

mor, the sly kind. This book’s profane, even nasty but none of it gets out of hand, that’s the most enjoyable part of it. You’re leisurely taken through a surprisingly small community of characters on a tight number of mattresses with a mini-arsenal of plot moves, a lack of too much that’s absolutely refreshing, like a cool drink beneath hot sheets.
That’s what you want this summer, right? So whether you’re stuck inside or turned out, “The Business of Lovers” is on the money.

ZACK WALLACE

Hinds County Circuit Clerk

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Circuit Clerk's Office
P.O. BOX 327
Jackson, MS 39205
Phone: (601) 968-6628
Fax: (601) 973-5547

Jury Duty Recording:
First Judicial District
(601) 969-0052

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Circuit Clerk's Office
P.O. Box 999
Raymond, MS 39154
Phone: (601) 857-8038
Fax: (601) 857-0535

Jury Duty Recording:
Second Judicial District
(601) 857-8869

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
(Except on legal holiday)

Services of the Clerk:

- Civil/Criminal Filings of Circuit and County Court
- Marriage License
- Medical License
- Voter Registration/Absentee Voting

VOTER INFORMATION
Verify/Update your Registration Today

- You must be registered 30 days before the Election.
- Absentee Voting begins 45 days before the Election

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

- Marriage License: \$36.00
 - Both applicants must come to the Circuit Clerk's office together to apply
 - Proof of age must be provided in the form of Driver's License, Birth Certificate or other legal document which contains name and date of birth.

Website: www.hindscountymississippi.com

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Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

PLTW Distinguished School: Congratulations Gary Road Intermediate School

Congratulations to Gary Road Intermediate School on receiving National Recognition for your commitment to empowering students through expanded learning opportunities. This month Gary Road Intermediate is one of five Mississippi schools honored with the Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Distinguished Launch School award. GRI school increased student access, engagement and achievement through their PLTW programs this school year. And, each award-winning school was supported by a PLTW grant from Chevron or Entergy – valued PLTW Partners. Chevron and Entergy are delighted to partner with GRI.

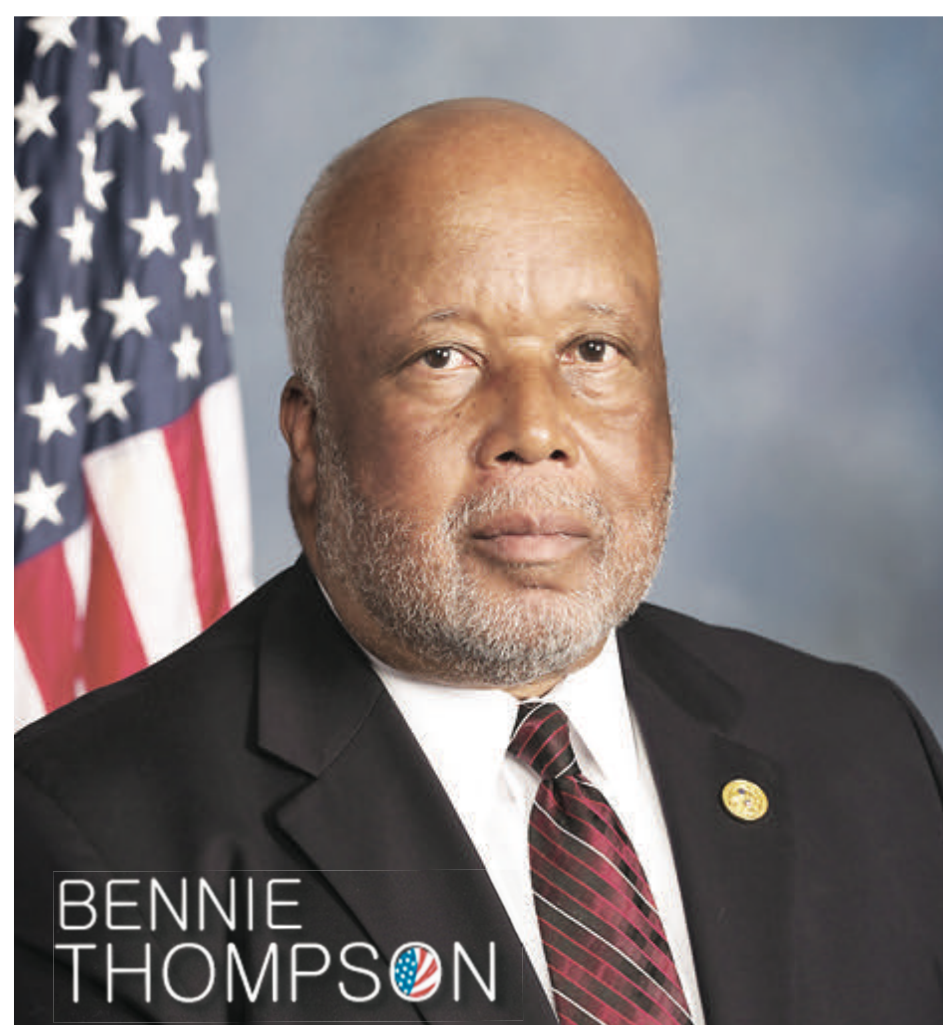


Highlights from Carver Middle School 8th Grade Celebration



Congressman Thompson's Statement on Officers Charged in George Floyd's

I commend the Minnesota Attorney General for charging all four officers involved in the killing of Mr. George Floyd. The unjust murder of George Floyd has sparked a movement across the globe. Our country is now witnessing the expected result of African Americans being brutalized and dehumanized for centuries. Police have been accused of torturing and murdering African Americans for a number of years usually with no consequence. Although we are pleased that the officers have been charged we will only be satisfied when justice is served. Civil Rights Activist Ella Baker once said, "Until the killing of black men, black mothers' sons, becomes as important to the rest of the country as the killing of a white mother's son, we who believe in freedom cannot rest until this happens." Now, it is up to the people of goodwill to make America a better place for all people."



The same conversation my father had with me is the same conversation I'm having to have with my grandson.



(Photo by Michael D'Antuono)

RE-ELECT Bennie Thompson
Don't forget to Vote!!!

November 3, 2020

bennie_thompson@bellsouth.net

(601)866-9100 or 1(866)423-6643

benniethompson.com

Paid for by Friends of Bennie Thompson