

Jacob Blake’s dad says son left paralyzed by police shooting

By Mike Householder and Scott Bauer
Associated Press

A black man shot multiple times, apparently in the back, by police in Wisconsin is paralyzed from the waist down and has “eight holes” in his body, the father of victim Jacob Blake said.

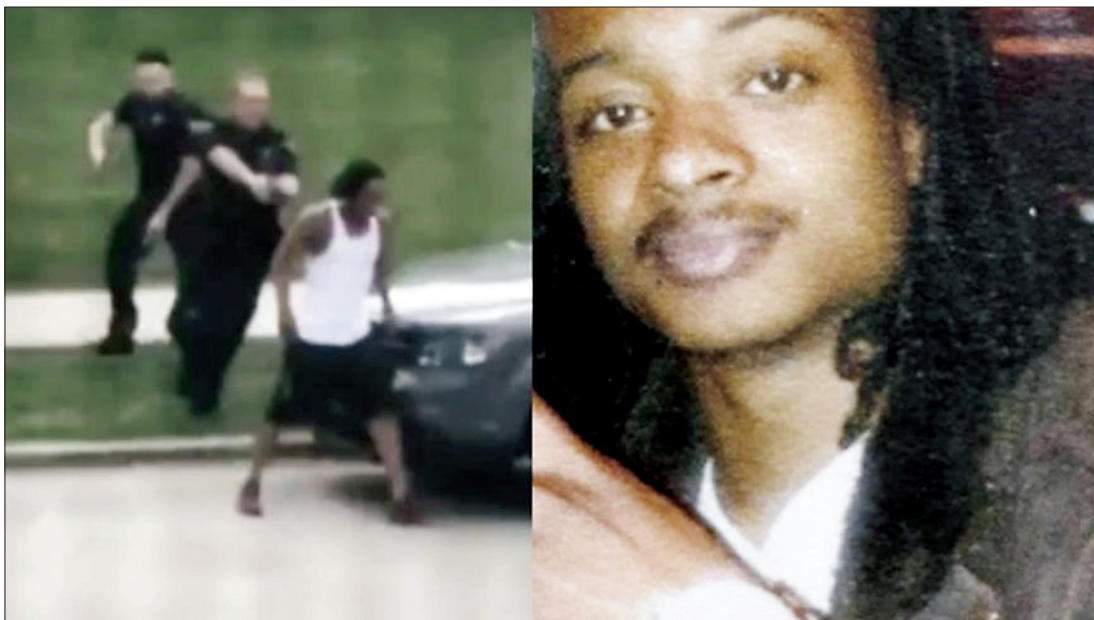
The shooting in broad daylight Sunday by police in Kenosha, captured on cellphone video that quickly spread on social media, ignited new protests over racial injustice in several cities. It comes three months after the death of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police set off demonstrations around the United States and touched off a wider reckoning on race.

Blake’s father, also named Jacob Blake, told the *Chicago Sun-Times* in a story published Tuesday that he didn’t know if his 29-year-old son’s paralysis would be permanent. The older man was traveling from North Carolina to be with his son, who is being treated in a Milwaukee hospital.

“I want to put my hand on my son’s cheek and kiss him on his forehead, and then I’ll be OK,” the father told the newspaper. “I’ll kiss him with my mask. The first thing I want to do is touch my son.”

Blake’s father said that he learned Sunday night that officers had shot his son eight times and shortly thereafter he watched the video, which appears to show his son being shot in the back.

Ben Crump, a civil rights attorney representing the family, said three of Blake’s sons – aged 3, 5 and 8 – were in the



Blake being followed by police officers with weapons pointed at his back.

car at the time of the shooting. Crump scheduled a Tuesday afternoon news conference in Kenosha with Blake’s family members to address the shooting.

The father has not returned multiple messages left by The Associated Press.

He is slated to speak at a March on Washington commemoration Friday organized by the Rev. Al Sharpton. His father and the victim’s grandfather, Jacob Blake Sr., was a prominent minister and civil rights leader in the Chicago area who helped organize a march and spoke in support of a comprehensive housing law in Evanston, Illinois, days after the 1968 slaying of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The officers were placed on administrative leave, which is standard practice in such cases. Authorities released no details about them and did not immediately

respond to requests for their service records.

Since the shooting, anger has spilled into the streets of Kenosha and other cities, including Los Angeles, Wisconsin’s capital of Madison and in Minneapolis, the epicenter of the Black Lives Matter movement this summer following Floyd’s death.

Hundreds of protesters defied an 8 p.m. curfew Monday night, massing in downtown Kenosha. Some set fire to buildings, cars and dumpsters, threw bottles and shot fireworks and then clashed with officers in riot gear, including 125 members of the Wisconsin National Guard, who deployed tear gas as they guarded the courthouse.

A city block was cordoned off Tuesday, so officials could survey damage. Several storefronts were badly damaged. Smoke filled the air and visibility was low as firefighters used

water cannons on still smoldering buildings.

“Nobody deserves this,” said Pat Oertle, owner of Computer Adventure. Computers were stolen, and the store was “destroyed,” she said.

“This accomplishes nothing,” Oertle said. “This is not justice that they’re looking for.”

Earlier Monday, when Kenosha Mayor John Antarmian moved a news conference from a park to inside the public safety building, a crowd rushed to the building and a door was snapped off its hinges before police in riot gear pepper-sprayed the crowd.

U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson and U.S. Rep. Bryan Steil, both Republicans, called on Democratic Gov. Tony Evers to do more to quell the unrest. Steil said he would request federal assistance if necessary.

Blake
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Kamala Harris wins backing of ‘Divine Nine’

The Democratic VP candidate’s sorority sisters and HBCUs have also joined her fight to put Joe Biden in the White House

By Cynthia Yeldell Anderson
Zenger News

In her historic speech accepting the vice presidential nomination for the Democratic party, Sen. Kamala Harris introduced her family – among them her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, “The Divine Nine” and others from historically Black colleges and universities. The California Democrat’s shout-out echoed worldwide.

As the first HBCU graduate and the first member of a historically black Greek letter organization named to a major party ticket, Harris’ nomination has created a groundswell of enthusiasm among black Greek member organizations whose combined membership exceeds two million globally.

Carla Mannings is the chief business development officer at Partners for the Common Good. She united with a group of sorority sisters to watch Harris’ speech at the Democratic National Convention Thursday. “There is a level of excitement that I’ve never seen,” she said.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. is a member of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, which represents eight other predominately black Greek letter organizations: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Frater-



Harris

nity, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. Affectionately known as “The Divine Nine,” each has graduate and undergraduate chapters in the U.S. and abroad.

Since Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden announced Harris as his running mate, social media has been filled with support.

“Kappa Alpha Psi is definitely behind her, she has our vote,” said member Randall C. Phippen Jr., who attended Howard University with Harris and served with her on student government there. “I’ve talked to Omegas and Deltas who support her, and Deltas have shared the social-media post of ‘Deltas for Kamala.’ The support is across the board.”

Many prominent black political figures and civil-rights

Harris
Continued on page 3

State Flag Commission selects two finalists

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

On Tuesday, August 25, members of the Commission to Redesign the Mississippi State Flag met and chose two flag designs to replace the retired Mississippi State Flag which carried the Confederate battle emblem. Governor Tate Reeves signed House Bill 1796, June 30, which retired the last state flag in the United States of America carrying this emblem.

Before meeting to discuss the final selections, commission members gathered at the Old Capitol Museum and viewed each of five flag finalists, which had been raised on the flagpole to see how they looked hanging in the air. There were two designs to advance, one was im-



The New Magnolia Flag

ages of “The Great River Flag” and the other was “The New Magnolia Flag.” Several legislatures along with Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann were present.

The meeting, which was presided over by Chairman Reuben Anderson took place at the Two Mississippi Museums. Anderson was joined by commission members Cyrus Ben,



The Great River Flag

Sherri Carr Bevis, Frank Bordeaux, Mary Graham, Betsey Hamilton, Robyn Tannehill, T.J. Taylor and J. Mack Varner.

The *Mississippi Link* asked Senator Hillman Frazier, of

District 27, about the task of the Redesign Committee. Frazier was one of the many state legislators who advocated for changing the flag for years. He said the committee had a tough



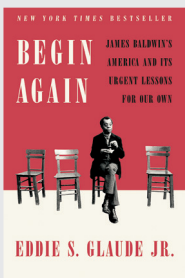
Frazier

Anderson

job, having to go through many entries. Frazier stated, “There were many great designs and ideas. First they went through over 3000 entries, then narrowed it down to five, and then two. It was a tough job, with the two finalists being contrasting flags.

Images of “The Great River Flag” and “The New Magnolia Flag” have been placed on the

Flag
Continued on page 3



Mississippi painter gives people ‘something to talk about’

By John Beifuss
The Commercial Appeal

Mississippi native Carl Moore’s “American Gothic” series of paintings borrows its name from Grant Wood’s famous 1930 portrait of a grim-faced white man and woman posed in front of an Iowa farmhouse, the man grasping a trident pitchfork that seems as much a defensive weapon as an agricultural tool.

The inhabitants of Moore’s “Gothic” canvases inhabit a similarly beleaguered – Wood’s painting was completed during the Great Depression – but very different America.

Most of them are black, like the artist, and they wear coronavirus-inhibiting surgical-style masks, stand knee-deep in floodwaters, brandish hand-held infrared thermometers, or lift their fists in pride. Meanwhile, a white man wears a red cap; his back is turned, but it’s understood that the front view would reveal the words “Make America Great Again.”

In contrast to the painstaking realism of Wood, the style is bold and flat, as in a comic strip or propaganda poster. The people and objects in the paintings are haloed with thick, brightly colored borders. The frames are square, like the television screens and Polaroid snapshots



Carl E. Moore’s Crosstown Arts Residency PHOTO BY JOSEPH RONDO

that dispensed documentary content during Moore’s youth.

“I think artists are somewhat historians,” explained Moore, 54, a native of Canton, Mississippi, and a current artist-in-residence at Crosstown Arts. “I am an artist, I am a historian.”

As such, it’s logical that images that evoke what Moore labels “media-based events” – the coronavirus outbreak, Black Lives Matter demonstrations, and so on – find their way into Moore’s art.

“The coronavirus became part of our daily life,” he said. “And then just as there’s some understanding or acceptance of that new reality, George Floyd took place.

“It heightened what I’d already been working on, but it

took it to another level. That weight of the virus and George Floyd, I think, for any artist, becomes very heavy.”

In a normal year, Moore would be one of about a dozen local and out-of-town artists-in-residence at Crosstown Concourse taking advantage of a 3-year-old Crosstown Arts program that provides painters, photographers, musicians and other creative types with free private studio space; access to a shared “art-making” facility; two free meals a day from Crosstown restaurants; and even (if needed) a free apartment to live in.

2020 is hardly a normal year, however, so the summer residencies have been postponed. The shutdown didn’t affect Moore,

however, who already was deep into creating art at Crosstown as the recipient of the arts group’s annual 11-month residency. (Most of the other residencies end at three months.)

Typically, about a third of the artists selected for the program are local, so they can live at home, if they want (as Moore does). The purpose of bringing the out-of-town artists is to expose them to Memphis art, in the hope that they, in turn, will help expose Memphis art to the world.

“Memphis has been sort of isolated, at least in terms of visual artwork, so it is an opportunity for people to come here and see what we’re doing,” said artist Mary Jo Karimnia, manager of the residency program.



Moore

“If we want to have a presence in the world art scene, we have to be involved in it, and this is a real, concrete way to do that.”

Meanwhile, the residency – largely funded with grants and endowment money – helps to rejuvenate the artists.

“We really want to give people time and space to work,” Karimnia said. “We don’t require them to have specific projects, we don’t require them to have a show. ... It’s concentrated time to focus on your work, and that’s something that is really valuable to creative people.”

A handsome if somewhat avuncular figure, with dark-rimmed glasses and a goatee sprinkled with gray hair that lends its wearer a professorial gravitas, Moore grew up in Can-

ton where his father – now 91 – still lives.

Moore’s older siblings all studied art at various times and would bring home copies of serious art magazines, which exposed young Carl to cutting-edge trends in the art world, which augmented the visual education he already was receiving from Marvel comic books.

He had a lot of time to soak in the art. Battling kidney disease, “I was in and out of the hospital for probably the first 10 years of my life,” Moore said.

As a result, he spent much of his time indoors, immersing himself in art, isolated from his peers who played outside.

Painter
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Harris

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Howard University. TED EYTAN VIA FLICKR

leaders, such as Martin Luther King Jr., (Alpha Phi Alpha), Rev. Jessie Jackson (Omega Psi Phi) and Shirley Chisholm (Delta Sigma Theta), were or are members of the Divine Nine.

“As a proud member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., which is the fraternity of John Lewis, James Weldon Johnson, Rev. Al Sharpton and many others, we are grateful for all the members of the Divine Nine Black Fraternities and Sororities who are overjoyed by the nomination of Kamala Harris for the office of Vice President of United States of America,” said Ben Chavis, CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

“Harris is the first to be a VP nominee for a major party ticket. “It’s clearly a historic moment,” said Everett B. Ward, president, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., on behalf of the nine NPHC presidents. Sen. Harris represents the high standards of public service and leadership that define members of the National Pan Hellenic Council,” he said.

“All of our organizations, prior to Sen. Harris’ nomination, historically have been involved in voter registration, voter education and advancing public policy that involves African Americans,” Ward said. “The nomination underscores the importance for our organizations to continue promoting voter engagement and voter education. We are committed to protecting the right to vote for all citizens, especially when there are organized efforts to suppress the black vote.”

The Divine Nine experience doesn’t end after college. Volunteerism, commu-

nity service, advocacy work, social gatherings, mentoring programs and strong bonds are sustained throughout adulthood. Members wear their respective fraternity or sorority colors with pride.

“Once you become a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, you’re always a member,” stated Mannings. “We are about serving the community.”

Divine Nine member organizations, along with graduates and students across the country, also take pride in the fact that Harris is a graduate of a HBCU.

“Her selection is a nod to the excellence that comes out of HBCUs,” said Inez Brown, who attended Howard University and pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha with Harris. “Often, people think HBCUs are not up to the same standards as predominantly white institutions and it’s absolutely not true. Statistics will tell you the most successful people in business, in finance and in different areas are products of HBCUs.”

Pippen said Harris was a member of the debate team and student government during their college years. She volunteered for community service events with Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and was active in social justice issues on campus, such as protesting against apartheid.

For sorority sister Jill Louis, a Dallas attorney, Harris’ nomination has a higher purpose: She has been selected for a mission to rescue democracy.

“For us, it’s a bigger cause,” says Louis. “We are looking to galvanize the entirety of the Divine Nine and all members of HBCUs across the country.”

Flag

Continued from page 1

Mississippi Department of Archives and History website, alongside a new non-binding public poll: www.mdah.ms.gov/flagpoll-top2.

Information about the flag designs and a comment section are included with the public poll, which will expire at noon

September 1.

Frazier said the commission will choose the final design at a meeting September 2 and then present it to the governor and legislature. He said the decision to approve or disapprove the flag will be on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Blake

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Attorney Ben Crump at Press Conference Tuesday with Julia Jackson, Jacob Blake's mother



A Wisconsin state lawmaker said Evers and Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes, who is black, encouraged violence with their comments after the shooting.

“They did not call for peace. They did not encourage calm,” Republican state Sen. Howard Marklein said. “They did encourage people to jump to conclusions and take negative action.”

Evers’ spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Evers was quick to condemn the shooting in Kenosha and Monday called on the Republican-controlled Legislature to take up a package of police reform bills in a special session next week. But Republicans showed no interest in doing that.

In Madison, about 500 protesters marched to the state Capitol Monday night, and some broke windows, stole from stores and sprayed graffiti along the way. Police used tear gas and pepper spray on the crowds and six people were arrested, according to Madison police.

In Minneapolis, 11 were arrested after breaking windows at the county jail on Monday night. One police officer suffered a broken hand in an altercation with demonstrators, the sheriff’s department said.

Police in Kenosha, a city of about 100,000 in between Milwaukee and Chicago, said they were responding to a call about a domestic dispute when they encountered Blake Sunday.

The man who said he made the cellphone video, 22-year-old Raysean White, said he saw Blake scuffling with three officers and heard them yell, “Drop the knife! Drop the knife!” before the gunfire erupted. He said he didn’t see a knife in Blake’s hands.

In the footage, Blake walks from the sidewalk around the front of his SUV to his driver-side door as officers follow him with their guns pointed and shout at him. As Blake opens the door and leans into the SUV, an officer grabs his shirt from behind and opens fire while Blake has his back turned. Seven shots can be heard, though it isn’t clear how many struck Blake or how many officers fired.

Police did not say whether Blake was armed or why police opened fire, they released no details on the domestic dispute, and they did not immediately disclose the race of the three officers at the scene.

The family of Jacob Blake held a press conference Tuesday, Aug. 25, in Kenosha, WI. Among the speakers was Blake’s mother, Julia Jackson. She said she did not want violent protests. “Let’s use our hearts, our love and our intelligence to work together to show the rest of the world how humans are supposed to treat each other.”

The Wisconsin Department of Justice is leading the investigation into the shooting, which is expected to take several weeks.

WABG sponsors Money Road Unity Festival

Special to The Mississippi Link

Each year since the death of Heather Heyer in Charlottesville, Virginia, WABG Radio in Greenwood, Miss. has sponsored the Money Road Unity Festival. Heyer was killed when a motorist rammed his car into counter protesters of a “Unite the Right” rally in 2017. The intent of the festival is quite simple according to founder and organizer James Poe.

“When we saw the direction the country was going in 2016, we just wanted to do our small part to unite the world,” said the Jackson, Miss. native.

Poe graduated from Provine High School and spent over 20 years in the USAF before being assigned to Columbus AFB, Miss. as an Air Traffic Control superintendent in 1984. After retiring from the Air Force Poe started his own business as a broadcaster, something he had done since high school and in



2007 bought his own station, WABG-AM 960 in Greenwood. He has managed the station practically as a one-man-show since its inception.

The station has continually gained traction with its unique blend of blues, classic rock and “stuff” as a format. The station specializes in blues, news and interviews.

Poe has always been big on promotions since his exposure to WOKJ Radio in Jackson as a child so it was only natural for him to do festivals on the

grounds of his unique facility.

“The station is situated on a plantation just north of Greenwood out on Money Road. We have 16 acres of flatland property surrounding our little shack so we have plenty of space to ‘social distance’ and we will implement COVID-19 precautions including requiring masks, providing special ‘sanitation stations’ and screening people as they come in,” he said.

The Money Road Unity Festival is free and open to the

public. It starts at noon Saturday, September 5, and runs till late (normally overnight).

Bring your campers, tents, ice chests and enjoy the music provided by a variety of artists including The New Gospel True Tones (Gospel) who will open the event.

Other artists include: Dorothy McClung Lewis (The Mississippi Song Bird), Mississippi Marshall (Delta Blues), Terri Lynn & Thunder Blues from Nashville (Country/Blues/Jazz), Groove Johnson

(Delta Blues), Ben Wiley Payton (Blues/Soul), Steve Kolbus (Chicago Blues/Harmonica), Randy Weeks (Acoustics Guitar), Burlap Rebellion (Americana/Rock/Blues), Amedee Frederick The Cajun Blues Man from Louisiana with his special blend of music and Red Meat Rhetoric, a young trio of delta teens headlining our “Open Jam Session.”

The Money Road Unity Festival will be emceed by Randy “Wild Man” Brown, The 2020 Jackson Music Awards DJ of

The Year. Brown will also be the music director and stage manager.

The festival is sponsored by Visit Mississippi, Ben Sims, Atsuko Shichiji and WABG Radio.

A 2005 Chevrolet Traverse LT vehicle will be auctioned off with bidding starting at \$3500.

This year’s Money Road Unity Festival – The Pandemic Session – is in honor of Lingham “Lee” Odems Jr. of Jackson, Miss. who died of cancer February 1, 2020.



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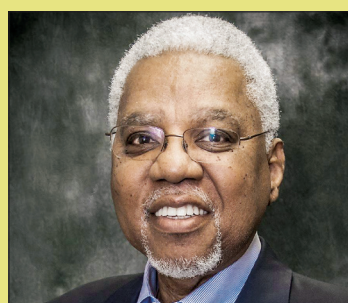


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The festival is sponsored by Visit Mississippi,
Ben Sims, Atsuko Shichiji and WABG Radio.

A 2005 Chevrolet Traverse LT Vehicle will be auctioned off with bidding starting at \$3,500.
This year's Money Road Unity Festival - The Pandemic Session is in honor of Lingian
"Lee" Odems, Jr. of Jackson, Mississippi who died of cancer February 1, 2020.

In Memoriam
Lingian "Lee" Odems, Jr.



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High school closed because of ‘unnecessary’ gatherings

By Leah Willingham
Associated Press/ Report for America

A Mississippi high school is shutting down for two weeks because of a coronavirus outbreak that happened after large “unnecessary” social gatherings where distancing guidelines were ignored, the state health officer said Tuesday.

Dr. Thomas Dobbs said officials at Biloxi High School made the “exactly right decision” when they announced Monday that students would learn virtually until at least Sept. 8. Extracurricular activities were also temporarily suspended, including some of the first football games of the season, causing some negative reactions from athletes and parents.

“If we want to have football, if we want to have school, we can’t have social events that violate the executive orders that are on the books,” Dobbs said during a news conference.

Gov. Tate Reeves said the school made the decision to close after between one-third and one-fifth of all students were exposed, a situation he described as a “learning experience” for Biloxi and other districts in the state. The school announced Monday that 15 people in the community tested positive for COVID-19 and 324 students were sent to quarantine.

“At some point, that’s such a large number, that they decided to more or



Biloxi High School

less decide to quarantine the school for at least 14 days,” Reeves said Tuesday. He added: “Don’t have parties with 150 to 200 people there. It’s not going to work out well for anyone.”

While Biloxi High School is closed, other schools in the district for younger students will remain open.

Since Mississippi schools began reopening in-person in late July, districts have sent almost 4,000 students and 600 teachers home to quarantine because of outbreaks, Dobbs said Tuesday. An

entire fourth grade class in the Lafayette County School District was sent to quarantine over the weekend after more than half of the fourth-grade teachers tested positive for the virus.

Summer Newman has three children at Biloxi High School, and she was not happy that the school would be closing for two weeks. She said her children didn’t do well in a virtual learning environment; their grades and mental health suffered.

“I don’t think being home is condu-

cive to my kids learning anything, but there’s really not much I can do about it,” she said Tuesday. “Depression, stress and anxiety – they’ve experienced all of those things since the beginning of the year.”

Newman said all of her kids play sports, and they trained all summer for games that are now being postponed. She said she fears the seasons will get canceled altogether.

“They were looking forward to a school year and going to school and get-

ting back to some sort of normalcy, and now here we go again with the yo-yo effect, not knowing what’s going to happen day to day,” she said.

Ultimately, the approach of shutting school down just doesn’t seem logical, Newman said. In addition to her kids at Biloxi High School, Newman said she has a child at the elementary and middle school, and they aren’t being asked to stay home.

“If we can go to a grocery store, sit in a casino, go to bars and do all of those things, then why can’t our children go to school?” she said. “Why can’t they hang out with the friends they haven’t seen in six months?”

The Health Department said Tuesday that Mississippi, with a population of about 3 million, has had at least 79,206 reported cases and at least 2,315 deaths from COVID-19 as of Monday evening. That’s an increase of 801 confirmed cases and 67 deaths from numbers reported the day before, with 23 occurring between July 1 and Aug. 17 and later identified from death certificate reports.

The true number of virus infections is thought to be far higher because many people have not been tested and studies suggest people can be infected without feeling sick. The virus causes mild or moderate symptoms for most but can be more severe or fatal for some, especially older adults and those with existing health problems.

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Mississippi to apply for jobless aid, won't pay extra \$100

By Leah Willingham
Associated Press/Report for America

Republican Gov. Tate Reeves said Thursday that Mississippi will apply for a federal program to expand unemployment for residents who lost work because of the coronavirus pandemic.

However, he said the state is not opting to pay an additional \$100 per person, per week to bolster checks, meaning the maximum extra money residents can expect is \$300 a week.

The option recently provided by the White House involves less than the \$600 a week in federal aid that unemployment recipients received until the assistance expired on Aug. 1. Congress has been unable to agree on an extension amid an impasse on a new round of coronavirus aid.

Trump's executive memorandum, issued Aug. 8, gave states the option to apply to the federal government to expand unemployment benefits by up to \$400 per week if state governments shoulder 25% of the financial burden _ \$100 a week.

Reeves said Mississippi will not be able to afford the 25% match. He said that, if approved for the program, the state chose a second option offered by the federal government, which allows states to accept \$300 a week per person and use the amount already being paid to jobless residents per week to meet the \$100 requirement for states.

"We don't have an extra \$22 million a week laying around to provide that additional \$100," Reeves said Thursday.

It is unclear how long the extra payments would last, and it may be only for a short time.

The maximum unemployment a person can receive in Mississippi is \$235 a week, meaning with the federal benefit, the maximum someone filing a jobless claim could make

under the new program in the state is \$535. Only those who make at least \$100 a week on unemployment and lost work due to the pandemic will be able to apply, per federal guidelines, Reeves said.

If Mississippi is approved, payments are likely to begin in a few weeks and will be retroactive to Aug. 1, when the last unemployment package ended.

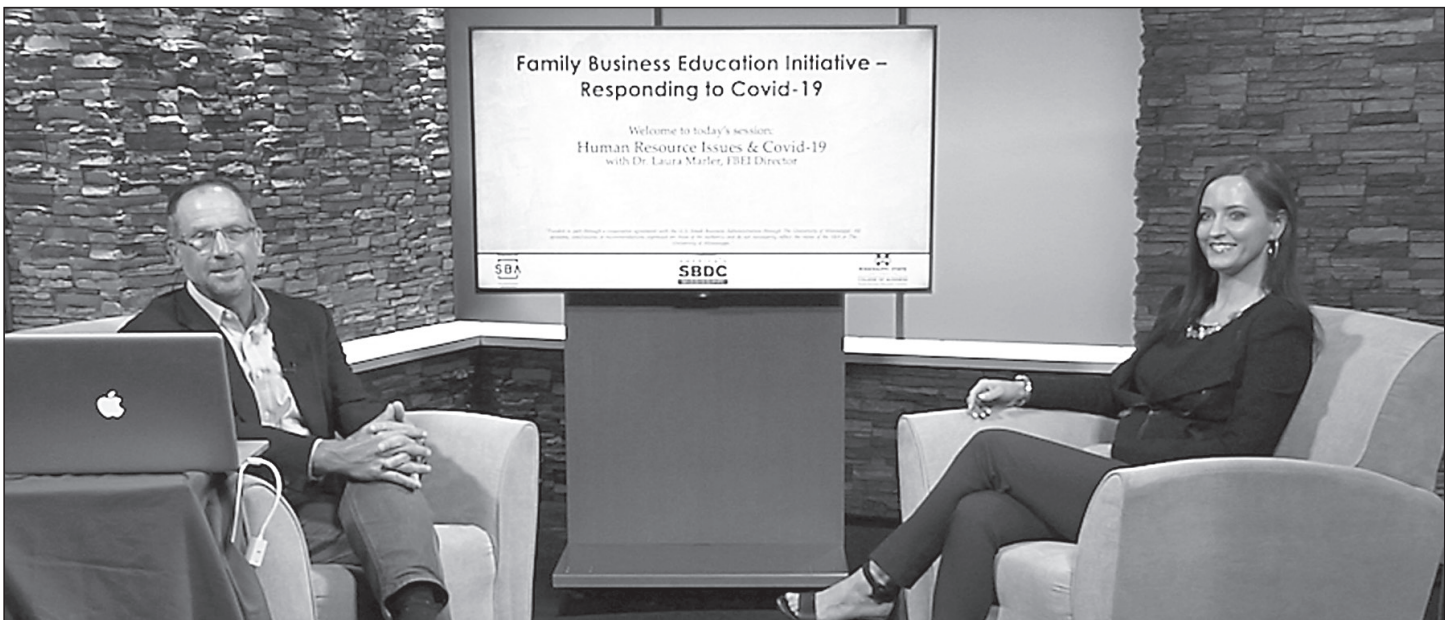
The Federal Emergency Management Agency approved at least nine states and the additional \$300. More than 10 other states, including nearby Alabama, Arkansas and Tennessee, announced plans to participate in the program this week and are waiting on approval.

Additionally, Reeves signed an executive order Thursday banning tailgating, picnicking and rallies before football games. Reeves said games will be limited to 25% capacity this season and fans will have to practice social distancing of at least 6 feet. The first college games are expected to take place at the end of next month.

The Health Department said Thursday that Mississippi, with a population of about 3 million, has had at least 75,449 reported cases and at least 2,190 deaths from COVID-19 as of Wednesday evening. That's an increase of 894 confirmed cases and 27 deaths from numbers reported the day before, with two deaths occurring between July 24 and Aug. 9 and identified later from death certificates.

The true number of virus infections is thought to be far higher because many people have not been tested and studies suggest people can be infected without feeling sick. The virus causes mild or moderate symptoms for most but can be more severe or fatal for some, especially older adults and those with existing health problems.

MSU, Mississippi Small Business Development Center partner to produce COVID-19 business video series



MSU College of Business Director of Outreach Jeffrey Rupp interviews Management and Information Systems Department Head Laura Marler about human resources issues related to COVID-19. MSU's Family Business Education Initiative, which Marler is director of, partnered with the Mississippi Small Business Development Center to produce a series of videos aimed at helping businesses navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi State University is partnering with the Mississippi Small Business Development Center to produce a series of videos aimed at helping businesses navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

Faculty and staff in MSU's College of Business developed the nine-part video series with the Mississippi SBDC. The project is one of several that have been funded with CARES Act monies allocated to the MS-SBDC to help small businesses in Mississippi weather the COVID-19 crisis. Covering a wide variety of COVID-19 topics, the videos address the survival, growth, and sustainability of family businesses and their special needs.

The series is an outreach of the College of Business' Family Business Education Initiative (FBEI), established in 2018 with a mission to help small businesses become sustainable and grow.

"During a time of economic disruption, adapting to a 'new

normal' is essential for the survival and growth of organizations," FBEI Director and Department Head of Management and Information Systems Laura Marler said. "Our series addresses Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness, COVID-19 tax relief, as well as how to approach human resource and business insurance issues. The videos highlight the need for both survival and growth by including information about adjusting business models, conducting marketing research to better serve customers, considerations for new pricing strategies, and even how to reach new customers such as the U.S. Government."

The MSU Small Business Development Center, which is part of the Mississippi SBDC network, also helped with series development. Production was done at MSU's University Television Center, with College of Business Director of Outreach Jeffrey Rupp serving as on-screen host and interviewing business experts from the

MSU faculty and local community in key areas.

"A large percentage of the businesses in Mississippi are family businesses which makes this partnership with FBEI even more special as family businesses have unique circumstances that need to be addressed," said MSU SBDC Director Chip Templeton. "We are excited about the launch of these videos and confident they will be helpful. We are very appreciative of Dr. Marler, Jeffrey Rupp and the presenters for their time and effort and for the information they are sharing."

The project is funded through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Since the CARES Act was signed into law in March, the MSU SBDC has been working with Mississippi business owners to help them navigate the legislation's relief programs by providing counseling, on-line workshops and a dedicated resource page on the website, www.mssbdc.org/covid19.

org/covid19.

"We are very excited to partner with MSU to produce this video series, said Sharon Nichols, state director for the Mississippi Small Business Development Center. "The Mississippi small business community will benefit tremendously from knowledge that is available in this series."

The videos can be seen at <https://www.business.msstate.edu/faculty-research/research-centers/family-business-education-initiative/covid19>.

For more on the MSU College of Business, visit www.business.msstate.edu.

The Mississippi Small Business Development is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration through the University of Mississippi. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA or the University of Mississippi.

Hurricanes

msema.org

Shelter Operations in a COVID19 Environment FAQ Final The 2020 Hurricane Season begins June 1 and continues through November 30, and a hurricane is one of the most dramatic, damaging and life altering events that can occur in our state.

This year marks the 15 years since Hurricane Katrina struck Mississippi on August 29, 2005, taking the lives of 231 citizens, destroying thousands of homes and causing billions of dollars in damage.

Mississippians should be aware that while the state is better prepared than ever to respond to a hurricane, it is imperative they need to take an active role in improving their ability to prepare for, survive and recover from the impacts of hurricanes by developing a family emergency plan, learning evacuation routes and assembling a three to five-day disaster supply kit that should contain:

- Flashlight and battery-powered radio with additional batteries.
 - Canned and non-perishable food.
 - Bottled water.
 - Toiletry items.
 - Pet food and pet supplies.
 - Medicine and prescription medication.
 - Copies of important family papers and documents.
 - Personal protective equipment
- By promoting preparedness information about the dangers to the public's health and safety that hurricanes pose and helping with relief efforts when these powerful storms strike, we can reduce

the loss of life and property and help our neighbors recover more quickly from their devastating effects. With education, preparation, forecasting and coordination, we can save lives and improve Mississippi's ability to withstand the impact of hurricanes.

If a hurricane threatens your area, you should: Listen to the radio or TV for information.

Secure your home, close storm shutters or board up your windows, secure outdoor objects or bring them indoors.

Turn off utilities if instructed to do so. Otherwise, turn the refrigerator thermostat to its coldest setting and keep its doors closed.

Turn off propane tanks.

Avoid using the phone except for serious emergencies.

Move your boat if time permits.

Ensure a supply of water for sanitary purposes such as cleaning and flushing toilets. Fill the bathtub and other large containers with water.

You should evacuate under these conditions:

If you are directed by local authorities to do so, be sure to follow their instructions.

If you live in a mobile home or temporary structure, such shelters are particularly hazardous during hurricanes no matter how well-fastened to the ground.

If you live in a high-rise building, hurricane winds are stronger at higher elevations.

If you live on the coast, in a floodplain, near a river or on an inland waterway.

If you think you are in danger.

Hurricane Preparedness




1

Know Where to Go.

Decide on safe, familiar places where your family can go for protection or to reunite. Make sure these locations are accessible for household members with disabilities and/or animal-friendly if you have pets or service animals. If you are ordered to evacuate, know the local hurricane evacuation route(s). Contact your local emergency management agency for more information.

Put Together A Disaster Supply Kit.

Include a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies, NOAA Weather Radio, and copies of your critical information if you need to evacuate.



2



3

Set Up Emergency Alerts


Many communities have text or email alerting systems for emergency notifications. It's best to have multiple ways to get warnings including wireless emergency alerts and weather apps, local tv and radio, social media, and a NOAA weather radio.

Establish A Communication Plan.

Work with your family and loved ones to compile important information by completing the form on the following link: <http://bit.ly/1p6Xnvc>



4





Mounting US deaths reveal an outsize toll on people of color

By Anna Flagg and Damini Sharma
of The Marshall Project and
Mike Stobbe and Larry Fenn
of The Associated Press

As many as 215,000 more people than usual died in the U.S. during the first seven months of 2020, suggesting that the number of lives lost to the coronavirus is significantly higher than the official toll. And half the dead were people of color – blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans and, to a marked degree unrecognized until now, Asian Americans.

The new figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention highlight a stark disparity: Deaths among minorities during the crisis have risen far more than they have among whites.

As of the end of July, the official death toll in the U.S. from COVID-19 was about 150,000. It has since grown to over 170,000.

But public health authorities have long known that some coronavirus deaths, especially early on, were mistakenly attributed to other causes, and that the crisis may have led indirectly to the loss of many other lives by preventing or discouraging people with other serious ailments from seeking treatment.

A count of deaths from all causes during the seven-month period yields what experts believe is a fuller – and more alarming – picture of the disaster and its – racial dimensions.

People of color make up just under 40% of the U.S. population but accounted for approximately 52% of all the “excess deaths” above normal through July, according to an analysis by The Associated Press and The Marshall Project, a non-profit news organization covering the criminal justice system.

“The toll of the pandemic shows just how pervasive structural racism is,” said Olugbenga Ajilore, senior economist at the Center for American Progress, a public policy organization in Washington.

Earlier data on cases, hospitalizations and deaths revealed the especially heavy toll on black, Hispanic and Native Americans, a disparity attributed to unequal access to health care and economic opportunities. But the increases in total deaths by race were not reported until now; nor was the disproportionate burden on Asian Americans.

With this new data, Asian Americans join blacks and Hispanics among the hardest-hit communities, with deaths in each group up at least 30% this year compared with the average over the last five years, the analysis found. Deaths among Native Americans rose more than 20%, though that is probably a severe undercount because of a lack of data. Deaths among whites were up 9%.

The toll on Asian Americans has received far less attention, perhaps in part because the numbers who have died –

about 14,000 more than normal this year – have been far lower than among several other groups. Still, the 35% increase in Asian American deaths is the second-highest, behind Hispanic Americans.

In an average year, somewhere around 1.7 million people die in the United States between January and the end of July. This year the figure was about 1.9 million, according to the CDC.

Of the possible 215,000 additional deaths above normal through July – a total that has since risen to as many as 235,000 – most were officially attributed to coronavirus infections. The rest were blamed on other causes, including heart disease, high blood pressure and other types of respiratory diseases.

The CDC has not yet provided a breakdown by race and ethnicity of the deaths from other causes. The newly released data is considered provisional and subject to change as more information comes in. Certain categories of deaths – suicides or drug overdoses, for example – often involve lengthy investigations before a cause is assigned.

The outbreak’s disproportionate effect on communities of color is not limited to a specific region of the country.

The virus first hit urban areas on the East and West coasts. But according to University of Minnesota researcher Carrie Henning-Smith, disparities have also been seen as the disease spread across the country to Southern and Western states with large rural populations.

For example, Arizona reported almost 60% more Native American deaths so far this year compared with previous years, and New Mexico recorded over 40% more. Between the two states, over 1,100 more Native Americans have died than normal.

Another surprise: Only about half of the Asian American deaths have been officially linked to COVID-19, lower than for all other groups. Jarvis Chen, a lecturer at Harvard University’s public health school, said Asian Americans may not be getting tested at the same rate as other groups, for reasons that are unclear, and that could result in some virus deaths being attributed to something else.

Dr. Namratha Kandula of Northwestern University echoed that theory. She also cautioned against generalizing about the underlying health of Asian Americans as a whole, noting that they are a diverse group from many different nations and cultures.

“It’s not enough to clump them all together because it does not tell the whole story,” she said.

Charlton Rhee, whose parents came to the U.S. from South Korea, lost both of them to COVID-19 this spring as the virus surged in New York City. His mother, Eulja Rhee,

went out one day, and when she returned, “she told me someone had coughed in her face” as she was getting off a bus, said Rhee, a nursing home administrator in Queens. “She was wearing a mask, but it got into her eyes.”

She died in the hospital, just shy of her 75th birthday.

Rhee found out a day later that his father, Man Joon Rhee, had tested positive. “He had caught it from my mother,” he said. “His heart was broken. And he said to me that he wanted to know if it was OK to be with Mom.”

He stayed home, receiving hospice care, and died at 83.

“The Asian American community has suffered greatly during this,” and government officials provided little help, especially initially, Rhee said. Community associations had to step in with food drives, personal protective equipment and other help.

Racial disparities in deaths predate COVID-19, and many forces combine to produce them:

- Some communities of color are more likely to have lower incomes and to share living space with larger families, increasing the risk of transmission.
- They have higher rates of health problems, including diabetes, obesity and lung ailments, the result of living in places where healthier foods are harder to get and the environment is polluted. Those same factors can make them more likely to become severely ill or die from the coronavirus.
- They are more often uninsured and tend to live farther from hospitals.
- They are disproportionately incarcerated, which has been linked to long-term effects on health.
- Experts point to a long history of discrimination that causes distrust of the health care system.
- And people of color are more likely to fill essential roles that require them to keep going to work during the pandemic.

Dr. Sobiya Ansari, who works predominantly with black immigrant cancer patients in New York City, worries when they miss or postpone radiation or screenings. Already, the city has seen double the number of black deaths this year compared with previous years.

“If a storm hits and you’re safe inside your house, you’re safe,” she said. “Then there is a population of people that don’t even have umbrellas. The storm hits, and they’re just really swept away.”

AP video journalist Marshall Ritzel contributed to this story.

This story is a collaboration between The Associated Press and The Marshall Project that explores the true toll of the coronavirus pandemic on communities of color. Anna Flagg and Damini Sharma reported for The Marshall Project.

Entire fourth grade class in Miss. sent to quarantine

By Leah Willingham
Associated Press/ Report for America

An entire fourth grade class in Mississippi is in quarantine after a student and more than half of a school’s fourth grade teachers tested positive for coronavirus.

Lafayette County School District Superintendent Adam Pugh told The Associated Press Monday that the district notified the families of more than 200 fourth grade students at Lafayette Upper Elementary School to quarantine for two weeks over the weekend. One student and six out of 10 or 11 total fourth grade teachers have tested positive for the virus, and most of the rest of the fourth grade teachers were exposed, he said.

“We don’t have enough staff to cover our entire fourth grade class in-person, so we had to send everybody home, to do virtual lessons,” he said.

As students in Mississippi return to school, the state is reporting the most new cases per capita in the past 14 days, according to Johns Hopkins University data analyzed by The Associated Press. The seven-day rolling average of the positivity rate in Mississippi has risen over the past two weeks from 20.71% Aug. 9 to 40.83% Aug. 23.

Lafayette County School District teachers returned to campus Aug. 3, and students returned to school Aug. 5. They have reported nine total cases among staff members district-wide and only one case in a student – the one at Lafayette Upper Elemen-

tary School.

Pugh said the school is in the midst of contact tracing investigations to figure out whether those who have tested positive for the virus were exposed at school or outside of school.

“I don’t know why it’s just our fourth grade teachers, I can’t answer that question at this point, but we are doing everything we can to mitigate the spread and keep our students and faculty as safe as we can,” he said. “By teaching them virtually for two weeks, we are trying to separate our teachers and our students.”

Pugh said the district has posted new cases as they are reported on Facebook in an effort to be transparent. School districts in Mississippi are required to report new cases of coronavirus to the Mississippi State Department of Health, which releases numbers by county. The state does not make the number of positive cases in individual school districts public.

The Mississippi State Department of Health reported last week that about 2,000 students and 600 teachers are in quarantine; the state has had 245 cases of coronavirus in teachers and about 200 in students since districts began returning to school in late July.

Since returning to school in-person for the school year, the Lafayette County School District’s student body has been operating on a split schedule, with only half of the student body in the classroom on any given day. The entire district community was meant to return to school

together for the first time Monday. However, Pugh said that date has now been extended to early September.

The Lafayette County School District has already experienced one loss amid the coronavirus pandemic. Middle school teacher and assistant high school football coach Nacoma James died in early August after quarantining with coronavirus symptoms. He was working with student-athletes to train throughout the summer, but was quarantining when classes started.

Pugh said the district has been trying to find ways to remember James as the school year progresses. He loved wearing bow ties, and some staff have been wearing those to work in his honor. His football team is having a scrimmage Friday night, and James will be on everyone’s minds, Pugh said.

The Health Department said Monday that Mississippi, with a population of about 3 million, has had at least 78,405 reported cases and at least 2,248 deaths from COVID-19 as of Sunday evening. That’s an increase of 511 confirmed cases and eight deaths from numbers reported the day before.

The true number of virus infections is thought to be far higher because many people have not been tested and studies suggest people can be infected without feeling sick. The virus causes mild or moderate symptoms for most but can be more severe or fatal for some, especially older adults and those with existing health problems.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX LEVIES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR FOR CITY OF JACKSON, MS

The City of Jackson, Mississippi will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget and proposed tax levies for fiscal year 2020-2021 on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers located in City Hall, 219 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201.

The City of Jackson, Mississippi is now operating with projected total budget revenue of \$ 351,555,926 (21.4 percent) or \$75,277,569 of such revenue is obtained through ad valorem taxes. For next fiscal year, the proposed budget has total projected revenue of \$375,874,966. Of that amount, (20.1 percent) or \$75,376,594 is proposed to be financed through a total ad valorem tax levy.

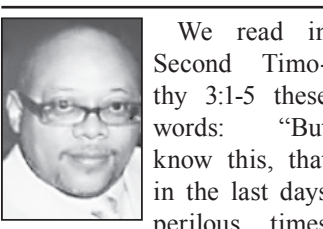
The decision to not increase the ad valorem tax millage rate for 2020-2021 above the current fiscal year’s ad valorem tax millage means that you will not pay more in ad valorem taxes on your home, automobile tag, utilities, business fixtures and equipment and rental real property, unless the assessed value of your property has increased for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

Any citizen of City of Jackson is invited to attend this public hearing on the proposed budget and tax levies for fiscal year 2020-2021, and will be allowed to speak for a reasonable amount of time and offer tangible evidence before any vote is taken.

PART 2

We are living in perilous times

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



We read in Second Timothy 3:1-5 these words: “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its

power. And from such people turn away!”
My friends, we need to be aware and alert when anyone tries to impose some new idea or thoughts contrary to sound Bible truth. Some things may look and sound good at the first, but they will lead to shame, disgrace and defeat. We need to beware of anyone who begins in subtle ways to discredit or degrade a proven man of God. Some have entered congregations and began a divisive work that leads or sways souls into error. Their cunning and divisive work also brings upon themselves total destruction when it is finished. God is not pleased with

those who think and feel that they know how to direct the affairs of a congregation better than anyone else or even the pastor.
What about you, dear reader? Are you keeping company with people whom God prefers otherwise? Are you becoming influenced by a disgruntle person who is unhappy with God’s way and God’s man or woman? Are there things in God’s Word that He has asked you to do or not to do? Do you feel that your spirituality is strong enough that you can handle life’s situations on your own? If this is your case, then you need to realize that you are getting close to a place of

being overtaken by a deducing spirit.
If you fall under a seducing spirit, the devil will deceive you into believing and thinking that all is well and right between you and the Lord.
We must beware of seducing spirits. The best way to overcome seducing spirits is to continue in those things we have learned and been assured of in our lives.
Next week, Part II
Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

PRESERVED

Are you treating God like your cell phone?

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist




Do you treat God like a cell phone? I thought of this when I was at the bank once and the man standing behind me obviously

wanted everyone to hear his cell phone conversation. He had his Bluetooth ear piece on and talked so loudly that his voice echoed in the lobby area. Even when he ended the call, he kept the earpiece in giving the impression that he was still in the middle of a call. He reminded me of how some of us display external signs that we are communicating with God (bible on our work desks, scriptures on our computers) when we really aren’t talking to him at all through prayer and devotion.

Another way we treat God like a cell phone is answering his call but when we realize it’s God, making up an excuse to end the call. That’s usually once you realize that His call is about living with integrity and submitting to His will. Even though I can say I’ve been blessed by my obedience to God, there have also been times I made all kinds of excuses when it was something I just didn’t want to do.
Also, like we put our phones on silent or do not disturb, we do the same thing to God. We keep his voice on “silent or vibrate” because we are busy doing something that satisfies our fleshly desires, and quite frankly, being obedient would disrupt. In these instances, you may be the only that knows there is a “call” and can easily ignore it.
Similarly, being in a bad cell phone reception area, you try to

continue communicating with God but because you stray as a result of sin or other subtle compromises, it’s hard to hear him clearly. Some of us like using being in a bad area as an excuse for missing a call that we really didn’t want to answer in the first place.
Cell phone technology advances all the time and I think we sometimes forget the original purpose of the phone: to communicate with others. However, many people walk with their heads down engrossed in their cell phones ignoring where they are going and the people around them. We get so caught up using the latest piece of cell phone technology and forget that it’s designed to bring us closer to others, not push us away.
I think that sometimes we treat our relationship with God like a cell phone with a similar mixture of impatience and casual convenience. We are happy when he gives us what we want but get impatient for him to answer that next prayer.

Deuteronomy 5:24 says, “And you said, ‘The LORD our God has shown us his glory and his majesty, and we have heard his voice from the fire. Today we have seen that a man can live even if God speaks with him.’” We want to control how and when we hear from God but forget that the best thing is just being able to hear his voice.
Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of “Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends” and “Writing to the Beat of God’s Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers.” Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.




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Pastor



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(Fellowship following worship service 1st Sundays)
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What’s Next?

by H Ralph Samuels Jr.

While businesses are reopening, to fix the economy of our nation,
When will the nation’s door be open for some serious conversation?

A speech here, a rally there
the same daily news report;
But I don’t see any progress
The ball’s just sitting center court

Who has the integrity to pick it up and get things on a roll?
Don’t lose the fire of progress now, or let the moment die and grow cold.

All change is not progress
but you won’t progress until you change;
And if we don’t act upon the hashtags,
it’s just a wasted hashtag name

We have so many potential leaders, but who will now take the lead
and be the voice to speak for all, about each pressing need?

Not that one person is more important, or the only one with something to say
But all the groups and agendas, need to be articulated in one way

It’s like an interstate through a city, with a myriad of bypasses and lanes
The construction was done with a single purpose,
and the DOT makes it plain

To get from one point to another, the directions must be heeded
Backseat drivers must let the driver drive, or the trip will be defeated

See everybody thinks their ‘pet issue’, is the one that should be first
The problem is that’s not how it works
Let’s not make matters any worse.

Let’s consider a comprehensive plan, with line by line itemization
And then work on them one by one
with a strategic implementation

We know that economics, is right up at the top
So that should be a starting point, where fairness should not stop.

Fair and equal representation, should be the priority and talking key
It’s not right to sit at a planning table
When nobody sitting there looks like me

In order to make things equal, and give everyone some hope
Remove the suppressing tactics, that restricts all men a vote

Now whether we take advantage of it, and use it at the polls;
Without the opportunity to vote, the results we’ll never know.

That helps to parley justice, and get rid of impartial politics
And elect people of integrity and not someone who’s slick

And then to current leaders... realize when your work is done
So that when you decide to step aside,
You’ve trained and prepared another one

Create a steady opportunity,
Take someone under your wings
Be a mentor and a progenitor, as the next generation springs

They need to learn about leadership, and how making decisions feel;
Not just two or three in a dark backroom, making backhanded shady deals.

Honesty, truth and integrity, all go hand in hand,
And without them I don’t care what they say
You cannot trust that man

So please somebody listen;
We do not have a choice.
Who has the spirit of God within, to make us all one voice?

Like Moses, Martin or Medgar, true leaders in their day
Like Joshua and Mandela, and even JFK

C.T., John and Charles
have passed us the justice baton.
Now who has the heart to pick it up,
because the struggle continues on

Let’s ‘float’ on winds of justice, and ‘sting’ like united bees
The battle’s the Lord’s, but we must fight
with the confidence of Ali
With Jesus Christ our Savior
The Holy Spirit as our Guide
The Word of God our weapon,
We shall not be denied

It’s time to move forward as a nation
and show everyone respect
We must be stronger, wiser and better
as we answer the question, “What’s Next”?

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“The Name Inspires The Pen”

Can we return character and empathy to the White House?

By James B. Ewers Jr.
President Emeritus
Teen Mentoring Committee of Ohio



It has already been concluded and verified that America is in trouble. We are at a virtual crossroads in our history and must determine which road we will travel.

Now, it seems as if we are travelling in a forest with our eyes closed. Our sense of direction and humanity has been lost. Chaos, callousness and confusion are words that are branding our days. What has happened to us?

We know what has happened, at least most of us do. We have a White House that makes many of us feel like we are in an out-house. The policies and insensitivities of the current administration have made us physically and emotionally sick.

However, with this dire picture being our reality these days, I believe there is help and hope on the way.

The Democratic National Convention was held last week. It was virtual and literally coast to coast.

There were, in my opinion, many highlights to this convention as it may have laid the foundation for conventions to come. Absent were the crowds and the sign waving. Present were strong uninterrupted speeches and how technology can be used to get a message across to the people.

The way in which the delegates voted for Joe Biden from their home states was flawless and a thing of beauty. The backdrops from each state showed America’s geographical and cultural diversity.

Rousing speeches during the convention created a consistent tone and tenor that better days are ahead. Former president Bill Clinton called the White House a storm center. Hillary Clinton, who ran against the current president, said, “If trump is re-elected things will get worse. If we are strong together, we will heal together.”

Since he was elected, we have been living in the divided states of America. Mr. T has systematically made us enemies to one another. Looking out for each other was a thing of the past.

Don’t you want that feeling of caring and concern for your neighbor back? I do and I know you do, too.

Unfortunately, we have people in high places who lie, cheat and steal. They create scenarios that are based upon fabrications and falsehoods. Men and women who are in that house walk in lockstep with him. The truth is not in them. It never was and it never will be.

Kamala Harris said, “There is no vaccine for racism.”

The November elections are getting closer. A main theme throughout the convention was that we must get a plan to vote. We must be intentional in our voting, no matter the method that we use.

The most important point is that we must vote.

Tears, fears and death have

happened because of fighting for our right to vote. We cannot let our ancestors’ torture and torment simply be a part of history.

Do not fall into the trap of thinking that our votes do not count and will not count. The enemy wants us to think that way. This time, we will not be hoodwinked and bamboozled.

We know what the polls say however we cannot fall victim to them again. We must vote.

Former president Barack Obama said, “The Trump administration will tear our democracy down to win.” Coming before we know it will be November 3. Let us hope on that night that Joe Biden will be declared president of the United States of America.

He used the words of Ella Baker, human rights activist, in his Democratic acceptance speech. He said, “Give light and people will find a way.” He added, “This is our moment. We will overcome this season of darkness.”

Like you, I believe him.

“Not expanding Medicaid will worsen disparities”

By Dr. Debbie Minor
Metro Jackson American
Heart Association

As a native Mississippian and medical professional, I support Medicaid expansion. Over my entire lifetime, I personally and professionally have seen and felt the impact that limited access to healthcare has on individuals and families across our state.

While not an answer to everything, Medicaid provides a safety net of access to care for many of our most vulnerable

populations, along with many who fall in what’s known as the “coverage gap” – they make too much to qualify currently but don’t make enough to receive tax benefits.

Medicaid expansion gives us the opportunity to bring dollars to Mississippi and address disparities that continue to grow in our state. Healthcare is essential for families, especially during the pandemic – but it isn’t always easy to get health insurance or find the care we need. There is

a lot at stake when it comes to getting and staying healthy.

If we do not take the opportunity to expand, the compounding factors that contribute to our disparities – exacerbated and exponentially heightened by COVID-19 – will only separate us more from most of the nation.

Medicaid expansion also means rural residents will have more local options for care, which reduces the need for them to drive long distances to reach facilities and specialists in big-

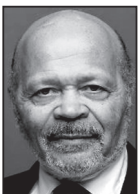
ger cities.

Especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, I urge leaders to please support expanding access to healthcare. To effectively provide access to quality and affordable health coverage during the current pandemic and beyond, expansion of Medicaid is necessary.

Dr. Debbie Minor is a pharmacist and professor from Madison, Miss. She is a Metro Jackson American Heart Association board member.

Laws are weapons of the unjust

By Oscar H. Blayton
Pres. Black Chamber of Commerce



We read in disbelief that a black man who has already spent almost 23 years in a Louisiana prison for stealing a pair of garden clippers has now been denied any measure of mercy and must spend the rest of his life behind bars for his minor crime.

Fair Wayne Bryant, 62, was convicted of stealing the clippers in 1997 when he was 38. And five white men who sit on the Louisiana Supreme Court decided that it served justice to destroy a life for such a minor crime.

The only dissent came from the court’s sole black, and only female, Chief Justice Bernette Johnson. Johnson wrote a blistering dissent that shines a spotlight on how law is used as a weapon by oppressors against the oppressed.

Bryant had been convicted of three previous crimes and all four of his convictions resulted from his attempts to steal something. Johnson argued from the bench: “Such petty theft is frequently driven by the ravages of poverty or addiction, and often both. It is cruel and unusual to impose a sentence of life in prison at hard labor for the criminal behavior which is most often caused by poverty or addiction.”

Bryant’s infractions over the years were the acts of a desperate man, a man forced into poverty by a system designed to keep him in a state of poverty so that others could live more affluently. But the Louisiana courts used the pattern of his behavior as evidence of the need to keep him separated from society. And while the white men in black robes would never admit it, the courts in the state of Louisiana were not seeking to punish Fair Wayne Bryant as much as they were sending a message to the oppressed black people of that state.

Reading between the lines, we can see the dehumanizing process used by the courts to inflict pain upon black people in order to ensure their compliant and subservient behavior. The language used by a lower court in Bryant’s case tortures logic while denying Bryant’s appeal of his cruel and unusual punishment. The Louisiana 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion that stated in part that the “litany of convictions and the brevity of the periods during which the defendant was not in custody for a new offense is ample support for the [life] sentence imposed in this case.” In short, this statement argues that Bryant should stay in jail for life because he has spent time in jail before.

The three-word opinion of the five white justices – “Writ application denied” – was as

chilling and final as a death sentence. They gave no explanation for their decision because they did not believe they had to. But Johnson was not having it and wrote a dissent that pointed to the historical underpinnings of such an unjust and oppressive use of the law.

In her dissent, Johnson pointed to the “Pig Laws” that had been enforced in Louisiana in years past. These laws were designed to trap impoverished African Americans in a legal web designed to keep them poor and “in line.”

When slavery was abolished by the 13th Amendment in 1865, Southern plantation owners in states like Louisiana found themselves without enough manpower to keep their fields operational. But they soon found a loophole. The 13th Amendment stated: “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime ... shall exist within the United States.”

Pig Laws were passed to unfairly target and entrap poor former slaves and force them into a penal system that provided free labor for plantation-owning whites. They were dubbed “Pig Laws” because many of them made it a crime to steal farm animals. And newly freed slaves without the means of acquiring food legitimately often were reduced to theft. This was forced criminality by design and the Pig Laws and other

Black Codes provided a steady supply of free black labor to replace the emancipated slaves.

Poverty has ravaged blacks since emancipation, and poverty’s frequent companion, addiction, has followed in its wake as the oppressed attempt to self-medicate in order to ease their pain and suffering.

Laws are tools for social design. They are passed to make people behave in a particular way. In the hands of an oppressor, laws are tools to extract subservient behavior from the oppressed. And when used for that purpose, these laws are no more just than midnight lynchings or other barbaric assaults to enforce subservient behavior. Like lynchings and beatings, these laws are the oppressive weapons of the unjust.

Most of the laws used to police black and brown bodies today are pig laws that have evolved to adjust to the modern realities of our time. This is why excessive force is constantly applied to people of color and local, state and federal institutions contort logic to defend it.

Too many laws as they are applied to people of color are unjust and we must fight our way to the polls to root out the people who design them and utilize them.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.

Statement required by Section 8 of Senate Bill 2977 in the 2012 Regular Session. A millage rate of 86.57 will produce the same amount of revenue from ad valorem taxes for the Jackson, MS Separate School District as was collected the prior year. The millage rate for the prior year was 86.86.

Statement required by Section 8 of Senate Bill 2977 passed in the 2012 regular session. A millage rate of 63.03 mills will produce the same amount of revenue from ad valorem taxes for the City of Jackson, MS as was collected the prior year. The millage rate for the prior year was 63.03 mills.

8-27-2020

LEGAL

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
BY THE
JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED SERVICES
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
WEST CONCOURSE ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT
AT THE
JACKSON-MEDGAR WILEY EVERS INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT
(JMAA PROJECT NO. 002-20B)

The Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (“JMAA”) is seeking electronic bids for construction and related services in connection with the West Concourse Roof Replacement Project at the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (the “Work”).

JMAA will receive electronic sealed submissions only. All submissions to perform the Work will be accepted until Friday, September 25, 2020 at 4:00 pm (CST) (the “Bid Deadline”). Electronic submissions are to be submitted via email to Chad Parker, Director of Procurement, via email at cparker@jmaa.com. JMAA will also receive hand delivered electronic submissions up to the Deadline at JMAA’s administrative offices, Suite 300, Main Terminal Building, Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39208.

JMAA will publicly open and read aloud all bids on Friday, September 25, 2020 at 4:05 p.m. (CST) (the “Bid Opening”), in the Staff Conference Room, Third Floor of the Main Terminal Building at JAN. JMAA invites Bidders and their authorized representatives to be present at the Bid Opening.

The following identification information must be provided with the submission: (i) Bidder’s company name; (ii) Mississippi Certificate of Responsibility Number; and (iii) the wording: “West Concourse Roof Replacement Project at JAN, Project No. 002-20B.” If the submission is submitted via email, then the identification information must be provided in the email subject line. If the submission is submitted by hand delivery, then the identification information must be marked on the outside or exterior of the bid envelope or container.

JMAA will not consider any submissions, to include bid proposals, amendments to bids, or requests for withdrawal of bids received after the Bid Deadline for any reason whatsoever. Information to Bidders relating to this Request for Bids (“RFB”) is on file and open for public inspection at the offices of JMAA.

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

The Information for Bidders, including plans and specifications, is on file and open for public inspection at JAN at the

following address:

Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport
Suite 300, Main Terminal Building
100 International Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39208
Telephone: (601) 664-3516
Facsimile: (601) 939-3713
Attention: Chad Parker, Director of Procurement

JMAA will hold a Pre-Bid Conference via video conferencing on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 10:00 am (CST). Here is the information needed to access the Pre-Bid Conference:

Link: <https://call.lifesizedcloud.com/4056382>
Dial In Number: (312) 584-2401 | Extension: 4056382

Participation in the Pre-Bid Conference is highly recommended for all those interested in submitting a bid as a Prime Contractor for the work and persons seeking opportunities to provide work as a Sub-Contractor. The benefits of attendance include networking opportunities between Prime Contractors and Sub-Contractors, the opportunity to be on a list of contacts that will be published to interested parties as part of the minutes from the Pre-Bid Conference, and the opportunity to receive detailed scope related information from the project owner.

A copy of the plans and specifications for the Work are being made available via digital and original paper copy. Plan holders may register and order plans and specifications from the Jackson Blueprint Online Plan Room website (<http://planroom.jaxblue.com>). There is no charge for registration or to view the documents online. Documents are non-refundable and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. A printed bid set is \$75.00 plus \$20.00 shipping and applicable sales tax and an electronic downloadable set is \$25.00 plus applicable sales tax. Bid Documents may be picked up or shipped to the person making the request. Documents will not be distributed or mailed, however, until payment is received. For questions regarding website registration and online orders please contact Jackson Blueprint & Supply at (601) 353-5803.

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

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

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

JACKSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

8-27-2020 9/3/2020

| | |
|---|-------------|
| CITY OF JACKSON | |
| Garbage Collection Fund | |
| Statement of Revenues and Expenses | |
| Year Ended September 30, 2019 | |
| Operating revenues - garbage collection charges | 8,368,989 |
| Other Revenues | 4,753 |
| Total Revenues | 8,373,742 |
| Operating expenses: | |
| Personnel services | 585,130 |
| Supplies | 153,301 |
| Contracted services - garbage collection | 6,593,566 |
| Contracted services - other | 1,707,238 |
| Other services and charges | 1,916,376 |
| Depreciation | 126,679 |
| Total operating expenses | 11,082,290 |
| Operating loss | (2,708,548) |
| Non-operating revenue (expense) | |
| Noncapital grants | 270,777 |
| Interest revenue | 1,084 |
| interest and service charges on long-term debt and capitalized lease obligations | (1,785) |
| Gain on sale of capital assets | 0 |
| | 270,076 |
| Net income (loss) | (2,438,472) |
| Note 1 - Contracted garbage collection services is composed of payments to Waste Management of Mississippi, Inc. | |
| Note 2 - The average monthly cost incurred by the City for garbage and recycling pickup service for the fiscal year 2019 was \$12.95. | |

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LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2006 NISS MEL : Vin #1N4BA41E66C861607
Registered to Jessie Miller
Mississippi Title Loans, Inc., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: September 11. 2020
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services; 6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids.
Time: 10:00 A.M.

8-27-2020, 9-3-2020, 9-10-2020

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2008 GMC Yukon : Vin # 1GKFC13098R219926
Registered to Pickett, Wanda
Mississippi Title Loans, Inc., Lien Holder
Date of Sale: September 11. 2020
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services; 6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids.
Time: 10:00 A.M.

8-27-2020, 9-3-2020, 9-10-2020

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, 09/29/2020 , for:

RE: GS# 214-070 Seal Hall Renovation
Pearl River Community College
RFx #: 3160003866

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

Professional: Albert & Robinson Architects, PLLC
Address: Post Office Box 1567
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39403
Phone: 601-544-1970
Email: hrshr@ar-architects.com

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

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

8-27-2020, 9-3-2020

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, 09/22/2020, for:

RE: GS# 343-113 Equine Center Repairs
Fair Commission (Department of Agriculture and Commerce)
RFx #: 3160003861

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

Professional: Mark S. Vaughan, Architect
Address: 305 B Jefferson Street
Clinton, Mississippi 39056
Phone: 601-925-6111
Email: msvarch7@gmail.com

A deposit of \$250.00 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

8-20-2020, 8-27-2020

LEGAL

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND REAL PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed and electronic bids by prequalified General Contractors will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on , Tuesday, 09/29/20 for:

RE: GS# 358-054 Rotunda Renovations
(Elevator Improvements & Fire Alarm Upgrades)
New Capitol Building (Office of Capitol Facilities)
(Department of Finance and Administration)

at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contract documents may be obtained from: Professional: WFT Architects, P.A..

Address: Post Office Drawer 16443
Jackson, Mississippi 39236
Phone: 601-352-4691
Email: wftarch@bellsouth.net

A deposit of \$100.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

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

8-27-2020, 9-3-2020

LEGAL

Advertisement for Electronic Bid

Bid 3148 Provine High School Kitchen Plumbing Repair

Sealed, written formal bid proposals for the above bid will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Pre-vailing Time) September 16, 2020, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A Pre-Bid Conference concerning the project for Provine High School Kitchen Plumbing Repair will be held at Provine High School, 2400 Robinson Street, Jackson, MS on August 28, 2020 at 10:30 A.M. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any bid if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date bids are opened.

Plan holders are required to register and order bid documents at www.jpdsdm-sprojects.com. A \$100.00 Non-refundable deposit shall be required on each set of bid specs/documents and must be purchased through the website. All plan holders are required to have a valid email address for registration. Questions regarding website registration and online orders, please contact Plan House Printing, 607 W. Main Street, Tupelo, MS 38804, (662) 407-0193. Questions regarding bid documents please contact Krystal Lamm at Duvall Decker Architects, Phone: 601-713-1128 or Email: kl@duvalldecker.com.

8-20-2020, 8-27-2020

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, SEPTEMBER 09, 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. 2020-16, REQUESTED BY: DAVID VAUGHAN TO KEEP THE NEWLY REPLACED FRONT DOORS OF THE BUILDING AT 815, 817, 819 OAKWOOD ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. CASE NO. 2020-20, REQUESTED BY: ALICEN BLANCHARD TO RE-ROOF WITH METAL ROOF OF THE BUILDING AT 1050 MONROE ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HEIGHTS HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

2. CASE NO. 2020-21, REQUESTED BY: THEO AND JESSICA DAVIS TO ADD A STORAGE BUILDING AND REPLACE THE EXISTING FENCE AT 1828 LINDEN PL. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

3. CASE NO. 2020-22, REQUESTED BY: JENNIFER AND TYLER ARCHIE TO RENOVATE THE EXISTING KITCHEN AND ADD TWO NEW PORCHES TO THE PROPERTY AT 1002 ARLINGTON ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

4. CASE NO. 2020-23, REQUESTED BY: LANDA PRICE TO REPLACE UNSAFE WALKWAY WITH CHICAGO BRICK, ADD LANDSCAPING, REMOVE A PINE TREE IN THE FRONT YARD, REPLACE ROTTEN FRONT DOOR WITH A NEW WOOD DOOR, AND REPLACE ROTTEN FENCE GATE WITH IRON GATE AT 1202 WHITWORTH ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

5. CASE NO. 2020-24, REQUESTED BY: JEFF SEABOLD TO ADD AN ATTIC DORMER ADDITION TO FRONT AND REAR ELEVATIONS WITH NEW MARVIN ALUMINUM CLAD WOOD WINDOWS AND REPLACE EXISTING VINYL SIDING WITH HARDIE SIDING AT 1103 MANSHIP ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

6. CASE NO. 2020-25, REQUESTED BY: JEFF SEABOLD TO DEMOLISH EXISTING CARPORT PERIMETER WALLS AND ROOF, AND ADD NEW DECK, STAIRS, AND SCREENED PORCH AT 1320 SAINT ANN ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

7. CASE NO. 2020-26, REQUESTED BY: JEFF SEABOLD TO REPLACE WINDOWS BEYOND REPAIR, RE-ROOF HOME, DEMOLISH NON-COMPLIANT ADDITIONS DUE TO TERMITE AND WATER DAMAGE WITH RESTORING THE ORIGINAL CHARM OF THE HOUSE, AND ADD NEW REAR WOODEN DECK AND RAILING AT 1338 SAINT ANN ST. LOCATED IN THE BELHAVEN HISTORICAL DISTRICT.

8. CASE NO. 2020-27, REQUESTED BY: JEFF SEABOLD TO REPAIR GARAGE EXTERIOR, REPLACE EXISTING WINDOWS WITH MARVIN ALUMINUM CLAD WOOD WINDOWS, REPAIR RAILING, STAIRS, COLUMNS WITH LIKE KIND, RE-ROOF GARAGE APARTMENT, ENCLOSE CARPORT BY ADDING NEW WOOD CARRIAGE GARAGE DOORS, AND REPAIR STUCCO EXTERIOR AS NECESSARY; AND TO REPAIR EXISTING ROOFS LEAKS OF MAIN HOUSE, REPLACE REAR ROOF OF MAIN HOUSE WITH WHITE TPO ROOF, AND ADD SCREEN PORCH ADDITION TO REAR AT 1525 DEVINE 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 SEPTEMBER 2, 2020.

8-20-2020, 8-27-2020

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PICK UP

THE MISSISSIPPI LINK

AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

JACKSON

BULLY'S RESTAURANT

3118 Livingston Road

CASH & CARRY

Capitol Street and Monument Street

CITY HALL

219 S President St

GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX

2659 Livingston Road

DOLLAR GENERAL

3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

2030 N Siwell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

4331 Highway 80W

DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL

2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST

2325 Livingston Rd.

MCDADÉ'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADÉ'S MARKET #2

653 Duling Avenue

PICADILLY CAFETERIA

Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

SHELL FOOD MART

5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55

MURPHY USA

6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)

REVELL ACE HARDWARE

Terry Rd (South Jackson)

WALGREENS

380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON

A & I

716 Roby Street - Canton, MS

B & B

702 West North Street - Canton, MS

BOUTIQUE STORE

3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS

BULLY'S STORE

Church Street - Canton, MS

COMMUNITY MART

743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS

FRYER LANE GROCERY

Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS

HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN

285 Peace Street - Canton, MS

JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY

507 Church Street - Canton, MS

K & K ONE STOP

110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

LACY'S INSURANCE

421 Peace Street - Canton, MS

SOUL SET BARBER SHOP

257 Peace Street - Canton, MS

TRAILER PARK GROCERY

22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road

CITY HALL

Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL

807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

SERVICE STATION

at Exit 78

CITY HALL

West Cunningham Avenue

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Kentucky: Elderly whites protest for slain black woman

By Bruce Schreiner
Associated Press

Unable to march in the streets, a group of white senior citizens staged a sit-in outside the home of Kentucky’s attorney general to demand justice for Breonna Taylor Thursday.

One of them ended up getting arrested and six others were given citations, police said.

More than a dozen protesters gathered on the front lawn of Attorney General Daniel Cameron’s suburban Louisville home. They sat in chairs they brought and held up signs that included: “Grannies for Breonna,” and “Listen to Your Elders, Black Lives Matter.”

“We can’t march,” Dotti Lockhart, 78, said in a phone interview. “We all wanted to be involved in some kind of action for Breonna Taylor’s family. I thought that a direct action and a little civil disobedience would be something we could risk.”

Mary Carrigan Holden, who spent her time during the sit-in mending a dress, was arrested and charged with criminal trespass at the end of the approximately hour-long protest.

The 68-year-old retired teacher later said it was worth getting arrested because Louisville needs “to wake up and make sure we’re on the right side of history.”

Cameron is leading the investigation into whether Louisville police officers involved in Taylor’s death will be criminally charged for their actions



Oprah Winfrey demanding justice for Breonna Taylor by putting up 26 billboards in Kentucky

in the early morning hours of March 13.

Taylor, a black 26-year-old emergency medical technician, was shot multiple times when officers burst into her apartment with a warrant during a drug investigation. No drugs were found.

Since then, the names of Taylor and George Floyd have been on the lips of demonstrators nationwide, and their deaths have become part of a national reckoning over racism and police actions. Floyd, a black man, died after

a white Minneapolis police officer put his knee on the handcuffed man’s neck for several minutes, even after he stopped moving and pleaded for air.

Cameron has declined to put a timetable on deciding whether to bring charges. He has said he’s waiting for information on ballistics tests being conducted by the FBI.

Protesters have gathered previously outside Cameron’s home and at Kentucky’s Capitol in Frankfort to demand justice for Taylor.

On Thursday, one protester outside Cameron’s home was arrested on a misdemeanor criminal trespass charge and six others were given citations, said Grady Throneberry, police chief for Graymoor-Devondale, a suburban city outside Louisville.

“They were all told that they could move to the street, stay on the side of the street, as long as they didn’t impede traffic and that would be fine,” the chief said. “But they had to leave the lawn.”

Holden, was arrested after she de-

clined to leave, he said.

John Mills, a deputy police chief, told *The Courier Journal* that six people who received citations for criminal trespassing moved off the lawn.

Holden later said she had avoided mass protests demanding justice for Taylor because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Holden has a preexisting health condition.

“I took a risk today because sometimes ideals are more important than health,” she said.

The senior citizens wore masks during their sit-in, Holden said. She was not handcuffed by police and “camped out” by a hand sanitizer dispenser during her booking, she said.

Lockhart, a retired school teacher, said she was among those cited. The protesters planned to sit silently for an hour and then leave, but police arrived quickly, she said.

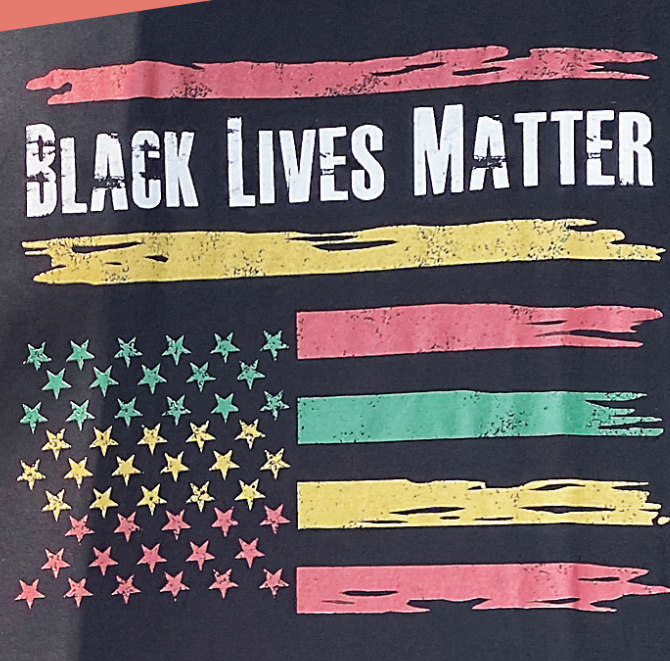
“We felt like elderly white people standing up for justice, for black families and black people was worth the risk of arrest, the risk of being cited,” Lockhart said.

Some legal experts have said prosecutors might face significant obstacles to bringing homicide-related charges against the officers.

Taylor’s boyfriend was with her at the apartment and fired a shot at a police officer after the door was broken down. The officer was struck in the leg and returned fire, along with other officers outside the apartment. Taylor was unarmed.

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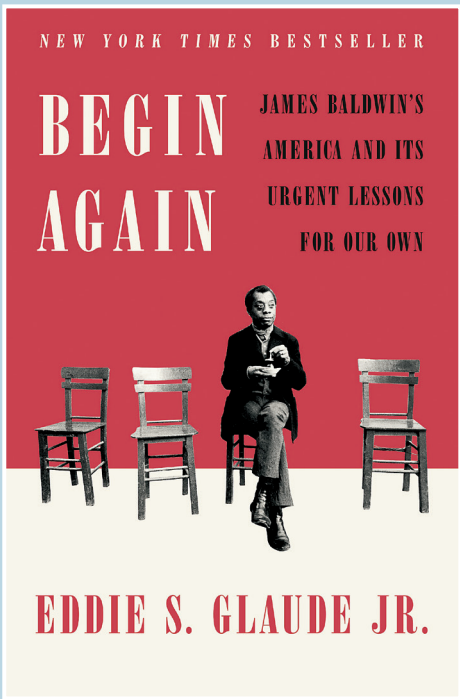
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BOOK REVIEW:

BEGIN AGAIN:

JAMES BALDWIN'S AMERICA AND ITS URGENT LESSONS FOR OUR OWN

BY EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR.

C.2020, CROWN

\$27.00 / \$36.00 CANADA • 239 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

Did you see that?
Sure you did. You couldn't miss it, actually, because you can spot hatred, discrimination and bad trouble a mile away. You know when something's wrong and you saw it; saw it coming, in fact, and you weren't alone. In "Begin Again" by Eddie S. Glaude Jr., you'll know that a warning was sounded decades ago.

Every day, it seems like you catch the news and you cringe. "It is exhausting," says

Glaude, "to find oneself... navigating a world rife with deadly assumptions about you and those who look like you... for no other reason" than the color of your skin or your sexuality.

Author James Baldwin keenly felt both and in the midst of his career, he demanded, through his writing, that America come to terms with "this so-called democracy." Baldwin was tired of a "set of practices" Glaude calls "the lie," or "more properly several sets of lies" meant to keep racism alive in as many American systems as possible.

Baldwin saw "the lie" and it enraged him: once, early in the Civil Rights Movement, he made a group of black college students promise that they would never take to heart "the lies" they heard about themselves. It's been said that he saw "the lie" and wanted to give "warning" to white readers of the battle to come, but in truth, Glaude says, Baldwin wasn't sure "whether white America was worthy of warning at all."

These are the things Baldwin spoke out against, says Glaude, and that we still grapple with

— especially in the political climate in which we live. He believes "the divisions in the country feel old and worn," although we do have the tools to alter current racial and political climates. Baldwin, for instance "insisted that we reach for a better self..." "With that in mind," says Glaude, "we have to gather ourselves to fight and to begin again."

In his introduction, author Eddie S. Glaude Jr. says that he was in Heidelberg when he started this book, which gave him a unique perspective of the


"current state of our politics." He says that he didn't write it as biography or literary criticism or history, although it ended up being "some combination of all three." This, plus a good measure of personal memoir thrown in, adds a different twist and makes "Begin Again" quite deep.

But not too deep: there's enough room here for readers to be moved by the parallels that Glaude draws between then and now, and how Baldwin perceived American society before his death. Glaude also presents

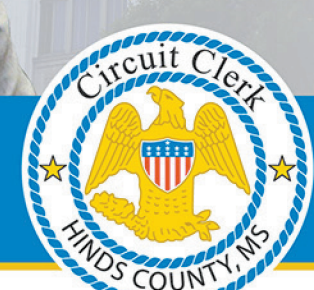
Baldwin's constant fury and sadness over "the after times" (post-Civil Rights Movement) with an urgency that can still galvanize, though Baldwin has been gone for more than three decades.

So what would Baldwin have thought about our current administration? Glaude doesn't hypothesize here, so we're left mostly to draw our own conclusions, to imagine, think and to use Baldwin's words as a sort of guide out.

And for that, "Begin Again" is a book you'll want to see.



ZACK WALLACE
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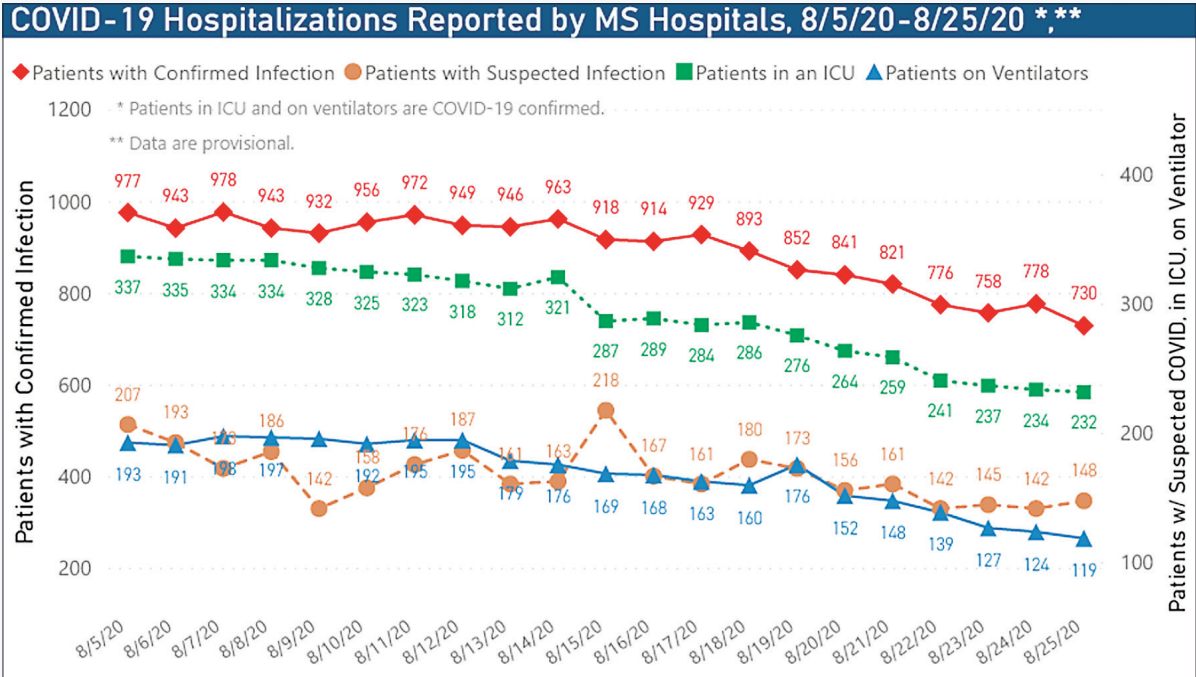
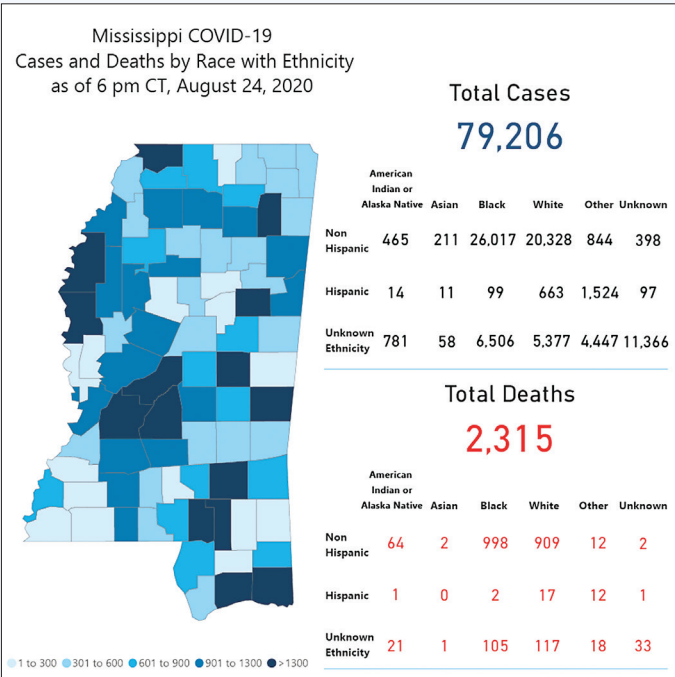
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MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 UPDATE



Painter

Continued from page 2

Moore studied at the Memphis College of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago before settling down in Memphis as a husband, father (daughter, Candice, 26) and longtime graphic designer for WREG-TV Channel 3 (a job that provides the income that enables him to pursue his art).

Over the years, his style evolved from painstaking realism (he originally painted in oils) to what might be described paradoxically as painstaking urgency (he currently paints in acrylic and acrylic gouache).

Although the people and objects in his paintings are reproduced with an almost cartoon-like simplic-

ity, Moore may spend months, even years, researching, sketching and contemplating certain subjects and ideas before committing them to canvas.

“I sketched Rodney King right after that happened,” said Moore, referring to the filmed beating of King by Los Angeles police officers that caused a national outcry in 1991. “But I didn’t actually paint it until 10 years later.” While Moore was working on the painting, King died, a victim of drowning in his own swimming pool.

One of Moore’s recent “American Gothic” pieces depicts the 2014 police killing of Eric Garner. The disturbing image is stylized but accurate, based

on screenshots he captured on his TV. “I want to do it justice,” Moore said. “I don’t want to sensationalize it.”

Said Moore of his art: “It’s all dealing with how we live.”

In the early part of Moore’s Crosstown residency, Moore and the other artists spent quite a bit of time visiting each other’s studios.

For the past few months, however, Moore has been, to some extent, on his own: Not only are the other artists gone, but so are most of the visitors who once crowded Crosstown’s restaurants, coffee shops and bars. So when he works in his stu-

dio – which doubles as an artist’s version of a “man cave,” in the words of his wife, Christine – he’s pretty much undisturbed.

Even surrounded by images of protest and pandemic, “You work in silence and peace,” Moore said.

Meanwhile, the “social dialogue” that occurs between painter, painter’s audience and the world at large continues.

“As you get older and time passes, the dialogue gets deeper,” Moore said.

“I’m always about making a statement. I want to give them something to talk about.”

Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

District Highlights



U. S. Bennie Thompson...

We must make the laws and system
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